



News Release

Nate Rasner Sierra Front Type 3 Team
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August 18, 2015, Update #4 6:00 p.m.

Date Started: 8/14/2015

Cause: Human

Size: 3,715 acres

Percent Contained: 35%

Resources: 4 helicopters, 0 seats, 2 Air tankers

Engines 34, Crews 10, Water Tenders 6, Dozers 4

Total Personnel: 484

Injuries/Illnesses to Date: 0

Structures Threatened: 235

Structures Lost: 0

Estimated Containment: 8/23/2015

Air Support and Ground Crews improve containment lines on Walker Fire

Lee Vining, CA: The Walker Fire is currently burning approximately two miles southwest of Lee Vining. This is a human-caused fire that is still under investigation.

Crews continue to improve containment lines. Some individual and group torching was observed on the more active flank of the fire. Crews will continue to maintain and strengthen the fire line tonight as well as mopping up the 65-acre hot spot.

Due to some increased fire activity, the fire size is now at 3,715 acres.

Tioga Pass (Highway 120) is open without an escort. However, there will be no stopping along the eastern six miles of the road. This will be strictly enforced. The fire remains active to the south of the road and this is essential for firefighter and public safety.

The fire is burning in mixed conifer, mahogany, and brush. Critical sage grouse habitat is also threatened. Visitors and residents should expect to see smoke from the June Lake and Lee Vining areas and along Highway 395.

Closures and Evacuations:

- Walker Lake "Fishing Camp" has been evacuated.
- A CodeRed Emergency Alert notice has been issued for Lee Vining and everything north of Double Eagle in June Lake (including Silver Lake and Grant Lake areas) for potential evacuations.
- Campgrounds in the Lower Lee Vining Canyon have been evacuated and are closed, including Lower Lee Vining, Moraine, Boulder, Aspen Grove, and Big Bend Campgrounds.
- Law Enforcement will be escorting campers into the Lower Lee Vining Canyon campgrounds to collect any gear left behind during evacuations. Escorts will run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. tomorrow. Affected campers will be allowed in with escort only. Campers are asked to meet Law Enforcement on Hwy 120 at Vista Point Drive. If an officer is not there, please wait patiently at the three cones.
- The Walker Lake Road (1N17), the Parker Lake Rd. (1S25), the Upper Horse Meadows Rd. (1N16), and the Gibbs Road (1N18) are closed for fire operations and public safety. All of these roads are accessed via the northern end of the June Lake Loop. All spur roads off of these roads are also closed. The trail to Mono Pass (trailhead is at Walker Lake) is closed.

Approximately 484 firefighters are on scene as well as numerous aircraft, dozers, and engines. Resources from Mono County, local fire departments, Cal Fire, neighboring forests, BLM Bishop Field Office, and the Mono County Sheriff's Office are assigned. For more information on the Walker Fire you can go to the following sites: Inciweb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4515/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/inyonfhhttps://www.facebook.com/pages/Mono-County-Sheriffs-Office/597961140216123>