



**U.S. Forest Service
Inyo National Forest
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News Release

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Clark Fire and Rock Creek Fire Updates

The Clark Fire is 2,828 acres and is 50% contained. The fire is located east of Highway 395 near Bald Mountain and was started by lightning on August 4th.

Crews today will prep Forest Service roads to secure the fire perimeter along the north and east flanks of the fire. This flank is the most active; driven by winds. The fire was less active last night except along the northeast flank.

Clark Canyon, a popular climbing area, has been evacuated. There are several Forest Service roads that lead to the Bald Mountain area and visitors should avoid these roads and the fire area for their safety and firefighter safety.

There are six hand crews, 14 engines, two air tankers, three helicopters, air attack and a lead plane, and a two dozers assigned to the fire. There are 254 people assigned to the incident.

The Rock Creek Fire is estimated to be 185 acres and 5% contained. Down canyon winds last night pushed the fire south beyond the containment line towards Swall Meadows. The fire response today will focus on securing the southern flank of the fire and then using that as an anchor to secure the open fireline. This fire is burning in brush, cheat grass, pinyon pine, and juniper. Continuous fine fuels from the cheat grass and winds allow this fire to grow quickly.

Parts of Swall Meadows have been evacuated and remaining residents are under an evacuation advisory. Four crews, 15 engines, 2 helicopters, and 2 air tankers, 3 water tenders, and a dozer are assigned to the incident.

Lower Rock Creek Road is closed between Swall Meadows and Highway 395. The fire is under investigation but appears to be human caused.

Low relative humidity and afternoon winds continue to be concern for both fires.

A Type II team has been ordered due to increased fire activity on the Inyo and the additional needs for firefighters and their support. The Central Coast Team in-briefs today and will shadow the local Type 3 IMT.

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