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## Sleeper Lakes Fire Blazes - 8/8/2007 Update 3:00 p.m.

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\* Congressman Bart Stupak will visit fire fighters at their 7 a.m. meeting tomorrow at the ICC.

\* The DNR's Emergency Command Center (ECC) was activated at 9:15 this morning in Lansing to help coordinate information

\* The Sleeper Lakes wildfire in Luce County is not the only wildfire in progress in Michigan. Follow this link: <http://mcgiqa.mcgi.state.mi.us/wildfire/mcgi.aspx> to see all the active wildfires in the state. The Red fire symbol indicates an active fire. If you click on the Info block in the header, your cursor will change to a ?, and you can use that to click on the individual fire. This will bring up summary data about the fire on the left of your screen.

### 4 P.M. UPDATE FROM THE ICC IN NEWBERRY:

Last night's 1/3 of an inch of rain has helped settle down the Sleeper Lake Fire. Today, an aerial survey, the first that could be done without interference from significant smoke, revealed that the fire appears to be slowed down by the combination of firefighter efforts and water drops from the National Guard helicopters. The fire still remains somewhat active in the north and northwestern perimeters of the fire, where the majority of the work is occurring.

Containment lines are holding, while firefighters take advantage of this break to directly attack areas still burning actively.

That said, fire behavior is likely to intensify by Friday, and firefighters are preparing for the return of more critical conditions at Sleeper Lake Fire.

**UPDATE 8/8/2007: County Road 407, from Four Mile Corner to Oswald's Bear Ranch, has been reopened to traffic. No traffic other than authorized personnel is permitted at any point north of Oswald's Bear Ranch on County Road 407 north to Pine Stump Junction.**

**Additionally, a representative of the Michigan DNR Parks and Recreation Division has been stationed at the incident command post, at Four Mile Corner, north of Newberry, to advise campers of areas open for camping and other recreational activities in the Lake Superior State Forest.**

**A vacant structure in the Murphy Creek area was apparently lost yesterday. The structure is apparently an unoccupied cabin and was located well within the parameter of the fire area. No other structures in or around the area of the fire has been impacted.**

**There have been no injuries.**

**All evacuations remain in effect, and County Road 407 remains closed.**

**M-123 is open, but a 25 mph speed limit has been established between County Road 407 and County Road 500. Motorists are advised that construction is ongoing on M-123.**

**Size: Last estimate was about 19,269 acres. Containment is currently estimated at 10%, with the only solid controlled line along M-123**

**Location: Luce County, north of the Village of Newberry. Northern line is near Pine Stump Junction, the east line runs along a portion of M-123 and the west line runs parallel to County**

**Road 407.**

**Resources: 220 people, including DNR, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, Nature Conservancy, Michigan State Police, Luce County Sheriff's Department, numerous Volunteer Fire Departments, local Red Cross Chapter and local keyman firefighters working for DNR.**

**Air Support -Four Helicopters from Camp Grayling with 700 and 2,000 gallon water buckets.**

**In addition, the Wisconsin DNR added 6 tractor plows with pumpers and one tracked marsh vehicle, and a crew of 20 personnel today.**

**Weather: Forecast for today is clear with winds from the north.**

**A statewide toll-free phone line is now available with regularly updated information. That number is 877-261-3473. Information about the Sleeper Lake Fire was posted on the DNR website today: [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).**

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