



BUTTE LIGHTNING COMPLEX

Fact Sheet

Friday, July 11, 2008 10:00 a.m.

www.fire.ca.gov



Information Line: 530-538-7826

Incident Name: Butte Lightning Complex **Incident Number:** CABTU007660

Location: Butte County

Command Team: CAL FIRE Incident Command Team #9

Lightning Complex Start Date: June 21, 2008

Incident Type: Wildland Fire Complex

Number of Fires: 41 **Number of Active Fires:** 14 **Number of Contained Fires:** 14

Total Acres for all fires: 49,000 Acres **Cause:** Lightning

% Containment: 55%

Fatalities: 0 **Injuries:** 24 injuries

Structures Destroyed: 50 residences and 10 out buildings

Structures Damaged: None determined **Structures Threatened:** 3,800 residences

Resources:

Hand Crews 68	Dozers 58	Engines 360	Helicopters 0	Tankers 0
Water Tenders 57	Overhead Personnel 339	Total Personnel: 3,167		

Current Situation: Some winds surfaced during the night operations in the Feather River canyon area, but not as high as forecasted. The temperatures will remain high (low 100s) with low humidity in the fire area. A Red Flag Warning is in effect and will remain through noon today. Firefighters will be focusing efforts on the west and southern sides of the Camp Fire today and more efforts on the north side of the Pit Fire. Residents remained evacuated in Butte County due to the Butte, Canyon, and Cub Complex Fires.

Camp Fire: The fire has continued to burn slowly to the south and west. Significant residential areas are under evacuation notices. An attempt will be made today to gather data on damaged homes in the Concow and Camelot communities. The fire is still holding at Hwy. 70 but is active near Scooters. The Butte County Sheriff's Office and town of Paradise Police Department are working in coordination with the Butte Lightning Complex to prepare for additional evacuations. Residents and the media will be notified if the fire crosses the west branch of the Feather River. Numerous resources are arriving to assist with fighting the Camp Fire and protect structures.

Residents should remain alert and be prepared for additional evacuations if conditions change. Remain calm and follow all instructions of fire and law enforcement officials. Preservation of life remains the No. 1 priority.

Belden Fire – The Belden Fire is burning near the town of Belden off Hwy. 70. Coordination of resources continues with the Canyon Complex. Crews will be working to protect the community and to continue containment lines. The fire has burned down to Hwy 70 in various locations. The fire is currently holding at Chips Creek on the west, Indian Creek on the east and the Feather River on the south. The Plumas County Sheriff's Department issued a "voluntary evacuation" for the Belden area on July 2, which remains in place.

***** Belden residents may encounter more road closures near their community as the fire progresses. *****

Breakneck – The fire is burning an area north and east of Stirling City and containment is expected in a few days. There fire is 95 percent containment.

Smokey – The fire has hotspots on the southwest side near Big Chico Creek. Firefighters are continuing to work toward containment.

Pit Fire – The Pit Fire continues to progress to the west and the north and is holding west of the Feather River. A five-acre spot fire was identified Wednesday, north of the Pit Fire. The community of Storrie (Plumas County) is still under an evacuation warning. Priorities are to keep the fire west of the Feather River/Hwy 70, protect homes in Storrie and to protect critical infrastructures in the Feather River Canyon.

Evacuations: Please see attached page for current evacuation information.

Evacuation Centers:

Las Plumas High School: 2380 Las Plumas Ave., Oroville, 530-538-2310 (please no small animals).

Neighborhood Church: 2801 Notre Dame Blvd., Chico, 530-343-6006

Chico State Yolo Hall, 400 West First St., Chico

Animal Evacuation Centers: Contact the Butte County Emergency Operations Center, 530-538-7409.

Road Closures: Contact the Butte County Emergency Operations Center, 530-538-2742.

Additional Information: It is important to reiterate that this fire complex is still actively burning. All residents who live in or near the affected areas should continue to maintain a heightened state of awareness. Large fires continue to burn adjacent to this complex. Officials are encouraging residents to monitor the fire situation in and around their area via local radio, television and other media outlets and CAL FIRE at www.fire.ca.gov and the Butte County Web site at www.buttecounty.net. If conditions change, fire and law enforcement officials will make immediate notification.