



## Sand Fire

### July 29, 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 increased by approximately 500 acres after a successful tactical firing operation on the east side near North Fork Saddle Station. Crews are constructing and improving fireline and laying hose on the east side, the only area of the fire that remains uncontained. Elsewhere, they have transitioned to mopping up, patrolling, and repairing. Firefighters are using hand tools and mechanized equipment to repair areas affected by fire-suppression activities, such as handline, dozer line, staging areas, drop points and roads. Many personnel have been demobilized, either returning to assist their home units or being reassigned to other active incidents.

The temporary flight restriction (TFR) over the fire area has been reduced. The TFR that remains in effect does apply to drones, which have interfered with firefighting operations on this fire. Even a small drone could cause a fatal accident in a collision scenario. Before using a drone in the vicinity of a wildfire, first determine if a TFR is in effect and know the area included ([knowbeforeyoufly.org](http://knowbeforeyoufly.org)).

The fire is 38,873 acres and 85 percent contained. Resources include 100 engines, 46 hand crews, 10 helicopters, 16 water tenders, 19 dozers, and 1,718 personnel. There are two fire camps in Santa Clarita: the incident command post at Golden Valley High School and a base camp at Central Park.

**Weather and Fire Behavior:** Hot, dry conditions prevail for another day in the fire area. This afternoon, the temperature will likely be in the low 100s and the relative humidity in the teens. Typical southwest upcanyon winds will be in the 10–18 mph range, gusting up to 30 mph. Dry lightning might develop Saturday as monsoonal moisture increases atmospheric instability across southern California. No active fire behavior is expected near the perimeter on the north, west, or south sides of the fire. On the east side, a successful tactical firing operation around the North Fork Saddle Station created a buffer between burned and unburned vegetation. It would take a very strong wind to push the fire north. However, firefighters are vigilantly monitoring for spot fires.

**Closures:** The Los Angeles County Sheriff's office lifted several road closures 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 28. Two road closures remain:

- Sand Canyon Road and Placerita Canyon Road going into Bear Divide
- Little Tujunga Canyon Road north of the Wildlife Way Station

To ensure firefighter and public safety, the Angeles National Forest's Forest Order 01-16-05 is in effect for the land, roads, and trails near the Sand Fire.

The Sand Fire is under unified command with Southern California Interagency Incident Management Team 3 (Incident Commander Mike Wakoski) representing the US Forest Service, Los Angeles County Fire (Deputy Chief Vince Pena), and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Sheriff's Captain 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.