



LAKE FIRE INCIDENT UPDATE

Date: 08/18/2020 Time: Evening

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

Incident Information Line: **(626) 574-5208**
(323) 205-5263



@Angeles_NF
@LACoFDPIO



@AngelesNationalForest
@LACoFD

Incident Media Line: **(323) 347-4725**

Location:

Lake Hughes, CA (Unincorporated Los Angeles County)

Acres Burned:	22,139	Structures Threatened:	4,570
Containment:	38%	Structures Destroyed:	12
Fire Started:	August 12, 2020 at 3:38 p.m.	Structures Damaged:	6
Cause:	Under investigation	Outbuildings Destroyed:	21
		Injuries:	1

Total Assigned Personnel: 1,904

Engines: 213 **Hand Crews:** 26 **Dozers:** 39 **Water Tenders:** 22 **Helicopter:** 13

Current Situation: The Lake Fire increased over 1,000 acres during today’s operational period. Firefighters continue to face steep and rugged terrain, high temperatures, critically dry fuels and drought stressed trees. Pyrocumulus clouds formed again today and numerous lightning strikes occurred in the fire area.

The right/ east flank of the fire, just west of Lake Hughes has held for several days. Some of the areas on the east flank in denser vegetation require extensive mop up.

The left/ west flank, in the area of Sawmill Mountain, Burnt Peak and Little Burnt Peak is presenting the most challenging fire behavior. Containment along Pine Mountain Road will continue to be threatened by spot fires. Long range spotting; a behavior of fire that produces sparks or embers which are carried by the wind causing new fires outside the perimeter. This continues to be a challenge for our firefighters.

The fire that started on the Angeles National Forest near Lake Hughes is moving northwest and is burning in 100-year-old fuels consisting of Big Cone Douglas Fir, Oak and Gray Pine. Mandatory evacuations are in place. The Fire remains over eight miles to the northeast of Interstate 5 and south of Highway 138.

The unified incident command post is located at the Castaic Lake State Recreation Area. The lake and surrounding areas are being used in support of fire operations. Both upper and lower lakes along with all recreation facilities will remain closed until further notice.

A virtual public meeting was live streamed on the Angeles National Forest and Los Angeles County Fire Department Facebook, Instagram and twitter pages. The replay of the live stream can be seen on those channels where the public had the opportunity to ask questions about the fire.

There has been one minor reportable injury to a firefighter.

Weather: An excessive heat warning, dangerously hot conditions along with high temperatures between 98’ and 110’ degrees is in effect until 9 p.m. Thursday for the Santa Clarita, San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys. Very hot and critically dry conditions will remain again today as high pressure is anchored over the region. Overnight temperatures will be very warm with lows forecasted into the 70’s.

Evacuations: Lake Hughes Road west of Pine Canyon and north of Dry Gulch Road. east of Ridge Route Road west of Lake Hughes Road and Fire Station 78 north of Pine Canyon and Lake Hughes Road south of SR-138.

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: 3 Points Road from Hwy 138 to Pine Canyon Road, Old Ridge Route from Hwy 138 to Pine Canyon Road, Pine Canyon Road from Ridge Route Road to Lake Hughes Road.

Animal Care: Antelope Valley Fairgrounds (Large Animals Only) 2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536

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. In any area impacted by smoke: If you smell smoke or see ash due to a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter and avoiding vigorous physical activity.

Fire Restrictions: 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. You may read the Angeles Forest Order No. 05-01-20-05 which prohibits all campfires within the Angeles National Forest. The Angeles uses a 6 Level Fire Danger Rating System to determine fire restrictions which it adjusts throughout the year. 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.

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: Beat the heat! Take extra precautions if you work or spend time outside. When possible reschedule strenuous activities to early morning or evening. Know the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Wear lightweight and loose-fitting clothing when possible. To reduce risk during outdoor work, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration recommends scheduling frequent rest breaks in shaded or air-conditioned environments. Drink plenty of fluids, stay in an air-conditioned room, stay out of the sun, and check up on relatives and neighbors. Young children and pets should never be left unattended in vehicles under any circumstances. Anyone overcome by heat should be moved to a cool and shaded location. Heat stroke is an emergency! Call 9 1 1.

About the forest: The Angeles National Forest was established by Executive Order in December 1892. It covers about 700,000 acres and is the backyard playground to the huge metropolitan area of Los Angeles. The Angeles manages the watersheds within its boundaries to provide valuable water to southern California and to protect surrounding communities from catastrophic floods.

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

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