



NEWS



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Sheep Fire Updates: 939 Acres Burning Near Wrightwood, 5% Contained

By Maggie Moore, NBCLOSANGELES.COM

Posted: June 13, 2022



Evacuations were ordered for residents in Wrightwood, as well as the Desert Front area north of that town, over the weekend.

Less than two days after the Sheep Fire began burning near Wrightwood and the Angeles National Forest, the wildfire has reached 939 acres in size.

Over 200 firefighters worked through the night, fighting the flames from the air and on the ground in San Bernardino County. As of 7:50 a.m. Monday morning, the Sheep Fire is 5% contained.

The 939 acre size is a slight decrease from its size late Sunday night, when it reached a whopping 990 acres. Evacuations were ordered for residents in Wrightwood, as well as the Desert Front area north of that town, over the weekend.

Those living in the area between Highway 2 and Lone Pine Canyon Road, as well as the area from Wright Mountain Road to Sheep Creek Drive are required to evacuate. Evacuation orders are also in place along Desert Front Road and Wild Horse Canyon.

An evacuation center has been established at Serrano High School, at 9292 Sheep Creek Road, Phelan, CA 92371. The Red Cross is on the scene. Evacuations began Sunday afternoon, with law enforcement officers knocking on doors to inform residents of the danger posed by the fire.

The Sheep Fire was first reported to the Angeles National Forest Emergency Communications Center around 6:36 p.m. on Saturday. It was initially just a quarter of an acre in size. By 1:30 p.m. Sunday, the fire was up to 45 acres in size.

"The fire is becoming more active, with some torching / burning of trees in the interior," a spokesperson for the Angeles National Forest division of the U.S. Forest Service said in a status update around 1:30 p.m.

"Crews are actively working along the perimeter of the fire, while fixed-wing operations have concluded for now," the statement continued.

By 3:30 p.m., the fire was up to 150 acres, and by 4:15, it had exploded to 775 acres in size.

"Fighting this fire has been especially challenging due to dense vegetation, steep terrain, and high and erratic winds," the U.S. Forest Service said in a status update.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation. Several agencies are working together to put out the blaze.

"The fire is being co-managed by unified command: Angeles National Forest, **San Bernardino County Fire**, and CAL FIRE BDU likely through early morning on June 14, when a Type II Incident Management Team is expected to assume command," the U.S. Forest Service said in a status update.

Fuel moisture levels are well below historic averages in parts of Southern California, meaning vegetation is drying out more quickly this year.

Dry vegetation is one significant factor in the spread of wildfires. The state is coming off one of its driest late winters on record, leaving hillsides covered in dry brush. California continues to face longer wildfire seasons as a direct result of climate change, according to CAL FIRE.

"Extended dryness originating from January is expected to continue into the spring with little precipitation, leaving most of the state in moderate to extreme drought conditions prior to summer," the state's firefighting agency said in a 2022 fire season outlook.

"These continued dry conditions, with above normal temperatures through spring, will leave fuel moisture levels lower than normal, increasing the potential for wildland fire activity."

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/wrightwood-sheep-fire-evacuations-wildfire/2915425/>

Fast-moving brush fire near Wrightwood burns nearly 1,000 acres, forces mandatory evacuations

By Marc Cota-Robles, ABC7.COM

Posted: June 13, 2022



A wildfire in the Wrightwood area continues to burn and has grown to at least 990 acres as of Sunday night.

WRIGHTWOOD, Calif. (KABC) -- Firefighters on Monday continued to battle a wildfire in the Wrightwood area that burned nearly 1,000 acres over the weekend and forced some people from their homes.

The fire, dubbed the Sheep Fire, broke out Saturday amid scorching temperatures and bone-dry brush, and strong winds continued to fuel the flames. By Sunday afternoon, the fire had grown to at least 990 acres and was only 5% contained.

Mandatory evacuations were issued for Desert Front Road, Wild Horse Canyon Road and the community of Wrightwood -- the evacuation order is for Highway 2 to Mesquite Street, from Highway 138 to Sand Canyon, and from Wright Mountain Road to Lone Pine Canyon Road.

Additionally, there is an evacuation warning in place for all of Wrightwood, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department said.

By Monday morning, weather conditions had improved significantly, allowing crews to establish a more solid containment line around the blaze, assisted by helicopter water drops.

The Red Cross opened an evacuation center at Serrano High School located at 9292 Sheep Creek Road in the unincorporated community of Phelan. Small animals and livestock can be taken to the Devore Animal Shelter located at 19777 Shelter Way in San Bernardino.

Highway 2 was shut down from Highway 138 to the Sheep Creek area, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

<https://abc7.com/wrightwood-wildfire-san-bernardino-county-sheep-fire/11954487/>

Sheep Fire in San Bernardino County

By Staff Writer, KYMA.COM

Posted: June 12, 2022



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, Calif. — A wildfire in San Bernardino County has spurred calls for some in the area to leave their homes as the fire grows.

The so-called Sheep Fire broke out Saturday not far from the town of Wrightwood near the Pacific Crest Trail in the San Gabriel Mountains, the San Bernardino County Fire Department said. As of Sunday afternoon, officials said the blaze was burning toward Desert Front Road.

Evacuations were ordered Sunday for remote homes near a growing wildfire in mountains northeast of Los Angeles, authorities said.

The Sheep Fire broke out Saturday not far from the town of Wrightwood near the Pacific Crest Trail in the San Gabriel Mountains, the San Bernardino County Fire Department said.

Evacuation orders were issued Sunday for some people living in Wrightwood. The order extends from Highway 2 to Mesquite Street, from Hwy 138 to Sand Canyon and from Wright Mountain Road to Lone Pine Canyon Road. Additionally, there is an evacuation warning in place for all of Wrightwood.

An evacuation center was set up at Serrano High School in Phelan, Calif.

<https://kyma.com/news/top-stories/2022/06/12/sheep-fire-in-san-bernardino-county/>

UPS Driver Killed In A Crash In The Cajon Pass Saturday Night

By Staff Writer, PAININTHEPASS.COM

Posted: June 12, 2022



CAJON PASS, CA. (Pain In The Pass) >> Male UPS semi driver was killed and one person was injured in a crash Saturday night on Interstate 15, authorities said.

California Highway Patrol and firefighters from **San Bernardino County Fire** Department responded to the traffic accident. The accident was reported at about 8:17pm, Saturday June 11, 2022. Located on northbound Interstate 15 just after Cleghorn Road.

From what the CHP traffic log stated for unknown reasons the UPS semi driver lost control or veered then made contact to the right shoulder embankment. This may have caused the driver to be ejected onto the traffic lanes. Then the UPS driver may have hit by a passing semi tractor trailer. The semi driver did stay near the scene and was cooperating with the investigation. Remember this is a preliminary report from the CHP traffic log.

Despite life-saving rescue measures, firefighters and CHP officials said the UPS driver was pronounced deceased at the scene in the center divider. CHP temporarily shutdown all the lanes for the investigation. Three lanes were reopened at 9pm, the fast lane was open by 10:45pm. One person was reported to be transported to a local hospital in unknown condition.

We will update this story with more information when the CHP's preliminary accident report is available. Additional details were limited at this time. This incident will be under investigation by the California Highway Patrol San Bernardino Inland Office. CHP says additional information will be updated as it becomes available.

<https://paininthepass.info/2022/06/12/ups-driver-killed-in-a-crash-in-the-cajon-pass-saturday-night/>

The real solution to homelessness is the CARE Court proposal: Acquanetta Warren

By Acquanetta Warren, SBSUN.COM

Posted: June 12, 2022



Gary Trent, 66, walks out of his tent as members of the Public Safety Engagement Team, PSET, survey a homeless encampment in the Santa Ana Trail river bottom during a homeless point-in-time count in Riverside on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022. (Photo by Watchara Phomicinda, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

California's homelessness and mental health crisis is out of control and the people want our state legislators to take immediate action.

Cities are on the front lines of this issue with tents and encampments lining our sidewalks, parks and public spaces. Aggressive action must be taken now.

Tiny home encampments and temporary shelters have not been enough to offer those experiencing homelessness a path toward stable housing. This epidemic is about more than a lack of affordable housing and it's time we acknowledge that publicly and start addressing all of the challenges systematically.

It is inhumane to leave struggling individuals with mental health or substance abuse disorders in the streets without the treatment and care they desperately need. Under the Governor's Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court proposal, our state can provide support to thousands of Californians with untreated schizophrenia, psychotic disorders, and substance use challenges that often experience homelessness, incarceration, institutionalization or premature death. Through a community-driven approach, CARE Court protects people's rights while helping them get access to housing, treatment, and care.

As the fifth largest economy in the world, California can no longer allow people with mental health issues to be homeless with no treatment or housing. I now label this epidemic "mental health homelessness". Mental health has plagued the homeless population and their families especially in black and brown communities. It is time to transform a broken system and Fontana is ready to take the lead and once again set the example for other cities to follow.

With the help of the American Rescue Plan and Congressional funding, the City of Fontana is working to establish the region's first Homeless Prevention, Resource, and Care Center that will address homelessness at the individual level. In addition, the City of Fontana has formed a special team of first responders to address this issue head on. The Community Outreach and Support Team (C.O.A.S.T.) is a multi-disciplinary team of professionals trained to address and respond to those experiencing a mental health episode in hopes of averting a crisis event that historically might have led to incarceration. This team is comprised of a Fontana police officer, a social worker with the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health, and a firefighter from the **San Bernardino County Fire** Department with his support dog "Scout".

COAST responds to calls for service with a mission that includes building rapport with the public and taking the burden off other city resources that may not have been equipped to deal with a mental health crisis. The COAST team also provides meaningful after care and support services including filling prescriptions, working with the District Attorney's Office to dismiss warrants for petty offenses which pose barriers to housing and employment, access to trained counselors, and long-term drug and alcohol

treatment. With CARE Court, we will now have more tools to connect a homeless person struggling with untreated mental illness get the care they deserve.

Right now, our response to homelessness is inconsistent. This is unacceptable. We can and must do better. If we are going to solve this issue, everyone must do their part. As Mayor of Fontana, I am proud to represent a city with the mission statement “We serve to enrich the lives of all people by embracing opportunity”. That is why I am strongly urging our state legislators to take immediate action and vote in favor of SB 1338 CARE Court Act.

Please visit <https://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov> to contact your legislators today and ask them to vote in support of SB 1338 CARE Court Act.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2022/06/12/the-real-solution-to-homelessness-is-the-care-court-proposal-acquanetta-warren/>

Firefighters Stop Spread Of A Brush Fire In Pinion Hills

By Staff Writer, PAININTHEPASS.COM

Posted: June 11, 2022



PINION HILLS, CA. (Pain In The Pass) >> A small brush fire burned near Highway 138 Saturday afternoon.

The Cholla Fire Incident was reported at about 3:54pm, on Saturday, June 11, 2022, on the corner of Cholla Road and Wintergreen Rd near Hwy 138 in the town of Pinion Hills.

San Bernardino County Fire with help from CAL Fire firefighters were quickly on scene. The winds were gusting about 10 – 20 mph in heavy brush help fan the flames. One helicopters and two airtankers were called to the scene to do some drops. They later call off the airtankers. About 10 to 15 structures were threatened during the fire fight.

As of 5pm fire crews were able to stop the forward spread at about 5 acres with help of a helicopter water drops. Firefighters will remain in the area for mop-up operations though the next two to three hours. To make sure no hot spots flare up.

This story will be updated as more information becomes available. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

<https://paininthepass.info/2022/06/11/firefighters-stop-spread-of-a-brush-fire-in-pinion-hills/>

Boy burned during house fire in Victorville

By Staff Writer, VICTORVALLEYGROUP.COM

Posted: June 10, 2022



(Photo - El Hermano Pablo)

VICTORVILLE, Calif. (VVNG.com) — An 8-year-old boy was transported to a hospital after he was burned during a house fire in Victorville.

At approximately 6:30 pm, on Thursday, June 9, 2022, crews from the Victorville Fire Department and **San Bernardino County Fire** were dispatched to a structure fire on Silica Drive in the South East portion of the city.

Medic Engine 314 was the first to arrived on scene and reported that there was a working structure fire at a single-story family home. Firefighters advised there was fire in the rear of the house that had extended into the attic.

“Crews quickly extended a hose line to the rear of the structure and began to extinguish the main portion of the fire until more crews arrived. Once additional crews arrived, the fire that extended into the attic and other portions of the house were extinguished,” stated Victorville City spokeswoman Sue Jones.

Jones said a minor was treated for minor burns on scene and transported to Desert Valley Hospital via ambulance.

“Due to the quick efforts of our VFD personnel, the fire was brought under control rapidly preventing it from spreading to neighboring homes and causing further injury,” said Victorville Fire Chief Brian Fallon.

Family confirmed the young boy has already been discharged from the hospital. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

<https://www.vvng.com/boy-burned-during-house-fire-in-victorville/>