



## Governor's Office of Emergency Services California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Joint Fire Information Report



10/26/03 1700 hours

Commitment of CDF firefighting resources:

- No people are assigned out of state.
- 2,963 people are assigned to large incidents in California.
- 42% (140 of 336) of its fire engines and,
- 75% (150 of 200) of its fire crews committed to all incidents statewide at this time.

Commitment of Local Government and OES firefighting resources:

- 600 local government engines.
- 102 OES engines and 5 OES water tenders.
- 1 OES Support Unit, 2 Oasis Communication Units
- Seven OES Assistant Chiefs, two Deputy Chiefs, the Branch Chief, and one support staff committed.

OES-HQ EOC is open and still filling orders and have committed approximately 93% of the 110 OES engine resources in the state.

**All fires are currently being prioritized by MACS**

### STATE/LOCAL INCIDENTS

#### **Grand Prix (San Bernardino County, Grand Prix at Shetland in Fontana)**

- 35,000 Acres.
- 23% Contained
- Fire Started 10/21/03 @ 1422 hours
- Human Caused
- 15 Injuries
- 75 structures destroyed, CWN helicopter
- Immediate structure threat to residences in the Lytle Creek, Rancho Cucamonga, Upland, San Antonio Heights, Mt. Baldy, Claremont, Rialto, Fontana, Laverne and San Dimas communities.
- Mandatory evacuations for the communities of Glen Helen, Cajon Canyon, Devore Heights, Muscoy, Rialto, Claremont North of Baseline & Claraboya, LaVerne, San Antonio Heights, Upland, North of 24<sup>th</sup> street, Euclid East of City Border, all of Mt. Baldy, Snow Drop Rd, Alta Loma Woods neighborhood.
- High voltage power lines, which provide up to 25% of the power to the Los Angeles Basin, have been shut down.
- Railroad mainline closed thru the Cajon Pass causing a major economic impact.
- Interstate 15 and Interstate 210 are closed at this time with multiple surface street closures throughout the fire.

- The fire also threatens an essential public safety communication site on the San Sevaine Mountain, Watershed Values, Historical Mining Sites, Arroyo Toad / Mountain Yellow Legged Frog / Willow fly Catcher and Spotted Owl Habitats.
- Firefighting resources: 2,427 firefighters (898 CDF), 15 helicopters (2 CDF), 48 fire crews (31 CDF), 274 engines (37 CDF), 7 air tankers (2 CDF), 27 dozers (1 CDF), 227 overhead (89 CDF). **Aircraft status will be updated after fire prioritization.**
- The fire is currently being managed under unified command with CDF (Stone) and the USFS a Federal Type I Incident Management Team (Studebaker) along with local government.
- Extreme fire behavior continues with rapid rate of spread reported in all directions. During short periods of decreased winds the fire continues to burn rapidly being driven by topography.
- Fire is burning all fuel types with lighter fuels at lower elevations with heavy brush throughout the foothills and mountains. The fire also has a timber component at the upper elevations and in drainages.
- Damage assessment team has been assigned to assess damages.
- FMAG has been approved for this incident.

**Simi Incident (Los Angeles County, 4 Miles West of Santa Clarita, West of Val Verde North of Highway 126, all fire South of Hwy 126 into Moorpark)**

- Simi Incident are the Simi and Verdale fires currently being reported as one.
- 80,000 acres for the complex
- 0 % Contained
- Fire Started 10/24/03 @ 1307 hours
- Cause is Under Investigation
- 2 Minor injuries
- 30 Structures destroyed, 8 damaged, 1 outbuilding destroyed. Also damaged was a oil pipeline infrastructure requiring a hazardous materials response. Fish and Game department was notified.
- 5,000 homes and 100 commercial buildings are threatened in the communities of Simi, Moorpark, Camarillo, Saticoy, Thousand Oaks and Santa Paula.
- Voluntary evacuations are in effect in the communities of Simi, Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Saticoy and Santa Paula.
- Red Cross has established evacuation centers at the Rancho Santa Susanza and Thousand Oaks Community Centers in Moorpark.
- Firefighting resources: 599 Firefighters (36 CDF), 6 helicopters (0 CDF), 1 fire crew (0 CDF), 120 engines (0 CDF), 0 air tankers, 1 dozer (0 CDF), 27 overhead (26 CDF). **Aircraft status will be updated after fire prioritization.**
- All resources are committed to structure protection.
- Current concerns are in the Simi, Moorpark and Saticoy areas.
- Experienced extreme rates of fire spread this afternoon.

- Fire crossed Hwy 126.
- A Damage Assessment team has been ordered.
- Road closures: Hwy 118, 22 Fwy from First to Collins, Hwy 23 from Fillmore to Moorpark, Tierra Rejada Rd, Hwy 23 from Hwy 101 to Hwy 118, and Hitch Rd.
- The Verdale fire is currently being managed under unified command with L.A. County (Osby) and Ventura County (Vandenbossche).
- The Simi fire is under the command of CDF Incident Command Team 6 (Haines).

**Paradise (San Diego County, Valley Center)**

- 8,000 Acres
- 0 % Contained
- Fire Started 10/26/03 @ 0130 hours
- Human Cause
- 0 Injuries
- 3 Civilian Fatalities confirmed by the San Diego Sheriff's Department
- 0 Structures Destroyed
- 300 Residences, 50 Commercial property and 100 outbuildings in Valley Center and all areas east of Lake Wolford are currently threatened.
- Firefighting resources: 415 Firefighters (257 CDF), 0 helicopters, 18 fire crews (14 CDF), 25 engines (0 CDF), 3 air tankers (0 CDF), 4 CDF dozers, 32 CDF overhead. **Aircraft status will be updated after fire prioritization.**
- Fire is burning in wildland and medium to heavy brush.
- Very hot and dry winds blowing east at 25-30 mph.
- Team 5 (Hawkins) assigned

**Mine (San Diego County, Mine Canyon Near Otay in San Diego County)**

- 13,000+ Acres
- 0 % Contained
- Fire Started 10/26/03 @ 0718 hours
- Under Investigation
- 0 Injuries
- 0 Structures Destroyed
- Currently threatening houses and moving into the community of Dulzura.
- Firefighting resources: 358 Firefighters (292 CDF), 0 helicopters, 10 fire crews (6 CDF), 45 CDF engines, 2 air tankers, 4 CDF dozers, 29 CDF overhead. **Aircraft status will be updated after fire prioritization.**

**Mountain (Riverside County, Black Mountain Rd & De Portola Ave., in the Sage Area)**

- 2,000+ Acres
- 0 % Contained

- Fire Started 10/26/03 @ 1146 hours
- Under Investigation
- 0 Injuries
- 2 Structures Destroyed
- Current immediate threat to 300 homes in the Sage area, Lake Skinner water reservoir/watershed, and associated wildlife refuge area
- Mandatory evacuations of the Cottonwood School.
- Firefighting resources: 190 Firefighters (120 CDF), 1 helicopter (0 CDF), 6 fire crews (6 CDF), 12 CDF engines, 6 air tankers (0 CDF), 1 CDF dozer, 12 CDF overhead. **Aircraft status will be updated after fire prioritization.**
- Aggressive fire behavior burning through medium to heavy brush on flat terrain being pushed by 10 MPH winds in 3% relative humidity.
- Sage is a rural community in interface area with varying exposure threat to domestic farmland and animals. The brush is dry and we are expecting Santa Ana type winds this evening.
- Currently experiencing extremely fast rate of spread on this fire.

## **FEDERAL FIRES**

### **Old (San Bernardino County, North of San Bernardino, Hwy 18)**

- 30,000 Acres
- 5 % Contained
- Fire Started 10/25/03 @ 0917 hours
- Under Investigation
- 0 Injuries
- 2 Civilian Fatalities (Being Reported as Stress Related)
- 200 Residential Structures Destroyed.
- 7 Residential Structures Damaged
- 10 Commercial Structures Destroyed
- 24,000 Residential Structures Threatened
- 500 Commercial Properties Threatened
- Immediate threat to the communities of Crest Forest, Rim Forest, Running Springs, Highland and Sky Forest. Under current burning conditions the communities of Lake Arrowhead, Blue Jay, Cedar Glen, Green Valley Lake and Arrowbear will be threatened within 24 – 48 hours.
- San Bernardino County Sheriff department has initiated a mandatory and immediate evacuation for the Communities from Cedar Pines Park going East through and including Crestline.
- American Red Cross establishing evacuation centers in several areas. The primary evacuation center is being reported at the San Bernardino National Airport. Other evacuation centers are located at the Sultana High School in Hesperia.
- Extreme fire behavior continues with rapid rate of spread reported in all directions. During short periods of decreased winds the fire continues to burn

rapidly being driven by topography. Fire driven by winds and heavy fuels both to the East and West.

- Firefighting resources: 917 Firefighters (207 CDF), 9 helicopters (1 CDF), 19 fire crews (17 CDF), 160 engines (20 CDF), 7 air tankers (0 CDF), 4 dozers (1 CDF), 171 overhead (20 CDF). **Aircraft status will be updated after fire prioritization.**
- The fire is currently being managed under unified command with the USFS a Federal Type II Incident Management Team (Walker) along with local government.
- Assessment of structure loss and acreage continues to be assessed in daylight hours.
- Will attempt to establish anchor points and stop rate of spread into San Bernardino and will continue to evacuate in the Mountain communities.

### **Roblar (San Diego County, Camp Pendleton/Fallbrook)**

- 4,740 Acres
- 75% Contained
- Fire Started 10/21/03 @ 1201 hours
- Cause Is Under Investigation
- 2 Injuries Report today.
- 0 Structures Destroyed
- Firefighting resources: 1,313 firefighters (401 CDF), 0 helicopters, 38 fire crews (16 CDF), 87 engines (15 CDF), 10 air tankers (6 CDF), 15 dozers (4 CDF), 145 overhead (30 CDF). **Aircraft status will be updated after fire prioritization.**
- Current threats are to the community of De Luz, military communications, training facilities, major transmission lines serving Orange County, agriculture orchards, Sky Ranch and ranches within Devil's Canyon area.
- Will continue to provide structure protection in De Luz and Sky Ranch areas, and hold and improve lines as needed.
- Voluntary evacuations in place for the community of De Luz.
- Road closures in the De Luz area continue to exist, except to the residents.
- Evacuation center located at St. Peter's Church's in Fallbrook.
- Anticipated wind conditions did not surface as predicated which helped with fire suppression efforts.
- No projected movement outside control lines.
- Given current and predicated weather and fire conditions, potential in achieving containment/control target is fair.
- Due to current fire conditions, demobilization of miscellaneous overhead personnel and equipment continues today.

### **Piru (Ventura County, Northwest of Lake Piru near the Community of Fillmore)**

- 10,000 Acres
- 30 % Contained
- Fire Started 10/23/03 @ 1330 hours

- Human Caused
- 6 Injuries.
- No Structures Destroyed
- 5 residences are immediately threatened in the Piru and Fillmore areas. Multiple structures may be threatened in the community of Fillmore with the forecasted wind event.
- The fire is threatening watershed values, Sespe Wilderness, agriculture values and a Condor Sanctuary.
- Lake Piru Recreation Area is closed.
- Firefighting resources: 780 Firefighters (419 CDF), 6 helicopters (0 CDF), 24 fire crews (20 CDF), 16 engines (10 CDF), 2 air tankers (0 CDF), 2 dozers (0 CDF), 108 overhead (23CDF). **Aircraft status will be updated after fire prioritization.**
- The fire is burning primarily in grass and light brush in steep rugged terrain.
- Fire is burning towards the city of Fillmore
- FMAG has been requested.

**Cedar (San Diego County, Cedar Creek and Boulder Creek Road)**

- 80,000 + Acres
- 0 % Contained
- Fire Started 10/25/03 @ 1737 hours
- Human Caused
- 0 Injuries.
- 5 Civilian Fatalities confirmed by the San Diego Sheriff's Department
- 50 Residence destroyed.
- Current threats to San Diego Country Estates, Barona Reservation, Mussy Grade, West Ramona and Poway.
- Additional threat to multiple structures, the Barona Casino, Hwy 67 and watersheds.
- Firefighting resources: 456 Firefighters (333 CDF), 0 helicopters, 67 fire crews (14 CDF), 22 engines (10 CDF), 0 air tankers, 1 CDF dozer, 15 overhead (5 CDF). **Aircraft status will be updated after fire prioritization.**
- Fire has burned through San Diego Country Estates and Barona Indian reservation and is heading for Mussy Grade Road and multiple homes in an area of old growth brush with poor clearance around homes.
- The fire will most likely cross Hwy 67 within the next burning period. There is a possibility that it could reach the City of Poway in the next burning period as well.
- The fire will continue to burn easterly through Mussy Grade Rd, Hwy 79, Poway and South to Lakeside.
- South Interstate 8