UPDATE: Wildland fire at the NNSS

NORTH LAS VEGAS, Nevada – Air and ground operations in support of the Cherrywood Fire continue today. As stated yesterday, the fire entered a site with remnant radiological material from a Cold War era test Saturday evening. The NNSS completed air sampling, radiological surveys on vehicles, equipment, personnel, and aircraft over the weekend. Analysis has shown only naturally occurring radiation at background levels. There is no risk to health and human safety, and there is no offsite risk to the public.

In addition to the dose monitoring and modeling conducted at the Site, the Desert Research Institute, working with members of the local community, operates the Community Environmental Monitoring Program, an independent radiological air monitoring system at 24 locations around the Site and throughout Nevada and parts of Utah and California. Results are posted regularly on DRI’s website, here: https://cemp.dri.edu/.

The NNSS is in unified command with the Bureau of Land Management, which is leading the Cherrywood Fire response efforts. Firefighters have contained 15% of the 24,000-acre wildland fire. Nearly 300 BLM and NNSS firefighters continue to make headway on the Cherrywood fire both on ground and by air to take advantage of favorable weather today.

Additional information will be provided as it becomes available on the NNSS Twitter page at https://twitter.com/NNSANevada, Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/NNSANevada and the NNSS website at http://www.nnss.gov.

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The NNSS and its related facilities help ensure the security of the United States and its allies by: supporting the stewardship of the nation’s nuclear deterrent; providing nuclear and radiological emergency response capabilities and training; contributing to key nonproliferation and arms control initiatives; executing national-level experiments in support of the National Laboratories; working with national security customers and other federal agencies on important national security activities; and providing long-term environmental stewardship of the NNSS’s Cold War legacy.

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(NNSA), an agency within the U.S. Department of Energy. The Site’s operations are government-controlled and contractor-operated, and are overseen by NNSA’s Nevada Field Office, headquartered in North Las Vegas.

For more information on the NNSS, visit www.nnss.gov.

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