



# JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

## Georgia/Northern Florida Fire Information

Ph: 866-380-9966

Fax: New number coming soon

Email: [gafire@gmail.com](mailto:gafire@gmail.com)

Web: [www.gatrees.org](http://www.gatrees.org)

315-P Plant Avenue

Waycross, GA 31503

11:00 a.m. May 18, 2007

FIRE	COUNTY	PERS.	ACRES	% CONT.	COST
<b>Sweat Farm/Big Turnaround</b>	Ware/Charlton	739	151,682	50	\$23,961,005
Big Turnaround	Ware/Charlton	541	105,418	45	\$11,590,340
Sweat Farm Road	Ware	198	46,264	82	\$13,517,288
<b>Totals for Bugaboo</b>		643	276,970		\$3,095,551
Bugaboo Scrub Fire (GA)	Ware	109	156,455	40	NA
Florida Bugaboo Wildfire	Baker	534	120,515	70	\$3,095,551

**NOTICE – As of 10:00 a.m. today, mandatory evacuations have been lifted for the area from Lassie Black Road south on the west side of US-441 and Burlap Road (forest road 263) south on the east side of US-441. Residents may return home, but should stay packed and ready to leave if conditions change. People should drive with their headlights on and remain alert for emergency traffic.**

### Sweat Farm/ Big Turnaround

Latest infrared images show a lot of reburn and intense heat in the interior of the burned area, which may generate considerable smoke. Yesterday's "rain" did not significantly lessen fire potential or help suppress current fire activity, but firefighters continue to check for any new fires caused by the lightning, especially in the Fargo area. Firefighters will also continue to provide protection for structures and watch for re-burning of needle cast within the fire perimeter. Crews are in Fargo implementing the community protection plan.

### Bugaboo Scrub Fire

Five new 20-person crews have arrived and will begin mop-up along the fire's perimeter. They will be using water and hand tools to cool embers near firebreaks in an effort to reduce the chances of wind-driven spot fires. Fire crews, along with private timber companies, are suppressing the fire along the flanks where conditions allow. Structure protection continues in areas threatened by the fire. Crews and heavy equipment continue to strengthen lines on the southwest edge of the Okefenokee Swamp near Fargo. Fire crews have reinforced lines and burned unburned fuels around islands in the southeastern corner. Crews continue to monitor an area burning near Coward Island which is located approximately 1½ miles from the east side of swamp edge break. A 20-acre burnout is planned for an area just north of S.R. 94 about 8 miles southeast of Fargo if conditions allow. Initial attack crews are also in place to take action on any new starts caused by last night's lightning.

A town meeting in Fargo, concerning the fire, is scheduled for 7:30 this evening in the school auditorium.

## Florida Bugaboo Wildfire

The Florida Bugaboo Fire remained within the containment lines Thursday. Weather will test the fireline on Friday and Saturday, as winds pick up and relative humidity drops. Scattered thunderstorms may bring erratic winds and lightning into the area.

Fire crews will continue to burn out fuels between the containment line and the fire within the southern and southwestern areas of the fire. Structure protection is in place in the Taylor and Deep Creek areas. Mopup remains ongoing from Hwy 2 southward.

The Osceola National Forest is closed north of I-10 (reference Closure Order no. 2007-0401).

## Afternoon Fire Weather

A red flag alert will be in effect Friday afternoon, May 18<sup>th</sup> between 1:00 and 7:00 p.m. due to extremely low relative humidity. Winds from the N-NE may gust to 20 mph.

## Evacuations

*We are attempting to keep the evacuation information as current and accurate as possible. However, conditions changes frequently and residents near wildfire area should stay tuned to local radio and television stations.*

## Georgia

- Areas west of Hwy. 121 from Folkston to Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, including Hamp Chesser and Doc Ryder Road, and south to Chesser Island Road (Charlton County, Georgia) – **Precautionary**
- Davis Community (Charlton County, west of Folkston) – **Fire Advisory**
- Moniac (Charlton County, Georgia) – **Precautionary**
- Reeves Landing (Clinch County, Georgia) – **Precautionary**

## Florida

- Deep Creek Community (Columbia County, Florida) – **MANDATORY**
- Columbia County (Florida)
  - Eastside of US HWY 441 from Burlap Road (forest road 263) north to the FL/GA state line – **MANDATORY**

## Roads Information

### Georgia

- US 441 is closed from Fargo to Florida line.
- SR 177 between Stephen C. Foster State Park and Fargo is closed.
- SR 94 West from Moniac to Florida Line (0.10 mile) is open for local traffic only.
- SR 94 from St. George to Moniac is open for local traffic only.
- SR 185 in Georgia is open for local traffic only.
- I-75 Traffic is allowed as visibility permits. Expect frequent closures. Use alternate routes if possible.

### Florida

- US 441 from I-10 to Florida Line is closed.
- I-10 interchange at US 441 is closed.
- I-10 Traffic is allowed as visibility permits. Expect frequent closures. Use alternate routes if possible.
- I-75 Traffic is allowed as visibility permits. Expect frequent closures. Use alternate routes if possible.
- I-95 and I-295 Traffic is allowed as visibility permits. Expect frequent closures. Use alternate routes if possible.
- SR-2 is open to local traffic only.
- US-1 limited visibility due to smoke from FL-GA state line south to Hilliard area

## **Additional Information Source**

### On the web:

Georgia Forestry Commission, [www.gatrees.org](http://www.gatrees.org)  
Georgia Emergency Mgmt. [www.gema.state.ga.us/](http://www.gema.state.ga.us/)  
Satilla Regional Medical Center [www.satilla.org/](http://www.satilla.org/)  
Georgia Road Information [www.georgianavigator.com](http://www.georgianavigator.com)  
Florida Road Information, [www.fhp.state.fl.us](http://www.fhp.state.fl.us)  
Incident Information System, [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org)  
Fire Weather Watch, [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)  
Ware County Schools, [www.ware.k12.georgia.us](http://www.ware.k12.georgia.us)  
Charlton County Schools, [www.charlton.k12.ga.us](http://www.charlton.k12.ga.us)  
Firewise Communities, [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)  
Okefenokee NWR [www.fws.gov/okefenokee](http://www.fws.gov/okefenokee)

### By Phone:

Big Turnaround Information	912-496-3687
Charlton County Fire Hotline	912-496-3687
Sweat Farm Information	912-285-6017
Columbia County Fire information	386-719-7530

To donate firefighter supplies or for volunteers, contact:  
[www.brighterdaysministries.net](http://www.brighterdaysministries.net), 912-286-5093 or  
912-286-2842

To support Georgia Fire Fighters, go to: [www.gsffa.org/contact](http://www.gsffa.org/contact)

### Cash donations for fire victims are being collected by:

Department of Family and Children Services  
1200 Plant Avenue, Waycross, GA 31501  
For more information, call 912-285-6040

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