



Sierra National Forest

Basin Fire Update

Wednesday July 11, 2024

***New number* Information: 559-468-6809**

Email: 2024.basin@firenet.gov

Facebook: [@SierraNF](https://www.facebook.com/SierraNF)



PEOPLE AND EQUIPMENT: 511 personnel, 5 crews, 21 engines, 2 helicopters, and 7 dozers

CURRENT SITUATION: The Basin Fire is **14,023** acres and containment remains **92%**. High heat in this long duration heat wave continues. The hot and dry heat over an extended period has made the fuels more receptive, this could produce visible smoke in unburned areas of the fire within control lines; no new fire growth is expected. Temperatures today are expected to reach 108 degrees in lower elevations of the fire line and should begin to gradually decrease over the weekend and into next week. The National Weather Service – Hanford is issuing a fire weather watch, which will go into effect at 11am Saturday and continue through the weekend with the chance of thunderstorms and dry lightning. Thunderstorms may begin as early as Friday.

Firefighters will continue to monitor and patrol the fire lines and backhaul any equipment that is no longer needed. More resources have been released to assist with other wildfires throughout California. At 6pm, California Interagency Incident Management Team 11 will transfer management of the Basin Fire to Nevada Team 4.

Northern perimeter: Firefighters continue to improve hand line in effort to remove available fuel and increase containment. Unburned areas within the fire's western perimeter may produce smoke. Aircraft will assist firefighters in monitoring the fire line and will use water drops if necessary.

Suppression Repair: Suppression repair efforts are underway in the areas of the fire that are longer posing a threat. Crews have completed 89% of this work with approximately 7-8 days remaining. Due to very dry fuels, firefighters have not been able to use dozers due to the risk of a fire starting. Hand tools will be used in these areas to return them to as natural a state as practical.

An **EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNING** is in effect through Saturday, July 13th, with very high day time and night time temperatures. Temperatures are forecast to reach as high as 108 degrees today, with relative humidity 15 to 20%. Winds are forecast to remain low, from the west at 6 to 9 mph, with gusts to 15 mph. The National Weather Service has reported that "A heat wave this intense, this long, has set record temperatures throughout the San Joaquin." Air-conditioned tents and fans have been set up to help firefighters endure the intense heat.

The Basin Fire started on June 26, 2024, and the cause is currently under investigation. The fire is at 2000-4500 feet elevation, northeast of Pine Flat Lake, west of the Spanish Mountain, south of Black Rock Rd (11S012) and north of the South Fork of the Kings River.

Updates are posted on Inciweb: <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/casnf-basin-fire>.

Fresno County EVACUATION ZONES: The evacuation warnings remain in place for Fresno County zones **K30, K31** and **K40**. Check the Fresno County Evacuation map for information about the evacuation levels, and safety information about returning to your home after a fire.

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e7d6006a016a444db8b210ac4d2eb5cf>

FOREST CLOSURE and FIRE RESTRICTIONS for the Basin Fire: To ensure the safety of the public and our firefighters, The Sierra National Forest has issued a Temporary Partial Forest Closure Order No. 05-15-52-24-15 for the Basin Fire area. Effective July 5, 2024, the closure will remain in effect until July 31, 2024. We urge the public to respect all closure signs and barriers and to avoid the area **to prevent any potential accidents or interference with firefighting efforts.**

The Sierra National Forest has implemented temporary fire restrictions prohibiting campfires except within designated recreation sites. Operating vehicles off roads or trails is prohibited, and welding is prohibited. Smoking is only allowed in vehicles, buildings and designated recreation sites.

Visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra> for more information or call the Sierra National Forest (559) 297-0706 during business hours for questions.

FOREST VISITORS: This Fire may affect YOU!!!

•The following campgrounds are CLOSED due to the Basin Fire: Bear Wallow Campground, Black Rock Campground, Gravel Flat Group Campground, Kirch Flat Campground, Kirch Flat Group Campground, Oak Flat Campground, Ross Crossing Campground, Sawmill Flat Campground, Bretz Mill Campground.

•Check <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra> for the Basin Fire closure area map. Roads & trails in this area on the Sierra National Forest are **CLOSED**.

•**AIR QUALITY** is being impacted by Basin Fire smoke and by smoke from other fires in surrounding areas. Please check the air quality for your destination at www.airnow.gov. Today's smoke outlook for South Central California Basin is available at <https://outlooks.airfire.org/outlook/a117116c?>

- Fireworks are NOT permitted on Federal land.
- Camp safely and keep hydrated during your stay.