



North Pass Fire Update - August 24, 2012

On Scene Contact: North Pass Fire Information (707) 983-6318 or CAL FIRE Information Line: (707) 456-1810

Fire Status: Active	Location: 10 Miles NE of Covelo – Williams Valley	Percent Contained: 18%
Size: 20,775 acres	Total personnel assigned to fire: 1,096	Cause: Lightning
Date Started: August 18, 2012, Saturday approximately 2:47 AM		
Resources:		
Hand crews: 26	Helicopters: 7	Dozers: 34
Engines: 96	Fixed Wing: 4	Water Tenders: 21

The fire is actively burning in heavy timber into the Yolla Bolly Middle Eel Wilderness. The fire continues to spread to the East to **Forest Road M1**, South towards **Anthony’s Ridge**, North to **Cedar Springs Ridge** and Northeast towards **Pothole Creek** and **Steel Bench**. Good progress was made on the West and Southwest perimeter of the fire along, **Asa Bean Road**. Fire moved to within 1/2 mile of Anthony Ridge along the Buck Creek drainage. Structures are threatened on Indian Dick Road, Blands Cove Road, and Mendocino Pass Road East of the town of Covelo. Seventy five (75) residences, five (5) commercial buildings and 80 outbuildings and ancillary structures are threatened. Two (2) outbuildings have been destroyed. Firefighters continue to establish and improve containment lines while defending structures.

Incident Priorities:

- To provide for public and firefighter safety.*
- Maintain effective communications with Communities and County Officials.*
- Keep Fire North of FH 7 (Mendocino Pass Rd.)*
- Keep Fire West of the area between Black Butte Peak, Logs Springs and Cold Springs.*
- Keep Fire South of the Yellow Fire Perimeter.*
- Keep Fire East of Murphy Creek on Round Valley Indian Reservation Lands.*

Weather and Fire Behavior:

High temperatures, low humidity, wind, and topography remain a concern for increased fire activity.

Smoke Conditions:

Smoke is likely to be especially heavy in the Covelo/Round Valley areas. Smoke concentrations in these areas have reached levels considered to be ‘Hazardous’ under state and federal air quality standards. Conditions are expected to remain unchanged tomorrow and at least the next few days.

Mandatory Evacuation Order:

Indian Dick Road (USFS Road M1), all residences in the Indian Dick Road (USFS Rd M1), Mendocino Pass Rd (FH7) north to the Trinity County line and East to the Tehama County line. This order also includes all residences and USFS campsites at Howard Lake Campground, Little Doe Campground, and Hammerhorn Lake Campground and all USFS Wilderness Trailheads at Blands Cove, Hell Hole, Stick Lake, Foster Glade, Asa Bean, Rock Cabin, Georges Valley, Soldier Ridge, Smokehouse Ridge, and Green Springs.

Blands Cove Road from the start of the Traveler’s Home Trail Head, North to the Trinity County line.

Mendocino Pass Road, (FH7) North and South of the highway from the Eel River work center east to the Tehama/Glenn County line, including Bauer Ranch subdivision and Forest Service campgrounds.

Area, Road and Trail Closures:

Area closure has been issued and posted for the area surrounding the North Pass fire. Please check www.fs.usda.gov/mendocino or inciweb.org for more information.

Mike Wakoski, Incident Commander – USFS

Norm Brown, Incident Commander – CAL FIRE