



## Marion County Board of County Commissioners Marion County Fire Rescue

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[www.marioncountvfl.org/firerescue.htm](http://www.marioncountvfl.org/firerescue.htm)



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### **FIREFIGHTERS CONTAIN WILDFIRE IN OCALA NATIONAL FOREST**

Immediate Release

**MARION COUNTY, Fla.** (February 18, 2009) – Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR), the Florida Division of Forestry (DOF) and the U.S. Forest Service contained a 30 to 40 acre wildfire in the Ocala National Forest in the Lynne area at 2:10 p.m. today. No homes were lost. No one needed to evacuate, and no one reported injuries.

However, due to dangerous smoke conditions, Sheriff's deputies closed both eastbound and westbound SR 40 between Highway 314 and 314A from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. While SR 40 has re-opened, the fire could cause smoke hazards for several days, depending on the weather conditions. Citizens should use caution when driving in the area.

In all, 20 MCFR firefighters from four fire stations, two firefighters from the Florida DOF and 14 firefighters from the U.S. Forest Service worked together to extinguish the blaze. The DOF helicopter dropped nearly 7,000 gallons of water on the fire, while U.S. Forest Service tractors plowed fire lines and MCFR firefighters protected homes.

Forestry firefighters are investigating the cause of the fire.

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