

The evolution of the NE Attica wildfire of 21-24 August 2009 and its suppression

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Abstract

This paper describes the evolution of the large and destructive fire of NE Attica, on 21-24 August 2009 and makes reference to the firefighting efforts, based on in situ observations during the fire and subsequent collection of data from visits to burned areas, testimonials of residents and individuals who were involved in the firefighting effort, satellite data and data collected from recording of images and information broadcasted by the media in those days. Utilization of all this information allowed a complete documentation of the behavior of the fire and a description of the weaknesses of the firefighting mechanism that manifested themselves during its four-day evolution.