



**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

For Immediate Release – August 31, 2010  
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### **US Forest Service, National Park Service Jointly Manage Sheep and Marvin Fires**

Two fires, the Sheep Fire and the Marvin Fire, are being managed by Sequoia National Forest and Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks staff.

Infrared (IR) mapping on August 30<sup>th</sup> shows the Sheep Fire has grown to 3,000 acres (2,705 in Kings Canyon National Park, 295 acres on the Sequoia National Forest). This fire was ignited by lightning around July 16<sup>th</sup> in Kings Canyon National Park and moved onto Sequoia National Forest around August 19<sup>th</sup>.

Fire growth is predominately to the south and west. Recent wildland fires and prescribed fires to the east have slowed fire spread in that direction. The fire is visible in Cedar Grove and other locations in the Kings Canyon. However, there are currently no threats to life or property.

Cooler temperatures over the weekend helped slow fire growth and behavior. Limited burning operations were conducted on the west side of the fire to encourage fire backing down the steep slope. Fire managers worked with the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District take advantage of favorable conditions for smoke dispersal for this action.

The Marvin Fire, ignited by lightning on or around July 16<sup>th</sup>, has burned 12 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.

Managed lightning fires limit the size and severity of subsequent fires by reducing the amount of dead, woody debris on the forest floor. Fire opens the canopy, allowing sunlight through. This encourages the sprouting and re-growth of plants, shrubs and trees.

Visitors to the Cedar Grove area may experience smoke settling into the valley in the late evening and early 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 in Kings Canyon National Park (from the trailhead at Cedar Grove to the park boundary) is closed for public safety. The trail closure is in effect until further notice.

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