
CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit

CONTACT:

RELEASE

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CAL FIRE Investigators Release the Cause of the Lockheed Fire

Felton – At 7:14 pm, August 12, 2009, a vegetation fire fanned by strong winds burned through the Santa Cruz Mountains between the Swanton and Bonny Doon communities of Santa Cruz County. CAL FIRE Investigators aided by a full Fire Investigation Team with members from the Belmont - San Carlos Fire Department and Santa Clara County Fire Department conducted a thorough investigation to determine the cause of the approximately 8,000 acre fire. The investigators worked closely in cooperation with the Santa Cruz County District Attorney's Office and the Santa Cruz County Sheriffs Office

The investigation team determined the fire was caused by hot embers from an unattended fire on a small private parcel at the end of Lehi Road, located in the Scott Creek drainage west of the Lockheed-Martin Facilities property.

Due to the lack of phone service in the area, a resident in the Scott Creek Drainage drove to the Lockheed-Martin Facility to report the fire. Employees at Lockheed-Martin called 911 to report the fire.

“It is critical that the public follow all safety tips and laws for the use of open fires,” said Chief Ferreira, Unit Chief of the San Mateo - Santa Cruz Unit.

For more safety tips on the use of open fires, visit the CAL FIRE Website at www.fire.ca.gov