



**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 – Sept 16, 2010  
Deb Schweizer, (559) 565-3703, Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks  
Lawrence Ames (559) 338-2251 ext. 323, Sequoia National Forest

### **Sequoia National Forest Closure Expanded, Sheep Fire Update**

An infrared mapping on September 15th shows the Sheep Fire Complex has grown to 6,191 acres (3,048 in Kings Canyon National Park, 3,145 acres in the Sequoia National Forest).

The Forest Service has expanded a temporary area closure on the Hume Lake Ranger District. The closure is between Horse Corral Meadow and the south side of California State Highway 180 and from Boulder Creek east to the boundary with Kings Canyon National Park. Forest Road 14S11 (Big Meadows Road) is closed at Horse Corral Meadow. Forest Trail 30E04 is closed from the Deer Meadow Giant Sequoia Grove to the boundary with Kings Canyon National Park. This closure area lies within a remote section of the Hume Lake Ranger District and the Monarch Wilderness.

The Don Cecil Trail in Kings Canyon National Park (from the trailhead at Cedar Grove to the park boundary) and the Rattlesnake Creek Trail in the park are closed. The Kanawyer Trail in Sequoia National Forest is closed for public safety. These trail closures are in effect until further notice.

Fire growth remains predominately to the west. Firefighters are patrolling the river and road corridor to hold the fire south of Kings River. In addition firefighters are taking actions to slow and stop the fire spread to the west. These actions include holding actions along the 14S11 road and handline construction on the west side. These actions will slow fire spread and help reduce smoke impacts as the fire continues to grow.

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 valley in the morning hours. This is based on inversion patterns that hold the smoke in the valley. As the day warms and the inversion breaks, smoke should lift out of the valley.

###