



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Sierra National Forest

Basin Fire Update

Friday, July 5, 2024

Public Fire Information: 559-468-6809, 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.

Media Information: 559-492.9967

Email: 2024.basin@firenet.gov

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



PEOPLE AND EQUIPMENT: 1,351 personnel, 30 crews, 83 engines, 13 helicopters, and 16 dozers.

CURRENT SITUATION: The Basin Fire is at **14,020** acres. Containment is **46%**. The heat wave continues and the National Weather Service yesterday issued a Red Flag Warning that includes the western tip of the fire. The Warning is scheduled to expire at noon today.

- Eastern perimeter: The eastern side of the fire continues to remain within the constructed lines, however rollout of burning material may still occur. This area is being monitored by aircraft and firefighters in the area.
- Southern perimeter: Containment line has been secured along the South Fork of the Kings River and the area is being monitored. Crews have not detected any remaining heat.
- Western perimeter: Crews have boxed in the fire with a combination of dozer line and retardant. Firefighters are continuing to secure this area.
- Northern perimeter: Creating safe access to the northern edge of the fire in the Dinkey Creek drainage continues to be a priority. A **helicopter rappelling crew** has been ordered. The very steep and inaccessible terrain is a good match for this kind of crew; they are not used often. They will build a temporary helicopter landing area for inserting and removing firefighters north of the fire. Crews will then be able to access this area and build fire-line.
- Contingency Lines: Dozers have improved roads into northwestern perimeter from the west, to allow smaller vehicles at least partial access. Further north of the fire perimeter, work continues to build contingency fire lines using crews, dozers, masticators, and feller-bunchers, to block the fire if it starts moving north.

An **EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNING** through next Thursday is affecting the fire with high temperatures, drying vegetation, and little relief at night. Temperatures were as high as 108 yesterday and relative humidity dropped as low as 15 percent. Today, temperatures across the fire are forecast to be in the 90s and low 100s, with minimum humidity of 18-22%. Low winds expected with gusts up to 9 mph. Cooling stations have been brought into the fire camps to help reduce the cumulative effects of heat stress on firefighters.

The Basin Fire started on June 26, 2024, and the cause is currently under investigation. Currently, the fire is burning at 2000-4500 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>.

EVACUATIONS: The **mandatory evacuation order** remains in place for Fresno County zones K29, K30, K31, K40, K41 & K166. Evacuation warnings are in effect for zones K61 & K76. Check the Fresno County Evacuation map:

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

FIRE FATIGUE: This area's history of stressful wildfires means that some community members are experiencing worry, anxiety, "disaster fatigue," and other reactions that are normal responses to these abnormal events. Fresno County Behavioral Health has resources available at <https://www.fresnocountyca.gov/Departments/Behavioral-Health/Care-Services/Disaster-Fatigue>.

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 for the Basin Fire area. Effective June 30, 2024, the closure will remain in effect until July 30, 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.**

Sierra National Forest has also implemented temporary fire restrictions prohibiting campfires, welding, and smoking in non-developed campsites.

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 this 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 Forest closure area map. Roads & trails in this area are **CLOSED.**

- This is NOT a good year for a campfire outside of any of the open campgrounds. Please see the message above to contact the Sierra

- AIR QUALITY** is being impacted by Basin Fire smoke. Please check the air quality for your destination at www.airnow.gov. Today's Smoke Outlook is available.

- Fireworks are NOT permitted on Federal land

- Camp safely and keep hydrated this holiday week!