



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lassen Volcanic
National Park

Lassen Volcanic
National Park
38050 Highway 36E
Mineral, Ca.

Lassen Volcanic National Park News Release

August 11, 2009

Lassen Volcanic National Park Manages Fire in Wilderness

A lightning storm passed over Lassen Volcanic National Park and the neighboring region on August 2 which ignited the Fairfield Fire. The fire has grown to approximately 260 acres and is being actively managed for multiple objectives.

“We are managing this natural fire with several goals in mind, which include: allowing fire to remove excessive vegetation that has accumulated unnaturally, improving forest health and enhancing wildlife habitat. Fire crews will also protect the historic Lower Twin Lake ranger backcountry cabin,” stated Superintendent Darlene M. Koontz. The park will continue to provide recreational opportunities and allow visitors access to popular trails where possible

The fire is located on the north slope of Fairfield Peak northeast of Lower Twin and Rainbow Lakes. Fire crews are using natural barriers such as lake shores and lava fields as well as the Pacific Crest Trail, the Nobles Emigrant Trail and a trail which runs between Rainbow Lake and Cinder Cone to confine this fire. The fire management staff has designated a planning area consisting of 1,800 acres for potential fire growth within these boundaries. Lassen Volcanic National Park fire staff along with crews from Pt. Reyes National Seashore, Rocky Mountain National Park, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and Whiskeytown NRA are monitoring and managing this fire.

Park staff encourages hikers to be especially careful if hiking near the fire area. Hazards include falling snags, trees, heavy smoke, limited visibility, rolling rocks, logs and a potential for erratic fire behavior. When trail closures are necessary for public and fire fighter safety, current information will be updated at trailheads, at the visitor center and on the park’s website.

For more information please contact the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center at (530) 595-4480 daily from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, or visit the park website at www.nps.gov/lavo where you can find fire management information through the “management” link.

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