



# LAKE FIRE INCIDENT UPDATE

Date: 08/21/2020 Time: Evening

Incident Website: [inciweb.nwgc.gov/incident/6953](http://inciweb.nwgc.gov/incident/6953)

Incident Information Line: (323) 205-5263

Incident Media Line: (323) 347-4725



@Angeles\_NF  
@LACoFDPIO



@AngelesNationalForest  
@LACoFD

Location: Lake Hughes, 17 miles west of Lancaster CA

Acres Burned:	29,365	Structures Threatened:	1,329
Containment:	52%	Structures Destroyed:	12
Fire Started:	August 12, 2020 at 3:40 PM	Structures Damaged:	6
Cause:	Under Investigation	Outbuildings Destroyed:	21
		Injuries:	1

Total Assigned Personnel: 1,767

Engines: 130 Hand Crews: 26 Dozers: 44 Water Tenders: 27 Helicopter: 13

**Current Situation:** The Lake Fire started in the Angeles National Forest near Lake Hughes. The fire is burning in 100-year-old fuels consisting of Big Cone Douglas Fir, Oak and Gray Pine. The fire remains eight miles northeast of Interstate 5 and south of Highway 138.

Firefighters have been successful constructing containment lines around 52% of the fire. They continued to focus their efforts in the northwest and western flanks of the fire in the area of Sawmill Ridge. Hand crews reinforced containment lines on the west edge of the fire in the areas of Bear Canyon and Redrock Canyon. Firefighters continue to be challenged by rugged terrain, high temperatures, critically dry fuels, and drought-stressed trees.

Crews utilized tactical firing operations today (applying fire on the ground) along the northern perimeter of the fire. Tactical firing operations help reduce vegetation (fuel) on the forest floor, to widen previously constructed containment lines and stop the forward progress of the fire to the north.

Firefighters continue to mop up on the east flank of the fire, west of Lake Hughes. The fire line has held for several days in this area.

**Weather:** An Excessive Heat Warning for dangerously hot conditions along with high temperatures between 95' and 105' degrees is in effect until 10 PM this evening for the Santa Clarita, San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys. Tonight will become partly cloudy, with a low around 71. South-southwest wind is forecast 5 to 15 mph becoming north-northwest in the evening, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Virtual Public Meeting:** A virtual meeting was held this evening at 6:00 PM, to provide a Lake Fire overview and allow the public to ask questions. This virtual meeting was live-streamed on the following social media channels where replays are now available:

- Angeles National Forest Facebook, @AngelesNationalForest
- Los Angeles County Fire Department Facebook, @LACoFD
- Los Angeles County Fire Department Instagram, @LACountyFD

**Repopulation of Evacuees:**

Repopulation of the northeast area of the Lake Hughes community occurred this morning. Residents can only access the area from Elizabeth Lake Road from the east. There is no access from the west. Residents returning to their homes will have to show identification. Repopulated residents may experience intermittent power outages. For safety information on returning home after a wildfire visit: [bit.ly/repofacts](http://bit.ly/repofacts)

**Evacuations:** The following areas will remain under evacuation orders; East of Old Ridge Route, West of Shafer Road, South of Highway 138, North of Pine Canyon Road / Elizabeth Lake Road, Lake Hughes Road South of Deeswood Drive and North of Dry Gulch Road. Unified Incident Commanders are evaluating all evacuated areas for the potential to safely repopulate.

**Evacuation Point(s):** Evacuation points will be opened as needed. If you should need assistance, please call 1-800-Red-Cross (1-800-733-2767).

**Road Closures:** Three Points Road from Highway 138 to Pine Canyon Road, Old Ridge Route from Highway 138 to Pine Canyon Road, Lake Hughes Road from Ridge Route Road to Deeswood Drive, Pine Canyon Road from Old Ridge Route to Lake Hughes Road, Dry Gulch Road from San Francisquito Canyon Road to Lake Hughes Road.

**Additional Closures:** The Castaic Lake Recreation Area and surrounding areas are being used in support of the fire. The upper and lower lakes and recreation facilities are closed until further notice.

**Fire Forest Closure/Restrictions:** The Angeles National Forest has closed all National Forest System lands within the Lake Fire closure area by Order 05-01-20-6. The fire danger in the Angeles National Forest has continued to increase, and on Saturday, August 1st, the Forest changed its Fire Danger Level from VERY HIGH to EXTREME. The Angeles Forest Order No. 05-01-20-05 prohibits all campfires within the Angeles National Forest. No fires of any type including cooking stoves, lanterns, and similar devices which use propane, white gas, or similar fuels are allowed at this time.

**Animal Care:** Antelope Valley Fairgrounds (Large Animals Only) 2551 W Avenue H, Lancaster, CA.

**Smoke Outlook:** The South Coast Air Quality Management District has issued an air quality advisory for the Lake and Ranch 2 Fires for San Bernardino and Los Angeles Counties. If you smell smoke or see ash due to a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seek alternate shelter, in addition to avoiding vigorous physical activity.

**Cooperating Agencies:** County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol, County of Los Angeles Public Works, County of Los Angeles Animal Care & Control, County of Los Angeles Parks & Recreation, Red Cross, and Southern California Edison.

**Safety Message:** *"If you fly, we can't!"* Drones are illegal on public lands, and pose serious risks to firefighter and public safety and the effectiveness of wildfire suppression operations. For more information, please visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/uas/if-you-fly>

**The National Forest:** For information on The Angeles National Forest visit: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/angeles>

**Information on Preparing to Evacuate:** LA County Fire Department Ready Set Go at: [www.fire.lacounty.gov/rsg](http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/rsg)

**Incident Information Line:** (323) 205-5263 from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM