



U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Sequoia National Forest
Giant Sequoia National Monument

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks

Interagency News Release / Fire Update

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Deb Schweizer, (559) 565-3703, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
Adam Garfield, (559) 338-2251 ext. 323, Sequoia National Forest

Sheep and Marvin Fires Update

Sequoia National Forest and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks are jointly managing the Sheep and Marvin Fires.

Infrared (IR) mapping on September 6th shows the Sheep Fire has grown to 4,395 acres (2,998 acres in Kings Canyon National Park, 1,397 acres on the Sequoia National Forest).

Fire growth is predominately to the west. The fire reached the valley floor on September 4th, and continues to burn along the King River's bank. Firefighters are patrolling the river and road corridor 24-hours a day to hold the fire south of the Kings River. Warmer temperatures over the past week have increased fire growth and behavior. Due to the heavy fuel loading of standing dead and downed trees the fire is visible from the roadway west of Cedar Grove. However, there are currently no threats to life or property.

The Sheep Fire is burning in an area that has missed natural fires for more than one hundred years. This year's significant snow pack and mild summer has allowed the parks and forest to bring fire into an area with heavy fuel accumulation and still achieve desired lower intensity fire behavior. Subsequent fires in the area should be less severe and smaller in size.

The Marvin Fire, ignited by lightning on or around July 16th, has burned 15 acres in Sequoia National Forest. This fire is burning at a high elevation in rocky terrain near Marvin Pass in the Jennie Lakes Wilderness. Fire behavior includes smoldering with low intensity flame.

Visitors to the Cedar Grove should anticipate significant smoke in the valley at periods throughout the day. Visitors to Hume Lake should expect smoke in the morning hours. This is based upon inversion patterns that hold the smoke in the valley. As the day warms and the inversion breaks, smoke should lift out of the valley.

The Don Cecil Trail is closed in Kings Canyon National Park (from the trailhead at Cedar Grove to the park boundary) and the Kanawyer Trail is from the park boundary onto the forest. The US Forest Service has issued a temporary area closure for the Sheep Fire on the Hume Lake Ranger District between Horse Corral Meadow and the Kings River and from Horse Corral Meadow east to the boundary with Kings Canyon National Park.

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