



Lassen National Forest / Plumas National Forest

Dixie Fire Update, Sunday, October 24, 2021



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: <u>2021.dixie.ca@firenet.gov</u>

East Zone

The break in the weather on Saturday allowed resources to make some additional and significant progress on the fire suppression repair work. Some of the work that was accomplished on Saturday included: tree chipping near Lake Davis, tree felling work in the Canyon Dam area, seeding on drop points and near Antelope Lake and road grading work on multiple sites. Sites in the Indian Valley area were too wet to commit resources without causing additional damage.

To ensure the safety of our firefighters, there will be no field operations today and resources will be staged due to the significant rain event that has overtaken the region. Initial plans for Monday include site assessments to document any storm impacts in the fire scar area.

The National Weather Service (NWS) updated its forecast and has indicated that today's storm now has a **HIGH** likelihood to cause flash flooding and debris flows. These hazards can occur suddenly, be very powerful and have the potential of causing significant destruction. Some areas may receive as much as 10+" of rain and be impacted by 50+ mph winds. The <u>entire area</u> --- both burned and unburned areas are at risk! Residents living adjacent to or downstream from the fire scars or any public who might be travelling in the area should use extreme caution. Visitors and residents should monitor the local and regional weather forecasts to keep up to date on any changing or worsening weather conditions.

West Zone

The National Weather Service issued a <u>Flash Flood Warning</u> for areas within the Dixie Fire burn scar through tomorrow afternoon. Heavy rain could result in debris flows. The National Weather Service also issued a <u>Winter</u> <u>Storm Warning</u> for elevations above 6000ft for tonight through early Tuesday morning. The Dixie Fire West Zone Incident Meteorologist anticipates heavy rain in the valleys and snow at elevations above 5500ft. 3 to 5 total inches of rain or snow water equivalent is likely to fall across the West Zone over the next 48 hours. Strong southwest winds are possible in exposed terrain, and gusts up to 20 mph are expected in less exposed areas. Crews and heavy equipment have been moved to lower elevations, and are ready to respond to any storm-related emergencies.

Yesterday, heavy equipment crews paused work around West Prospect Peak and Badger Mountain due to wet ground. These crews plan to move operations to the Old Station area to conduct chipping operations near private residences. Hazard tree removal on Highway 89 near Canyon Dam is nearing completion. In order to avoid causing more damage to the land they are trying to fix, crews in the Butt Creek and Carter Meadows areas temporarily halted operations due to wet and muddy conditions.

Improved weather is forecast for next week. Incident officials and local agencies remain committed to completing as much repair work as possible across the Dixie Fire area this Fall. Crews anticipate being able to restart most suppression repair activities by Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning, and to resume work in most high-priority, low-elevation areas by the end of the week.

The Lassen National Forest has closed the following campgrounds on the Lake Almanor Ranger District for the season: Butte Meadows Campground, Soldier Meadows Campground, High Bridge Campground, and Cherry Hill Campground.

Closures

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