

POWER INCIDENT UPDATE

October 8, 2004

Information: 209-295-5987

The Northern California Incident Management Team, with Incident Commander John Wendt, is assigned to manage the incident for the Eldorado National Forest.

Size: 340 acres

Started: October 6, 2004

Location: The fire is located about 17 miles East of Pioneer, California above (North) of the Salt Springs Reservoir.

Current Situation:

- The fire continues to flare up and is still hot in steep terrain with very dry fuel conditions.
- There is a cool front passing through Northern California today bringing stronger winds, which could hinder the completion and holding of the remaining open fireline located on the steep lower eastern side of the fire.
- Fireline is completed and holding on the West and North sides of the fire and mop up continues in those divisions to secure the perimeter of the fire.
- No structures and improvements are threatened.
- Resources assigned to the fire include: 554 personnel, 21 crews, 10 engines, 6 water tenders, 4 dozers and 6 helicopters. Air tankers are readily available if needed.
- Highway 88 is open, but the public is reminded to slow down driving past Fire Camp, located on both sides of Highway 88 at the Lumberyard Fire Station.
- Recreationists to the Mokelumne Canyon are discouraged from coming out since the fire is not contained at this time.

Some Incident Objectives Include:

- Fight fire aggressively, outside of the Wilderness boundary, providing for safety first.
- Provide for firefighter and public safety.
- Protect the infrastructure including the Bear River Summer Home Tract, Camp Winton, Bear River Resort, and PG&E Improvements.
- Protect key natural resources including river values, cultural sites, and threatened and endangered species habitat.
- Begin assessing suppression rehabilitation needs.

Fire Conditions:

The remaining open fireline is located in extremely steep terrain and live fuel moisture is very low. Fire behavior observed last night included some flare-ups and rolling materials, which creates a safety problem for firefighters. Areas with heavy fuel accumulations still have potential to spot with the stronger winds that are expected today and tomorrow.

Cooperating Agencies:

USDA Forest Service, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, California Highway Patrol, Amador Fire Department, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Cal Trans, and local/county fire units.