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News Release

June 20, 2016

Pony Fire information: 530-643-7669

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Pony Fire Update: Monday, June 20, 2016

Happy Camp, CA -- The Pony Fire is burning on the Klamath National Forest, about 15 miles southwest of Happy Camp and west of Highway 96. The fire is now 2,855 acres and 60 percent contained.

Hotshot crews finished containment lines on the east and south perimeters of the fire on Monday, filling in the last remaining sections from Swillup Creek south to Elliott Creek and westward from Elliott Creek.

With planned work on containment lines now complete, crews will begin mop-up Monday on the fire's northern, eastern and southern flanks. They will also patrol, hold and improve the lines to prevent fire growth south toward homes along Highway 96.

Very little smoke was visible near the lines on Sunday. Firefighters used helicopters to drop water on an area of heat inside the eastern containment line.

Fire managers continue to keep a close watch on the slop-over on the west flank of the fire at Pony Peak. No direct line can be built in this area because extremely steep terrain and the threat of falling snags from a 2008 wildfire. On Sunday, helicopters dropped water into a steep, remote area below the main fire in Dillon Creek where a dislodged log was smoldering.

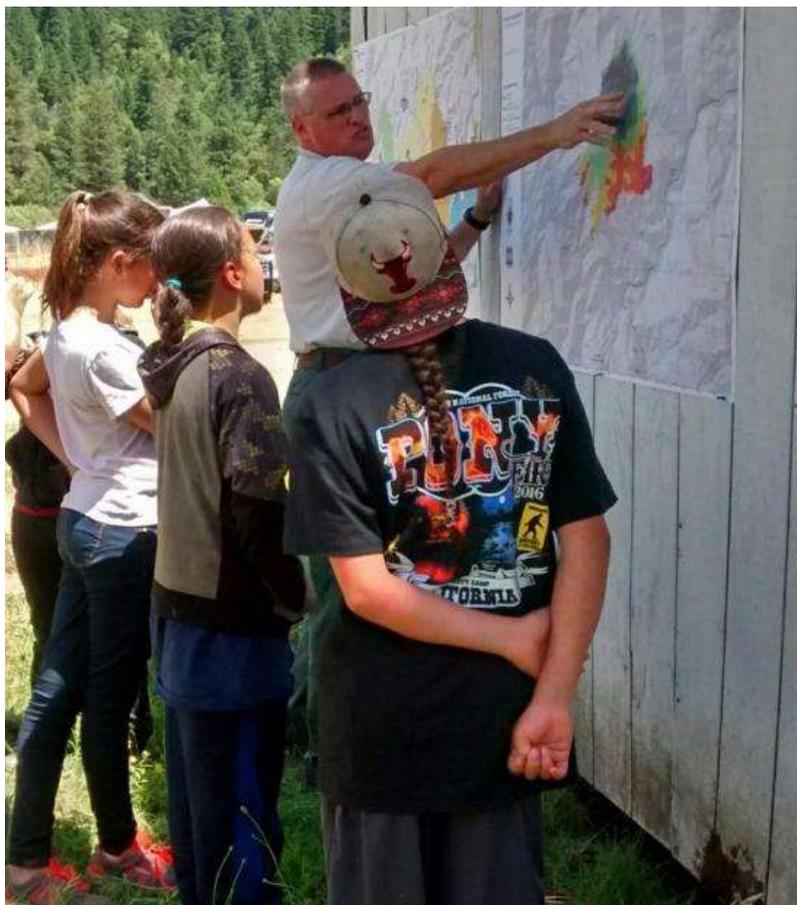
A ten person wildland fire module has been assigned to the Dillon Fire. Today they will begin mop-up and secure and hold containment lines.

Warm summer temperatures are expected for the next five days in the fire area, with a slight chance of rain later in the week.

A team of resource specialists has begun inspecting containment lines to identify urgent suppression-repair needs. Water bars will be installed to help prevent downhill flows of water and mud into streams.

For public and firefighter safety, a temporary closure order has been issued for lands within and adjacent to the Pony fire. The closed area includes National Forest land west of Highway 96, north of the Ukonom Ranger District boundary, east of Siskiyou Wilderness, and south of a line defined along Crawford Creek, Forest Road 15N19, and Bear Creek/Kelsey Trail. Dillon Creek Campground remains open.

More information and maps of the closure area are available on Inciweb at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4769/>



Local residents learn about the different maps used on the Pony Fire during a camp tour.

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