



SQF Complex Incident Update

Date: 10/13/2020

SQF Complex Contact Information
Information Line: (559) 697-5148, 8 AM-8 PM
Website: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7048/
Email: sqfcomplex2020@gmail.com



@sequoiaforest @sequoiakingsnps @inyo_nf

Incident Information:

Start / Report Date: 8/19/20
Cause: Lightning

Size: 167,479 acres
Location: 25 miles N of
Kernville, CA

Containment: 70 %
Injuries: 17
Structures Destroyed: 228

Resources:

Hand Crews: 18
Dozers: 9

Helicopters: 10
Water Tenders: 24

Engines: 45
Total Personnel: 831

Current Situation:

A Virtual Community Meeting is being held today, October 13 at 4 p.m. This meeting will be live streamed on the Sequoia National Forest Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/SequoiaNF> The video will also be available for viewing after the meeting on this page. Please send questions in advance to 2020.castle@firenet.gov.

The Mountain Home and South Fork area saw excellent progress yesterday. Squaw Creek remains a priority. Fixed and rotary wing aircraft were effective in slowing the fires spread around Homers Nose. Air operations will continue as weather (smoke) conditions allow. Ongoing operations continue to identify and mitigate potential hazards on access roads and provide structure defense as necessary on the South Fork Community. Tactical firing will continue as necessary and when safe to do so to secure South Fork Rd. to Devils Canyon.

This week warmer weather returns with light winds and decreasing humidity. Fire activity will likely increase due to the warming and drying trend. This trend will likely bring more active fire behavior especially in areas where dry fuels remain.

Structure defensive protection work progresses on Ming and Kern Cabins. Crews continue mop-up work from existing firelines and evaluating lines of engagement in the area of Sheep Mountain to Homer's Nose. Mop-up and patrol continue on the southern portion of the fire.

A spike camp, a secondary primitive camp site for a fire crews and supported by the main camp, was set up in the Slick Rock area near Three Rivers and near Cahoon Meadow at the Hockett Ranger Station. An additional spike camp was set up near the Kern cabin. Establishing spike camps closer to the fire provides for better efficiency of time and resources.

The communities of Sequoia Crest and Cedar Slope remain a high priority and are being evaluated for repopulation. Crews and aircraft will continue to monitor these areas.

The Regional Emergency Fire Restrictions (Regional Order No. 20-21) remains in place and is extended to Oct. 15, 2020.

Tulare County Sheriff's Office issued an evacuation order on October 6 for everything south of the intersection of the Cinnamon Canyon Road and South Fork Drive, including Cinnamon Canyon. As residents return to the opened areas, it is extremely important that they remain clear of all closure areas. Activities, such as wood gathering, and hunting are not allowed within the forest closure. For more information visit:

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/post-wildfire/returning-home/>. South Fork Drive needs to remain available for fire crews and heavy equipment access from Highway 198 to Cinnamon Canyon Road. Please drive with caution.

Mandatory evacuations continue for Alpine Village, Cedar Slope, Pyles Boys Camp, Redwood Drive and Sequoia Crest. Voluntary evacuation warnings for Camp Nelson, Pier Point, Ponderosa, Doyle Springs, (all residents only), Blue Ridge Drive between Balch Park Road and the Gate at Grouse Valley, Bear Creek Road from Rancheria Fire Control Road to the address of 44853 Bear Creek Road, Mineral King, Silver City, Balch Park Road from the intersection of Blue Ridge Drive to Battle Mountain Monument.

For more information visit: <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/recovers/>.

Tulare County has a Local Assistance Center (LAC) at the Government Plaza, 1055 West Henderson Avenue, Porterville, CA. Hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, and 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Saturday and Sunday. A satellite LAC is open in Camp Nelson on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Evacuations:

- **Evacuation Orders, Map and Warnings for [Tulare County](#).**
- Tulare County has a [structure assessment form](#) for evacuees affected by the fire to provide contact information for County officials as the damage assessment continues. An [interactive map](#) showing damaged structures is available.
- Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency **hotline for affected citizens** – (559) 802-9790
- The Red Cross has [evacuation centers](#) at Porterville Community College and the North Exeter Community Building. Also, call the Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Closures:

- **Sequoia National Forest** closure of area north of Tulare/Kern county line: [Forest Order 0513-20-34 SQF Western Divide and Kern River Ranger Districts Complex Fire Area, Trail, and Road Closure](#)
- **Regional Emergency Fire Restrictions are in place:** [Regional Order No. 20-21](#)
https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd821778.pdf
- The **Bureau of Land Management** Bakersfield Office has issued a [temporary emergency closure](#).
- **Road closures** due to the SQF Complex may be found by [clicking here](#).
- The **Temporary Flight Restriction** (9/19/20) may be found [here](#). Drones are prohibited.
- **Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park** are open except for a large portion of the wilderness in Sequoia National Park due to wildfire. For more information please visit www.nps.gov/seki

Smoke: Current air quality may be found at <https://fire.airnow.gov/>

Alert: To receive emergency notifications regarding evacuations and critical events sign up at alerttc.com

Cooperating and Assisting Organizations: Southern California Edison, Tulare County Fire, Tulare County Sheriff, Tulare County OES, Tulare County Roads, California Highway Patrol, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, California Conservation Corps, California Office of Emergency Services, AT&T, Verizon, California Department of Transportation, California Air National Guard, and California National Guard. CONAFOR, Mexico.

Safety Message: Prepare for the possibility of fire in advance, visit www.ready.gov/wildfires.