

Most Greek wildfires under control

by UPI

ATHENS, Greece - Most of the wildfires that ravaged southern Greece in recent days have been extinguished or brought under control. Only four areas, two in the Peloponnese and two on the island of Evia, were still being identified by the Greek government Thursday as "problems," Athens News Agency reported. The death toll from the country's wildfires held steady Thursday at 64. Thousands of Athens residents gathered Wednesday evening in the city's Syntagma Square for a silent protest of the government's inability to prevent the devastating wildfires, which have torn through hundreds of thousands of acres of crops, pasture land and forests. The protests came as a poll found the wildfires had hurt political support for the ruling New Democracy and PASOK, Kathimerini reported. The poll recorded a 1.5 percent drop in support for the ruling government, with defectors turning to the Communist Party and Popular Orthodox Rally. The poll predicts the conservative ruling parties may only hold on to 151 seats in the 300-seat Parliament.

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