



LAKE FIRE INCIDENT UPDATE

Date: 08/22/2020 Time: Morning

Incident Website: inciweb.nwgc.gov/incident/6953

Incident Information Line: (323) 205-5263



@Angeles_NF
@LACoFDPIO



@AngelesNationalForest
@LACoFD

Incident Media Line: (323) 347-4725

Incident Email: 2020.Lake@Firenet.gov

Location: Lake Hughes, 17 miles west of Lancaster CA

Acres Burned:	30,763	Structures Threatened:	1,329
Containment:	52%	Structures Destroyed:	12
Fire Started:	August 12, 2020 at 3:40 PM	Structures Damaged:	6
Cause:	Under Investigation	Outbuildings Destroyed:	21
		Injuries:	1

Total Assigned Personnel: 1,767

Engines: 130 Hand Crews: 26 Dozers: 30 Water Tenders: 27 Helicopter: 13

Current Situation: The Lake Fire started in the Angeles National Forest near Lake Hughes and fire is burning in 100-year-old fuels consisting of Big Cone Douglas Fir, Oak and Gray Pine. The fire is burning eight miles northeast of Interstate 5 and south of Highway 138.

Firefighters have been successful constructing containment lines around and have achieved 52% containment. They continue to focus their efforts in the northwest and western flanks of the fire in the area of Sawmill Ridge. Hand crews are focusing on reinforcing containment lines on the west edge of the fire in the areas of Bear Canyon and Redrock Canyon. The instability in the weather today will pose a challenge for firefighters with the chances of thunderstorms and potential for lightning strikes, along with outflow winds.

Crews will use tactical firing operations (applying fire on the ground) as conditions allow along the west and northwest perimeter of the fire. Tactical firing operations help reduce vegetation (fuel) on the forest floor, to widen previously constructed containment lines and stop the progress of the fire to the north and west.

Firefighters will continue to mop up and look for hot spots on the east flank of the fire, west of Lake Hughes. This portion of the fire line has held for several days in this area.

Weather: Remnants from hurricane Genevieve have entered into the region bringing tropical moisture and instability with the potential for showers and thunderstorms. A Flash Flood Watch is in effect for the interior mountains, Cuyama and Antelope Valleys. Recent burn areas, including the Lake Fire, could experience debris flows throughout the day. Daytime highs will reach into the upper 80's and 90's with humidity in the 20-30% range. Westerly winds will prevail with gusts up to 20 mph.

Virtual Public Meeting: A virtual community meeting was held Friday evening at 6:00 PM which provide a Lake Fire update and allowed the public to ask questions. This virtual meeting was live-streamed on the following social media channels where replays are now available:

- Angeles National Forest Facebook, @AngelesNationalForest
- Los Angeles County Fire Department Facebook, @LACoFD
- Los Angeles County Fire Department Instagram, @LACountyFD

Repopulation of Evacuees:

Repopulation of the northeast area of the Lake Hughes community occurred on Friday. Residents can only access the area via Elizabeth Lake Road from the east. There is no access from the west due to the current road closures. Residents returning to their homes will have to show identification. Returning residents may experience intermittent power outages. For safety information on returning home after a wildfire visit: bit.ly/repopfacts

Evacuations: The following areas will remain under evacuation orders; East of Old Ridge Route, West of Shafer Road, South of Highway 138, North of Pine Canyon Road / Elizabeth Lake Road, Lake Hughes Road South of Deeswood Drive and North of Dry Gulch Road. Unified Incident Commanders are evaluating all evacuated areas for the potential to safely repopulate.

Evacuation Point(s): Evacuation points will be opened as needed. If you should need assistance, please call 1-800-Red-Cross (1-800-733-2767).

Road Closures: Three Points Road from Highway 138 to Pine Canyon Road, Old Ridge Route from Highway 138 to Pine Canyon Road, Lake Hughes Road from Ridge Route Road to Deeswood Drive, Pine Canyon Road from Old Ridge Route to Lake Hughes Road, Dry Gulch Road from San Francisquito Canyon Road to Lake Hughes Road.

Additional Closures: The Castaic Lake Recreation Area and surrounding areas are being used in support of the fire. The upper and lower lakes and recreation facilities are closed until further notice.

Fire Forest Closure/Restrictions: The Angeles National Forest has closed all National Forest System lands within the Lake Fire closure area by Order 05-01-20-6. The fire danger in the Angeles National Forest has continued to increase, and on Saturday, August 1st, the Forest changed its Fire Danger Level from VERY HIGH to EXTREME. The Angeles Forest Order No. 05-01-20-05 prohibits all campfires within the Angeles National Forest. No fires of any type including cooking stoves, lanterns, and similar devices which use propane, white gas, or similar fuels are allowed at this time.

Animal Care: Antelope Valley Fairgrounds (Large Animals Only) 2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA.

Smoke Outlook: The South Coast Air Quality Management District has issued an air quality advisory for the Lake and Ranch 2 Fires for San Bernardino and Los Angeles Counties. If you smell smoke or see ash due to a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seek alternate shelter, in addition to avoiding vigorous physical activity.

Cooperating Agencies: County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol, County of Los Angeles Public Works, County of Los Angeles Animal Care & Control, County of Los Angeles Parks & Recreation, Red Cross, and Southern California Edison.

Safety Message: "If Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!" If you hear thunder you are close enough to be struck by lightning. REMEMBER there is no place outside that is safe during a thunderstorm! Wait at least 30 minutes after the storm to return outdoors.

The National Forest: For information on the Forest visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/angeles>

Information on Preparing to Evacuate: LA County Fire Department Ready Set Go at: www.fire.lacounty.gov/rsg

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