



Sand Fire July 26, 2016, Morning Update

Fire Information: Los Angeles County Fire Department 323-881-2413, staffed 7 AM – 11 PM
Angeles National Forest 626-574-5208, staffed 7 AM – 10 PM
sandfireunified@gmail.com
<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4878>

Fire Situation: Last night the fire was active as night-shift crews constructed handline near Placerita Road on the northwest side. An infrared flight revealed that the north side is the hottest and most active, while within the fire, heat is scattered. Today, structure-defense firefighters will continue to work in affected communities. Crews around the fire's perimeter will construct direct handline, dozer line, and contingency line; improve and hold existing line; and mop up contained line. Aircraft operations continue, including dropping water and retardant as needed to assist firefighters on the ground.

The fire in 37,473 acres (an increase of 4,356 acres) 25 percent contained. Resources include 335 engines, 58 hand crews, 26 helicopters, 18 water tenders, 20 dozers, and 3,048 personnel. The incident command post is at Golden Valley High School. A second basecamp with more space for engines is being established at Central Park in Santa Clarita.

Weather and Fire Behavior: Today will be hotter, drier, and windier than yesterday. The temperature will be in the high 90s to low 100s. Relative humidity will drop to the low teens and single digits. Ridgetop winds will start out weak (5 to 10 mph) from the west but will strengthen (10 to 18 mph) and shift to the southwest this afternoon. Gusts from 15 to 30 mph can be expected. Fire-behavior analysts expect the fire to be more active today than it was yesterday, especially on the east side.

Closures and Evacuations: The Sand Canyon Road exit off the northbound 14 Freeway is closed. At 7:00 Monday night, many residents were allowed to return home. The following areas remain closed:

- Placerita Canyon Road, from Running Horse Lane to Pacy Street
- Little Tujunga Canyon Road, from the Wildlife Way Station to intersection of Sand Canyon Road and Placerita Canyon Road
- Agua Dulce Canyon Road, from approximately one quarter mile south of the 14 Freeway to Soledad Canyon Road; Soledad Canyon Road one mile east and one mile west of Agua Dulce Road

The following areas are open only to residents with a photo ID:

- Via Princessa and Lost Canyon Road
- Canyon Park Blvd and Lost Canyon Road
- Sand Canyon Road and Lost Canyon Road
- Escondido Canyon Road and the 14 Freeway
- Crown Valley Road and the 14 Freeway
- North end of Crown Valley Road and Soledad Canyon Road

Safety: Numerous downed power lines, which could potentially be energized, remain in areas that were repopulated Monday night. Southern California Edison is surveying and identifying downed lines but asks that residents report any lack of power or downed lines they observe by calling 800-655-4555.

The Sand Fire is under unified command with SoCal Team 3 (Incident Commander Mike Wakoski) representing the US Forest Service, Los Angeles County Fire (Deputy Fire Chief John Tripp), and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Sheriff Roosevelt Johnson). Assisting agencies include Los Angeles Fire Department, California Office of Emergency Services, CAL FIRE, California Highway Patrol, Los Angeles County Public Works, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Southern California Edison, Los Angeles County Animal Care and Control, and American Red Cross.