



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Daniel R. Munsey**  
**Fire Chief / Fire Warden**



**DATE:** November 1, 2020  
**CONTACT:** Mike McClintock, Battalion Chief/Public Information Officer  
(909) 677-7412, [MMcClintock@sbcfire.org](mailto:MMcClintock@sbcfire.org)

## **Fontana Vegetation Fire Threatens Homes, Burns 130 Acres**

**Date/Time:** November 1, 2020, 1:36 p.m.  
**Location:** Jurupa Hills, City of Fontana  
**Incident:** Vegetation Fire

**Summary:** At 1:36 p.m., San Bernardino County Fire (SBCoFD) crews were dispatched to a reported vegetation fire in the area of Citrus & Jurupa in the City of Fontana. Multiple 911 callers stated a large brush fire in the Jurupa Hills, near the Jurupa Hills Regional Park.

Crews arrived in the area to find 2-3 acres mid-slope on a hillside South of Cypress Ave. The fire was in light fuels, slope driven and burning up hill at a moderate to rapid rate of spread. A 2nd & 3rd alarm was quickly requested to bring additional apparatus and crews to the scene. San Bernardino County Sheriff Patrol Helicopters assisted with evacuations of area hikers & also provided water dropping for fire suppression.

Crews had to lay approximately 1000' of hose to the base of the fire. Once plumbed to the fire, crews utilized a progressive hose lay for perimeter control & built containment lines to limit the fires spread. CAL FIRE / Riverside County Fire was requested due to the fire burning towards their jurisdiction. Once on-scene Cal-Fire and SBCoFD entered unified command, to coordinate resource ordering and firefighting efforts. CAL FIRE sent additional resources, including air assets.

Erratic winds pushed the fire to the East, threatening to jump Sierra Ave, potentially impacting more than 100 homes. Fire crews utilized a back-burn operation to remove combustible fuels ahead of the fire. The back burn & coordination with CAL FIRE air resources was successful in holding the fire to Sierra Ave.

Within two hours the fire had grown to more than 75 acres, with the fire burning into portions of Riverside County. By 5:15 p.m., the forward rate of spread had been stopped at approximately 130 acres. Crews transitioned to mop-up and line construction to bolster existing fire lines. By 6:00 p.m., all evacuations were lifted. Multiple crews will remain on-scene throughout the night to monitor the fire and work on mop-up. At the height of the fire, more than 150 personnel were on-scene.

The fire's cause / origin is under investigation by San Bernardino County Fire investigators and Fontana Police Department.

San Bernardino County Fire responded with 17 Engines, 2 Water Tenders, 5 Chief Officers, a Dozer, a Hand Crew and a Medic Squad.

CAL FIRE / Riverside County Fire responded with 6 Engines, 2 Air Tankers, an air attack, a hand crew, and 3 overhead personnel.

San Bernardino County Sheriff assisted with two patrol helicopters. Fontana PD assisted with traffic control, investigation and evacuations.

Utilizing a local agreement, 5 Riverside City Engines also assisted.

CAL FIRE San Bernardino, Colton, Rialto, Rancho Cucamonga, Loma Linda & Ontario also assisted with the incident.

Thank you to all our cooperators for their assistance.

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