

ZACA FIRE UPDATE

Wednesday, August 22, 2007 8:00 AM

Joint Unified Command: Los Padres National Forest and Santa Barbara County Fire Department

On the Web: www.sbcfire.com or www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres or www.inciweb.org

Fire Information Phone Line: (805) 961-5770

Fire Status	Resources
Acres Burned: 222,907 acres	Crews: 73
Acres Increase (last 12 hours): 350 acres	Engines: 121
Fireline to Build: 9 miles	Helicopters: 20
Date Started: July 4, 2007 at 10:53 am	Air Tankers: 8
Percent Contained: 79 percent	Air Attack: 3
Expected Containment: September 7, 2007	Dozers: 42
Injuries: 39	Water Tenders: 79
Structures Threatened: 581	Total Personnel Assigned: 3,087
Structures Destroyed: 1 outbuilding	Cost to Date: \$ 90.2 million

Headlines:

- Paradise Road is open from Highway 154 to the Upper Oso Campground.
- Highway 33 from Ventucopa to Ozena remains closed, except to residents. Tentatively, fire officials hope to reopen Highway 33 to thru traffic by Friday, August 24.

Current Situation:

On the northeast perimeter, the fire is at the eastern edge of the Dick Smith Wilderness near Highway 33. Today, firefighters have about one mile of backfiring to complete down Brubaker Canyon to the Cuyama River drainage. When this operation is completed, it will provide a good blackened line to secure the fire on the northeast corner. Firefighters have also completed the backfire operation from Highway 33 through the switchbacks to Ozena. They will continue to monitor the area for spot fires.

The Live Oak Zone of the Zaca Fire is now nearly contained and focus is shifting from suppression to patrol and mop up and rehabilitation of areas affected by the fire including firelines, contingency lines and roads. As a result of this shift in focus, some crews are being demobilized or transferred to the Richardson Zone of the fire or other active fires across the nation.

Weather conditions are expected to be cooler than yesterday with temperatures ranging from 81 to 98 degrees with relative humidity as low as 14%.

Forest, Road and Area Closures:

- Hwy 33 between Wheeler Gorge and Ventucopa will be **closed to all traffic until Friday**, except for residents.
- Happy Canyon Road is **closed** at Los Padres National Forest boundary.
- Figueroa Mountain Road is **closed** at the Los Padres National Forest boundary.
- East Camino Cielo is **closed** between Painted Cave Road and Gibraltar Road due to fire equipment traffic.
- Paradise Road is **open** from Highway 154 to the Upper Oso Campground. Gibraltar Road remains **closed**.
- The Zaca Fire Area Closure in Los Padres National Forest has been expanded to include additional lands in Santa Barbara, Ventura and Kern Counties. The expanded closure now encompasses approximately 888,000 acres including the entire San Rafael, Matilija and Chumash Wildernesses, a portion of the Sespe Wilderness and adjacent national forest lands. Detailed information on the closure can be found at www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres or www.inciweb.org or the Forest Service.

Evacuations:

- A **PRECAUTIONARY EVACUATION** is in effect for residents along the west side of Highway 33 from the Ventura/Santa Barbara County Line to Pine Mountain Summit.
- The **EVACUATION ORDER** for Paradise Road residents, Los Prietos Boys Camp, and the Rancho Oso Guest Ranch has been downgraded to an **EVACUATION WARNING**.
- An **EVACUATION WARNING** has been issued for East Camino Cielo Road from Gibraltar Road east to the Ventura County Line including Gibraltar Reservoir and Jameson Lake.
- The Santa Ynez River Road campgrounds, day use areas and trailheads remain closed.