
CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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Investigation Reveals Fire Cause

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), after an exhaustive investigation, has determined that the Canyon fire in Stanislaus County was caused by smoking. The investigation is continuing and is focusing on identifying the individual or individuals responsible.

Forensic evidence was recovered by CDF fire investigators at the fire scene that is being submitted for laboratory analysis in an effort to identify witnesses and the responsible party. The investigation has determined that a number of people were present prior to the start of the fire. These people are considered witnesses. CDF hopes that these individuals will come forward with information that will be helpful in identifying the person responsible for the fire.

The fire charred 34, 217 acres and endangered watershed values in the area as well as wildlife habitat and wildlife habitat. With the extreme heat California is experiencing, fires of this type have the potential to become devastating wildfires and endanger homes and lives.

Anyone who has information regarding the person or events that led to the start of this fire is encouraged to contact CDF at (800)468-4408.

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