



Lassen National Forest / Plumas National Forest

Dixie Fire Update, Monday, October 18, 2021

963,309 acres	94% containment	1,147 total personnel
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East Zone Fire Information: 949-573-5702 (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

West Zone Fire Information: 530-592-0838 (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

E-mail: 2021.dixie.ca@firenet.gov

East Zone

Sustained winds around 25 miles per hour and gusts up to 50 miles per hour somewhat hampered repair operations on Sunday, particularly on the northeast side of the fire area near Mildford. The numerous snags that were falling presented a significant safety hazard and forced fire personnel to leave their work areas. However, in areas where winds were less severe, hand crews, resource advisors, and equipment operators were able to proceed with the fire-suppression repair effort. Approximately 55 percent of the Phase 1, high-priority repair work in the East Zone has been completed.

Repair work has been completed in Round Valley, and crews and equipment will be moving westward along Dixie Canyon and Long Valley toward Canyon Dam. With work on Mount Hough Road completed yesterday, crews and equipment will join ongoing repair projects further east around Beardsley Grade. On Grizzly Ridge, crews and equipment on opposite ends are working toward each other, steadily narrowing the gap as they continue to repair the remaining 5–6 miles of dozer line. Repair work near Lake Davis is nearly complete, with chipping being all that remains. Dozer-line repair from Antelope Lake north to the Diamond Mountains is also nearing completion; crews and equipment will then move to a network of dozer lines west of Antelope Lake in the Lone Rock Valley area. Road-grading repairs are currently concentrated around Milford Grade, Beckwourth Genesee Road, and Greenhorn Ranch.

Yesterday, crews and engines responded to reports of smoke that were within the fire perimeter: one near Crescent Mills and the other near Canyon Dam on the southeast side of Lake Almanor. The Canyon Dam hotspot was extinguished and contained at about 0.25 acres. The Crescent Mills hotspot was approximately 2 acres; crews extended their shift, working until 9 p.m. to ensure that the heat was fully extinguished.

Overnight precipitation presents some benefits and challenges to crews striving to complete as many repair projects as they can before season-ending weather arrives. Access to some areas might be delayed as crews do not want to further damage roads and meadows with the heavy equipment and vehicles. However, in areas they are able to access, they will observe where the surface water is pooling or not draining to inform their repairs strategies, for example, where to construct water bars and how to grade roads.

West Zone

Suppression repair has been completed in the Humbug Valley and Morgan Summit areas. Heavy equipment work in the Lassen Volcanic National Park (LVNP) wrapped up yesterday, including hazard tree removal at the popular winter sledding hill near the LVNP visitor center.

Equipment that was used to complete suppression repair work in the Kelley Mountain area was reassigned to other high priority suppression repair projects near Domingo Springs.

High winds impacted the fire area yesterday forcing a work-safety pause in some of the scheduled suppression repair, most notably the hazard tree felling around Canyon Dam. Rain fell over most of the Dixie Fire footprint overnight, with snowfall at higher elevations. Equipment is being placed into service today as weather and ground surface conditions allow. Local agencies and incident officials are committed to completing as much of the work as is possible prior to the season shutting us down.

Weather and Fire Potential

Precipitation amounts varied across the fire area with areas on the western side receiving more rain than the east side. Susanville received a few hundredths of an inch of rain, and Quincy received slightly more than 0.5 inches. Snowfall amounts are not included in the automated reporting system, but initial estimates by the incident meteorologist are that higher elevations received 2–4 inches. Cooler but fair weather is expected Monday afternoon and Tuesday.

Fire potential remains very low, but Plumas County Sheriff's Dispatch continues to field calls of smoke reports each day. Firefighters working on all areas of the fire are available respond, locate the source of smoke—with aerial assistance if necessary—and extinguish it. To report smoke, call 530-283-6300.

Closures

Closure orders remain in effect for some areas of the Lassen National Forest and Plumas National Forest. For more information, visit InciWeb (inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/closures/7690/) or the interactive forest closure map (arcg.is/1re8my0).

In the Lassen Volcanic National Park, 1 mile of the park highway is open from the northwest entrance, and 8 miles are open from the southwest entrance. Elsewhere in the park, the highway remains closed. For more information, visit Lassen Volcanic National Park's webpage for the Dixie Fire (nps.gov/lavo/learn/nature/dixie-fire.htm).