



# BUTTE LIGHTNING COMPLEX

## “Update”

Saturday, July 26, 2008  
[www.fire.ca.gov](http://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 #5  
**Lightning Complex Start Date:** June 21, 2008  
**Incident Type:** Wildland Fire Complex  
**Number of Fires:** 41    **Number of Active Fires:** 1  
**Total Acres for all fires:** 59,440 Acres    **Cause:** Lightning  
**% Containment:** 92%  
**Fatalities:** 1 civilian    **Injuries:** 55 injuries  
**Structures Destroyed:** Estimated at this time to be 106 residences and 11 out buildings

### Resources:

<b>Hand Crews:</b> 37	<b>Dozers:</b> 17	<b>Engines:</b> 90	<b>Helicopters:</b> 6	<b>Tankers:</b> 0
<b>Water Tenders:</b> 33	<b>Overhead Personnel:</b> 283	<b>Total Personnel:</b> 1,576		

**Current Situation:** Firefighters continue to be aided by favorable weather conditions 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, strengthen existing control lines and patrol the fire areas. Air and ground resources are still concentrating on the north end of the Complex. As fire activity decreases resources will be released and reassigned to other fires.

*Residents should continue to remain alert and be prepared for evacuations if conditions change. Remain calm and follow all instructions from fire and law enforcement officials. Preservation of life remains the Number 1 priority.*

**Camp Fire:** Containment at 92%. Mop up and patrol continues as it will for the next several weeks throughout the fire area. Firefighters are continuing efforts to ensure that there are no flare ups of unburned fuels within the fire lines. Crews continue to work on the northern end of the fire where there is still active fire. Expected containment is Sunday, July 27, 2008.

### PG&E Assistance:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, contract inspectors and tree crews are assessing trees and performing emergency tree felling to remove hazards. Tree crews will be working in the area until the immediate hazards have been removed. If you have any questions regarding tree issues please contact PG&E at (530) 894-4476 and they will return your call within 24 hrs.

## **Lassen and Plumas National Forests Emergency Fire Area Closures:**

**There are multiple area and facility closures throughout the Lassen and Plumas National Forests including various parts of the Pacific Crest Trail. Public and firefighter safety remains the top priority. Closures are being evaluated daily. It is advised that if you plan on visiting the Lassen or Plumas National Forests that you call the following information numbers for updated closure information prior to leaving:**

### **Lassen National Forest**

- **Almanor Ranger District office at (530) 258-2141**
- **Lassen National Forest office at (530) 257-2151**
- **Web access at [www.fs.fed.us/r5/lassen](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lassen)**

### **Plumas National Forest**

- **Beckworth Ranger District office at (530) 836-2575**
- **Mount Huff Ranger District office at (530) 283-0555**
- **Feather River District office at (530) 534-6500**
- **Web access at [www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/plumas)**

### **Evacuation Centers:**

**Currently there are no evacuation advisories for the Butte Lightning Complex. Contact the Red Cross for further evacuation center information at 530-701-2390.**

### **Road Information:**

**Hwy 70 and Hwy 32 are both open to traffic, however motorists may encounter delays due to fire crews and / or Cal Trans working in the area. You may contact Cal Trans for current road conditions at 1-800-427-7623.**

### **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. 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](http://www.fire.ca.gov) and the Butte County Web site at [www.buttecounty.net](http://www.buttecounty.net). If conditions change, fire and law enforcement officials will make immediate notification.**
- **The Frey fire was delegated back to the Butte Lightning Complex at Monday, 7/21/08 which resulted in a 4000 acre growth to the incident. The Frey fire is 100% contained.**
- **200 members and their support staff of the California Air National Guard will be joining the Butte Lightning Complex today, Saturday, July 26, 2008 and will stay through Monday, July 28, 2008. The Air Guard will utilize this incident as further training to prepare the airmen for fighting future wildfires in California.**

**The Butte Lightning Complex consists of many cooperating agencies, ranging from local, state and federal agencies, as well as assistance from agencies outside of California and the nation. There have been many volunteers that have been active in helping those impacted by the fires.**