

---

# NEWS RELEASE

## California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Plumas National Forest

**Contact:**

Joshpae White, PIO (530) 370-5025 Cell  
Or  
Lee Anne Schramel Taylor, (530) 283-7850

**Release Date:**

Thursday, July 3, 2008



### **Area Fire Agencies Team Up to Combat Illegal Fireworks Use**

*Plumas National Forest and CAL FIRE/Butte County Step Up Patrols*

**OROVILLE** – The Plumas National Forest Feather River Ranger District and CAL FIRE/Butte County Fire Department will be on patrol looking for illegal fireworks and the illegal use of “Safe and Sane” fireworks this 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. Legal fireworks are referred to as “Safe and Sane” and bear a California State Fire Marshal seal on them. However, even “Safe and Sane” fireworks are not allowed anywhere in Butte County except within the city limits of Oroville and within the city limits of Gridley.

“Fireworks are absolutely not allowed anywhere on the Plumas National Forest,” stated U.S. Forest Service Division Chief John Estes. “We will have extra officers on duty to help patrol and they will be issuing citations for those found in violation of fireworks laws and regulations. We will be paying particular attention to some of our past problem areas like Milsap Bar and Sly Creek Reservoir.”

“The unincorporated areas of Butte County are where most of the fireworks violations take place,” stated CAL FIRE/Butte County Fire Chief Henri Brachais. “Our personnel are extremely taxed already with over 1,000 fires in the north state 37 of which we are fighting right here in Butte County. We do not need any new fires in the county do to carelessness. The fire danger is serious enough without adding the use of fireworks to the mix. Due to the increased fire activity, all available CAL FIRE/ Butte County Fire Department personnel are on duty. The public can help us by obeying all laws concerning fireworks.”

MORE-

All fireworks are dangerous in the hands of the public and pose a threat of starting a devastating wildfire. Fire professionals ask that the public avoid using fireworks. “It is just too dangerous and the threat to our communities is too great”, stated Brachais. Instead firefighters recommend attending one of the professional displays in our area:

- Lake Oroville (free)
- Biggs High School (free)
- Chico Outlaws (with admission)
- Silver Dollar Fairgrounds (with admission to sprint car races)

Public safety is the top priority and as firefighters continue to battle fires in our communities we ask that the public does their part by not using any fireworks. The danger of starting a new fire is just too much of a risk for all of us.

###