



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023**

CONTACT: *Philip Jackson, public information officer*
N.C. Forest Service
919-857-4828 or philip.jackson@ncagr.gov



The Last Resort Fire in Tyrrell County remains 5,293 acres in size as water pumping operations begin

CRESWELL – As of 4 p.m., March 30, the Last Resort Fire in Tyrrell County remains 5,293 acres in size and 48% contained.

Irrigation systems are wetting the fire area along Western Road. Firefighting personnel have established pump sites at Phelps Lake and a fresh water canal alongside Seagoing Road. Water pumps are expected to be in service and moving water Thursday evening.

Due to the distance between the fire area and closest water sources, water flowing into the fire area is still days away.

Water handling operations are crucial for pumping water and moving it to the fire area to minimize loss of organic soil, reduce smoke impacts and prevent reburn.

Cooler temperatures and recent rainfall have helped minimize smoke impacts. Communities northwest of the fire area near Roper and Plymouth can expect to smell smoke overnight and into Friday morning.

In the interest of safety, residents and commuters may want to consider allowing for extra travel time or plan to take alternate routes. Overnight, a combination of smoke and fog could lead to low visibility in some areas.

Those commuting Friday morning should remain alert and attentive to signage. Road closures may be implemented as needed.

Operational resources working the fire include 79 personnel from the N.C. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

There are no injuries and no structures threatened at this time. The cause of the fire was determined to be a debris burn on private land that escaped containment.

A temporary flight restriction (TFR) remains in effect for the Last Resort Fire. The TFR restricts all civilian aircraft, manned and unmanned, within 5 miles of the fire. The flight restriction remains in place until aviation support is no longer needed.

For information updates, visit <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/ncpor-last-resort-fire>.

[Sign up](#) to receive the latest updates on the Last Resort Fire. Check the box “Last Resort Fire 2023.”