



BUTTE LIGHTNING COMPLEX

Fact Sheet

Tuesday, July 15, 2008, 8 am.

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: 54,000 Acres **Cause:** Lightning

% Containment: 75%

Fatalities: 1 civilian **Injuries:** 30 injuries

Structures Destroyed: 50 residences and 10 out buildings

Resources:

Hand Crews 62	Dozers 34	Engines 284	Helicopters 16	Tankers 0
Water Tenders 47	Overhead Personnel 346	Total Personnel: 2,887		

Current Situation: Resources continue to concentrate on the northwest side of the complex. Firefighters received favorable conditions overnight with very little wind. There are still unburned islands within the perimeter of the fire that may be seen burning. Firefighters continue to mop up and patrol the fire areas. As fire activity decreases 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 patrol continues. Firefighters are continuing efforts to ensure that there are no flare ups. Crews continue to report good progress on this fire.

Belden Fire – The Belden fire is holding with no forward spread. Crews are continuing to establish lines north of the 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.

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. 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.

A-2 Fire – This fire is 2.5 miles northwest of the Belden fire, smoke jumpers have been deployed to the area.

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

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.

Now that all roadways are open, all animals at the evacuation centers must be picked up.

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

Hwy 70 has been reopened to controlled traffic piloted from Grand View to Pulga Station.

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 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.

There will be a Community meeting at the Concow Elementary School at 6:00 pm., today, Tuesday July 15th.