



Cedar Fire Update September 3, 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: 95 percent (no change)
Total Personnel: 1,250
Resources: 26 hand crews, 7 aircraft, 56 engines,
10 dozers, 28 water tenders

Fire Start: August 16, 2016
Location: West of Kernville, Calif.
Cause: Under investigation
Cost to Date: \$51.7 million

Fire Summary:

Engine crews spent the night patrolling roads in the communities, looking for pockets of smoke and heat. Their focus was to monitor containment lines and ensure the fire remained within the perimeter. Residents in the area will continue to see interior pockets flare up and burn as the fire creeps along unburned areas within containment lines. These flare-ups will be most visible at night.

Today crews will continue to work on mop-up of residual heat along containment lines and remove dead trees that could fall across the line. Many of the resources are being utilized to rehab dozer and hand lines to reduce the potential for erosion. Crews continue to pull equipment and tools from fire lines and clean up areas that were used for staging.

Central Coast Interagency Incident Management Team 7 under the command of Robert Laeng, took control over the Cedar Fire yesterday at 6:00 pm. The team will assess the level of need for fire crews and equipment while still providing for suppression support. Downsizing will continue over the next few days. The Team looks forward to working with local cooperators and community members as they continue to provide support to the National Forest.

Safety:

Flames and smoke from isolated areas (well within the fireline) might be visible for several days. Visitors and residents should call 911 *only* if they see fire near containment lines. Local residents and visitors traveling in the area over the holiday weekend, should expect fire equipment and crews on the roads. The Sequoia National Forest has gone into Level 4 fire restrictions and campfires are not allowed. The public is asked to be extremely careful while conducting activities that could spark a new fire.

Weather and Fire Behavior:

Afternoon temperatures are expected to drop slightly today with highs in the 60s along ridges and low 90s along the valley floor. Relative humidity will continue to remain low today. Light winds along the slopes with higher winds along the ridges will cause some

pockets of unburned fuel to flare up. Interior islands of unburned fuel as well as heavy dead and down fuels will continue to burn. No additional perimeter growth is expected.

National Forest Upper Kern River Campgrounds:

Sequoia National Forest designated and dispersed campgrounds along the Upper Kern River (Mountain 99) are open to the public.

A visitor information booth, located at Mt. Road 99 and Riverkern, will be open today and Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Kernville Ranger Station will be open today, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. but closed Sunday and Monday for the holiday. Starting Tuesday, the office will return to normal hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

National Forest Closures:

The Sequoia National Forest area closure (Order No. 0513-16-21) was reduced in size yesterday. Visitors can find the official order and map at www.inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4964. Temporary Flight Restrictions have been adjusted to allow normal flight activity in and out of the Kern Valley airport.

Tulare County Evacuations and Road Status:

Spear Creek Summer Home area remains under mandatory evacuation. Roads into this area remain closed due to snags and other hazards. There are no other evacuations in place at this time.

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