



For Immediate Release
September 14, 2015, 1:00 pm

Butte Fire Update: Fire Containment Growing

Gold Country, CA- As of 1:00 pm Monday, September 14th , the Butte Fire has consumed over 71,000 acres and is 30% contained, up from 5% on Friday. Large numbers of fire crews have entered the region from all over California and beyond. That fact, combined with lower temperatures and rain forecast for Wednesday is leading to some optimism about greater containment. However, breezier conditions could prove problematic.

Many towns in Calaveras County are still under mandatory or advisory evacuation orders including Mountain Ranch, Mokelumne Hill, San Andreas, Murphys, Angels Camp, and Arnold. Amador County's evacuation areas include Pine Grove and all areas south of 88. Updated evacuation information can be found from the Calaveras County Sheriff's department here: calaverasgov.us

All roads in and out of Amador and Calaveras Counties remain open. Smoke from the fire is collecting in parts of both counties – especially in the east. Air quality is affected in those places and may be unhealthy for those with chronic health conditions.

In Amador County, Preston Castle, historic downtowns, Castle Oaks Golf Course, and Lake Camanche are all looking forward to visitors as usual.

At this time, the Calaveras Visitors Bureau is recommending visitors stay clear of most of the county, with the exception of the Copperopolis and Valley Springs areas, in order to allow emergency crews the full run of the highways. Angels Camp, Arnold and Bear Valley businesses - stores and restaurants - are staying open and are eager to have local residents who just want a break to come and visit. Hopefully soon things will be under control and folks will be able to come and enjoy this area of the county again. Inspiring work is being done by emergency crews, law enforcement, PG&E, county supervisors and staff, and outstanding local businesses supporting the emergency efforts. Updates can be found on the Calaveras Visitors Bureau's Facebook page: facebook.com/gocalaveras.

For more information, please contact: Amador Council of Tourism, 209-267-9249, or for Calaveras County, Lisa Boulton, 209-481-5824 to get updated information on accessibility and air quality. Full information on all events taking place in Amador County are available here: www.touramador.com/calendar/month and for Calaveras County here: www.gocalaveras.com/calendar-of-events.

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