



Whittier Fire Update



Fire Information Call Center - 805-699-6451, 805-562-1236, and 805-562-1237 (New Numbers)

Official Fire Information website - <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5339/>



Los Padres National Forest

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Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.

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July 16, 2017 8:00 a.m.

Start Date: July 8, 2017 **Cause:** Under Investigation **Size:** 18,015 acres **Containment:** 36% **Personnel:** 1,924

Structures: 1 residence and 6 structures were damaged; 16 residences and 30 structures were destroyed. Other structures include buildings such as detached garages, barns, bunkhouses, or other improvements.

Location: Santa Ynez Mountains in local, federal and state responsibility areas south of Lake Cachuma

Current Situation: The fire continues to creep down slope on the eastern, western and southern edges of the fire. Firefighters expect flanking runs and some short intense burning as the fire backs into drainage bottoms and aligns with slopes. The eastern side of the fire is established in Bear Creek so expect slope driven runs if it crosses the drainage. The western side of the fire should continue backing into developed containment lines and the Sherpa fire scar. Air attack continues today to support ground crews and to knock down hot spots. Warmer temperatures, lower humidity and winds will increase fire activity as the day progresses.

Damage Assessment: Damage assessment teams have updated the number of structures damaged or destroyed. These structures were damaged or destroyed during the early hours of the fire. Damage assessment teams using new software technology, completed the assessment. The incident would like to commend the damage assessment efforts of the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management with regard to their efficient and ongoing operations.

Fire Resources:

39 Fire Crews	145 Fire Engines	30 Water Tenders	4 Masticators
4 Fixed Wing	16 Helicopters	18 Bulldozers	Total Personnel: 1,924

Weather: Dry and warm air will remain over the region today and Monday with temperatures and humidity trends showing little change over the mountains. The coastal section of the fire will see increasing onshore winds allowing some cooling on Monday and Tuesday. Temperatures near Santa Ynez peak are expected to reach 101.

Fire Weather: Temp: 95-101 Relative Humidity: 10-15% Winds: 3-6 and gusts to 17 mph

Information Sources: A fire information call center is staffed and available to answer questions from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. each day. Register at www.AwareAndPrepare.org to receive emergency alerts from Santa Barbara County. If we can't reach you, we can't alert you.

Closure: Highway 154 is closed from Highway 246 to Foothill Road (Highway 192).

Mandatory Evacuations: Highway 154 from Armour Ranch (west side) to Paradise Road (east side), West Camino Cielo at Highway 154 to Winchester Gun Club, Kinevan Road. All of Winchester Canyon Road excluding the community of Wagon Wheel, Langlo Ranch Road and Winchester Commons west to El Capitan Ranch Road. Calle Real north to West Camino Cielo from Winchester Canyon Rd on the east to El Capitan Ranch Road on the west. Paradise Canyon Road from Highway 154 east to the first river crossing. Rosario Park and all of Stagecoach Road. Clarification: Farren Road and Las Varas Canyon Road are included in the Evacuation Order area issued today.

Evacuation Shelters: The American Red Cross has opened evacuation shelters at San Marcos High School, 4750 Hollister Ave., Goleta. The Santa Ynez shelter is prepared to open if necessary.