

California forest fire mostly contained

by UPI

LAKE TAHOE, Calif. - Residents of South Lake Tahoe, Calif., began returning home after firefighters said they had contained 70 percent of a 3,000-acre forest fire.

While some evacuation orders were eased Thursday, officials didn't permit residents of homes that had been destroyed in the fire to return, the Lompoc (Calif.) Record reported. Those who did were arrested for trespassing.

Fire officials said two days of calmer winds helped firefighters gain the upper hand on a fire that had been fed by winds in earlier days.

Also, Rich Hawkins, a Forest Service fire incident commander, said officials had determined the exact cause of the blaze and would announce it Friday, the Record reported. Earlier in the week, investigators said they had determined the fire was caused by human activity.

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