



Ferguson Fire Update

August 2, 2018 / 7 AM Update

Ferguson Fire Info Line: (530) 377-6221

Media Line: (530) 377-6424/(213) 431-4041

INCIDENT FACTS

Incident Start Date: 7/13/2018		Incident Start Time: 9:36 p.m.
Incident Type: Vegetation Fire		Cause: Under Investigation
Unified Command Agencies: U.S. Forest Service, CALFIRE, Mariposa County Sheriff		
Incident Location: Merced River Canyon		Structures threatened: 815 Damaged/Destroyed: 0/10
Size: 68,610 acres	Containment: 39%	Expected Full Containment: Aug. 15, 2018
Civilian Injuries: 0		Firefighter Injuries: 11
Civilian Fatalities: 0		Firefighter Fatalities: 2

Engines: 145 Water Tenders: 45 Helicopters: 14 Crews: 88 Dozers: 49 Total Personnel: 3,344

Firefighters worked throughout the night to contain a couple spot fires outside of Wawona as they made progress toward full suppression of the Ferguson Fire. Officials reported the total footprint of the fire grew by 5,727 acres overnight and was at 68,610 acres as of 6 a.m. Containment is at 39 percent.

Firefighters began constructing a containment line, anchoring in at Big Creek, in an attempt to hold the spot fires which had prompted a precautionary evacuation of Wawona Wednesday evening. Crews will continue extending the line, which officials anticipate having completed by midday.

Firefighters kept pace with a section of fire burning between El Portal and Yosemite West. Crews matched the fire's moderate growth with tactical firing along the 30X Road to buffer Yosemite West. Firefighters prepared containment lines along Wawona Road (Highway 41) to further box in the fire and protect the community of Foresta, should the fire shift to the northeast.

The containment plan entails building lines from the 30X Road east to Wawona Road, then north to Elephant Rock. The line will follow Elephant Ridge until it connects with a rocky slope to the west.

On the north end of the fire, a spot fire resulted in the closure of Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120) because of smoke and congestion from firefighting vehicles and equipment. The road is closed west of Crane Flat. At this time, the only entrance into Yosemite National Park is Lee Vining (Highway 120) to Crane Flat.

Once firefighters contain the spot fire, they will begin tactical firing operations off Pilot Ridge along the Mariposa-Tuolumne county line, weather permitting.

The high pressure system above the fire is weakening throughout the week, resulting in warmer and drier conditions. This will increase fire behavior. Residents are likely to see more and taller smoke columns during the next few days. Residents can monitor air quality and health advisories at:

- <https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks/YosemiteArea>
- <https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks/SouthernSierra>

—Continued—

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5927/> Email Updates (Sign-Up): <http://www.tinyurl.com/ferguson18>

Ferguson Fire Interactive Map: <https://tinyurl.com/FergusonInteractive>

Twitter: [@sierranf](https://twitter.com/sierranf) [@CALFIREMMU](https://twitter.com/CALFIREMMU) Gmail: FergusonSNF@gmail.com Facebook: [Facebook.com/SierraNF](https://facebook.com/SierraNF) [Facebook.com/CALFIREMMU](https://facebook.com/CALFIREMMU)

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CAL FIRE exited Unified Command at 6 a.m. today because of reduced threats to state and private lands. CAL FIRE remains committed to the Ferguson Incident as an assisting agency.

Stanislaus National Forest closure: Stanislaus National Forest officials closed several roads and trails on the Groveland Ranger District within the vicinity of the Ferguson Fire. The [closure order](#) spans from Ferguson Ridge in the south to Pilot Ridge in the north. The closure is expected to be in effect until Sept. 30.

Yosemite National Park closure: Yosemite National Park officials extended [closures](#) of Yosemite Valley, Wawona Road, the Mariposa and Merced groves of giant sequoias, Hetch Hetchy and other areas through Aug. 5, conditions permitting. For more information, go to nps.gov/yose or call 209-372-0200.

Mandatory Evacuations: Areas that are currently under a mandatory evacuation include:

- Anderson Valley
- Foresta
- Old El Portal
- Old Yosemite Road
- River Road from Briceburg to the last BLM campground
- Wawona
- Yosemite View Lodge
- Yosemite West

Advisory Evacuations: This is NOT an Evacuation Order. This is an advisement only of a potential Evacuation Order should conditions change.

- Cedar Lodge/Indian Flat Campground
- El Portal Trailer Court
- Rancheria Flat – Government Housing
- Savage's Trading Post

Road Closures:

- Anderson Valley Road
- Foresta Road
- Incline Road and Highway 140 from the entrance of Yosemite National Park to 1.5 miles east of Midpines, except to residents
- River Road from Briceburg to the gate at Railroad Flat and all campground areas along Highway 140
- Summit Road
- Old Yosemite Road
- Wawona Road (Highway 41) between Chilnualna Falls Road in Wawona and Bridalveil Falls Road in Yosemite Valley

Red Cross Shelters:

- New Life Christian Church, 5089 Cole Road, Mariposa, CA 95338

Animal Shelters:

- **Small animals:** Mariposa SPCA, 5599 Highway 49 North, Mariposa, CA 95338
- **Large animals:** 5007 Fairgrounds Road, Mariposa, CA 95338

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