

NEWS RELEASE



Sierra National Forest

For Immediate Release

Date: August 14, 2014 Time: 8:00 AM

French Fire

Location: The fire is burning in the area between Rock Creek and Mammoth Pools, in the San Joaquin River drainage, Bass Lake Ranger District, in the Sierra National Forest.

Acres Burned:	13,837	Structures Threatened:	0
Containment:	96%	Structures Destroyed:	0
Fire Started:	July 28, 2014	Injuries:	6
Cause:	Human		

Total personnel assigned to the Fire: 215

Summary

Today crews will continue fire line suppression repair and mop-up on all parts of the fire. The fire continues to cool, but some areas will continue smoke for several more days due to heavy fuels. The east perimeter has burned down to the San Joaquin River.

The French Fire now managed by a Type 3 management organization relocated the incident command post to Minarets Work Center off of 4S81.

The Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Team continues to do on the ground surveys throughout incident today. The teams data will help form a stabilization plan for the burn area. For more information on what BAER does please visit: <http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/watershed/burnareas/background.html>

Investigation

An investigation has concluded that an abandoned campfire near the Rock Creek Campground was the cause of the French Fire. The abandoned campfire was located towards the bottom of Rock Creek Road, near the San Joaquin River. Investigators are asking for the public's help for information about anyone who was seen in the area of Rock Creek Road near the San Joaquin River during the afternoon or evening of Sunday July 27. Anyone with information is encouraged to call the 559-877-2218 ext. 3116.

Closures

A Forest Service Area Road and Trail Closure, Forest Order # 15-14-07, has been issued for the French Fire area. Closures include Forest Road 4S81 (Minarets Rd) between Powerhouse 8 and Arch Rock, and Forest Road 8S09 (Iron Telephone) from the 7S07 to Forest Road 4S81. The entire 6S01 road (Grizzly Road) between Beasore Rd and Minarets Rd remains closed to for all public use.

Fire Information: (559) 877 2218 ext. 3116

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For additional information visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4013/>

