



NEWS



News Headlines 10/27/2020

- Purcell Fire in Cajon Pass quickly contained Tuesday morning
- Orange Fire 2 burns 23 acres

Purcell Fire in Cajon Pass quickly contained Tuesday morning

Jose Quintero, Victorville Daily Press

Posted: October 27, 2020



This screen grab from video shows firefighters walking single-file down an embankment in the Cajon Pass on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020, near where the Purcell Fire burned a small area before being contained. Photo Courtesy Of The U.S. Forest Service

As firefighters across the southland have had their hands full since Monday morning, local crews made quick work of two small, short-lived blazes that ignited in the Cajon Pass fewer than 24 hours apart.

Tuesday morning's fire in the Cajon Pass — near the Bluecut area that sustained over 36,000 charred acres in 2016 — was held to an area of about 50-by-50 feet, according to the San Bernardino National Forest Service.

Firefighters responded to the so-called Purcell Fire just after 10 a.m. and quickly grabbed the upper hand, the agency reported. Crews stopped the forward rate of spread at 10:40 a.m., fully containing the fire by 11 a.m.

"Significant resources and aircraft have made drops on the fire, and crews are making good progress," the Forest Service tweeted.

Forest Service firefighters, along with **San Bernardino County Fire** and Cal Fire crews battled the blaze, according to County Fire. A Forest Service video showed at least 15 firefighters walking single-file down a steep embankment in the Cajon Pass, presumably after they achieved full containment.

Much of California has been under a Red Flag Warning due to strong, gusty Santa Ana winds that developed Sunday night. Wind gusts were recorded at about 30 miles per hour in the area of the Purcell Fire, according to the National Weather Service.

The Purcell Fire caused a brief closure of the No. 4 lane on Interstate 15, just before Kenwood Avenue. Officials reopened the lane open by 11:19 a.m., the Forest Service tweeted.

U.S. Forest Service Crews work a ¼-acre fire that ignited in the Cajon Pass on Monday, Oct. 26, 2020. Crews contained fire in less than an hour.

Meanwhile, on Monday afternoon, Forest Service firefighters also put out a ¼-acre fire on the northbound side of I-15, just southwest of Oak Hills. Crews responded at about 4:12 p.m.

"The fire's forward rate of spread was quickly stopped and is now 100% contained," the Forest Service tweeted at 4:43 p.m.

No injuries were reported from either blaze. The causes are under investigation.

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/story/news/2020/10/27/purcell-fire-cajon-pass-quickly-contained-tuesday-morning/6052183002/>

Orange Fire 2 burns 23 acres

Joseph Ellis, Highland Community News

Posted: October 27, 2020



Firefighters use hand tools to dig a fire line and spray from hose lines to dampen brush to contain a fire in the Santa Ana River Wash on Monday, Oct. 26.

On Monday, Oct. 26, a fire was called in shortly after the noon hour in the Santa Ana River Wash between Highland and Redlands, just south of the CalMex plant on the east side of Orange Street. Redlands Fire Department reported that the fire burned approximately 23 acres and briefly threatened Redlands homes in the area of Riverview Drive.

The road from Boulder Avenue in Highland to Orange Street in Redlands was closed for several hours as crews from Redlands Fire Department, Cal Fire, **San Bernardino County Fire**, California Office of Emergency Services and the U.S. Department of Forestry were evaluating the fire's origin, putting out hot spots and strategizing the containment.

Air support was unavailable as winds were blowing at 25 to 30 mph with gusts up to 50 mph, according to Redlands Fire.

Fire crews stopped the fire's momentum at about 4 p.m. and remained on scene overnight, improving fire lines. Crews are expected to remain on scene for several days.

The Orange Fire 2, as it was named, connected to an earlier brush fire that burned in the same area in September. The area along a pole line trail contains mostly brush and shrubs, along with some illegal dumping of yard waste and clothing. Along the trail, several large logs were burning as though they had been in a campfire, though a Cal Fire official would not speculate the fire's cause. With Santa Ana winds strongly blowing toward Redlands northside homes, fire lines were cut to contain the fire's spread.

In the mountains to the east, smoke was drifting southward with the winds. A Cal Fire firefighter said it was from the El Dorado fire from last month. When high winds blow off surface ash and debris, embers deeper below can reignite he said, causing the billows of smoke.

https://www.highlandnews.net/news/public_safety/orange-fire-2-burns-23-acres/article_4eedaf8-1876-11eb-a8db-5fc901333e41.html