



LAKE FIRE INCIDENT UPDATE

Date: 08/25/2020 **Time:** Morning

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



@Angeles_NF
@LACoFDPIO



@AngelesNationalForest
@LACoFD

Incident Information Line: **(323) 205-5263**

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

Incident Email: **2020.Lake@Firenet.gov**

Location: Lake Hughes, 17 miles west of Lancaster CA

Acres Burned:	31,089	Structures Threatened:	1,329
Containment:	65%	Structures Destroyed:	12
Fire Started:	August 12, 2020 at 3:40 PM	Structures Damaged:	6
Cause:	Under Investigation	Outbuildings Destroyed:	21
Expected Containment:	September 12, 2020	Injuries:	3

Total Assigned Personnel: 1,305

Engines: 67 **Hand Crews:** 24 **Dozers:** 20 **Water Tenders:** 10 **Helicopter:** 12

Current Situation: The Lake Fire was less active during the overnight hours with no increase in acreage, and containment holds at 65%. The Lake Fire is burning in 100-year-old fuels consisting of Big Cone Douglas Fir, Oak, and Gray Pine. The fire is holding northeast of Interstate 5 and south of Highway 138 in steep and rugged terrain.

Due to higher humidity, crews are planning a direct attack on the west flank of the fire. A direct attack strategy works well with high moisture (humidity) and light winds, and it enables firefighters to work closely at the fire's edge to build containment line.

Firefighters were able to hike into the head of Pine Canyon via a trail from Atmore Meadows. Handline was constructed in this section of the fire, and should conditions allow, is ready for tactical firing operations.

Crews also continue to work in Burro Canyon completing containment lines. The vegetation type in that area presents some challenges to firefighters, especially the Yucca plant. When burned, the root ball releases from the soil and rolls downhill. These pineapple-sized chunks of burning material can escape containment lines and ignite unburned vegetation below firefighters working along a hillside. Additionally, you may see smoke from pockets of vegetation that continue to burn in the interior of the fire area.

There have been three reportable injuries to firefighters on this incident.

Weather: The warming and drying trend experienced yesterday is expected to continue, with a dry southwest flow prevailing over the region. Temperatures are forecasted to be 86-94 degrees, with humidity in the 20-30% range. Winds will continue from the southwest 5-15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph in the afternoon.

Repopulation of Evacuees: At 10:00 AM this morning, all residents evacuated due to the Lake Fire will return to their homes. Intermittent power outages and other hazards may still be present in the area.

Areas to be repopulated today, Tuesday August 25th, 2020:

- South of Highway 138 and CA Aqueduct
- East of Old Ridge Route
- West of Kings Canyon Road
- North of Pine Canyon Road

Please be cautious when driving along recently reopened roads for your safety and the safety of the crews still working in the area.

The Following Road Closures Will Remain in Effect:

- Lake Hughes Road from Ridge Route Road to Deeswood Drive
- San Francisquito Canyon/Dry Gulch Roads to Lake Hughes Road
- Lake Hughes Road East to Parker Road

Heavy equipment and emergency vehicles are still active along 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.

Forest Fire Closure/Restrictions: The Angeles National Forest has closed all National Forest System lands within the Lake Fire closure area by Order No. 05-01-20-6. On Saturday, August 1st, the Forest changed its Fire Danger Level from VERY HIGH to EXTREME. 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.

Smoke Outlook: There are no active smoke advisories near the Lake Fire from the South Coast Air Quality Management District at this time.

Cooperating Agencies: CalFire, 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: There are many hazards that may exist when returning to your home after a wildfire. These hazards can include fire ash, damaged utilities, exposed and burned structures, as well as hazardous materials. To protect yourself from these hazards, it is important to utilize personal protective equipment that can include breathing protection (N-95 rated respirators), protective clothing, gloves, and boots, as well as eye/face protection. For more information on returning safely to your home after a wildfire, please visit: <http://bit.ly/LakeFireRepopSafety>

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

Wildfire Preparedness: Learn more about Los Angeles County Fire Department's Ready! Set! Go! Program at: www.fire.lacounty.gov/rsg

Incident Information Line: (323) 205-5263 from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM