

ROUGH FIRE

Hume Lake Ranger District

Giant Sequoia National Monument, Sequoia National Forest



- On July 31, 2015, a lightning strike started a wildfire on the steep northern side of the Kings River Canyon in the Sierra National Forest. By mid-August the Rough Fire had jumped the Kings River, spreading into the Sequoia National Forest and into the Kings Canyon National Park. The fire grew to 151,623 acres until it was fully contained on November 6, 2015 and declared out on December 14, 2015.
 - The fire burned within the Kings River from the confluence of the North Fork Kings River in the west (near Pine Flat Reservoir) to the east just beyond Cedar Grove in Kings Canyon National Park. The fire burned north and south of the Kings River, extending approximately one mile north of Lost Meadow on the Sierra National Forest and as far south as McKenzie Ridge near Sequoia Lake in the south on the Sequoia National Forest.
 - Breakdown of Acreage by Land Manager
 - Sequoia National Forest – 82,573 acres
 - Sierra National Forest – 58,541 acres
 - Kings Canyon National Park– 9,413 acres
 - State Lands – 6 acres
 - Private Lands – 1,090 acres
 - During the firefight, seven different incident command teams had oversight of the fire with support staff from throughout the country.
 - In mid-September, over 3,750 personnel were working on the fireline to suppress the fire with 94 crews, 345 engines, 19 helicopters, 45 bulldozers, and 80 water tenders.
 - Structures lost were 1 nonresidential commercial property and 3 other minor structures. An estimated 3,500 persons were evacuated, including Hume Lake Christian Camp, Grant Grove, Cedar Grove and many residents northeast of Dunlap.
 - 8,888 acres of giant sequoia grove forested area were affected by the fire. All but 100 acres were within the Giant Sequoia National Monument. The fire effects within the sequoia groves is mostly positive, fire plays an important role for giant sequoia regeneration. The fire burned around the Boole Tree and Chicago Stump in the Monument and within 215 yards of the General Grant Tree in Kings Canyon National Park.
 - The firefighting efforts cost an estimated \$121 million to put out. Additional money is being utilized for repair and stabilization work prior to re-opening the area to the public, including:
 - Detect and treat invasive species
 - Stabilize and protect heritage resources
 - Storm proof, close and place warning signs along roads
 - Stabilize, and close or place warning signs along trails
 - Conduct implementation effectiveness monitoring.
 - 2015 was dominated by the on-going drought which contributed to numerous dead and dying trees across the landscape, and the rapid spread of the Rough Fire which burned almost half of the Hume Lake Ranger District. Follow up and recovery from these two events is underway.
- For more information: Visit the Rough Fire Recovery website:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/RoughFireRecovery>



Forest
Service

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