



Community Meeting Today at 4:00 pm at the Forks of Salmon Community Building

August 21, 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 p.m.

Location: 10 miles east of Somes Bar, CA

Estimated Size: 18,361

Containment: 30%

Estimated Cost to Date: \$19,600,000

Cause: Under Investigation

Fuels: Timber and Brush

Committed Resources: 1,006

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: Hotshot crews corralled the fire edge at the ridge near Cold Spring, keeping the southeast perimeter at the headwaters of McNeal Creek. Firefighters will patrol and mop up hot spots in that area today. If successful, that will alleviate the need for control lines established to the southeast on Hotelling Ridge. The fire burned actively overnight against the western containment lines. A small spot fire occurred on the ridge just across the dozer line about 1.5 miles south of Orleans Mountain. Crews are working to contain this spot fire this morning. Helicopters will assist with bucket drops when visibility allows for flying. Fire progressed on both sides of the drainage in upper Butler Creek. Crews are prepared for defensive firing if needed on the northwest perimeter, as well as potential direct fireline construction.

Firefighters will maintain a presence amid the structures along the Salmon River Road corridor.

Helicopters are being relocated to Scott Valley today to support both the Butler Fire and Salmon River Complex.

Fire Behavior and Environmental Conditions: A Red Flag Warning for possible thunderstorms is in effect through Thursday evening due to potential lightning combined with dry fuel conditions. This could result in increased fire activity and spread. Additional local fire weather related information is available from the National Weather Service – Eureka Office at: www.wrh.noaa.gov/eka/.

Closures:

- Bow season for deer hunting opened Aug. 17, 2013. Hunters are reminded a Forest Closure Order is in effect for National Forest system lands 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.
- 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 their 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.

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