



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Zion National Park

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## Zion National Park Fire Management

September 4, 2019  
For Immediate Release

### Chessman Canyon Fire

The Chessman Canyon Fire in Cedar Breaks National Monument discovered Tuesday was started by lightning from a recent thunderstorm that passed through the area. The fire is in recommended wilderness in a difficult to access location surrounded on three sides by the rock formations for which the monument is famous.

The fire is estimated at 1/4 acre with moderate fire behavior, including backing, creeping and smoldering. The Chessman Canyon Fire will be monitored by fire managers from the rim but will not be suppressed. Due to its location, the fire is currently confined by natural barriers inside the monument and not threatening any monument resources at this time. Fire is a natural part of the ecosystem in this area and it is being allowed to play its natural role when there are no direct threats to national park resources or visitor safety. To learn more about wildland fire's role in national parks visit <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/fire/wildland-fire-subject.htm>.

The Chessman Canyon Fire may be visible for several days, or even weeks, as it is allowed to grow and/or burn itself out. Please do not report this fire.

For more information please call 435-772-7842.