

Rush Fire Update

Tuesday, August 28, 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 U.S. Highway 395. The fire began on public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management's Eagle Lake Field Office.

Started: 8/12/12 at 6:42 pm
Cause: Lightning
Fuels: Fire is burning sagebrush, juniper, and grass
Estimated Size: est. 318,400 acres (273,248 acres in California and 42,844 acres in Nevada)
Containment: 74%

Expected Containment: 8/30/2012
Committed Resources: 694 people
Structures Threatened: 39 (20 residences; 1 commercial; 18 outbuildings)
Structures Damaged or Destroyed: 1 (barn)

Injuries: 3 minor

Summary: Firefighters held the Rush fire within its perimeter again on Monday. Some islands of unburned trees flamed up in the northeast of the fire, but these were in the interior of the fire and firefighters suppressed these fires.

The northeastern part of the Rush fire is in Nevada, about 25 miles northeast and east of Ravendale, Calif., near SOB, Garden, and Burnt lakes, the Buffalo Hills, Antelope Basin, and Cottonwood Creek.

Tuesday brings a red-flag warning because of strong, gusty winds and low humidity. The warning will be in effect from 2 p.m. on Tuesday until 11 a.m. on Wednesday. Winds are predicted to gust 35 to 40 miles per hour by Tuesday evening. Winds will continue blowing into the night especially on ridge tops. Humidity will remain low.

On Tuesday, firefighters will continue mopping up. Meantime, crews repairing fire-suppression damage have been working their way around the fire. These crews have now reached the northern flank of the fire and will continue working east along this flank, and hope to finish their work on Wednesday.

Fire officials have begun scaling back the number of firefighters and equipment at the Rush fire. They expect to accelerate "demobilizing" these resources in the coming 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 Buckhorn Road is closed from Nevada Highway 447 to the Marr Road in Calif. 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 northeast California and far northwestern 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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