

Sheriff updates structures impact in Del Norte

August 29, 2023



Sheriff Garrett Scott has reported an estimated eight to ten structures, some described as residential homes have been destroyed by Smith River Complex fires. “ Sheriff Scott identified Little Jones Creek Rd which turns into Forest Rd 17N08 is the site hit by many of the fires. Many of these structures are off the power grid in extremely remote locations, “ said the Sheriff.

The Sheriff reports no deaths related to the fires have occurred.

Scott expressed cautious optimism progress in containing the fires. “ It’s all about the winds which are unpredictable. Significant progress on the California side of the fires has been made. The Illinois Valley side in and around O’Brien continues to stubbornly burn preventing Cal Trans / CHP escorts through 199. Conditions for escorts remain unsafe at this time.” A Wednesday planned escort has been postponed.

The Sheriff praised residents and asked the community to remain patient and pray for continued calm wind conditions throughout the fire complex.

Smoke continues to foul breathing fresh air. For assistance in providing oxygen, food and water, those needing assistance are urged to report to the Red Cross located at the Del Norte County Fairgrounds.