



Sand Fire July 27, 2016, Morning Update

Fire Information:

Phone: Angeles National Forest 626-574-5208, staffed 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Email: sandfireunified@gmail.com

Web: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4878>

Fire Situation: The fire grew approximately 900 acres. The visible smoke column was primarily due to burning vegetation within the perimeter. Firefighters had productive day and night shifts, increasing the containment to 40 percent.

The priority for today's crews is the uncontained east side of the fire. Hotshot crews and firefighters using mechanized equipment, such as dozers, will construct indirect line and direct line where it is safe to do so in the steep terrain of the Pacoima Canyon east of the Magic Mountain Wilderness.

Firefighters are providing structure defense to the historic North Fork Saddle Station and to residences in affected communities. Crews continue to improve and strengthen hand and dozer lines and mopup contained lines. As containment increases, personnel are being released from the incident, returning to support their home units or being reassigned to other incidents.

The fire is currently 38,346 acres (an increase of 873 acres) and 40 percent contained. Resources include 275 engines, 68 hand crews, 20 helicopters, 14 water tenders, 29 dozers, and 2,937 personnel. There are two fire camps established in Santa Clarita: the incident command post at Golden Valley High School and a base camp at Central Park.

Weather and Fire Behavior: Today will be another hot, dry day with the temperature in the high 90s to low 100s and the relative humidity in the teens. Light west winds will shift to the southwest by late morning, gusting up to 25 mph. Light to moderate fire behavior can be expected today. The presence of a smoke column does not necessarily mean the fire is growing. Interior islands of green vegetation within the fire's perimeter might burn, creating smoke that could be visible from surrounding communities.

Closures and Evacuations:

Significant changes to road closures and evacuations took place Tuesday night:

Santa Clarita Valley Openings

- Placerita Canyon Road at the 14 Freeway
- Golden Valley Road at the 14 Freeway
- Via Princessa at Lost Canyon Road
- Sand Canyon Road at Lost Canyon Road

Santa Clarita Valley Ongoing Closures

- Soledad Canyon Road at the 14 Freeway
- Sand Canyon Road south of Placerita Canyon Road

Agua Dule Opening

- Escondido Canyon Road at the 14 Freeway

Agua Dule Ongoing Hard Closures

- Agua Dulce Canyon Road at the 14 Freeway (This is a soft closure, residents with ID ONLY)
- Agua Dulce Canyon Road at Soledad Canyon Road (This is a hard closure. No entry)

Acton Openings

- Crown Valley Parkway at the 14 Freeway
- Crown Valley Parkway at Soledad Canyon Road

Acton Ongoing Hard Closure

- Soledad Canyon Road at Bootlegger Canyon Road

Little Tujunga Hard Closures

- Little Tujunga Canyon Road north of the Wildlife Way Station

Metrolink: In coordination with Sand Fire unified command, Metrolink has determined that due to fire conditions adjacent to railroad tracks in Santa Clarita, it cannot operate trains along the entire Antelope Valley line today. It will offer train services between Los Angeles Union Station and Via Princessa. It has secured buses to connect passengers from Vicent Grande/Acton, Palmdale, and Lancaster stations. www.metrolinktrains.com

Safety: Numerous downed power lines, which could potentially be energized, remain in communities 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.