



Large fire rages for hours in Holt landfill

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HOLT, Ala. (AP) — A large brush fire with flames reaching at least 50 feet high consumed five acres of woodland debris piled in a landfill before it was contained, authorities said.

Alabama Forestry Commission spokesman Mike Kyser said the fire, which was still smoldering but under control Wednesday, was contained about 8 p.m. Tuesday, several hours after it began.

The Alabama Forestry Commission brought in a bulldozer to plow a ditch around the fire after it had been fought for more than two hours. Fire officials said the ditch kept the fire from spreading to nearby homes and woods.

The bulldozer was also used to build a makeshift dam to prevent ash-polluted water runoff from spreading to the Black Warrior River.

David and Bonnie Sanders, who live near the landfill, said trees and limbs in the pit were burning.

"The flames were up there, taller than a light pole. I'd say about 80 feet high," David Sanders told The Tuscaloosa News. "You could feel the heat."

Information from: The Tuscaloosa News, <http://www.tuscaloosanews.com>

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