



Hernando County
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
Alert Form



EVENT	Water Tower Wildfire
DATE	9 April 2017
TIME	2:00 PM
REPORT #	1

	EOC LEVEL OF ACTIVATION
	1/ FULL
	2/ PARTIAL
X	3/ MONITORING

SITUATION

Please see the following message from Hernando County Fire Rescue:

At about 1900 on April 8, 2017, Hernando County Fire Rescue (HCFR) and the Florida Forestry Service (FFS) responded to a fire near the Hernando Beach water tower located within the Weeki Wachee Preserve. The wildfire began from what is believed to be a smoldering muck fire that occurred due to lightning. Approximately 300 acres have burned thus far, with only 20 percent containment. A local church was the only structure potentially threatened by the fire. Shoal Line Blvd. is closed from Jew Fish Dr. to Cortez Blvd. The Hernando Beach boat ramp is also closed.

It is expected that weather conditions will deteriorate throughout the day causing the fire to continue and grow. Therefore, aggressive back-burning will continue. HCFR expects to burn a total of approximately 1,000 acres. Smoke over Hernando Beach is extensive, but all personnel and the community is currently safe. Only residents with proof of residency will be allowed in the area.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- Residents should stay indoors to avoid smoke inhalation
- Residents are encouraged to monitor local media outlets for current information.
- Report fires promptly.
- **For updates on this unfolding event, follow Hernando County Fire Rescue on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/hernandocountyfirerescue> and on Twitter @hernandocofire. Follow Florida Forest Service on Twitter @FFS_Withlacooch.**

Hernando County Emergency Management will continue to monitor the situation.

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Approved By: Cecilia Patella

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER (PIC) : (352) 754-4083 or (352) 754-4111 (Recorded)

Hernando County Sheriff Office - Emergency Management	National Weather Service - Brooksville
Florida Division of Emergency Management	FEMA
MyFlorida.com	American Red Cross