



NEWS



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Officials: Evacuation alert sent out ‘accidentally’ Monday

Paola Baker, Daily Press

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An emergency alert warning of immediate evacuations due to a blaze in Riverside County was “accidentally” sent to several residents late Monday night, officials said.

An emergency alert was sent out by the Riverside County Emergency Management Department late Monday night that warned people to “evacuate now” due to the Manzanita Fire, which erupted near Beaumont on Monday afternoon.

However, **San Bernardino County Fire Department** officials said the message was sent out “accidentally”, a statement confirmed by San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department spokeswoman Cindy Bachman.

“(Regarding) the Emergency Alert evacuation notice, it is for Riverside County residents only,” Bachman said in a tweet. “No threat to San Bernardino county residents.”

A tweet from Cal Fire Riverside said there’s no evacuations currently in place. Only an evacuation warning for Highland Home Road East to Hwy 243, which includes the communities of Poppet Flats and Silent, remains in effect late Monday, officials said.

The Manzanita Fire was first reported at 3:10 p.m. Monday in areas south and east of Beaumont. As of late Monday the blaze had burned through 1,200 acres with zero percent containment, Cal Fire Riverside officials said.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20170626/officials-evacuation-alert-sent-out-accidentally-monday>

Manzanita Fire Near Banning Up To 5,000 Acres; False Alert Rattles Local Residents

Z107.7 News

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A wildland fire burning in remote terrain south of Beaumont and Banning prompted a voluntary evacuation warning last night, and the closure of a key local commuter link, Highway 79. Residents in the Morongo Basin, including Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, and Twentynine Palms, mistakenly received alerts last night notifying them about fire evacuations. A Cal Fire spokeswoman said the cause of the mistaken alert is under investigation. The evacuation warning covered homes between Highland Home Road south of Beaumont and Highway 243 south of Banning, and included the San Jacinto Mountain communities of Silent Valley and Poppet Flats, according to the Cal Fire/Riverside County Fire Department.

By 6:30 this morning, the fire had scorched 5,000 acres, and is 10 percent contained, and more than 300 firefighters are on the scene. **County Fire** Battalion Chief Scott Tuttle of Yucca Valley is at the fire directing a strike team. The fast-growing Manzanita fire blaze was sparked by a vehicle collision in Lamb Canyon and tore through 1,200 acres in its first three hours, spreading east through dry fuel on a windy 100-degree day.

<http://z1077fm.com/manzanita-fire-near-banning-up-to-5000-acres-false-alert-rattles-local-residents/>