

ZACA FIRE UPDATE

Wednesday, August 15, 2007 8:00 AM

Joint Unified Command: Los Padres National Forest and Santa Barbara County Fire Department

On the Web: www.sbcfire.com or www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres or www.inciweb.org

Fire Information Phone Line: (805) 961-5770

| Fire Status | Resources |
|--|--|
| Acres Burned: 105,231 acres | Crews: 73 |
| Acres Burned (last 12 hours): 1,511 acres | Engines: 124 |
| Fireline to Build: 18 miles | Helicopters: 21 |
| Date Started: July 4, 2007 at 10:53 am | Air Tankers: 8 |
| Percent Contained: 58 percent | Air Attack: 3 |
| Expected Containment: September 7, 2007 | Dozers: 34 |
| Injuries: 27 | Water Tenders: 71 |
| Structures Threatened: 595 | Total Personnel Assigned: 2,888 |
| Structures Destroyed: 1 outbuilding | Cost to Date: \$71.6 million |

Current Situation:

Yesterday the Zaca Fire produced large columns of smoke which were highly visible from communities along the Central Coast, as well as areas which are some distance from the fire. The fire made runs in the Alamar drainage north and east of the 1997 Ogilvy fire. Firefighters continue taking advantage of the 10 year old Ogilvy fire by building fireline on the east side of the Don Victor Jeepway. Current strategies of direct attack will continue while fire managers review contingency plans and coordinate with the Command Team assigned to the north side of the fire. Weather conditions today will be a little cooler but still remain hot and dry.

Firefighters are continuing with a backfiring operation to “burn out” vegetation between the fireline and main fire, which is actively burning in Sisquoc Canyon and Logan Canyon. A backfiring operation is in progress along Sierra Madre Ridge from Sweetwater Ridge to Highway 33. The firing operation is still 10 miles from Hwy 33. On the east perimeter, the fire is actively burning in the area of the Narrows in Mono Canyon and moving east towards the Matilija Wilderness. **In the next couple of days, Hwy 33 may be impacted while firefighters conduct a firing operation to secure the firelines on the eastern perimeter of the fire. Fire Commanders are working with both the Santa Barbara and Ventura County Sheriff’s Department to develop a plan for traffic flow on Hwy 33.** The Zaca Fire is still burning within indirect fire lines that incident commanders have established to contain it.

Contingency lines in the areas of Paradise Road, Camuesa Road, Sierra Madre Ridge, Pendola Road, and the Matilija Wilderness are nearing completion. When completed, these lines will reduce the need for firing operations and will provide firefighters with other suppression options that may be needed in the event that changing conditions warrant such action.

Forest, Road and Area Closures:

- Happy Canyon Road is **closed** at Los Padres National Forest boundary.
- Figueroa Mountain Road is **closed** at the Los Padres National Forest boundary.
- East Camino Cielo is **closed** between Painted Cave Road and Gibraltar Road due to fire equipment traffic.
- Paradise Road is within the Evacuation Warning Area and is currently **open to residents only**.
- The Los Padres National Forest **expanded closure** is in effect. It encompasses approximately 649,000 acres and is between Hwy 166 in northern Santa Barbara County and Highway 33 and Matilija Canyon in Ventura County. Detailed information on the closure can be found at www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres or www.inciweb.org or your local Forest Service Office.

Evacuations:

- The EVACUATION ORDER for Paradise Road residents, Los Prietos Boys Camp, and the Rancho Oso Guest Ranch has been downgraded to an EVACUATION WARNING.
- The Santa Ynez River Road campgrounds, day use areas and trailheads remain closed.

