

# ZACA FIRE UPDATE

**Tuesday, August 21, 2007 8:00 AM**

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

**On the Web:** [www.sbcfire.com](http://www.sbcfire.com) or [www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres) or [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org)

**Fire Information Phone Line:** (805) 961-5770

Fire Status	Resources
<b>Acres Burned:</b> 220,863 acres	<b>Crews:</b> 72
<b>Acres Increase (last 12 hours):</b> 5,138 acres	<b>Engines:</b> 139
<b>Fireline to Build:</b> 3 miles	<b>Helicopters:</b> 20
<b>Date Started:</b> July 4, 2007 at 10:53 am	<b>Air Tankers:</b> 8
<b>Percent Contained:</b> 77 percent	<b>Air Attack:</b> 3
<b>Expected Containment:</b> September 7, 2007	<b>Dozers:</b> 55
<b>Injuries:</b> 39	<b>Water Tenders:</b> 80
<b>Structures Threatened:</b> 581	<b>Total Personnel Assigned:</b> 3,144
<b>Structures Destroyed:</b> 1 outbuilding	<b>Cost to Date:</b> \$ 87.5 million

## Headlines:

- Hwy 33 between Wheeler Gorge and Ventucopa will remain closed until **Friday** due to firefighting equipment and heavy smoke. Residents will be allowed to enter the area but must carry identification to access areas within the road closure.

## Current Situation:

On the northwest perimeter, the fire is well established in Foresters Leap Canyon on the north rim of Sisquoc Canyon. Firefighters are planning a backfiring operation along the Sierra Madre Ridge to contain the northern progress of the fire. Contingency plans are being developed to determine a course of action to stop the progress of the fire west down the Sisquoc drainage. On the northeast and east perimeter, the fire has moved to the east boundary of the Dick Smith Wilderness near Highway 33. Firefighters will continue a backfire operation from Cuyama Peak Road in Dry Canyon down Brubaker Canyon to Highway 33. On the east perimeter, firefighters have successfully completed the backfire operation from Highway 33 through the switchbacks to Ozena. Later this afternoon a backfire operation will be conducted along the forest boundary at the Cuyama River drainage from Ozena to Brubaker Road in order to contain the eastern edge of the fire.

On the southeast perimeter, firefighters were successful in constructing fireline directly next to the fire's edge east of the Hildreth Jeep trail and north of the Pendola Jeep Trail. Secondary dozer lines were constructed below the direct handline in support of obtaining containment objectives. Good progress was made last night in continuing to tie in the remaining line construction. Rehabilitation of firelines, contingency lines, and roads will begin today. Approximately 300 miles of dozerline are in need of restoration.

Due to predicted low humidity, a red flag warning has been issued for the fire area until Wednesday night.

## Forest, Road and Area Closures:

- Hwy 33 between Wheeler Gorge and Ventucopa will be **closed** to all traffic except for residents.
- 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 Zaca Fire Area Closure in Los Padres National Forest has been expanded to include additional lands in Santa Barbara, Ventura and Kern Counties. The expanded closure now encompasses approximately 888,000 acres including the entire San Rafael, Matilija and Chumash Wildernesses, a portion of the Sespe Wilderness and adjacent national forest lands. Detailed information on the closure can be found at [www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres) or [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org) or the Forest Service.

## Evacuations:

- A **PRECAUTIONARY EVACUATION** for residents along the west side of Highway 33 from the Ventura/Santa Barbara County Line to Pine Mountain Summit.
- The **EVACUATION ORDER** for Paradise Road residents, Los Prietos Boys Camp, and the Rancho Oso Guest Ranch has been downgraded to an **EVACUATION WARNING**.
- An **EVACUATION WARNING** has been issued for East Camino Cielo Road from Gibraltar Road east to the Ventura County Line including Gibraltar Reservoir and Jameson Lake.
- The Santa Ynez River Road campgrounds, day use areas and trailheads remain closed.