
CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



Siskiyou Unit

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Multiple Arrests Made in Yreka Fires

Yreka – Peace officers from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) and the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office arrested three individuals in connection with the Humbug fire.

The fire, which started July 19, burned 21 acres on the outskirts of Yreka. On Friday, July 21, investigators arrested Kathryn Jane Scott, 19, of Yreka and two 17 year old male juveniles, also from Yreka. The trio was burning bags of shredded paper along the Yreka-Walker Road in the Humbug area. High temperatures and a northwest wind helped push the burning paper into the surrounding vegetation.

The three were charged with negligence under the Health and Safety code and unlawfully causing a fire under the Penal code, a misdemeanor and felony respectively. CDF has issued citations for illegal campfires in this area already this year.

The arrests follow an earlier arson arrest of 43-year-old Mt. Shasta man who is accused of setting a grass field on fire south of Yreka on July 17.

CDF is requesting the public's help in reporting these activities. If you see suspicious or dangerous activity that could cause a fire, do not hesitate to contact the nearest fire or law enforcement official. This will prevent fires from happening in the future. Also, for those who ride off-road vehicles in the area make sure vehicles are equipped with approved spark arrestors and are in a well-maintained condition.

Dooryard burning is currently suspended in Siskiyou County because fire danger is approaching the critical stage as summer progresses. Please provide firefighters with a defensible space around your residence to help protect your home from wildfire. If you witness and or have information on an arson caused fire, please call the CDF Arson Hotline at (800) 468-4408. Arson tipsters may remain anonymous.

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