



United States Department of Agriculture

U.S. Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region
Sierra National Forest
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<https://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra/>



Creek Fire Morning Update November 2, 2020

Incident Commander – Ed Sanford

Incident Start Date: Sept. 4, 2020; **Cause:** Under Investigation; **Acres:** 380,663; **Containment:** 70%

Expected Full Containment Date: 11/15/2020; **Engines:** 11; **Hand Crews:** 14 **Dozers:** 9; **Helicopters:** 6; **Water Tenders:** 32;

Total Personnel: 865; **Firefighter injuries:** 26; **Structures threatened:** 105; **Structures Destroyed:** 853; **Structures Damaged:** 64

Fire Activity: There was very little growth on the fire Sunday, with the majority of active fire isolated to the northeast corner around Vermillion Cliffs north of Lake Thomas A. Edison and the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River. Large expanses of exposed rocks and cliffs are serving as a natural barrier to confine fire spread in those areas. While there has been no significant movement, the fire is “picking and choosing its way around” where fuel is available, said Fire Behavior Analyst Bryon Kimball. Three hotshot crews spiked out just north of Lake Thomas A. Edison are nearly done mopping up hot spots in that area. Firefighters finished securing and mopping up a small spot fire found Friday about 1 mile outside the control line on the west side of the fire in the vicinity of Little Shuteye Peak northeast of Bass Lake.

Suppression Repair: Working in conjunction with a host of resource advisors and archeologists, contractors employing an extensive fleet of heavy equipment have completed repair and rehabilitation work on nearly 300 of approximately 600 miles of fireline. Most of the work has been done on the west side of the fire but considerable work remains on the southeast and east sides of the fire around Shaver and Huntington lakes. Many miles of Forest Service roads cleared to be used as fire breaks in the interior of the fire, as well as miles of fireline cleared by dozers and dug by hand, still need attention. Motorists are advised to use extreme caution traveling along Hwys 168 and 41 and to keep an eye out for firefighting equipment and contractors working or traveling in those areas.

Weather: While warm, dry weather will persist through mid-week, periods of passing cloud cover associated with an upper-level low-pressure system across southern California will bring some relative humidity recovery, especially across higher elevations. The combination of the upper level low, some moisture and up-slope flow in the afternoon could even produce a few light sprinkles on Monday afternoon and evening. There is a significant weather pattern shift expected into the weekend, as a cold front approaches Friday, which will bring much colder temperatures, humidity recovery and even potential precipitation for higher elevations. Before the cool down, however, strong pre-frontal southwest winds Thursday night into Friday will impact the fire. Gusts up to 50 mph across ridges are possible, which could prove problematic for hazard trees and briefly increase fire behavior where the fire remains active.

Sierra National Forest Closures: For information on the Forest closure order, go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sierra/>

Inciweb: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7147/ **Twitter:** @Sierra_NF / **Facebook:** @sierranationalforest
Fire Information Line: 559-549-3781 (8 am to 9 pm daily)
2020.creek@firenet.gov

The Alaska Incident Management Team is implementing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in both the fire area and surrounding communities.