

CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



SANTA CLARA UNIT

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Media Information
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Santa Clara Complex Fire Update

Morgan Hill – The Devil Fire located at the southern end of Alameda County made a significant run last night causing 55 firefighters to take refuge in a safety zone and deploy their fire shelters. Only two firefighters had minor injuries caused by embers that came in contact with their elbows while crawling in their shelters. The firefighters did not need medical attention. An investigation team has been assigned to determine what events led up to the deployment.

An evacuation contingency plan has been developed in case the Devil Fire continues to give fire-fighting resources problems. The Red Cross has designated a shelter staging area at “The Barn”, 3131 Pacific Avenue in Livermore. Residents in threatened areas would be this facility to be placed in shelters if necessary.

A new fire-fighting retardant called “Fire and Ice” will be evaluated on the Devil Fire. The material is clear and biodegradable. It will be bucket dropped from military “Black Hawk” helicopters. The unique feature of this product is that after an area has been treated and dries, the retardant can be reactivated with a new application of water.

The Annie Fire located on the Santa Clara and Stanislaus County borders has burned over 10,000 acres and is heading east towards Interstate 5. Progress on the other fires has led to the redeployment of resources onto the Devil and Annie Fires.

There are approximately 2,300 fire-fighting personnel assigned to the incident. Equipment assigned includes; 160 fire engines, 47 bulldozers, 80 fire crews, 12 helicopters, and 14 fix wing aircraft. Suppression cost to date is estimated at \$3,454,142.

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