



NEWS



News Headlines 8/24-27/2018

- COUNTY FIRE CHIEF AT JOSHUA TREE TOWN HALL MEETING TONIGHT, Z107.7 FRIDAY
- Holy fire fully contained in Orange, Riverside counties
- Massive, 3-Week Holy Fire Expected to be Fully Contained Sunday
- Brush fire burns 32 acres north of Moreno Valley
- Holy Fire Expected To Be Fully Contained This Weekend
- Vegetation Fire Behind Rite Aid in Blue Jay Update 2 Saturday 7:10 p.m.

COUNTY FIRE CHIEF AT JOSHUA TREE TOWN HALL MEETING TONIGHT, Z107.7 FRIDAY

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM

Posted: August 27, 2018



San Bernardino County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig will present important information at two events this week. He will be hosting a Joshua Tree town hall meeting tonight, (Monday, August 27). Then this Friday, August 31, he will take calls live here on Z107.7. At both informational events he will answer questions concerning the expansion of Fire Service Zone FP-5. The County Board of Supervisors voted in June to expand Service Zone FP-5 countywide to include all unincorporated areas within the county, as well as the Town of Yucca Valley. FP-5 already encompasses the City of Twentynine Palms. The expansion will include a yearly assessment on property owners of \$157.56. Chief Hartwig will explain the Service Zone FP-5 expansion at the Joshua Tree Community Center at 6 p.m. tonight, (Monday August 27). The meeting will include a question-and-answer session. Chief Hartwig and Morongo Basin Battalion Chief Scott Tuttle will then be the guests on the Z107.7 “Up Close” show this Friday, August 31 at 10 a.m. on Z107.7 radio answering questions live on the air.

For more information:

<http://www.sbcfire.org/servicezonefp-5.aspx>

<http://z1077fm.com/county-fire-chief-at-joshua-tree-town-hall-meeting-tonight-z107-7-friday/>

Holy fire fully contained in Orange, Riverside counties

Staff Writer, OC Register

Posted: August 26, 2018, 5:25 p.m.



Flames make their way up a hillside along N. Main Divide Road off Highway 74 as firefighters battle the Holy fire near Lake Elsinore on Friday, Aug. 10. (File photo by Jennifer Cappuccio Maher, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

TRABUCO CANYON – The nearly 23,000-acre Holy fire in the Cleveland National Forest that burned for almost 20 days was fully contained Sunday, according to U.S. Forest Service rangers.

Firefighters spent the last few days extinguishing stubborn hot spots smoldering in the more rugged terrain along the rim of the burn zone.

The fire blackened an estimated 22,986 acres in Orange and Riverside counties, as well as damaged or destroyed 24 structures, officials said.

Forrest Gordon Clark, 51, is charged with aggravated arson resulting in damage to at least five inhabited structures, arson of inhabited property, arson of forest and criminal threats in connection with the blaze.

Clark has a cabin in Holy Jim Canyon, and arson investigators allegedly uncovered evidence indicating the fire was ignited in the immediate vicinity of his property, according to the Orange County Fire Authority.

A volunteer fireman, Mike Milligan, who has a cabin near Clark's, told reporters the defendant has had a long-running feud with a neighbor and other cabin owners. In the days prior to the fire, Clark ran through the area screaming and sent Milligan a message warning that "this place will burn," he said.

Clark is being held in lieu of \$1 million bail and is undergoing a court-ordered evaluation for mental illness.

The Holy Fire bore down on Lake Elsinore and surrounding communities for six days, prompting mandatory evacuations and road closures. The Ortega (74) Highway between San Juan Capistrano and Lake Elsinore was closed from Aug. 8 to Aug. 14 due to the monster blaze.

Several firefighters were injured battling the flames, though none of the injuries were life-threatening.

Along with USFS crews, Cal Fire, Riverside County, Corona, **San Bernardino County** and personnel from other agencies deployed to the brusher, aided by multiple air tankers and water-dropping helicopters.

The OCFA asked anyone who may have been in the Holy Jim Canyon area on Aug. 6 around the time the fire began to contact investigators at (714) 573- 6700 or (714) 573-6709.

<https://www.ocregister.com/2018/08/26/holy-fire-fully-contained-in-orange-riverside-counties/>

Massive, 3-Week Holy Fire Expected to be Fully Contained Sunday

Staff Writer, My News LA

Posted: August 26, 2018



Residents living near the Holy Fire line thank firefighters. Courtesy National Forest Service

The nearly 23,000-acre Holy Fire in the Cleveland National Forest is expected to be fully contained by the end of Sunday, according to U.S. Forest Service rangers.

The fire was 95 percent contained as of Saturday. But some small spots continued to smolder in rugged terrain along the rim of the burn zone, where crews have been working to establish lines since the alleged arson blaze erupted on the afternoon of Aug. 6 in the Holy Jim Canyon area, on the Orange County side of the national preserve.

The fire has blackened an estimated 22,986 acres in Orange and Riverside counties, as well as damaged or destroyed 24 structures, officials said.

The remaining crews assigned to the blaze were digging and filling in pits made by bulldozers to starve the flames of fuel.

Forrest Gordon Clark, 51, is charged with aggravated arson resulting in damage to at least five inhabited structures, arson of inhabited property, arson of forest and criminal threats in connection with the blaze.

Clark has a cabin in Holy Jim Canyon, and arson investigators allegedly uncovered evidence indicating the fire was ignited in the immediate vicinity of his property, according to the Orange County Fire Authority.

A volunteer fireman, Mike Milligan, who has a cabin near Clark's, told reporters the defendant has had a long-running feud with a neighbor and other cabin owners. In the days prior to the fire, Clark ran through the area screaming and sent Milligan a message warning that "this place will burn," he said.

Clark is being held in lieu of \$1 million bail and is undergoing a court-ordered evaluation for mental illness.

The Holy Fire bore down on Lake Elsinore and surrounding communities for six days, prompting mandatory evacuations and road closures. The Ortega (74) Highway between San Juan Capistrano and Lake Elsinore was closed from Aug. 8 to Aug. 14 due to the monster blaze.

Several firefighters were injured battling the flames, though none of the injuries were life-threatening.

Along with USFS crews, Cal Fire, Riverside County, Corona, **San Bernardino County** and personnel from other agencies deployed to the brusher, aided by multiple air tankers and water-dropping helicopters.

The OCFA asked anyone who may have been in the Holy Jim Canyon area on Aug. 6 around the time the fire began to contact investigators at (714) 573-6700 or (714) 573-6709.

<https://mynews1a.com/orange-county/2018/08/26/holy-fire-expected-to-be-fully-contained-sunday-4/>

Brush fire burns 32 acres north of Moreno Valley

Brian Rokos, Press Enterprise

Posted: August 25, 2018, 1:00 p.m.

Firefighters held the spread of a wildland fire north of Moreno Valley to 32 acres early Saturday afternoon, Aug. 25.

The Country fire was reported from the 9600 block of High Country Drive, east of Reche Canyon Road, just before noon. The first firefighters to arrive reported it had burned about 10 acres. The forward spread was stopped before 2 p.m., the Cal Fire/Riverside County Fire Department said.

The fire was 100 percent contained by about 5:45 p.m.

The cause was under investigation. No structures burned and no injuries were reported.

The **San Bernardino County** and Riverside **fire** departments also responded.

<https://www.pe.com/2018/08/25/brush-fire-burning-north-of-moreno-valley/>

Holy Fire Expected To Be Fully Contained This Weekend

Staff Writer, Lake Elsinore Patch

Posted: August 24, 2018, 11:09 p.m.



— By City News Service / Image by Mark Ritter

LAKE ELSINORE, CA — The 23,000-acre Holy Fire in the Cleveland National Forest was 95 percent contained Friday, with full containment predicted Sunday.

According to U.S. Forest Service rangers, small spot fires continue to smolder in rugged terrain along the rim of the burn zone, where crews have been working to establish lines since the alleged arson blaze erupted on the afternoon of Aug. 6 in the Holy Jim Canyon area, on the Orange County side of the national preserve.

USFS officials had expected the blaze to be completely encircled five days ago, but the containment date is now Aug. 26.

The fire has blackened an estimated 22,986 acres in Orange and Riverside counties, as well as damaged or destroyed 24 structures, officials said.

The remaining crews assigned to the blaze were digging and filling in pits made by bulldozers to starve the flames of fuel.

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The OCFA asked anyone who may have been in the Holy Jim Canyon area on Aug. 6 around the time the fire began to contact investigators at (714) 573- 6700 or (714) 573-6709.

<https://patch.com/california/lakeelsinore-wildomar/holy-fire-expected-be-fully-contained-weekend>

Vegetation Fire Behind Rite Aid in Blue Jay Update 2 Saturday 7:10 p.m.

Michael P. Neufeld and Susan A. Neufeld, ROTW News

Posted: August 25, 2018

UPDATE 2 Saturday August 22, 2018 7:10 p.m.

Blue Fire 100% contained. Held at 2 acres.

UPDATE 1 Saturday August 22, 2018, 5:21 p.m.

Forward rate of spread has been stopped at 2 acres, canceling balance, units on scene can handle. The Blue Fire responders – **San Bernardino County Fire**, CALFIRE AND U S Forest Service. Multiple aircraft involved.

ORIGINAL STORY

Blue Jay, CA – Per scanner and socalmntns.com there is a vegetation fire behind Rite Aid and the Post Office in Blue Jay. The incident is being called the Blue Fire. Units responding from U.S. Forest Service and Cal Fire. Full Response enroute.

Will update as information becomes available

<https://rotwnews.com/2018/08/25/vegetation-fire-behind-rite-aid-in-blue-jay/>