

# Roaring Camp Fire Mop-up

Mopping up the damage caused by the Roaring Camp fire in Felton Sunday that destroyed two towering trestles and swept through five acres of virgin redwoods was completed late Monday night, State Forestry reported this morning.

The fire is still under investigation for possible arson.

Estimated loss of the 500-foot trestles, reaching a height of 100 feet over the gulches below, was set at \$250,000 by Roaring Camp President Norman Clark.

Clark said his two steam engine trains that have carried hundreds-of-thousands of visitors to the top of Bear Moun-

tain at the 1880-vintage resort area the past decade will continue to run on a regular schedule to the foot of the trestles.

However, first, one of the trains has to be rescued from above the trestles where it was trapped by the fire. Its passengers walked out of the endangered area and the train will be brought out by truck, a Roaring Camp spokesman reported.

No one was injured in the fire, Forestry reported.

During the late Sunday afternoon firefight, 129 firemen were on the lines, joined by a large number of citizens who

went in to help cut a firebreak around burning area.

Both trestles are standing, but will have to be totally rebuilt, Clark reported.

A couple of the large and very old virgin redwoods were destroyed, but younger trees in the area were only scorched, Debbie Wilkie of Forestry reported.

"It was not a large timber loss," she said.

Combatting the blaze were Forestry units from as far away as Saratoga Summit, and units from Felton, Ben Lomond, Zayante, Scotts Valley and Soquel Fire depart-

ments.

From the air, two fire-retardant bombers sprayed the blaze and two helicopters dropped water bombs directly on the trestles.

The quick containment of the fire meant that nearby residential areas, such as Mt. Hermon, and downtown Felton about one mile away, were spared, along with the extensive forest properties of Cowell park.

Warnings of the unprecedented dryness and fire danger in the Santa Cruz Mountains were issued again Monday by Forestry.