



Cedar Fire Update August 30, 2016, 8:00 p.m.

Kernville Ranger District:

760-376-3781
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Website: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964

Email: cedarfire08162016@gmail.com

Size: 29,322 (18 acre increase from this morning)

Percent Contained: 70 percent

Total Personnel: 2,031

Resources: 40 hand crews, 13 aircraft, 113 engines,
17 dozers, 39 water tenders

Fire Start: August 16, 2016

Location: West of Kernville, Calif.

Cause: Under investigation

Cost to Date: \$45 million

Fire Summary:

A firing operation in the Bear Dens area brought firefighters close to completing a containment line along the northwest section of the fire. The coordinated efforts of infrared scanning, water drops from the air, and the hard work of hotshot crews on the ground has resulted in an increase in the containment line north from Split Mountain. Winds in the late afternoon caused unburned pockets of vegetation on Black Mountain to put up some smoke; but this interior activity above Wofford Heights poses no threat to the containment line.

With Highway 155 open to public travel, fire managers are encouraging drivers to watch out for fire equipment on the road. Night shift will continue to patrol certain parts of the fire, as well as complete and hold containment work begun in the daylight hours.

Weather and Fire Behavior:

Little change in the weather is expected overnight, with some gusty ridgetop and river valley winds predicted to die down after midnight. By dawn, temperatures are forecast to drop into the 50s and 60s, with relative humidity recovery ranging from 32-42 percent. Stronger winds are expected during the day Wednesday.

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.

No recommended evacuations are in effect for Kern County.

This morning, the precautionary evacuations were lifted for the following communities: Alta Sierra, Jameson Ranch, Shirley Meadows, Slick Rock and Summit Road.

Precautionary evacuations remain in effect for Weeping Springs; 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.

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.

Per the Tulare County Fire Department, Tulare County Sheriff, and Tulare County Office of Emergency Management, the following communities are still under mandatory evacuation orders: Balance Rock, McClenney Tract, Panorama Heights, Poso Park, Spear Creek Summer Homes, Sugar Loaf Mountain Park, Sugar Loaf Sawmill and White River Summer Homes.

The following communities are under voluntary evacuation orders: Idlewild, Manter Meadow, Pine Mountain Ranch Homes, Posey and Rainbow Ranch. Residents must show proof of residency to return to their properties.

Current Tulare County road status:

Mountain 3 (M-3) is now closed where it becomes Sugarloaf Drive at Peel Mill Creek Road east into the Balance Rock, Sugarloaf and Panorama Heights areas. Mountain 3 (M-3) "White River Rd." is now partially open at Jack Ranch Road east into the evacuated areas around Posey and Idlewild, for residents of Posey and Idlewild only.

Mountain 112 (M-112) "Deer Creek Rd." is now open at Road 296 into the previously evacuated areas around California Hot Springs. Mountain 56 (M-56) "Hot Springs Rd." is now open at Mountain 109 (M-109) "Old Stage Rd." near Fountain Springs into the previously evacuated areas around California Hot Springs.

Pine Flat Road is closed at Manter Meadow Road for southbound travel into the evacuated areas around Sugarloaf and Posey. Manter Meadow Road is now partially open, for residents only.

Tulare County health officials advise residents returning to communities impacted by the wildfires to take caution upon returning to their homes. Always be aware of your surroundings and proceed cautiously to avoid hazards caused by the wildfire. For a full list of precautions visit www.tularecounty.ca.gov/emergencies.

Southern California Edison has begun restoring power to various areas affected by the Cedar Fire. Residents who experience long-term power loss are urged to show caution when using their appliances for the first time. They should not consume refrigerated or frozen food stored in appliances that may have lost electricity, and should dispose of these items properly. Water systems are currently being recharged in the area.

For further information, please contact the Tulare County Emergency Operations Center at (559) 623-0200 between the hours of 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

National Forest Closures:

The Sequoia National Forest has issued an area closure for the area affected by the Cedar Fire (Order No. 0513-16-18). General boundaries of the closure: south of County Road Mountain 50, west of County Road Mountain 99, north of Sawmill Road, and east of the western Forest boundary. Forest Road 90 and Rancheria Road will remain closed, including Cedar Creek and Alder campground. The official closure and a map are posted at inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964.

Partial Campground Closures:

Sequoia National Forest campgrounds along Mountain 99 north of Kernville in the upper Kern River corridor are closed temporarily to overnight camping. Private campgrounds south of Riverkern remain open to overnight camping. The road remains open, and day use—from sunrise to sunset—of Forest Service campgrounds is allowed. People with reservations through the campground reservation systems should go to reserveusa.com or call 877-444-6777.

Shelters:

The following American Red Cross shelters can be opened with one hour's notice should the need arise:

- 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.