

From: Schimsa, Rebecca <RebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov>

To: Patel, Swati <SwatiPatel@gov.sc.gov>

CC: Haley, Nikki <govhaley@gov.sc.gov>

Taylor, Richele <RicheleTaylor@gov.sc.gov>

Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>

Adams, Chaney <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>

Smith, Austin <AustinSmith@gov.sc.gov>

Glaccum, David <DavidGlaccum@gov.sc.gov>

Haley, Michael <MichaelHaley@gov.sc.gov>

Date: 11/17/2016 5:19:02 PM

Subject: RE: EMD Update - Pinnacle Fire, Pickens County

The fire is fast-moving and is now 3,200 acres in size and 35% contained.

Firefighting Operations: The strategy to move the fire to converge on itself at the “Stool” (peak below Table Rock) is underway. The burnout of an additional 2,000 acres will put even more smoke into the Upstate area. The firebreaks appear to be holding, and all necessary protections have been taken.

Upcoming Forecast: Unfortunately, weather conditions forecast for this weekend are not favorable—high winds and low humidity.

Participating Agencies: Nearly 170 personnel have been assigned to the incident, including Forestry Commission, National Guard, multiple county fire services (Pickens, Oconee, Spartanburg, Greenville, Anderson, Lexington, and Richland), DNR, PRT, Clemson University, DOT, Firefighter Mobilization, Pickens Sheriff’s Office, Pickens EMD, Greenville Watershed, and the National Weather Service, National Forest Service, and parts of NC Forestry Commission.

From: Schimsa, Rebecca

Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 4:33 PM

To: Patel, Swati

Cc: Haley, Nikki; Taylor, Richele; Godfrey, Rob; Adams, Chaney; Smith, Austin; Glaccum, David; Haley, Michael

Subject: RE: EMD Update - Pinnacle Fire, Pickens County

The fire is still burning—these are the most current estimates at this time:

- The best case scenario is that a burnout helps substantially decrease the fire within the next 2-3 days. They have done a lot of work to make fire lines around the perimeter in order to contain it.
- The worst case scenario is that the burnout will not work, and the fire will double in size and burn out slowly over two weeks.

From: Patel, Swati

Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 4:09 PM

To: Schimsa, Rebecca

Cc: Haley, Nikki; Taylor, Richele; Godfrey, Rob; Adams, Chaney; Smith, Austin; Glaccum, David; Haley, Michael

Subject: Re: EMD Update - Pinnacle Fire, Pickens County

What is the fire status?

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 16, 2016, at 4:06 PM, Schimsa, Rebecca <RebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

Update:

Today, Pickens County declared a local state of emergency at 11:30 a.m. today with the county EOC partially activated to OPCON 3. Both EMD and the National Guard have liaisons on site to support as needed.

Evacuations – Pickens County is planning on doing a precautionary evacuation of 86 homes tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m., similar to the evacuation implemented over the weekend.

Public Outreach – Pickens EOC established a public information line at 864-898-2437 to answer citizens' questions. The Forestry Commission is also updating social media and other outlets on smoke awareness and other updates.

From: Schimsa, Rebecca

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 11:12 AM

To: 'Haley, Nikki (govhaley@gov.sc.gov)'; 'Patel, Swati (swatipatel@gov.sc.gov)'; Taylor, Richele; robgodfrey@gov.sc.gov; Adams, Chaney; Smith, Austin; Glaccum, David; Haley, Michael

Subject: EMD Update - Pinnacle Fire, Pickens County

Fire Status: Although still 25% contained, the fire grew in size about 500 acres yesterday due to burnout operations on the west side and growth down slopes near Table Rock. Smoke will continue to linger over the Upstate as there are only light winds.

Today's Operations:

- National Guard helicopters will continue water drops to cool hotspots, especially in the Panther Gap area.
- Patrols will continue along the burnout areas and will scout possible locations for additional firebreaks.
- Officials will continue to go door-to-door to inform residents of the fire's status; other community outreach efforts are ongoing in nearby convenience stores along the main thoroughfares (Hwys 11 and 178).

Fire's Origin: Confirmed to be an escaped campfire—rumors that it was a Boy Scout campfire are incorrect.