

**North Carolina
Incident Management
Team**



Evans Road Fire UPDATE July 14, 2008 5 p.m.

For fire information call:
919-472-4101 or 252-943-3732

Contacts: Sarah C. Gracey
Public Information Officer
ERF.Information@ncmail.net
<http://www.fws.gov/pocosinlakes>
<http://www.inciweb.org/state/34>

For other information:
On impacts to Pocosin Lakes
National Wildlife Refuge
Contact: Bonnie Strawser at
252-423-0815 or
252-473-1131 Ext. 230
Bonnie.Strawser@fws.gov

Current Status

- ◆ The Florida Blue Incident Management Team (IMT) arrived today and they are shadowing the North Carolina IMT. Tomorrow, the Florida team will take command of the 41,543 acre wildfire burning on lands under the jurisdiction of the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Florida IMT will provide a much needed rest for the North Carolina IMT.
- ◆ On Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, impacts of the fire have been on refuge visitors and management activities. Major portions of the refuge have been closed to the public since the fire began. In addition, the 6.5 million dollar Federal Highway Administration Project to rehabilitate over 30 miles of refuge roads has been delayed. Approximately fifty-percent of this project remains to be completed.
- ◆ A cold front approaching the area is forecast to bring more cloud cover today along with the chance for showers and thunderstorms as it gradually moves across eastern North Carolina.
- ◆ Forty-five wildland fire engines are assigned to the fire today. These four-wheel-drive trucks are used by firefighters to patrol within the fire to detect and suppress hot spots and flare-ups that threaten to escape detection or undermine roads.
- ◆ Caution is advised while driving as smoke can reduce visibility on highways. Smoke advisories may be found at: www.weather.gov/mhx. A map of forecast smoke impact areas may be found at www.ncair.org/news/pr/2008/smoke_warning.shtml.
- ◆ A burning ban remains in effect for Hyde, Washington, Tyrrell and Beaufort counties and other counties in southeastern North Carolina.

For additional information on the fire, visit the Pocosin Lakes Wildlife Refuge web site at:
<http://www.fws.gov/pocosinlakes>

Resources on the Fire

306 personnel, 14 tractor/plow units, 6 water tenders; 45 engines & 1 helicopter.

Cooperators

Florida Division of Forestry, Georgia Forestry Commission, Kentucky Division of Forestry, Mississippi Forestry Commission, South Carolina Forestry Commission, Tennessee Division of Forestry, Virginia Department of Forestry, US Fish & Wildlife Service; Hyde, Tyrrell & Washington County Emergency Management; NC Division of Emergency Management; National Weather Service; Department of Transportation; Department of Defense; Hyde County; Hyde County Sheriff's Office; National Park Service; NC Division of Parks and Recreation; NC Division of Water Quality; NCWRC, Division of Wildlife Management; NC Division of Air Quality, NC Highway Patrol; NC Office of State Fire Marshal; USDA-Forest Service; Cisco Systems; Bureau of Land Management; local volunteer fire departments.

Plans for Tomorrow

Drafting & sprinkler operations will continue to reinforce containment lines. Rehabilitation work has begun and will continue according to the plan developed by NCDFR and USFWS.