



NEWS



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Firefighters quickly extinguish fire in Fontana on July 27

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

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Firefighters extinguished a fire which erupted in Fontana on July 27. (Contributed photo by Gilbert Gonzalez)

Firefighters were able to quickly extinguish a fire that erupted near a residence in Fontana on July 27, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

Shortly after 1 p.m., crews were dispatched to a reported structure fire in the 18200 block of Montgomery Avenue in the eastern area of the city.

Crews arrived to find an exterior fire immediately threatening the home, and they swiftly knocked the fire down and checked for any extension.

"Thankfully the fire was held in the exterior and didn't extend to the residence," said Battalion Chief Mike McClintock.

No injuries were reported.

Crews remained on scene for overhaul and investigation.

https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/firefighters-quickly-extinguish-fire-in-fontana-on-july-27/article_719f3d6c-ef27-11eb-a129-0f7065411b6f.html

Refusing evacuation, California resident plans to fight fire himself

Staff Writer, Agence France-Presse

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Resident Jon Cappleman prepares to defend his home during the Dixie fire in Twain, California on July 24, 2021. AFP

TWAIN, United States — Even as dense smoke from an enormous wildfire blows closer to Jon Cappleman’s home in rural northern California, the 60-something man rebuffs calls to evacuate.

“A lot of people think we’re foolish,” he says.

But if it comes down to it, Cappleman has a plan: he will fight the flames of the Dixie Fire himself.

Cappleman and his wife, whose home lies nestled in a pine forest near the town of Twain, hope they have thought of everything, down to the minute details.

For several days, they have used a pump and blue pipes to siphon water from a nearby creek in an effort to keep the ground around their house damp.

And Cappleman and his wife have spent all year keeping the surrounding area clear of flammable brush. Their goats take care of the spots they have missed.

‘Nerve-wracking’

“It’s a simple operation, but it works,” Cappleman, wearing a black baseball cap with an American flag on the front, says of their efforts.

Dixie is the eighth major fire Cappleman has faced since moving to this valley in 1982, calling it “the largest fire I’ve seen in my life.”

But he dismisses the idea that worsening fire seasons could have anything to do with global warming.

“I don’t think climate change has anything to do with this,” he says, instead blaming the fires on “too thick” forests.

Suddenly, a huge boom is heard overhead.

A large tree damaged by the flames has just collapsed, which Cappleman says has been a regular occurrence.

He becomes slightly nervous as he inspects the trees around his property, which has not had power in three days.

“I’ve had 25 hours of sleep in a week,” he said, lighting a cigarette.

“It’s been quite nerve-wracking.”

‘Safety of your family’

Despite evacuation orders throughout the northern part of the state, Cappleman says he will not leave.

“You don’t leave the safety of your family in the hands of strangers,” he says.

Plus, it would be impossible to bring along the couple’s five turkeys, 30 chickens, 10 goats and six cats he explains.

The Dixie Fire has taken on a more uncertain path since it first sparked in mid-July. Its circumference stretches at least 82 miles (130 kilometers) around and has so far burned more than 197,000 acres.

There are six fire trucks stationed at the border of Cappleman’s 12-acre property, watching the blaze’s progression.

“We have a fire behind us on the hillside that could potentially impact these homes,” according to **San Bernardino County fire** Battalion Chief Jason Serrano.

“But we have those identified and we’ll be able to notify them in advance for an emergency evacuation.”

A group of firefighters approach Cappleman to take a look at his property.

He shows them around, obviously proud of his logistics operation.

But the firefighters point out the danger of an open-air storage shed just a few meters away, littered with old bicycles, cables, and other trash.

“I feel embarrassed that this is such a mess,” Cappleman responds. “This is a fire danger.”

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1465934/refusing-evacuation-california-resident-plans-to-fight-fire-himself>

LOCAL FIRE CREWS DEPLOYED TO NORTHERN CALIFORNIA “DIXIE” FIRE

Staff Writer, Z107.7 NEWS

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Courtesy of SBC Fire

Fire engines and crews from throughout San Bernardino County, including Yucca Valley, were recently deployed to Northern California to assist in battling the Dixie fire. According to **San Bernardino County Fire Battalion Chief Mike McClintock**, strike teams consisting of fire personnel from throughout San Bernardino County have been battling the fire for the past week. Type I engines from fire departments in Yucca Valley, San Bernardino, Upland, Adelanto, Barstow, and Ontario have worked endless shifts to complete perimeter control, firing operations, structure defense and mop-up operations. The Dixie Fire has burned more than 208,000 acres and is currently 23 percent contained. Updates on the Dixie fire can be found at the link below.

<https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2021/7/14/dixie-fire/>

<https://z1077fm.com/local-fire-crews-deployed-to-northern-california-dixie-fire/>

Yucca Mesa crew deploys to Dixie Fire

Staff Writer, Hi-Desert Star

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San Bernardino County fire crews work at the Dixie Fire in Northern California in the past week.

YUCCA VALLEY — A group of **San Bernardino County firefighters**, including a crew from Yucca Mesa station 42, deployed this week to the Dixie Fire in Northern California. The Dixie Fire has burned more than 208,000 acres.

The Dixie Fire, California's largest wildfire this year, began burning on July 14 about 250 miles northeast of San Francisco. Now two weeks later, the fire has threatened over 10,000 structures and triggered evacuations throughout the area.

Twenty San Bernardino County fire personnel were assigned to the Dixie Fire last week. Crews deployed on four California Office of Emergency engines. Each engine is staffed with a captain, an engineer, a firefighter/paramedic and a firefighter. The crews include firefighters from Adelanto, Upland and San Bernardino as well as Yucca Mesa.

The 22-person strike team has been working 24-hour shifts for the past week, Battalion Chief Mike McClintock said. Crews have completed perimeter control, firing operations, structure defense and mop-up operations.

The Dixie Fire was 23% contained as of Tuesday. For more information on the fire visit www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2021/7/14/dixie-fire.

<https://hidesertstar.com/news/180569/yucca-mesa-crew-deploys-to-dixie-fire/>