



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Sierra National Forest

Basin Fire Update

Monday July 8, 2024

Public Fire Information: 559-468-6809, 8 A.M. to 6 P.M.

Media Information: 559-468-6809 (same number as public fire information)

Email: 2024.basin@firenet.gov

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



PEOPLE AND EQUIPMENT: 872 personnel, 16 crews, 39 engines, 8 helicopters, and 15 dozers

CURRENT SITUATION: The Basin Fire remains at **14,020** acres, with no increase in acreage, and containment has increased to **80%**. Temperatures reached 112 degrees yesterday, with the relative humidity down to 16%. As this record-breaking heat wave continues, the vegetation becomes drier and the cumulative effects of heat stress makes firefighting more difficult. Today is expected to be slightly cooler.

As work is completed, resources are being released to assist with other wildfires or return home to rest and be ready for the next wildfire assignment. Equipment and personnel are focusing on suppression repair, looking for heat, reinforcing fire lines, and removing hose and equipment that are no longer needed. One division is available to respond to any new fires that are detected. The spike camps are being removed, as they are no longer needed.

Northern perimeter: Crews gridded an area near Dinkey Creek on the west side of the north tip of the fire, looking for hotspots. Aircraft are being used near a portion of Dinkey Creek that is inaccessible, on the east side of the north tip of the fire. Helicopter buckets of water were used to cool the heat. Yesterday some interior pockets of unburned fuel inside of the perimeter of the fire flared up near Bear Wallow and these are being monitored and secured.

Suppression Repair: Firefighters and equipment are repairing the damage caused by the suppression of the fire. Water bars are being constructed to reduce erosion. Dozers are repairing the contingency lines to return them to as natural a state as is practical. The goal of suppression repair is to leave the area better than you found it, and to leave no trace of suppression actions as much as possible.

An **EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNING** is in effect through 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.” Some 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 **mandatory evacuation order** remains in place **only** for Fresno County zones **K30** and **K40**. Evacuation *warnings* remain in effect for zones K29, K31, K41, and K166. 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.