

CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



TUOLUMNE-CALAVERAS UNIT



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The Leonard Fire Update

San Andreas- **Provided the firefighting efforts go as planned, evacuated residents will be allowed to return home at 7:00 P.M. this evening. Only property owners and residents will be allowed into previously evacuated areas. Residents and property owners should be prepared to show proper identification to be allowed back in. Some residents may find themselves without power** as PG&E crews are in the process of replacing burnt poles and damaged equipment.

Road restrictions will remain in effect for the general public until further notice. People should **drive slowly and with caution** upon returning to their homes. Firefighters and equipment continue to complete containment lines. Roads are very narrow and **safety is a major concern** for both residents and fire personnel. As of 6:00 a.m. this morning, the fire has consumed 4820 acres. Personnel committed to the fire now total 1,610. The fire is 60% contained and with full containment expected by Saturday, August 25, 2001, at 6:00 P.M.

Environmental health officials advise residents upon returning home to determine whether the residence experienced a power failure. If there was a loss of power, food and the water supply may be contaminated. An information guide is available to assist residents. **Call Environmental Health at 754-6399.**

The American Red Cross continues to staff the evacuation center in the old gymnasium at Calaveras High School in San Andreas. Updated fire information is being presented at 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. daily. The public is welcome. Food and other donations from the local community have been extremely generous. **The Red Cross shelter may be reached at 533-1513.**

For assistance with evacuated animals, call **Animal Control at 754-6509.**

Local residents may call the 24-hour **CDF Fire Information Center at 754-5773, 754-4692, and 754-5527.** Other information may be found at the CDF Website at www.fire.ca.gov and the County's Website at www.co.calaveras.ca.us.

