



NEWS



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County Fire Activates Old Cajon Hand Crew Year-Round

Michael P. Neufeld, Rim of the World News

Posted: October 6, 2016, 12:05 AM



San Bernardino County Fire has activated the Old Cajon Hand Crew to year-round duty to provide assistance and support on all incidents in San Bernardino County. (Photo by San Bernardino County Fire)

San Bernardino, CA – The 15-member Old Cajon Hand Crew — which was formed in July 2012 by **San Bernardino County Fire** — has now been activated to year-round duty.

Since its inception, the need for a year-round hand crew increased and now County Fire is making the crew available on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

OLD CAJON HAND CREW

Under the leadership of one superintendent and two foremen, the Old Cajon Hand Crew will provide full-time year round assistance and support on all incidents within San Bernardino County, including vegetation fires, structure fires, floods, search & rescues, and other all-risk incidents as well as local fuel reduction projects. The Old Cajon crew has spent a considerable amount of time in the mountain communities playing a vital role in recovery efforts during major flooding events, most recently in Forest Falls, Mt. Baldy and Wrightwood.

They have also supported firefighting efforts during major wildfires, structure and commercial fires.

HAND CREW TRAINING

Members of the Old Cajon crew have undergone rigorous training including wildland fire behavior, advance wildland firefighting tactics, saw and hand tool techniques, helicopter operations, confined space awareness, structure protection techniques and Haz-Mat responder functions.

All members are Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) or first-responder trained.

County Fire hand crews also participate in annual readiness drills which certify their abilities and qualifications.

SEASONAL MEMBERS

In addition to their year-round availability, the Old Cajon Hand Crew is augmented by 12 seasonal hand crew members six months out of the year for a total of 27 members.

<http://rotwnews.com/2016/10/06/county-fire-activates-old-cajon-hand-crew-year-round/>

Hand crew goes to year-round duty

Inland News Today

Posted: October 5, 2016

SAN BERNARDINO – (INT) – There's a new sign that the wildfire season is becoming year 'round.

The **San Bernardino County Fire Department** is putting its 15-member Old Cajon Hand Crew on year-round duty.

The crew can respond to vegetation and building fires, floods, search & rescues, and other all-risk incidents as well as local fuel reduction projects.

A hand crew's specialty is cutting, chopping and scraping away vegetation with chain saws, axes and other hand-held tools.

Hand Crews serve multiple roles in fire suppression as they can create firelines, defensible space, and conduct mop-up operations which improve efficiency and relieve firefighters and medic engines to return back to service.

<http://www.inlandnewstoday.com/story.php?s=43723>

Phelan boy, 11, struck by car while riding bike along Phelan Road

Daily Press

Posted: October 4, 2016, 1:17 PM

PHELAN — An 11-year-old Phelan boy was transported to Desert Valley Hospital with moderate injuries after he was hit by a vehicle on Phelan Road, authorities said.

California Highway Patrol officers responded to Phelan Road, near Arrowhead Road, for a collision involving a 2001 Mercedes and a Mongoose bicycle at approximately 7:50 a.m. Officers arrived and learned that the boy was riding his bicycle eastbound on the westbound shoulder of Phelan Road.

The Mercedes, driven by a 31-year-old Phelan woman, was traveling southbound on Arrowhead Road and was stopped at the stop sign.

The Mercedes prepared to make a right turn onto Phelan Road and collided with the left side of the bicyclist, authorities said.

The boy suffered a laceration to his right ankle and was taken to the hospital by **San Bernardino County Fire Department** personnel.

The collision was still under investigation and drugs and alcohol were not a factor, authorities said.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20161004/phelan-boy-11-struck-by-car-while-riding-bike-along-phelan-road>

Mill Creek big-rig crash traps motorist, prompts Highway 38 closure

Doug Saunders, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: October 4, 2016, 2:25 PM



San Bernardino County firefighters and other emergency personnel help a trapped motorist in a crash Tuesday afternoon on Highway 38 near Mill Creek. (Courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire Department)

MILL CREEK >> Firefighters extricated a trapped motorist and briefly closed down Highway 38 after a vehicle crashed with a big-rig Tuesday afternoon.

“One of the motorists was trapped and had to be extricated from the vehicle,” **San Bernardino County** Fire Engineer/Paramedic Ryan Vaccaro said.

Two patients were taken to area hospitals by ground ambulance. Highway 38 was closed briefly in both direction due to a hazardous materials spill.

“As a result of the crash several gallons of fuel from the big-rig spilled, prompting a full closure of the highway,” Vaccaro added.

The crash happened shortly after 1:30 p.m. just north of the U.S. Forest Service’s Mill Creek Station at Bryant Street.

Both directions of Highway 38 were later re-opened around 4 p.m., according to the CHP.

<http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/general-news/20161004/mill-creek-big-rig-crash-traps-motorist-prompts-highway-38-closure>

Next Redlands Disaster Council meeting to discuss San Bernardino terrorist attack

Redlands Daily Facts

Posted: October 4, 2016, 7:13 PM

The next meeting of the City of Redlands Disaster Council will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24, in the Redlands City Council Chambers. The meeting is open to the public.

The quarterly meeting will include a panel discussion on the Dec. 2, 2015, terrorist attack on the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino. Panel members will include Redlands Police Cmdr. Chris Catren, Redlands Emergency Operations Manager Fay Glass and Emergency Services Officer Carrie Cruz from the San Bernardino County Fire Department Office of Emergency Services.

The Disaster Council develops and recommends emergency and mutual aid plans and agreements for consideration and possible adoption by the Redlands City Council. Meetings are held quarterly.

Minutes of past Disaster Council meetings are available at www.cityofredlands.org/commissions/disastercouncil.

<http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/general-news/20161004/next-redlands-disaster-council-meeting-to-discuss-san-bernardino-terrorist-attack>

Quick response protects Fawnskin

Kathy Portie, Big Bear Grizzly

Posted: October 4, 2016



Janet Dooley/Big Bear Grizzly

A Helicopter Makes A Water Drop Over The Delamar Fire The Morning Of Oct. 3.

When the flames billowed high in the night sky over Fawnskin Oct. 2, the response was immediate. Firefighters from the U.S. Forest Service, CALFIRE San Bernardino Unit, **San Bernardino County Fire** and the Big Bear Fire Department responded shortly after the call came at 8:40 p.m.

The Delamar Fire was visible to residents and visitors in the Big Bear Lake area as the fire grew from 3 acres to 15 acres within the first hour. People stood outside their homes and along North Shore Drive watching as a helicopter circled the fire area, shining a spotlight on the perimeter.

http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/quick-response-protects-fawnskin/article_ef5b50f0-8a97-11e6-bf70-2bca387abce0.html

Santa Ana winds, red flag warning coming Thursday to Inland Empire

Anne Millerbernd, The Press-Enterprise

Posted: October 5, 2016, 10:48 PM



A red flag warning is in effect in the Inland Empire and its surrounding mountains from 3 a.m. Thursday until 3 p.m. Saturday. FILE PHOTO

With rising temperatures, falling humidity levels and gusty Santa Ana winds in the forecast, a red flag warning has been issued for the Inland Empire and its surrounding mountains from 3 a.m. Thursday until 3 p.m. Saturday, weather officials said.

The warning means outside weather conditions could produce extreme fire conditions. The warning is in effect for the San Bernardino County and Riverside County mountains as well as the rest of the Inland area, according to the National Weather Service.

Santa Ana winds are expected to develop early Thursday. Gusts could reach 30-40 mph in the Cajon Pass, Inland valleys and Santa Ana Mountains and foothills, the red flag warning says.

The northeast winds will push down the humidity levels to below 20 percent across Riverside and San Bernardino counties, according to the weather service. Temperatures, meanwhile – kept low for the past few days by a low-pressure system that is exiting Thursday – will jump about 10 degrees in the valleys into the upper 80s and lower 90s.

Temperatures will rise a few more degrees Friday and the winds will peak, with gusts up to 45 mph possible. Humidity is expected to break 10 percent in only a few areas during the day Friday.

Saturday's temperatures are expected to remain in the 90s, but the winds should weaken and humidity should increase enough to allow the fire weather watch to expire by afternoon.

In the mountains, highs will stay in the high 60s and low 70s for the rest of the week; even with the cooler temperatures, the winds will create fire danger.

When conditions are ripe for fires to spread, officials recommend taking precautions to avoid setting one off: get yard work, such as lawn mowing, done before 10 a.m., make sure your car doesn't have any dragging parts that would create a trail of sparks and avoid throwing cigarette butts into dry vegetation.

<http://www.dailybulletin.com/general-news/20161005/santa-ana-winds-red-flag-warning-coming-thursday-to-inland-empire>

Grease fire erupts at Carl's Jr. on Redlands Boulevard

Beatriz Valenzuela, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: October 6, 2016, 6:38 AM



A grease fire broke out early Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016, at the Carl's Jr. on Redlands Boulevard near the 10 and 15 Freeways in San Bernardino. (Image via Google Street View)

SAN BERNARDINO >> Firefighters are battling a grease fire at a Carl's Jr. on Redlands Boulevard near the 10 and 15 freeways Thursday morning.

The fire was reported just after 5:30 a.m. at the eatery on 192 E. Redlands Blvd., according to the **San Bernardino County Fire** Twitter account.

The Loma Linda and Colton fire departments are assisting in battling the blaze, and San Bernardino Police have been called to help divert traffic.

More to come.

<http://www.sbsun.com/general-news/20161006/grease-fire-erupts-at-carls-jr-on-redlands-boulevard>