
CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit

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RELEASE
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7:00 p.m

Deer Park Area Fire 80 Percent Contained ***Cause Determined***

ST. HELENA – The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, *CAL FIRE*, Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit have attained 80% containment on the “Deer Fire” as of this afternoon. The wildland fire started yesterday (Oct 10, 2008) at 4:45p.m. in the community of Deer Park, on the outskirts of St. Helena. The wildland fire has burned 300 acres of heavy brush, in steep, rugged terrain and has destroyed one residence and one outbuilding.

The positive turn took place late yesterday evening and into the early morning with cooler temperatures, an increase in humidity and calmer winds. Firefighting equipment and personnel traveled into the Napa Valley from all areas of California to assist in fighting this wildland fire. *CAL FIRE* firefighters and local government firefighters worked together battling the fire and protecting structures throughout the night and continue to protect homes and commercial wineries in the Deer Park community.

Fire Investigators from *CAL FIRE* and members of the Napa-Solano Fire Investigation Unit investigated the fire and determined the fire was caused by a rock-strike resulting from a vehicle leaving the roadway. The driver of the vehicle attempted to suppress the fire, but was unable to keep the fire from spreading.

There have been two reported minor injuries.

Total personnel reached 1,569 at the peak of the fire fighting battle.

Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit Chief Ernie Loveless stated “Local government firefighting personnel and engines worked hand-in hand with *CAL FIRE* personnel to combat this wildland fire”. Chief Loveless has expressed his appreciation to all the local government agencies for their quick response to what could have been a large destructive fire.

CAL FIRE officials would like to remind the public that high fire danger still remains.

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