



New Fire Information Phone Line:

559-791-8827 (8am-8pm)

Media: (213) 503-4243

InciWeb: [Inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7841](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7841)

Email: 2021.Windy@firenet.gov

Facebook: @SequoiaNF

Twitter: @SequoiaForest

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Tule River Indian Reservation

California Incident Management Team 5

Tulare County Sheriff's Office

Sequoia National Forest

Windy Fire Update-Friday, October 1, 2021

Resources: 2,500 personnel, 71 hand crews, 136 engines, 17 helicopters, 23 dozers, 12 water tenders

Structures Threatened: 2,000 Residences, 100 Commercial Buildings

Structures Destroyed: 14 Residences, 12 Outbuildings, 2 Commercial Buildings

Injuries: 4

TULARE COUNTY RESIDENT INFORMATION: 14 homes and 12 outbuildings have been reported destroyed. Residents requesting information on the status of their property can call the Tulare County Information Hotline at (559) 802-9790. Affected property owners should complete the September Lighting Fire Information Form online at: <https://bit.ly/3ETdZjI>. Forest Service staff have completed assessments of the White River and Spear Creek Summer Home Tracts on the Sequoia National Forest.

CURRENT SITUATION: The Windy Fire is **89,804, acres** with **40% containment** and is a **full suppression fire**. The fire is burning on the Tule River Indian Reservation and the Sequoia National Forest, including the Giant Sequoia National Monument. The fire perimeter increased 1,736 acres in the last 24 hours.

Early morning observations from the camera at Tobias Peak showed the fire burning actively. While it is October 1st, conditions in the forest are more like what you would observe in August, very dry with warm temperatures and low humidity. These conditions will increase fire behavior today, especially in the chamise and chaparral brush type in the Kern River Canyon.

The top priority continues to be the southwest side where crews continue to make good progress securing containment lines and providing structure defense around Sugarloaf and Sugarloaf Mountain Park north towards Pine Flat and California Hot Springs. Crews are constructing and improving indirect (away from the fire's edge) containment lines from M 50 (at the switchbacks) northwest to Lone Pine Mountain and looking for opportunities to construct direct hand line at the fire's edge.

On the northwest side, crews continue to construct direct and indirect containment lines from Wheatons south to Lone Pine Mountain on the Tule River Indian Reservation. If conditions permit, crews will continue a tactical firing operation to help improve containment lines. Tactical firing operations allow firefighters to remove vegetation along the indirect containment line which reduces the threat of the fire advancing.

On the north side, firefighters continue tactical patrols (extinguishing any burning vegetation, stumps, etc.) along the Coy Flat Road (FS Road 21S94) northeast to Coy Flat. On the northeast side near Ponderosa, crews

continue holding and improving containment lines east to the Lloyd Meadow Road (FS Road 22S28) and south to Johnsondale. Crews will continue tactical patrols extinguishing any burning stumps, trees and vegetation.

On the east and southeast side, crews continue structure defense in the Vincent Meadow area along Sugarloaf Road (23S16). In the Kern River Canyon, the fire continues to hold on the upper west slope between Tobias Creek and Flynn Canyon. Helicopters and the Bombardier CL-515, (Super Scooper) will continue dropping water and retardant on the upper ridge to slow the fire's movement east towards the Kern River. Crews will continue structure defense in Fairview.

On the south side, the fire is burning in the 2016 Cedar Fire burn scar and crews are building direct hand line at the fire's edge west towards Sugarloaf. Pockets of dead and down trees are burning outside of the containment line and firefighters are working to put line around those spot fires.

WEATHER AND FIRE BEHAVIOR: Very dry and warm conditions will prevail through the weekend. The smoke inversion will disperse in late morning, early afternoon. Winds will be light except in the Kern Canyon which could see gusty afternoon winds.

EVACUATIONS ORDERS: The following information is from the Tulare County Sherriff's Office.

Evacuation orders and warnings can change suddenly, please refer to <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/emergencies/> for the Windy Fire Evacuation Warning Area Map. For more information, please call 2-1-1.

- The communities of Sugarloaf, Sugarloaf Mountain Park, Sugarloaf Saw Mill, White River, Idlewild, Posey, Panorama Heights, Poso, Balance Rock, Spear Creek, from the existing Hot Springs Evacuation Order west to King George Peak, south to County M56, including Oak Flat, Twin Peak, to Vincent Ranch at the Tulare-Kern Counties Border, east to Portuguese Peak, and back north to Dunlap Meadow.
- California Hot Springs and Pine Flat areas. The evacuation order includes M-504 at Tyler Creek, Southeast to Pine Flat, West to M-56 and Fire Control Road, North up Tyler Creek Road. This includes structures, side roads, and attached roads.
- Mountain Aire and Rogers Camp.
- Johnsondale and Camp Whitsett, including M107 at Dome Rock, east to Lloyd Meadow Road (FS Road 22S82), south to M99 at Sherman Pass Road, west to M107 and M50.
- The area of McNally's from Sherman Pass Road to Corral Creek.

EVACUATION WARNING:

- Both sides of the Kern River from the Gold Ledge Campground south to Riverkern, Tulare County, at the Tulare/Kern border. This warning will include all private properties, businesses, residences, structures, campsites, campgrounds, Forest Service roads, access roads, attached roads, and trails.
- Alpine Village, Camp Nelson, Cedar Slope, Coy Flat, Pierpoint, Quaking Aspen, Ponderosa, and Sequoia Crest.

ROAD CLOSURES AND RESTRICTIONS:

- At Jack Ranch Road and Old Stage Road
- Quaking Aspen and M107
- MT99 at Gold Ledge Campground
- MT56 at Fountain Springs

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION ALERTS: Tulare County residents can sign up to receive county emergency notifications by registering at AlertTC.com.

EVACUATION CENTER: A evacuation center is in place at Porterville College on 100 E. College Ave. Older individuals (60+) who need assistance with evacuation may call the senior hotline at 1-800-321-2462. For more information, visit <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/emergencies/> or call 2-1-1.

WINDY FIRE ANIMAL EVACUATION CENTER: Domestic animals and poultry are being accepted at the Tulare County Animal Service Shelter, 14131 Avenue 256, Visalia, CA 93292. Large animals and livestock can be taken to the International Agri-Center, 4500 S Laspina St, Tulare, CA 93274.

DAILY SMOKE OUTLOOK: <https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks/SouthernSierra-Sequoia>
AirNow: Fire and Smoke Map: <https://fire.airnow.gov/>

SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST CLOSURES: Please refer to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sequoia> for more information and a map of the closed areas.

HUNTING IN SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST: Hunting is possible outside of Forest Closure areas. Please refer to the link above for areas closed to public access at this time.

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