

**News Release**

**Nate Rasner Sierra Front Type 3 Team**

**Mark Regan**

 **Public Information Officer**

 **Phone: 760-647-6472**

**Walkerfire2015@gmail.com**

**August 19, 2015, Update #6 8:00 p.m.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date Started:** 8/14/2015 **Cause:** Human | **Total Personnel**: **483****Injuries/Illnesses to Date: 0** |
| **Size:** 3,715 acres | **Structures Threatened: 235** |
| **Percent Contained: 45%****Resources: 4** helicopters, **0** seats, **2** Air tankers Engines **34,** Crews **10,** Water Tenders **6,**  Dozers **4** | **Structures Lost: 0****Estimated Containment: 8/23/2015** |

**Progress continues with containment lines on Walker Fire**

**Lee Vining, CA:** Burning approximately two miles southwest of Lee Vining the Walker Fire remains at

3,715 acres. This is a human-caused fire that is still under investigation.

Crews continue to improve containment lines as well as mop up, which includes extinguishing

hot spots to ensure that the fire does not re-ignite. Mitigation efforts also continue on the 65-acre spot fire.

Tioga Pass (Highway120) is open without an escort. However, there will be no stopping along the eastern

four 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.

For the safety of our firefighters, effective air operations and continued containment efforts, please keep drones away from the Walker Fire and near heliports.

**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.
* 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 483 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/inyonf><https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mono-County-Sheriffs-Office/597961140216123>

####