



## **Cedar Fire Update August 27, 2016, 8:00 p.m.**

### **Kernville Ranger District:**

760-376-3781

8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Website:** [inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964)

### **Western Divide Ranger District:**

559-539-2607, ext. 72284

8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Email:** [cedarfire08162016@gmail.com](mailto:cedarfire08162016@gmail.com)

**Size:** 28,840 (200 acre increase from this morning)

**Percent Contained:** 30 percent

**Total Personnel:** 2,436

**Resources:** 42 hand crews, 17 aircraft, 185 engines, 24 dozers, 39 water tenders

**Fire Start:** August 16, 2016

**Location:** West of Kernville, Calif.

**Cause:** Under investigation

**Cost to Date:** \$35.4 million

### **Fire Summary:**

On the southeast side, today's firing operation on Black Mountain allowed firefighters to bring the fire down to control and retardant lines. Similar efforts on the southwest corner of the fire, along Sandy Creek Road, brought that section of perimeter closer to containment. Sugarloaf and Panorama Heights are nearly surrounded by control lines. To the north, crews used a network of roads to access the fire with engines and construct dozer line directly along the fire's edge. On the east side, the fire is backing down from Baker Ridge into Stormy Canyon and hotshot crews started working in the Bull Run Basin. However, most of the eastern perimeter is not generating much heat or smoke.

The night air-attack aircraft and two night-flying helicopters that have benefitted the firefighting efforts the past few nights have been reassigned to the new fire start south of Lake Isabella. Night-shift crews were advised to be flexible in case they need to be reassigned to assist with the Havilah Fire. Absent redirection, the plan is to assess and monitor the success of the daytime firing operations and control the fire perimeter.

### **Weather and Fire Behavior:**

Another warm, dry night is expected across the fire, with overnight lows mainly in the mid 50s to mid 60s, and humidity recovery ranging from 35-40 percent by morning. Gusty winds will die down and an inversion is expected to develop after midnight, moderating fire activity.

### **Kern County Evacuations and Road Status:**

Kern County has two levels of evacuations: precautionary and recommended. A precautionary evacuation 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. A recommended evacuation means that the fire is an imminent threat and people are strongly advised to leave and seek shelter away from the fire area. This may be the last notice people receive.

The following areas remain in precautionary evacuation:

Pala Ranches; Homestead Tract; residences north of Anchorage Road, including Earl Pascoe Road; Alta Sierra, with the exception of Forest Service recreation cabins at Summit Road; Weeping Springs; Slick Rock; residences from Diablo Road north to the Kern-Tulare County line in Kernville, on the west side of the Kern River; residences from Camp Erwin Owen north to the Kern-Tulare County line, including the Riverkern community, on the east side of the Kern River; and in Wofford Heights, the area east of Highway 155 and north of Wofford Boulevard.

There are no areas of Kern County presently under recommended evacuation.

Road closures:

- Hard closure: between Highway 155 at Rancheria Road and Highway 155 at Lakeside Drive.
- Soft closure (only residents with photo ID): Highway 155 at Calgary Drive; Old State Road at Mt. Shadow Drive.

**Tulare County Evacuations and Road Status:**

Tulare County has two levels of evacuations: voluntary and mandatory. A voluntary evacuation means that residents should either evacuate or be prepared to do so should conditions worsen. Voluntary evacuations require proof of residency to enter. A mandatory evacuation means that residents should evacuate.

**Mandatory evacuations:**

Balance Rock; Idlewild; McClenny Tract; Panorama Heights; Pine Mountain; Pine Mountain Ranch Homes; Posey; Portuguese Meadow; Poso Park; Rainbow Ranch Homes; Spear Creek Mountain Homes; Sugarloaf, including Sugarloaf Mountain Park and Sugarloaf Village; and White River Summer Homes.

**Voluntary evacuations:**

California Hot Springs; Pine Flat; and the Johnsondale area, including Johnsondale south to Chamise Flat Campground.

**Road closure status:**

- M-50 "Parker Pass Rd." is now OPEN at M-107 "Western Divide Hwy." a.k.a. "Mountain Hwy. 90" allowing westbound travel into the evacuated areas around California Hot Springs and Pine Flat.
- M-56 "Hot Springs Rd." is now OPEN at M-109 "Old Stage Rd" near Fountain Springs into the evacuated areas around California Hot Springs for residents of California Hot Springs and Pine Flat only.
- Pine Flat Road is CLOSED at Manter Meadow Road into the evacuated areas around Sugarloaf and Posey.
- M-3 "White River Rd." is CLOSED at Jack Ranch Road east into the evacuated areas around Posey and Panorama Heights.
- M-112 "Deer Creek Rd." is CLOSED at Rd. 296 into the evacuated areas around California Hot Springs.

For more information, call the Tulare County Emergency Operations Center: 559-623-0200, option 6 for the public information officer. Continuous ringing indicates a busy line, and there is no voicemail.

**National Forest Closures:**

The Sequoia National Forest has issued 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. Forest Road 90 will remain closed. The official closure and a map are posted at [inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964).

**Partial Campground Closures:**

Campgrounds along Mountain 99 north of Kernville in the upper Kern River corridor are closed temporarily to overnight camping. The road remains open, and day use of the area—from sunrise to sunset—is allowed. People with reservations through the campground reservation systems should go to [reserveusa.com](http://reserveusa.com) or call (877) 444-6777.

**Shelters:**

- First Baptist Church of Lake Isabella (3701 Suhre Street)
- Granite Hills High School (1701 E. Putnam Avenue, Porterville)

Kern County Animal Services will assist with sheltering companion animals at the First Baptist Church of Lake Isabella. To shelter large animals or livestock, contact Terry Way's Ranch and Equine Rescue: 918-541-3572, 416 N. Anderson Way, Exeter.

If you have physical limitations and require evacuation assistance, call the Aging and Adult Services hotline: 855-264-6565.

**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.