



Cedar Fire Update August 22, 2016, 8:00 a.m.

Fire Information:

Kernville Ranger District: 760-376-3781, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Western Divide Ranger District: 559-539-2607, ext. 72212, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Website: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964
Email: cedarfire08162016@gmail.com

Size: 19,629 acres (415 acre increase from last evening)
Percent Contained: 5 percent
Total Personnel: 1,836
Resources: 28 hand crews, 171 engines, 15 aircraft,
18 dozers, 25 water tenders

Fire Start: August 16, 2016
Location: West of Kernville, Calif.
Cause: Under investigation
Cost to Date: \$11.4 million

Fire Summary:

The fire burned actively through the night around most of the perimeter. Two night-flight helicopters were used to drop water near Black Mountain above Wofford Heights where fire was most active. Firefighters kept the fire from advancing downhill into Wofford Heights and held it north of Highway 155 and the Southern California Edison extra-high voltage powerline.

On the northwest side, firefighters are working to slow the fire's advance toward residences in Panorama Heights, California Hot Springs, Pine Flat, and nearby communities.

Many firefighters relocated from the incident command post at Camp 9 to a camp in Glennville at the rodeo grounds (196 Paoe Road). This location, which is closer to the fire perimeter, allows firefighters to spend more time on the fireline, travel less, and get more rest. Some crews are staying on the north side of the fire in a third camp at R Ranch in Johnsondale.

Weather and Fire Behavior:

The critically dry and beetle-killed vegetation is being thoroughly consumed as it burns. This generates abundant smoke that could settle into Kern River valley. When burning in timber, the fire is intense and is very resistant to control. When burning in grass and shrubs, the wind causes the fire to advance rapidly, but it creeps when winds decrease.

An additional concern for Monday is the increased potential for thunderstorms in the area. While the chance of wetting rain is unlikely, lightning and gusty outflow winds are possible. Temperatures are forecast to reach into the 80s on higher slopes and mid-90s on lower terrain. Relative humidities are expected to drop into the teens. Breezy conditions are predicted in the afternoon. Such conditions could complicate fire-suppression efforts and cause the fire to spread rapidly.

Closures:

The Sequoia National Forest has issued an area, road and trail closures for the area affected by the Cedar Fire (Order No. 0513-16-18). General boundaries of the closure: south of Highway 50, west of Highway 99, north of Sawmill Road, and east of the western Forest boundary. The official closure and a map are posted at inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964.

The following roads are closed:

- Highway 155 from the eastern junction of Pascoe Road toward Wofford Heights at a point west of **Miller Road**.
- Forest Highway 90 from Highway 155 to Portuguese Pass.
- Old State Road in Wofford Heights at its junction with Mountain Shadow Road.

Evacuations:

The following areas within Wofford Heights have been elevated to a recommended evacuation status Sunday evening. The fire is an imminent threat and people are strongly advised to leave and seek shelter away from the fire area.

- Pala Ranches
- Homestead Tract
- Residences north of Anchorage Road, including Earl Pascoe Road

The following communities in Kern County remain under a recommended evacuation order:

- Alta Sierra
- Slick Rock
- Shirley Meadows

The area east of Highway 155 and north of Wofford Blvd. is now under a precautionary evacuation order, which means that the fire may become a threat in the near future. All residents are advised to be prepared to leave the area at a moment's notice. **At this time, no other parts of Wofford Heights apart from those listed are under any evacuation order.**

The following communities in Tulare County are under a mandatory evacuation order:

- Posey
- Pine Flat
- Pine Mountain
- Sugarloaf, including Sugarloaf Mountain Park and Sugarloaf Village
- California Hot Springs
- Panorama Heights
- McClenny Tract
- Spear Creek Mountain Homes
- White River Summer Homes
- Portuguese Meadow
- Balance Rock
- Idlewild
- Poso Park

For more information, call the Tulare County Emergency Operations: 559-623-0200.

Shelters:

A new shelter has been established in Weldon at South Fork Elementary School (6401 Fay Ranch Road).

A full-service shelter is at the First Baptist Church of Lake Isabella (3701 Suhre Street). Kern County Animal Services will assist with sheltering companion animals at the church. If you have physical limitations and require evacuation assistance, call the Aging and Adult Services hotline (855-264-6565).

Another shelter is in Porterville at the Granite Hills High School (1701 E. Putnam Ave). To shelter large animals or livestock, contact Terry Way's Ranch and Equine Rescue: 918-541-3572 (416 N. Anderson Way, Exeter).

Unified Command:

Incident Commanders Mike Minton, California Interagency Incident Management Team 5 representing the U.S. Forest Service, and Bill Steers, Kern County Fire Department.