



Cedar Fire Update August 31, 2016, 8:00 a.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 (no change)
Percent Contained: 75 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: \$45.2 million

Fire Summary:

Overnight, crews mopped up and improved containment lines in the Bear Dens area after days of firing operations, bringing one of the last areas on the western side of the fire into containment. Firefighters will continue to secure the perimeter and remove hazardous trees throughout the mountain communities in the northwest area of the fire. Two groups of hotshot crews working toward Bull Run Basin from the north and south have achieved success on the eastern side of the fire extinguishing isolated pockets of heat.

Today, firefighters will continue to build upon the work of the night shift in preparation for forecasted strong winds across the fire. Fire managers have anticipated this change in the weather and have crews on alert as wind gusts across ridgetops could reach 35 mph, testing the work of the past two weeks.

Please drive with caution on Highway 155 and other roads recently opened to public travel. Drivers are encouraged to watch out for fire equipment and personnel on the road.

Weather and Fire Behavior:

Temperatures will slowly begin to drop a few degrees today and each of the following days into the weekend as a new weather system moves in. The relative humidity will slowly rise over the next several days. Localized critical fire weather is possible for a few hours in the afternoon with gusty winds expected to test the fire's perimeter.

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.

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.

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.