

# Nearly 40 percent of Rim Fire land a 'moonscape'

September 19 2013, by Tracie Cone

---

A fire that raged in forestland in and around Yosemite National Park has left a contiguous "moonscape" in the Sierra Nevada mountains larger than any in centuries.

The Rim Fire has consumed about 400 square miles, but within that footprint is an area of 60 square miles that burned so intensely everything likely is dead.

Jay Miller of the U.S. Forest Service called the amount of devastation from the fast-moving conflagration the largest since the 1300s.

Miller used satellite images to determine that dozens of other hot spots also burned inside the fire's footprint. He said in total, nearly 40 percent of the area inside the fire's boundary likely will look like a moonscape.

The blaze ignited Aug. 17 when a hunter's fire swept away. It is under control.

© 2013 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: Nearly 40 percent of Rim Fire land a 'moonscape' (2013, September 19) retrieved 24 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2013-09-percent-rim-moonscape.html>

|  |
|--|
| <p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p> |
|--|