

PRESS RELEASE

October 4, 2011

Old Potato Road Fire

Early this afternoon Bastrop County once again has experienced a fire incident. Fire crews are currently fighting a fire which started around 2pm. The fire is currently on the Griffith League Ranch moving northwest. Residents have been evacuated from both Herron Trail and Oak Hill Cemetery Road. Estimated 25-30 homes have been evacuated at this time. A shelter has been set up at Celebration Church on 107 Long Horn St. at the intersection of Coolwater Drive and Long Horn 332-2537. As of 6 p.m., FM 2336 has been closed from Holiday Dr. to US 290.

Conditions for this fire are different from the Bastrop Complex fire. Winds are 7mph with gusts to 16mph and the relative humidity is higher. Fuels for this fire are also different with less timber and more grasses. Fire crews are being aided by air support. Current resources include 2 single engine aircraft, 3 heavy tankers, 1 super tanker (DC10), 1 Type-2 helicopter and 1 Type-1 helicopter.

The Texas Forest Service, Williamson County and Travis County are assisting Bastrop County firefighters. Crews are aggressively fighting the fire and protecting structures. Current numbers are an estimated 900 acres with no homes lost. As of 6:40 this evening, this fire is 10 percent contained.

Monitor local media outlets for situation updates. Instructions from law enforcement and fire officials should be observed should an evacuation order be needed in your area.