



# FACT SHEET

## POOMACHA FIRE



**November 8, 2007**  
**8:00 AM**

**The POOMACHA FIRE is 98% contained, and has burned 49,410 acres.**

Fire crews continue to construct and improve fire lines north of Palomar Mountain in the Agua Tibia Wilderness utilizing water drops from helicopters. Residents may continue to see smoke from this region and numerous areas within the fire perimeter. Full containment is expected by today at 6:00pm.

To strengthen the fire perimeter and ensure complete extinguishment, firefighters continue ongoing mop-up and patrol operations applying water and extinguishing hot spots in many areas of the fire. Initial fire suppression rehabilitation has been initiated by crews and results are positive. Burned Area Emergency Response Teams (BAER) are on the ground conducting assessment operations within the fire area.

### **Re-opening Information**

The Cleveland National Forest reopens on Saturday, November 10, 2007 after an emergency closure due to the recent and ongoing fires that started October 21, 2007.

Those restrictions that were in effect prior to the fires will be continued. This would return the forest to the EXTREME Forest Use Restriction Level. Under this level, the closure of all national forest lands south of Interstate 8 and a general prohibition on campfires, except for Laguna Campground, will also be in affect.

**The recently burned areas of the Forest will be closed with regard to the Santiago Fire area in the Santa Ana Mountains; the Poomacha Fire in the Palomar Mountains; and the Witch Fire, that burned all the national forest lands south of State Highway 76 and north of Ramona, and portions of the San Diego River watershed east of Ramona.**

Closures of recently burned areas and adjoining lands are routinely implemented to protect the public from a variety of hazard such as rolling rocks and falling trees. There are also firefighters continuing their work in extinguishing fires in these areas and the discharge of firearms related to hunting poses a threat to their welfare. Maps of these areas will be available Friday morning, November 9, 2007 on the Cleveland National Forest website at:

[www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland)

**Check before you go for updated information**

- District offices are open Monday through Friday, from 8:00AM till 4:30PM.
- For the Cleveland National Forest Supervisor's Office dial (858) 673-6180.
- For Alpine, Descanso, and Laguna Mountain Area contact the Descanso Ranger District at (619) 445-6235.
- For Palomar Mountain, Henshaw, Ramona and Oak Grove areas contact the Palomar Ranger District at (760) 788-0250.
- For the Ortega Hwy area, San Mateo and Corona area contact the Trabuco Ranger District at (951) 736-1811.

