



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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



**DATE:** August 18, 2020  
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## Cascade Fire Burns 160 Acres in Joshua Tree

**Date/Time:** August 18, 2020, 1:00 pm  
**Location:** Cascade & 4th, Joshua Tree  
**Incident:** Vegetation Fire

**Summary:** Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 1PM San Bernardino County Fire units were dispatched to a reported vegetation fire in the area of Cascade & 4th in the community of Joshua Tree. A San Bernardino National Forest Battalion Chief was passing through the area en-route to the “Dome Fire,” witnessed a fire from a lightning strike.

The Battalion Chief reported 2-3 acres in light to medium fuels burning in the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) but with a direct threat to Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land. First arriving #SBCoFD crews went to work with a priority keeping the fire South of Broadway Ave and West of Copper Mountain College Rd. Passing thunder storms created unpredictable and strong winds, fueling the fire. Due to the fire’s rate of spread additional San Bernardino County Fire crews were started.

Within 20 minutes of arrival, the fire had grown to more than 50 acres. When winds died down, crews engaged the fire directly, utilizing mobile pumping and progressive hose lays. By 2:00PM the fire spread to more than 100 acres.

Despite the high temperatures, erratic winds and extremely dry vegetation crews managed to limit the fire’s spread to 160 acres. Crews were successful in keeping the fire to LRA lands and kept the fire from spreading to adjacent BLM land. Once the forward rate of spread was stopped, crews transitioned to working on mop-up operations and containment line construction. The fire ultimately burned 160 acres and the crews remained on-scene well into the afternoon mopping up.

San Bernardino County Fire responded with (3) Medic Engines, (3) Brush Engines, (2) Water Tenders, (2) Battalion Chiefs, a Hand Crew and a Safety Officer. More than 40 #SBCoFD Firefighters worked the fire. While local fire crews were committed to the incident #SBCoFD move-up apparatus were brought in to ensure Fire/EMS coverage was uninterrupted. Combat Center also assisted while ME44 (29 Palms) was committed. BLM responded with (2) Engines and a Chief Officer.

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