



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Stanislaus County Fire Agencies Prepare for Upcoming Wildland Fire Season

Modesto, CA- Stanislaus County fire officials are preparing for the upcoming fire season by conducting an all-day training on Saturday April 5, 2008. The training will include 17 different fire agencies from Stanislaus County, Cal-Fire's Tuolumne/Calaveras and Santa Clara Ranger Units, the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The training exercises will be held in different areas throughout Stanislaus County to simulate different exercises.

All of the fire agencies in Stanislaus County participate in the California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS), which establishes minimum standards for personnel who fight and manage wildland fire incidents. The refresher training will include both classroom and hands-on work. The classroom portion of the training will review the CICCS requirements and cover firefighter safety while on a wildland fire incident. The hands-on training will cover wide range of topics including, wildland fire hose lays, firefighter safety, wildland fire weather, and structure protection during wildland fires.

"Each year Stanislaus County gets called upon to send fire resources to help fight wildland fires throughout the state as part of the states mutual-aid system," said Chief Gary Hinshaw with the Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services. "The purpose of this training is to enhance our firefighters wildland firefighting knowledge so they can do their job safely." Over 100 fire department and public safety personnel are expected to participate in this training event.

The media is invited to cover this training event. The training Command Post will be located at the Modesto Junior College Regional Fire Training Center located at 1220 Fire Science Lane in Modesto. For more information regarding this training event please contact the Event Information Officer Royjindar Singh at (209)-652-6597.

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