
CAL FIRE NEWS

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



San Benito-Monterey Unit

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RELEASE
DATE: March 19, 2014

Wildland Fire, Salinas

Salinas, CA - At about 6:22 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2014, CAL FIRE and Monterey Regional Fire District responded to a wildland fire on Encinal Road, on the East side of the Salinas Valley. The property owner was the reporting party, and advised 911 that his private prescribed burn had escaped containment. CAL FIRE responded with: one helicopter, one air tactical plane, two air tankers, two battalion chiefs, three bulldozers, three wildland fire engines, four hand crews, and one fire investigator.

Due to the remote location, firefighters had difficulty accessing the fire. Once at scene, they discovered the fire had spread into surrounding heavy fuels and brush. The 300-acre fire is currently burning at a moderate rate of spread, no structures are threatened, and no injuries are reported as a result of this fire. Aircraft has been released for the evening, and will return in the morning. Firefighters are compiling a resource order for tomorrow's fire suppression operations.

Due to unseasonably hot and dry weather conditions, CAL FIRE has been operating beyond normal staffing levels. This contributed to our ability to respond to this incident with significantly more resources than usually available at this time of year.

To learn more on how to prepare for this year's early fire season visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.



Who: CAL FIRE
What: Wildland Fire, Private Prescribed Burn Escape
When: March 19, 2014, 6:22 p.m.
Where: Encinal Road, Salinas

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MEDIA ONLY For further information on CAL FIRE's response to incidents in San Benito and Monterey Counties, please contact the San Benito-Monterey Unit Public Information Officer at (831) 647-6257 or BEU.PIO@fire.ca.gov.