

Rush Fire Update

Saturday, August 25, 2012, 8 a.m.

Northern Rockies Incident Management Team – Doug Turman, IC

Fire Information Office:
530-710-8568
Staffed: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: The fire started about 15 miles southeast of Ravendale, Calif., and is now measured to be about 42 miles long and 16 miles wide and is completely east of Highway 395. The fire began on public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management's Eagle Lake Field Office.

Note: News releases from the Rush fire will now be issued once daily, at 8 a.m.

Started: August 12, 2012 at 6:42 pm

Cause: Lightning

Fuels: Fire is burning in sagebrush, juniper, and grass

Estimated Size: est. 320,793 acres (275,650 acres in California and 45,143 acres in Nevada)

Containment: 65%

Expected Containment: 8/28/2012

Committed Resources: 827 people

Structures Threatened: 39 (20 residences; 1 commercial; 18 outbuildings)

Structures Damaged or Destroyed: 1 (barn)

Injuries: 2

Summary: Firefighters made steady progress overnight at the Rush fire, building fireline and mopping up in the active northeast part of the fire in Nevada, about 25 miles northeast and east of Ravendale, Calif.

Crews will continue working on Saturday to quell hot spots and build fireline. Also on Saturday, suppression repair work will focus on the southwest flank of the fire.

The weather forecast calls for increasing winds over the next few days, with a fire-weather warning predicted for Sunday. The winds have the potential of fanning any remaining embers and hot spots. Wind can also form dust devils that could carry hot material over containment lines into extremely dry unburned vegetation.

The Rush fire was quiet on Friday, mainly smoldering with short bursts of active flames when thicker pockets of vegetation ignited in the northeast flank of the fire.

Crews in the northeast completed burnouts to secure the fireline from Garden Lake to Burnt Lake. About 100 firefighters in five crews were flown to several areas in the northeast, including Antelope Springs, to build fireline. These crews will camp out as they go, remaining out several days.

Area and Road Closures in Effect: Public lands bounded by Highway 395 on the west, the Sand Pass road and Nevada 447 on the east, the Wendel Road on the south, and Juniper Ridge road to Buckhorn road on the north are closed. The Buffalo Meadows road in Washoe Co., Nev., is also closed. The Ramhorn Springs and Dodge Reservoir campgrounds remain closed.

Remarks: NOTE: Use of chainsaws on public lands managed by BLM in NE California and far northwest Nevada is suspended because of extreme fire danger. Fire officials remind residents and visitors that fire restrictions are in effect for public lands and national forests in northeast California and far northwest Nevada. Campfires are permitted only in posted recreation sites.



For additional fire information, please go to InciWeb @ <http://inciweb.org/incident/3151/>

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