



BUTTE LIGHTNING COMPLEX

Fact Sheet

Sunday, July 13, 2008, 8 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:** 5

Total Acres for all fires: 53,000 Acres **Cause:** Lightning

% Containment: 65%

Fatalities: 1 civilian **Injuries:** 26 injuries

Structures Destroyed: 50 residences and 10 out buildings

Structures Damaged: None determined **Structures Threatened:** None determined

Resources:

Hand Crews 56	Dozers 53	Engines 359	Helicopters 16	Tankers 0
Water Tenders 52	Overhead Personnel 345	Total Personnel: 3,132		

Current Situation: The Camp fire remained within the established perimeter throughout the night. Firefighters received favorable conditions overnight with very little wind. There are still unburned islands within the perimeter of the fire areas that may be seen burning. Crews have constructed direct and indirect lines on much of the Camp Fire. Overnight firefighters mopped up and patrolled the fire areas. Today's actions include plans to work toward direct and indirect line construction on the Pit Fire and redirect resources to other areas of the fires. As fire activity decreases, re-entry plans for evacuated areas are being evaluated and resources will be released to other fires.

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

Camp Fire: Mop up and securing indirect control lines. Firefighters are continuing efforts to ensure that there are no flare ups. Operations continues to report good progress on this fire.

Belden Fire – The Belden Fire is burning near the town of Belden off Hwy. 70. Crews are continuing to establish lines north of the Belden Fire. 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.

Breakneck – The fire is 100 percent contained and is being mopped up.

Pit Fire – Crews are continuing efforts to establish indirect lines north of the Pit Fire. It continues to progress to the Northwest but is holding west of the Feather River. The community of Storrie (Plumas County) is still under an evacuation warning. Priorities are to keep the fire west of the Highway 70, protect homes in Storrie and to protect critical infrastructures in the Feather River Canyon.

Saddle Fire – This fire is 100 percent contained and is being mopped up by smoke jumpers.

Evacuations: Please see attached information sheet for current evacuation notices.

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.

CAL FIRE would like to thank the public for their cooperation during the evacuations. Every effort is being made to return people back to their homes and to provide assistance to those whose homes have been destroyed.

The Butte Lightning Complex consists of many cooperating agencies, ranging from local, state and federal agencies – plus assistance from agencies outside of California and many volunteers that have been very active helping those impacted by the fires.