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A wildfire in Northern California, named the Thompson Fire, has led to the evacuation of at least 13,000 residents. The fire, which broke out around midday on Tuesday, is centered approximately 70 miles north of Sacramento, impacting the city of Oroville in Butte County.

By Wednesday morning, the wildfire had expanded to nearly 5 square miles and was completely uncontained, according to reports. High temperatures exceeding 100°F and low humidity levels have exacerbated the spread of the fire. Helicopters have been deployed to drop water, and nearly 1,500 emergency personnel are engaged in firefighting efforts.

Four firefighters sustained injuries while combating the blaze, but no civilian casualties have been reported. Several homes have been destroyed, leading to the declaration of a state of emergency in Oroville. Two evacuation centers have been established to support displaced residents.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. Weather conditions, including gusty winds, are contributing to the heightened risk of further spread, as indicated by red flag warnings issued in the region. The National Weather Service forecasts continued high temperatures into next week.

Governor Gavin Newsom has secured federal funding to aid in firefighting efforts and has activated the State Operations Center to coordinate responses. The incident underscores the critical fire conditions that Northern California is facing this season.