



# NEWS



## News Headlines 7/10/2018

- Valley Fire stable, Forest Falls residents allowed home
- UPDATE: Forest Falls fire grows to 1,348 acres and is 13 percent contained
- Conditions challenging for crews fighting Valley Fire
- Box Fire reaches 60 percent containment, remains at 100 acres

## Valley Fire stable, Forest Falls residents allowed home

Staff Writer, Big Bear Grizzly

Posted: July 9, 2018



Dozers work to clear Highway 38 near the Valley Fire on July 7 following a mudslide.  
Photo courtesy of IC

As of 6 a.m. July 9, the Valley Fire is at 1,341 acres and 13 percent containment. Fire behavior throughout the day Sunday was relatively stable. Minimal growth was expected through the evening except for roll out — downhill movement of rocks and burning material.

Highway 38 from Lake William to Sugar Pines Circle south of Angelus Oaks is open to residents and campers. Public campgrounds and organized camps are open including the Barton Flats area. Highway 38 from Big Bear is the only access to Angelus Oaks and Barton Flats.

There were significant mudslides on Highway 38 near Valley of the Falls Drive on Saturday.

Mountain Home and Forest Falls evacuations have been lifted. Residents only with I.D. are being allowed through the road closure. No campers are being allowed. There is no public access in the Valley of the Falls turnout or Angelus Oaks because of Saturday's mudslide and fire activity.

The terrain is rugged and steep, burning chaparral and large timber. Conditions are difficult for firefighters with high temperatures and difficult accessibility. Weather conditions for Monday, July 9, are expected to remain the same with changes possible by Tuesday, July 10.

All trails in the San Gorgonio Wilderness are under emergency closure. Momyer Trail, Vivian Creek Trail, San Bernardino Peak Trail and Big Falls Picnic Area remain closed.

The Valley Fire ignited July 6 at 1:33 p.m. The cause is under investigation. Five hundred structures are threatened, no structures have been destroyed. A total of 612 personnel including nine helicopters, 39 engines, five water tenders, two dozers and 13 hand crews are on the scene.

This story will be updated as new information becomes available.

[http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/valley-fire-stable-forest-falls-residents-allowed-home/article\\_0d47955c-8379-11e8-b4d6-7fb3e142bdc8.html](http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/news/valley-fire-stable-forest-falls-residents-allowed-home/article_0d47955c-8379-11e8-b4d6-7fb3e142bdc8.html)

## **UPDATE: Forest Falls fire grows to 1,348 acres and is 13 percent contained**

National Forest Service, Highland News

Posted: July 9, 2018



The Forest Falls fire seen around 5 p.m. Friday from the corner of San Bernardino and Wabash avenues.

Highland Community News photo by James Folmer

The Valley Fire has grown to 1,348 acres and is 13 percent contained, according to the last report from the San Bernardino National Forest Service.

More than 600 firefighters have been fighting the fire with 39 engines, five water tenders, nine helicopters and four bulldozers. Fourteen hand crews were on the job.

Burning logs and rocks rolling down steep slopes remain a risk, says a press release issued Tuesday morning. This terrain is rugged and steep and burning in chaparral and large timber.

"Conditions remain challenging for firefighters with high temperatures and accessibility to and within the fire area," the release says. "Fuels are drying out from Saturday's storm and fuels are drier than usual for this time of years due to recent drought history. Weather today is unstable, with thunderstorms possible in the afternoon. Storms may cause winds that push the fire and increase the risk of flash flooding."

Community meetings are scheduled in Forest Falls, and Angelus Oaks.

Evacuations of Mountain Home Village and Forest Falls have been lifted, but only for residents.

Residents of Angelus Oaks were allowed through Highway 38 with a pilot escort starting at 7 a.m. Tuesday.

Access is blocked to Valley of Falls Drive, the main road through Forest Falls, along with the turnout to Angelus Oaks on Highway 38 because of fire activity and a mudslide that occurred on Sunday.

Highway 38 from Lake Williams Boulevard to Sugar Pines Circle is open to the residents and campers, says the release. Public campgrounds and organizational camps are open, including the Barton Flats area.

Angelus Oaks is accessible from Big Bear Valley. Momyer Trail, Vivian Creek Trail, San Bernardino Peak Trail, Big Falls Picnic Area and trails in the San Gorgonio Wilderness Area are closed.

Cooperating agencies include Bureau of Land Management, California Highway Patrol, California Office of Emergency Services, San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Service, CALTRANS, San Bernardino County Animal Control, American Red Cross and Southern California Edison.

The fire started at 1:33 p.m. Friday. The cause remains under investigation. Some 500 structures were threatened, but none has been destroyed or damaged, says forest service spokesman Zachary Behrens.

[https://www.highlandnews.net/news/update-forest-falls-fire-grows-to-acres-and-is-percent/article\\_dae0c5d0-838b-11e8-b3de-83dc61a6d6ec.html](https://www.highlandnews.net/news/update-forest-falls-fire-grows-to-acres-and-is-percent/article_dae0c5d0-838b-11e8-b3de-83dc61a6d6ec.html)

---

## Conditions challenging for crews fighting Valley Fire

Beatriz E. Valenzuela, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: July 9, 2018, 8:36 p.m.



Winds strengthen spot fires Valley of the Falls Dr. near Hwy. 38, in Forest Falls, Calif. on Saturday, July 8, 2018. As of this morning, flames moved north and east, higher into the San Geronio Wilderness Area. (Photo by Cindy Yamanaka, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

Conditions were challenging Monday for crews in the rugged and steep Forest Falls area, where more than 600 firefighters were battling the Valley Fire, which has burned 1,348 acres in the mountain area and was 13 percent contained as of Monday evening, San Bernardino National Forest officials said.

The 1,348 acres burned as of Monday evening was up from 1,139 acres Sunday night.

Weekend thunderstorms hit portions of the Valley Fire, resulting in some flooding and debris flows. “The higher elevations of the fire have not seen significant rainfall and continue to burn,” a National Forest Service statement said.

“Fuels are drying out from Saturday’s storm and fuels are drier than usual for this time of year due to recent drought history,” a Forest Service update said.

“Burning logs and rocks rolling down steep slopes remain a risk,” the update said.

No structures have been damaged, officials said.

Authorities lifted evacuation orders for residents of Forest Falls on Sunday night, but Highway 38 remains closed to general traffic between Forest Falls and Angelus Oaks.

The Valley fire started about 1:30 p.m. Friday near Highway 38 and Valley of the Falls Drive.

The wildfire was sparked hours after the Box Fire began when a truck fire ignited dry grasses and brush along the northbound 15 Freeway near Kendal Avenue in the Devore area in the Cajon Pass.

## **Box Fire reaches 60 percent containment, remains at 100 acres**

**Paola Baker, Daily Press**

Posted: July 9, 2018, 5:14 p.m.



Crews have managed to keep the Box Fire at 100 acres and increase containment to 60 percent as of Monday. [Photo courtesy of Caltrans District 8 Maintenance Supervisor Brent Comeaux]

**DEVORE** — Firefighters have managed to maintain control of the Box Fire over the weekend, keeping the flames at bay while reaching further containment.

San Bernardino National Forest Service officials said personnel had reached 60 percent containment on the blaze as of Monday afternoon, which erupted off Interstate 15 near the 15/215 Interchange early Friday.

Sparked when a truck caught fire off northbound I-15 near Kenwood Avenue, the flames quickly spread to nearby vegetation, burning through 100 acres by Friday afternoon.

The blaze caused several traffic delays Friday when officials called for a SigAlert to help fire crews reach the blaze. However, crews were able to keep the flames from further spread, ensuring the blaze didn't grow past 100 acres.

Two firefighters were airlifted with heat-related injuries on Friday, according to fire officials. A total of eight heat-related injuries have been reported by authorities.

San Bernardino National Forest Service officials said 70 personnel remained at the scene of the blaze Monday to reach further containment.

The blaze remains under investigation.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20180709/box-fire-reaches-60-percent-containment-remains-at-100-acres>