

Boles Fire Cleanup Video – Final Transcript

On Sept. 15, a wildfire swept through the city of Weed, a rural community of 3,000 in Siskiyou County . . .

In a matter of hours, one hundred and fifty homes and other buildings were destroyed . . .

Governor Brown declared a state of emergency and CalRecycle was asked to help with the cleanup. Nearly 19,000 tons of waste and debris had to be removed before rebuilding can begin . . .

CalRecycle immediately established a command center near City Hall, supported by US EPA, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the City of Weed, and Siskiyou County Health Department to be available to residents and manage cleanup operations. Work crews were mobilized including local companies.

[KPIX news feature with Todd Thalhamer]

[CalRecycle video footage of cleanup activity with Randy Friedlander voiceover]

Work crews kept dust and contaminant levels down, and performed continuous soil sampling and air monitoring for the safety of the workers and the community.

To keep the community and others fully aware, CalRecycle filed a daily status report with information on the cleanup, including sites cleared of debris. Rapid response helped to restore faith among residents looking ahead to the tough task of rebuilding.

[KPIX excerpt of resident offering comment about caliber of cleanup effort]

Keeping the cleanup firmly on schedule, by the end of October all sites had been cleared.

Soon, the people of Weed will be able to rebuild their homes, businesses, and lives.