

Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Agency Administrator Briefing, Type 1 or 2

Incident Command

Incident Name: Angora

Approximate size of fire: 2,500 acres

Location of fire (local map): Angora Ridge, South Lake Tahoe

Land Status: USFS; State Responsibility; Lake Valley Fire Protection District

Name of Incident Commander: Kent Swartzlander, NorCal Team 1

Other jurisdictions:

- Unified Command: USFS; Lake Valley Fire Protection District; City of South Lake Tahoe
- Agencies Involved: USFS; CDF; OES; Local government

Delegation of authority and reassignment of responsibility:
Provided to Incident Commander

Agency Representative: Eli Ilano, Deputy Forest Supervisor (trainee)

Agency Administrator: Steve Eubanks, Tahoe Forest Supervisor
Will change roles to Regional Forester's Representative when Terry Marceron, TMU Forest Supervisor, returns on June 25, 2007

Date/Time of start incident: about 1400 June 24, 2007

Status of WFSA: estimated cost \$30 million; will be WO authority
Sent to WO for review and approval

Selected Alternative is A: Best Outcome
Estimated Cost: \$30 million
Estimated Values Protected: \$3.9 billion

Map of incident:

GIS version completed; available from NorCal Team 1

Pre-Attack or Resource Protection Plans available:

Yes; available at local TMU stations

Local fire policy:

Full suppression; minimize size and impacts to communities and infrastructure
Wilderness suppression strategy and tactics is to use the full range of options

Values at risk: This is a fire of national significance.

- Lost approximately 165 to 225 structures during initial attack
- Communities at risk: approximately 3,000 additional structures
 - City of South Lake Tahoe;
 - Meyers;
 - Fallen Leaf Lake.
- Infrastructure at risk/damaged:
 - power lines/electric;
 - gas lines;
 - phone lines;
 - roads;
 - schools;
 - developed recreation sites (federal and state);
 - special use resort
- Land:
 - USFS;
 - private (communities);
 - state parks
- Wilderness: potential to burn to wilderness boundary on the south/west perimeters
- Resources at risk/damaged:
 - watershed;
 - timber;
 - goshawk habitat;
 - spotted owl habitat;
 - cultural;
 - historic sites and structures.

Value at Risk Priorities for control:

- Fire fighter and public safety
- Protection of Communities at risk
- Protection of Infrastructure
- Protection of Resources
- Protection of Wilderness

Cost constraints:

- Place a strong emphasis on cost containment, focusing on efficiency and effectiveness of all suppression efforts.

Cost Apportionment:

This is an issue that needs attention: federal responsibility areas; state responsibility area and local responsibility areas involved. A cost apportionment team is ordered.

Legal considerations:

- Ongoing Arson investigation;
- May need to coordinate with Sheriff's Office for any missing persons in the burned communities
- Arson investigation: special agent to arrive on scene Monday, June 25, 2007;

ICS off-incident reporting requirements: outlined in California Mobilization Guide. Incident single ordering point is Camino Emergency Communication Center; Geographic Area Coordination Center is North Operations.

Name(s) of Resource Advisors assigned: Richard Vacirca; Raul Sanchez

Operations

General Weather conditions:

This was a wind driven fire under the influence of a dry cold front; and should move through by Monday. Outlook: continued dry conditions and winds typical for high desert country.

Fire Behavior: rapid rate of spread; crown fire; with long range spotting up to ¼ miles

Fuel types: brush and timber (mixed conifer)

Local unusual fire behavior and fire history in the area of the fire:

SW winds off the escarpment increase fire rate of spread and create erratic spread directions

Constraints:

- Tactical:
 - minimize retardant in drainages to prevent discharge into Lake Tahoe;
 - use of retardant is most effective on ridge tops;
- Resources:
 - Could be considered if appropriate action/tool available; generally not considered a viable option due to leeward, turbulent winds and terrain allowable flight patterns

Resources currently assigned:

- Multiple agencies: state, local, and city fire fighting and law enforcement;
- Various utility companies and CalTrans
- Validate with ROSS order information

Air Operations:

- Air Attack assigned (name): 203
- Tanker(s) Assigned: Yes; operating out of Grass Valley (state only) and Minden (state or federal reload); McClellan is being set up for reload however is much further away from this area.
- Air Tanker effectiveness to date: minimal in higher wind speeds
- Helicopter(s) assigned: (3) Type 1; (6) Type 2
- Helibase/Helispot location(s): South Lake Tahoe Airport
- Helibase fire protection: Yes; provided by City of South Lake Tahoe airport
- Use of local water sources for bucket drops? Any lake except for wilderness lakes; recommend Fallen Leaf as primary source

Aerial Hazards: No maps available; TFR in place

General hazards include:

- power lines;
- radio towers;
- other aircraft; winds (lee side turbulence)

Rehabilitation policies for fire suppression rehabilitation:

- Incident Commander will need to work with local Agency Administrator to determine type and amount.

Estimate of condition of incident for return to home unit:

- All fire suppression rehabilitation measures that can be accomplished (those non-seasonal in nature) are completed.
- No visible smokes in and around structures.
- Incident Commander will need to negotiate mopup completion standards for visible smokes within the perimeter of entire fire.
- No standing snags/hazard trees in and around structures.
- All snags within 400 to 500 feet of the fire perimeters and roads internal to the fire area need to be felled due to high visitor use.

Initial Attack responsibility:

All TMU Initial Attack resources were involved in this incident and released 6/25/07 at 1200. The TMU will resume initial attack responsibility on 0930 6/26/07.

The TMU will expect support from the incident to augment initial attack efforts. Requests from the Basin will be coordinated through CIIMT1 Operations.

Safety

Physical condition of Initial Attack resources:

- worked all day and night; should have been pulled off fireline/shift on June 25, 2007 and available normal hours on June 26, 2007
- Jennifer Boyd was on scene during extended attack.

Local Hazards to fire fighting resources:

- Power lines: damaged and downed; generators feeding into power grid system
- Snags;
- Burning structures;
- Exposure to hazmats in and around structures;
- Driving;
- Rocks falling into road

Safety objectives:

- Fire fighter and public safety;
- Maintain evacuation routes;
- Keep public access controlled to fire area (examples: road blocks; traffic control);
- Maintaining effective communications with communities at risk

Accidents to date: (2) vehicles burned; no known injuries at this time

Road closures:

- several roads have been closed in the fire area; staffed by local law enforcement agencies
- Fallen Leaf Lake and trails in the area are not closed via a Forest Order

Evacuations: immediate threat areas have been evacuated; voluntary evacuations are still in effect in secondary threat areas

Standards, procedures and communication with evacuated local people have not been established at this time to allow them inside the fire perimeter.

NorCal 1 has been working with the various infrastructure companies/agencies to restore services.

Medivac arrangements:

Calstar at South Lake Tahoe Airport; CHP H20
Access these resources through Camino ECC

Closest medical facilities: Barton Hospital, South Lake Tahoe

Closest burn center: Washoe County Reno, NV; University of California, Davis

Smoke conditions: heavy inversion in late evenings and early morning

Logistics

ICP, Base Camp has been established at Heavenly Ski Resort; California Lodge.

Access from ICP/Base to fireline: approximately 5 miles

Any security problems: not at ICP

Communications:

- TMU Radio forest net frequencies in use June 25, 2007 through end of shift
- CIIMT1 should switch to another radio system at 0600 June 26, 2007
- Radio system support ordered: yes
- Telephones: available at ICP

Water availability:

- Potable: local markets

Local cache: Eldorado NF; Camino; prefer IMT make use of North Ops

Finance

Fire Supply Plan: Province wide plan available

Local contact: Michiko Tanasaki

Buying Unit: ordered; Not in place yet.

Expanded dispatch: established and in-place June 25, 2007

Contract administration for national contract equipment: Not available from TMU

Special financial considerations:

- IBA ordered;
- Incident Commander should work closely with Cost Apportionment Team
- Establish interagency personnel/equipment support

Plans

Human Resource Person assigned: ordered

Union Representative: Ordered

Damage Assessment Team: Ordered and in place June 25, 2007

GIS support: available locally;

Contact: Victor Lyons

Maps available: yes

Key contacts to send copies of IAP & ICS-209:

- Camino
- North Ops;
- Regional Forester

Training:

- TMU has trainee needs for Division Group Supervisors and OSC2
- Bob Bell, North Ops training, will be visiting to assist in augmenting trainee assignments.

Demobilization procedures:

- Establish with Camino and North Ops

Information

Key messages:

- Public and Fire fighter Safety
- Effectiveness of fuels treatments accomplished between 1999 and 2007
- See forest provided talking points and Q & As

Critical Stress Debriefing Team(s) Needs:

- * Of the numerous homes lost, some belonged to Lake Tahoe Basin and local cooperator employees.
- * A critical stress debriefing team has been ordered to help employees who have lost their homes.
- * Red Cross has provided similar community support and services for affected communities.

Media interest in the incident: high and national

Local political Issues:

Eli Ilano, Deputy Forest Supervisor, is in contact with the following Senators from California and Nevada: Feinstein; Boxer; Ensign; Reed.

- TMU has a political liaison that filters information for Forest Supervisor.
 - All media releases need to be cleared by Rex Norman, Forest Public Affairs Specialist.
 - CIIMT1 PIO should remain in close contact with the liaison
- A Joint Information Center may need to be established. Work with Agency Representative and Agency Administrator.
- A community meeting is scheduled for 2000 at the South Hall Middle School. As this is the first scheduled/implemented public meeting, Rich Hawkins, CIIMT1 Incident Commander, is encouraged to attend.

