



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Lassen National Forest/Plumas National Forest

Forest Service News Release

Dixie Fire Update for Friday, August 20, 2021

700,630 Acres

35% Containment

5,696 Total Personnel

Lassen and Plumas National Forests, August 20, 2021 — The Dixie Fire remained very active under northeast winds, with spotting and torching contributing to fire growth yesterday. In areas where the air was clear, rates of spread were higher with column development and mid range spotting. Overnight, winds from the northeast shifted to terrain driven winds and will transition to southwest this afternoon.

Aircraft with retardant, dozers, and crews maintained aggressive engagement on the portion of the fire near Janesville. Firefighters are being challenged by spots outside the line and steep, inaccessible terrain. Aircraft will be utilized today as weather and visibility allow. In an additional priority area, fire continues to back down the hill on the north side of Genesee Valley. All available resources are improving lines around structures and preparing to conduct point protection. The spot fire in the Devil’s Punchbowl north of Grizzly Peak is on steep, inaccessible terrain and remains in its current footprint of 30 to 40 acres after aerial retardant application. Dozers, feller bunchers, and other equipment are constructing line on Grizzly Ridge to prepare for any fire movement south of the spot fire.

In the main perimeter of the fire, crews remain engaged along Fruit Growers Boulevard to secure the line and mop up. Continuous and connected fireline is now in place from Westwood east to Fruit Growers Boulevard. In the Dyer Mountain area, a spot fire occurred southeast of a communications tower. The fire crossed the line and was pushed to approximately 15 to 20 acres by the wind. Heavy helicopters delivered 5-7 loads of aerial retardant, and dozer operators worked through the night to achieve full control of the new fire perimeter. Firefighters continue to improve and mop up the line east of Westwood. All lines at Keddie Point and into the North Arm of Indian Valley are holding and will continue to be patrolled.

A new spike camp for the Janesville branch of firefighting personnel and equipment is being established in Clover Valley. This is a safety measure to increase our ability to respond and limit driving distances for firefighters at the beginning and end of their shifts.

Dixie Fire West Zone: The Dixie Fire remained active overnight, with the dry air over the fire. Fire activity included both single and group tree torching along the active ground fire. Humidity values rose enough to limit fire progression in the early morning hours. Fuel moistures are historically low. Crews continue to strengthen control lines and mop up hot spots. Damage assessment is ongoing, and the number of damaged and destroyed structures may change as teams are able to access the fire area safely.

Follow QR Code or link below for contacts and additional information

[LINKS - InciWeb the Incident Information System \(nwcg.gov\)](https://www.nwcg.gov)



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