



U.S. Forest Service  
Pacific Southwest Region  
Los Padres National Forest  
6750 Navigator Way  
Goleta, California 93117

## Thomas Fire Update



December 26, 2017 8:00AM

**Start Date:** December 4, 2017 **Cause:** Under Investigation **Size:** 28,1620 acres

**Containment:** 88% **Personnel:** 899 **Structures Destroyed:** 1,063 **Structures Damaged:** 280

**Current Situation:** The Thomas Fire has very little active fire at this time. Visitors are encouraged to make plans to enjoy Santa Barbara, Ventura, and surrounding areas during the upcoming holiday weekend. Businesses are open and eager to serve the public. Be aware some sections of Los Padres National Forest remain closed for public safety. Reduced fire activity means there is little smoke. Air Quality reports indicate healthy conditions for outdoor activities, unless individuals have hyper-sensitivity to smoke. Firefighters remain vigilant in monitoring fire lines and being ready to respond when needed. We advise extra caution when driving.

No forward progress of the fire is expected at this point. Firefighters are building upon previous gains by strengthening established containment lines adjacent to communities and other infrastructure. Repair work is underway to mitigate impacts from fire suppression activity. Hotspots remain in the Bear Heaven area. Air support with water drops is being used due to steep, rugged terrain with limited access, as needed. Aircraft remain available in the event there are flare-ups or new fire starts in the area.

Residents and visitors to Santa Barbara and Ventura counties may see an increase in wildlife in local communities due to displacement from the fire. Individuals who encounter these displaced animals are encouraged to maintain a safe distance, refrain from feeding them, and if a threat to humans is perceived call 911 (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/living-with-wildlife>).

**Fire Weather:** Wind: 10 mph off shore. Temp: Highs in the 60s to low 70s. Humidity: 5-15%.

**Closures:** Sr33/Fairview Rd. is closed. Portions of Los Padres National Forest remain closed. Download the [closure order](#) and [map](#) on the Los Padres National Forest web page. A

**Air Quality:** Smoke may be visible at times due to interior hotspots that come to life as dry weather conditions persist. Approximately 30 oil seep fires have been ignited in the Upper Ojai area and continue to burn. In addition to smoke and ash from the Thomas Fire these oil seep fires contribute to air quality issues in the area. A foam product has been ordered that may help extinguish the oil seep fires and will be applied immediately upon delivery. An updated air quality report may be found at <http://www.ourair.org> or <http://www.vcapcd.org>

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*InciWeb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5670/>*

*Thomas Fire Info: 805.826.1357 \* Santa Barbara County Fire Info Line: 800.400.1572  
Ventura County Fire Information Line: 805.465.6650 \* Media Line: 925.588.6904*