



August 19, 2013, 8:00 a.m.
For Immediate Release

BUTLER FIRE

Butler Fire Information (530) 618-2101 -- Salmon River Complex Fire (530) 841-4451

Detected: Wednesday, July 31, 10:00pm
Location: 10 miles east of Somes Bar, CA
Estimated Size: 16,776
Containment: 25%

Cause: Under Investigation
Fuels: Timber and Brush
Committed Resources: 961
Structures Damaged or Destroyed: 0

Operational Objectives-- Keep the Butler Fire:

- South and west of the Salmon River to Hotelling Ridge.
- East of Somes Mountain down to Orleans Mountain continuing to Salmon Summit.
- South of line from Somes Mountain to Butler Flat.
- North of the Siskiyou/Trinity County line from Salmon Summit to Hotelling Ridge.

Incident Summary: Firefighters report there was minimal fire activity throughout night. Crews made very good progress during the night using backing fire to continue a direct containment line up the McNeal Creek drainage, with the intent to tie in with the established dozer line on the ridge.

Where it is safe today, fire crews will continue to mop up hot spots within 50-feet of the fire perimeter on the eastern side of the fire and Salmon River Road to prevent fire spread across the river. Firefighters will assess fire spread south of McNeal Creek, and prepare for firing operations along the Salmon River Road from Forks of the Salmon south to Henry Bell Gulch. Along the south, southwest and west sides of the fire area, crews will continue to scout for indirect control line, prepare for firing operations, complete line construction and prepare for defensive firing operations if current control lines are threatened. On the north side of the fire, firefighters will monitor fire activity in Butler Creek. They will prepare for defensive firing operations if control lines become threatened from Somes Mountain going south to Orleans Mountain.

Fire Behavior and Environmental Conditions: *A Red Flag Warning is in effect from 2 p.m. today through 11 p.m. Wednesday for abundant lightning with dry fuels.* A predicted dry and unstable air mass could bring increased fire activity and possible thunderstorms with erratic wind shifts and fire spread. Weather conditions today will be warmer and dryer. Fire spread is expected to move up the McNeal drainage and could get to the ridge top and start backing into the Knownothing drainage by this afternoon. The fire could continue up China Creek and Granite Creek. The drainages at the head of Hammel Creek are likely paths for fire spread to reach control lines along the west side of the fire. The fire will continue to flank on the north side along the ridge above Butler Creek.

Closures:

- Bow season for deer hunting opened August 17, 2013. Hunters are reminded a Forest Closure Order is in effect around the Butler Fire and Salmon River Complex on the Klamath and Six Rivers National Forests. To see the full Forest Closure Order, visit: www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5430601.pdf.
- The Salmon River Road is closed between Forks of Salmon and the junction with Highway 96 at Somes Bar.
- North Fork/Sawyers Bar Road is closed to the public at this time.

Health Advisory: The North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District is providing daily notifications of any air quality health advisories or alerts. For additional information, call the NCUAQMD 24-hour Air Quality Advisory Information line at 1-866-BURN DAY (1-866-287-6329), visit the District's website at www.ncuaqmd.org, or the Siskiyou County Pollution Control District at www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/AG/apc.aspx.

Evacuation Advisory: At this time, an Evacuation Advisory remains in effect in and around Forks of Salmon. Please see www.inciweb.org/incident/3577/ for updates and a map. For information on how to prepare for an evacuation, visit the *Ready Set Go* website at www.ReadyforWildfire.org.

Remarks: Please be careful with anything that can cause a spark. Motorists can inadvertently create a trail of sparks along the highway, igniting wildfires. Simple actions may prevent costly fires: shorten towing safety chains to be sure they do not drag on the roadway; check tire pressure, wheel bearings, breaks, and make sure no metal parts are dragging underneath the vehicle; and carry a small fire extinguisher in case an accident creates a fire start. More fire safety information is available at <http://www.preventwildfireca.org>. Please report all fires or any suspicious activity by calling 9-1-1.

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