



Washburn Fire Incident Update – July 24, 2022

Location: Yosemite National Park, Mariposa Grove

Start Date: July 7, 2022

Size: 4,857 acres

Resources Assigned: 31 Hand Crews, 8 Helicopters, 43 Engines, 2 Dozers, 17 Water Tenders, 1 Masticator

Fire Information: Office Hours: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Email: 2022.washburn@firenet.gov

Facebook: [Yosemite NP](#) [Sierra NF](#)

Instagram: [Yosemite NP](#)

Percent Contained: 79%

Cause: Human Caused/Under Investigation

Number of Personnel Assigned: 775

Phone: 209-819-7246

Updates: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8209/

Twitter: [Yosemite NP](#) [Sierra NF](#)

Website: [Yosemite NP](#) [Sierra NF](#)

Washburn Fire Update- One of the main indicators of seasonal fire danger is an index called the Energy Release Component. The extended drought conditions and very dry airmass over the area yesterday resulted in the highest Energy Release Component rating ever recorded for the Central Sierra Predicted Service Area. These conditions were the cause for rapid rates of spread when the Oak Fire ignited on Friday. The Oak Fire is burning approximately 12-miles west of the Washburn fire. Coordination is occurring between fire managers and both air and ground resources responded from the Washburn Fire to assist in the suppression efforts occurring on the Oak Fire.

Today, resources on the Washburn Fire will continue to actively secure the remaining portions of heat near control lines. The two main areas of focus are near the confluence of the South Fork Merced River and Iron Creek. Crews are coordinating with pilots using Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) containing an infrared camera to provide accurate information on the hotspots burning in the remote and rugged terrain. The predicted southwest winds will transport most of the smoke generated from the Oak Fire plume to the north, but smoke and haze will linger over the Washburn Fire today. Conditions will remain warm and dry with temperatures in the mid 80's and minimum humidity around 15%.

Information for the Oak Fire can be found at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2022/7/22/oak-fire/> or by calling 844-MMU-FIRE (844-668-3473). The Oak Fire started on Friday, July 22nd at Highway 140 and Carstens Road, near Midpines, CA (outside of Yosemite National Park boundaries). The Oak Fire currently sits at 14,281 acres and is 0% contained. Highway 140 and surrounding roads have closures in effect.

Wawona Road (Highway 41) has reopened as of 6:00 am on Saturday, July 23.

New Forest Order No. 05-15-51-22-27- Sierra National Forest updated the Washburn Fire Closure Forest Order, effective July 23, 2022, through August 1, 2022. This order supersedes the previous Forest Order. The following roads remain closed: Mt. Raymond Road, Big Sandy Road, White Chief Mtn. Road, Sky Ranch Road (Between its intersections with FS Road 5S40Z and 6S07), Lost Lake Road, Chiquito Lake Road, and Red Top Road. For more information, visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/sierra/alerts-notice/?aid=74510>

For information regarding Wawona Repopulation or Yosemite National Park Fire restrictions, please visit: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8209/

Tip Line: If you were at or near the Mariposa Grove on July 7, 2022, please contact the NPS Investigative Services Branch (ISB) **Call/Text** – (888)-653-0009 **Email-** nps_isb@nps.gov **Online:** [Submit a Tip](#)