



Erskine Fire Update June 27, 2016 8 P.M.

Fire Information: 760-376-3781 8:00 am-4:30 pm

<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4806/#>

Fire Start: June 23, 2016

Size: 45,388 acres

Percent Contained: 45

Total Personnel: 1,808

Unified Command: BLM, Kern County Fire Department, Kern County Sheriff, USFS

Location: Lake Isabella

Cause: Under investigation

Costs to Date: \$13 million

Damaged Structures: 75

Destroyed Structures: 257

Today's Fire Summary:

The Erskine Fire is still holding within its current perimeter. A lot of progress was made today by crews using direct suppression tactics on the fire's perimeter. They continue the hard work of connecting containment lines on the south and west flanks of the fire. Air support and retardant drops have been very effective in slowing the fire's spread.

Breezy westerly winds will continue into the evening and then lessen. Relative humidity recovery will be poor again tonight, and fire activity is expected to moderate.

Safety:

There will be increased traffic from the public, residents, and fire vehicles now that Hwy 178 is open. Motorists should drive defensively, exercise caution, and reduce their speed.

Homeowner Re-entry Plan and Remaining Closures

Some of the Evacuation Orders, which allowed some people to return to their homes in the following areas: **Yankee Canyon and Mountain Mesa** (there is no power to these areas and bottled water will be available); **areas east of South Lake along Hwy 178—Larson Tract, Navajo, Hillview Acres, Bella Vista, Weldon** (these areas have electrical power).

The following areas that were affected by the fire remain closed: **The communities of Squirrel Valley and South Lake.**

Please call the Kern County Emergency Operations Center at 661-873-2660 for more information on homeowner re-entry.

Shelters: They will remain in place until further notice. Shelters open for residents affected by the fire:

- St. Jude's Catholic Church, 86 Nellie Dent Dr., Wofford Heights
- Kernville Elementary School, 13350 Sierra Way, Kernville

The Red Cross Safe & Well site is available for those looking for loved ones affected by evacuations: <https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php>.

Road Closures: Hwy 178 is now open. However some roads off of Hwy 178 remain closed: Entrada, McCray Rd, Dogwood, Kelso Valley Rd and Kelso Creek Rd.

Recreation Closures: The Pacific Crest Trail is closed from Walker Basin Campground to Jawbone Canyon Road.