



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025**

MEDIA CONTACT:

christie.adams@ncagr.gov

or philip.jackson@ncagr.gov

Update on the Black Cove Complex Fires

POLK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA – Firefighters continue to work to contain three wildfires in Polk County, North Carolina. The fires are being managed together by the North Carolina Red Team, which assumed command of the incident on March 22. This group of fires consists of the Black Cove, Deep Woods, and Fish Hook Fires. Currently there are 249 personnel from North Carolina and other states are present to manage the incident.

- **Black Cove Fire**-(35° 17' 7.53" N , 82° 17' 49.96" W) The Black Cove Fire was first reported on March 19th and was last mapped at 2,076 acres. This fire is burning on state-owned and private land in the Green River Gorge approximately two miles northeast of Saluda. The fire is burning in timber on steep terrain and is currently 0% contained. Firefighters are working to build control lines on both sides of the river to prevent fire spread into neighborhoods and inhabited areas to the west of the fire. Evacuation orders have been issued for residents at:
 - Green River Cove Road addresses from 1091-1528
 - Lady Slipper Trail
 - Big Hungry Road
 - Spurgeon Cove Lane
 - English Heifer Cove Road
 - Deer Trail
 - Scarlets Mountain Road
- **Deep Woods Fire**- (35° 17' 34.77" N , 82° 15' 34.00" W) The Deep Woods Fire was first reported on March 19th and was last mapped at 2545 acres. This fire is burning on state-owned and private land in the Green River Gorge and in the neighboring Holbert Cove Community approximately 5 miles northwest of Columbus. The fire is burning in timber on steep terrain and is currently 0% contained. Firefighters are working on protecting structures on the southern end of the fire and preventing it from spreading south of Holbert Cove Road. Evacuation orders have been issued for residents at:
 - 5079-7265 Holberts Cove Road
 - Fox Paw Lane
- **Fish Hook**-(35° 20' 52.42" N , 82° 14' 5.01" W) The Fish Hook Fire was first reported on March 20th and is currently mapped at 199 acres. This fire has not spread



NEWS

Public Affairs Division
Phone: (919) 707-3001
ncagr.gov/paffairs
facebook.com/ncagriculture
twitter.com/ncagriculture
ncagr.gov/blog

over the past 24 hours, but acreage estimates have changed due to more accurate mapping. This fire is burning on private land near Lake Adger approximately 5 miles northwest of Mill Spring, North Carolina. The Fish Hook Fire currently stands at 50% containment and forward progress of the fire has been stopped. Firefighters have been securing firebreaks along the edges of the fire and extinguishing smoldering fuels. Containment is expected to increase in the coming days and firefighters will remain on scene until the fire poses no further threat. All evacuations related to the Fish Hook Fire have been lifted.