



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Second River Fire Threatens Campground

Date/Time: April 7, 2015, 12:30 p.m.
Location: Mojave River, Stoddard Wells Rd/NB I-15, Victorville
Incident: Vegetation Fire

Summary: San Bernardino County Firefighters responded to a vegetation fire in the Mojave Riverbed East of I-15, South of Stoddard Wells Road in Victorville. The fire started near a homeless encampment down river from the freeway. Winds upward to 25 MPH quickly pushed the fire Northwest upriver towards the Oasis Campground; threatening approximately 90 occupants.

Firefighters arrived on scene within minutes and quickly set up structure defense and kept the fire from reaching the campground. A SBCoFire Dozer and Inmate Hand Crew responded from the Mojave Narrows Incident, which burned last week about 2 miles downriver from this location, and were able to get a jump on the fire. A Sheriff's water-dropping helicopters arrived on scene shortly after and began water drop operations, slowing the fire spread down significantly.

Over 30 firefighters, 1 Dozer, 1 Inmate Hand Crew was on scene battling the blaze, keeping it contained at 2 acres. The riverbed is thick with heavy fuels and very sandy conditions, making it extremely difficult and dangerous for firefighters. Firefighters will be on scene throughout the evening conducting heavy mop-up operations and watching for flare-ups, as winds are predicted to increase throughout the evening.

San Bernardino County Sheriff Deputies enacted a volunteer evacuation at the campground. There were no injuries to civilians or firefighters. The cause of the fire remains under investigation by San Bernardino County Fire Investigators.

San Bernardino County Fire encourages residents to be prepared for wildland fire and know what to do when asked to evacuate. The READY! SET! GO! Program provides important preparation information. Visit www.sbcfire.org to learn how to make your home defensible against fires.

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