



BUTTE LIGHTNING COMPLEX Fact Sheet

Thursday, July 10, 2008 10:00 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:** 14 **Number of Contained Fires:** 14

Total Acres for all fires: 49,000 Acres **Cause:** Lightning

% Containment: 45%

Fatalities: 0 **Injuries:** 24

Structures Destroyed: 40 confirmed residence, 10 unconfirmed structures, 10 outbuildings

Structures Damaged: None determined

Structures Threatened: 3800

Resources: **Hand Crews** 56 **Dozers** 42 **Engines** 313 **Helicopters** 0 **Tankers** 0

Water Tenders 60 **Overhead Personnel** 326 **Total Personnel:** 2,773

Current Situation:

During the evening the winds remained light in and through the Feather River canyon. The temperatures will remain high with very low humidity in the fire area. A Red Flag Warning is in effect and will remain through noon on Friday. Down canyon winds are expected to increase early Friday morning in the Feather River drainage. Firefighters will be focusing efforts on the west and southern sides of the Camp Fire today. Residents remained evacuated in Butte County due to the Butte, Canyon, and Cub Complex Fires.

Fire Update:

- **Camp Fire** – The fire has continued to burn slowly to the south and west. Significant residential areas are under evacuation notices. An attempt will be made today to gather data on damaged homes in the Concow and Camelot communities. The weather predictions indicate a high probability of increased down canyon winds early Friday morning which will increase fire activity. The Butte County Sheriff's Office and the Town of Paradise Police Department are working in coordination with the Butte Lightning Complex to prepare for additional evacuations. Residents and the media will be notified if the fire crosses the west branch of the Feather River. Numerous resources are arriving to assist with fighting the Camp Fire and to protect structures in the communities. The fire is still holding west of Hwy. 70.

Residents should remain alert and be prepared for additional evacuations if conditions change. Remain calm and follow all instructions of fire and law enforcement officials. Preservation of Life remains the number one priority.

- **Belden Fire** – The Belden Fire is burning near the town of Belden off of Hwy. 70. Coordination of resource continues with the Canyon Complex. Crews will be working to protect the community and to continue containment lines. The fire has burned down to Highway 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 Sheriffs Department issued a “Voluntary Evacuation” for the Belden area on July 2, 2008. The evacuation is still in place.

**** Belden residents may encounter additional road closures near their community as the fire progresses ****

- **Breakneck** – The fire is burning in an area north and east of Stirling City and containment is expected in a few days.
- **Smokey** – The fire has hotspots on the southwest side near Big Chico Creek, firefighters will continue to work towards containment.
- **Pit Fire** – The Pit Fire continues to progress to the west and the north and is holding west of the Feather River. A 5 acre spot fire was identified yesterday, north of the Pit Fire. The community of Storrie (Plumas County) is still under an evacuation warning. Priorities are to keep the fire west of the Feather River/Hwy. 70, protect homes in Storrie and to protect critical infrastructures in the Feather River Canyon.

Evacuations:

Please see attached page for current evacuation information.

Evacuation Centers:

Las Plumas High School
2380 Las Plumas Avenue
Oroville 530-538-2310
(no small animals)

Church of Nazarene
2238 Monte Vista
Oroville 530-533-7464
(no small animals)

Neighborhood Church
2801 Norte Dame Blvd, Chico
530-343-6006.

Chico State Yolo Hall
400 West First Street, Chico

Animal Evacuation Centers: For information on the Animal Evacuation Shelters contact the Butte County EOC at 530-538-2772.

Road Closures: For information on road closures contact the Butte County EOC

Additional Information:

It is important to reiterate that all residents who live in or near the affected areas should continue to maintain a heightened state of awareness as this fire complex is still actively burning. Large fires continue to burn adjacent to this complex. Officials are encouraging residents to monitor the fire situation in and around their area via the local radio, television and other media outlets as well as CAL FIRE at www.fire.ca.gov and the Butte County website at www.buttecounty.net. If conditions change, fire and law enforcement officials will make immediate notification to keep the public informed.