



Cedar Fire Update August 19, 2016, 8:00 AM

Fire Information: 760-376-3781, staffed from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm
inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964

Size: 9500 acres

Percent Contained: 6 percent

Total Personnel: 935

Resources: 18 hand crews, 59 engines, 9 helicopters,
12 dozers, 10 water tenders, 935 total personnel

Fire Start: August 16, 2016

Location: west of Kernville

Cause: under investigation

Cost to Date: \$2.5 million

Fire Summary:

The fire was very active through the night as hot, dry conditions persisted. It spread beyond the firelines that crews constructed yesterday on the northwest tip. Further north near Baker Peak, dozer operators constructed indirect fireline in an attempt to halt the fire's northward spread and protect the community of Johnsondale. On the south side near Greenhorn Summit, the fire slowly advanced downslope on the north side of Highway 155 where firefighters held it.

Fire-behavior analysts expect the fire to be very active again today, preventing firefighters on the ground from getting close enough to construct direct handline. The fire is in an area of the Sequoia National Forest that has numerous beetle-killed trees, which, combined with drought stress, creates conditions for aggressive fire behavior. Today's priority for crews and engines is to have a presence in and protect communities most directly affected by the fire. The fire is holding on the ridges west of Wofford Heights, Kernville, and River Kern, and those communities are not under an evacuation order. Firefighters will also construct indirect line where it will be most effective in halting or slowing the fire's growth.

Road Closures:

- Highway 155 is closed at the eastern junction of Pascoe Road on the west side to the Sequoia National Forest boundary on the east
- Forest Highway 90 is closed from Highway 155 to Portuguese Pass
- Old State Road has been closed in Wofford Heights at its junction with Mountain Shadow Road

Evacuations:

The following areas are under a recommended evacuation order, which means the fire is an imminent threat and all people are strongly advised to leave and seek shelter away from the fire area. A recommended evacuation notice will likely be the last warning given.

- In Kern County: Alta Sierra, Slick Rock, and Shirley Meadows
- In Tulare County: Portuguese Meadow, Panorama Heights, Poso Park, and Sugarloaf Village. Call Tulare County Emergency Operations Center for information (559-623-0200).

An evacuation center at St. Jude Catholic Church in Wofford Heights is open during the day for affected residents. American Red Cross: safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/index.php

Unified Command: Incident Commanders Mike Minton, California Interagency Incident Management Team 5 representing the US Forest Service and Bill Steers, Kern County Fire Department.