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San Bernardino wildfire claims five homes

Inland News Today

Story Date: July 4, 2016



SAN BERNARDINO – (INT) – Five homes were damaged or destroyed Saturday when a short-lived brushfire flared up on Little Mountain.

Propelled by 10 mile-an-hour winds, the flames raced up a hillside from their origin on Kendall Drive and quickly consumed the homes that overlook the city. Others were spared by block walls. An area along Skylark Drive/ Edgerton West of Pershing Avenue was evacuated.

Three fire fighters and a resident were injured.

The Kendall Fire covered only 8.7 acres and was quickly contained by 120 firefighters, but the damage had been done. However, the iconic Castaway Restaurant atop Little Mountain was spared.

Little Mountain is well-known for summertime spot fires, but the cause of Saturday's blaze was not immediately determined. There were unconfirmed reports it was deliberately set.

The fire was the first test under the city fire department's take-over by the **County Fire Protection District** which went into effect Friday. The merger, prompted by the city's bankruptcy and funded by a parcel tax, promised improved fire protection and paramedic service.

<http://www.inlandnewstoday.com/story.php?s=42775>

Fire Burns 5 Homes in San Bernardino, Scorches Nearly 9 Acres Before Being 100% Contained

John A. Moreno and Chris Wolfe, KTLA

Posted: July 2, 2016, 2:21 PM

Updated: July 2, 2016, 6:56 PM



Homes burned in the area of San Bernardino's Skylark Drive on July 2, 2016. (Credit: Nathan Cooke/Twitter)

The so-called Kendall Fire started about 1:15 p.m. in the area of Skylark and Edgerton drives, prompting a response by about 120 firefighters from multiple agencies, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

News video showed several hilltop residences engulfed in flames near the Castaway restaurant, generating plumes of black smoke that were visible for miles.

The San Bernardino Police Department ordered mandatory evacuations on Edgerton, west of Pershing Avenue, and on Skylark, said Jeff Allen, a Fire Department spokesman. An evacuation center was established at 3900 Severance Avenue.

Three firefighters sustained minor injuries and a civilian suffered smoke inhalation, county fire officials said.

"Unfortunately, due to the steep slope and rapid rate of spread, four homes were destroyed and one damaged," the Fire Department said in a statement, adding that the blaze's forward progress was halted after it scorched 8.7 acres.

The cause of the incident was not immediately known.

<http://ktla.com/2016/07/02/2-structures-burning-in-san-bernardino-others-threatened/>

Brush Fire Contained After Burning Five Homes in San Bernardino

Amy Powell, ABC7

Posted: July 2, 2016, 11:50 PM



A brush fire burned five structures in San Bernardino on Saturday, July 2, 2016. (KABC)

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (KABC) -- A fast-moving brush fire spread up a hillside and damaged five homes in San Bernardino before firefighters were able to get it under control.

Three of the homes were considered fully destroyed, while two were heavily damaged, fire officials said.

Two firefighters and one civilian suffered minor injuries related to smoke inhalation and heat exhaustion, said Jeff Allen, a spokesman for the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

Allen described the fire as: "Very fast, very steep slope and it's very hot today. It's physically exhausting."

After the blaze, one couple was still missing their dog, who had helped alert them to the flames.

"She's the one that actually got us out of the fire," said Gustavo Nava. "She told us something was going on. We had no idea. Once we fled, she took off and we haven't found her since."

Nava and his girlfriend are hoping their golden Chihuahua, Penny, just ran away and was not harmed in the fire.

The blaze, later dubbed the Kendall Fire, was reported near W. Kendall Drive and N. F Street on the south side of Little Mountain, officials said.

The incident began as a half-acre vegetation fire until it rapidly grew to about 8 to 10 acres spreading up a hillside to homes on the ridgeline, according to San Bernardino County fire officials.

By 4 p.m. it was considered about 50 percent contained with flames no longer visible, but firefighters continuing to douse the smoldering ruins of the homes.

The neighborhood was under evacuation orders Saturday afternoon. Evacuation orders were issued for 20 homes off Skylark Drive, and an evacuation center was set in place at 3900 North Severance.

Multiple units with 120 firefighters responded to the scene that later grew to a third-alarm fire, county fire officials said.

The cause of the blaze was under investigation.

<http://abc7.com/news/brush-fire-spreads-to-structures-in-san-bernardino/1411330/>

Homes Burned, Firefighters Injured in San Bernardino Hillside Fire

Jessica Perez and Kate Larsen, NBC4

Posted: July 2, 2016, 11:42 PM

Five homes were burned and three firefighters were injured after a fast-moving brush fire broke out on a San Bernardino hillside, officials said.

The blaze was reported around 1:15 p.m. near Kendall Drive and N. F Street, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**. The blaze had grown to at least 8 acres by 2:45 p.m.

The fire burned 10 acres before being fully contained just before 6 p.m.

Three firefighters suffered minor injuries and one person was treated for smoke inhalation, fire officials said.

Gustavo Nava, a resident, said he and his girlfriend were in their kitchen when their dog started barking at the flames.

"All of sudden we heard the windows rattle, it sounded like thunder," he said.

Their home was one of three that were consumed by the fire. Two others were damaged.

"The flames were just beating up against the glass and the dog was freaking out, so we ran out, dog ran out and we can't find her," Nava said.



Firefighters were battling a brush fire that spread to homes in San Bernardino Saturday, July 2, 2016.. (Published Saturday, July 2, 2016)

Their Chihuahua went missing when they left their home.

"It's a very unfortunate circumstance that some of these homes burned and their property, but homes can be replaced and lives can't," said Jeff Allen of the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

He said the fire started at the bottom of the hill along Kendall Drive.

Allen added that it took minutes for the fire to race up the hill and burn 10 acres.

Evacuations were ordered for residents off Skylark Drive as about 120 firefighters battled the flames.

"I came out and there's already a fireman on my roof and I said, 'Can I leave?' And he said, 'You have to get out of here,'" said Martha Hall, whose home was damaged by the fire.

When firefighters arrived to the scene, she said her neighbor was still inside and had to be rescued.

A firefighter was rush to the Burn Center at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center after breathing in super heated gas.

<http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Brush-Fire-Spread-to-Homes-in-San-Bernardino--385317521.html>

KENDALL FIRE: 'My house is like heaven up there,' evacuee says (UPDATE 6)

Five homes burn and three people are hurt -- two firefighters and one civilian in the Kendall Fire in the Little Mountain area of San Bernardino

John M. Blodgett, Press Enterprise

Published: July 2, 2016, 7:00 p.m.



Eric Reed, Contributing Photographer

CORRECTION: *A previous version of this story said four people had been injured. Also, a headline incorrectly described the status of the investigation.*

SAN BERNARDINO >> A vegetation fire that broke out shortly after 1 p.m. Saturday in San Bernardino left three people injured, five homes burned and almost 9 acres scorched, fire officials said.

As of about 5:30 p.m., the blaze was 100 percent contained and the forward rate of spread had been stopped.

The fire is under investigation and arson has not been ruled out as a potential cause, said **San Bernardino County fire** spokeswoman Tracey Martinez. Initial reports indicated that witnesses saw someone set the blaze, but officials could not confirm the report.

The Kendall fire burned 8.7 acres of vegetation in the vicinity of Edgerton and Skylark drives forcing mandatory evacuations in the Little Mountain area, said Jeff Allen, spokesman for the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

Two firefighters were injured, Allen said, one from heat exhaustion and another from smoke inhalation. He said one civilian was also suffered from smoke inhalation.

Allen said five homes caught fire, and four of them were total losses.

From the shade beneath a tree on North D Street near North Arrowhead Drive, evacuee Martha Hall watched the homes burn. One was hers, in the 500 block of Skylark, and she couldn't tell for sure whether or not it was a total loss.

Earlier, when she saw smoke coming up the hill, she rushed to get out with her cockatiel Andy. By the time they fled, the bushes around her home were burning and firefighters were on her roof.

"My house is like heaven up there," she said looking upward, hoping that because firefighters were still on her roof it meant her home would be salvageable. Yet she was in good spirits, surrounded by friends, holding a cold beer and grateful to have escaped safely with Andy, who perched in his cage on the grass behind her.

Nicole Larson was also among residents ordered to evacuate. She said that year after year she asked the city of San Bernardino to do something about the long, dead grass on the hill that burned Saturday, and they've told her that it's the county's responsibility.

"Hopefully, it will go a lot better," she said now that she's heard the county really has taken over that task.

Evacuees were told to seek assistance from the American Red Cross at Marshall Boulevard and E Street, according to the San Bernardino Police Department. There was confusion earlier about where to send people displaced by the Kendall fire.

John Spoon, groundskeeper for Newmark Little League, said his wife called him to say that the media was reporting his address, 3900 Severence Ave., as an evacuation center after San Bernardino County fire tweeted out the location.

At that time, the gate was locked.

"It was a surprise to me," said Spoon. "All we have is a field. Where would we put people?"

Residents near the gated Little League playing fields said they thought the evacuation facility might be Newmark Elementary School at 4121 N. 3rd Ave. A reporter went there and found people looking for a family member who lost her house in the fire.

The school was locked and deserted.

Family members declined to be interviewed. One family member did say, however, that a San Bernardino County sheriff's deputy told them their relative was likely at the school, which had been identified as an evacuation center.

A thick plume of gray smoke that could be seen rising up from the hills near the Castaway Restaurant at 670 Kendall Drive drew online concern for the beloved eatery. The Castaway restaurant was not among the buildings damaged.

The plume also caught the attention of San Bernardino Mayor Carey Davis, who left a pre-Fourth of July luncheon to check in at the fire's command center on Kendall Drive beneath the restaurant. Referring to the second day of the city's fire services being provided by the county, he said "the transition seems to have worked very smoothly."

Allen said that firefighters worked to get a line around the fire to protect other structures from burning.

In addition to the San Bernardino County Fire Department, firefighters from the San Bernardino City, Redlands, San Manuel, Rialto, Loma Linda, Colton and Cal Fire responded. Inmate crews also helped fight the blaze.

Staff Writers Alex Groves and Jim Steinberg contributed to this story.

<http://www.pe.com/articles/one-807334-least-broke.html>

Brush fire destroys multiple homes in San Bernardino

Kelly Taylor, FOX11

Posted: July 2, 2016, 2:14 PM

Updated: July 3, 2016, 11:12 AM



(FOX 11) - A brush fire Saturday in San Bernardino destroyed multiple homes and left three firefighters injured.

Crews responded at about 1 p.m. for reports of a vegetation fire on Kendall Drive near Little Mountain.

Officials say four homes were a complete loss in the fire, but several other structures in the area were saved due to quick action by the initial responders.

Three **San Bernardino County firefighters** sustained smoke and heat related injuries and were transported to a nearby hospital for evaluation. Officials said a nearby resident also suffered smoke inhalation.

The cause is currently under investigation.

"County Fire would like to remind homeowners that now is the time to clear your property of dead and downed vegetation," officials said in a press release. "Create a defensible space that will allow your firefighters to protect your home in the event of a wildfire."

<http://www.foxla.com/news/local-news/168765847-story>

5 homes burn, firefighters hurt in San Bernardino brush fire

Shelby Grad, Carlos Lozano and Howard Blume, Los Angeles Times

Posted: July 2, 2016, 6:30 PM

A small but fast-moving fire on Saturday burned five homes in San Bernardino, prompting evacuations and the rapid deployment of 120 firefighters.

The fire, which started at about 1:12 pm along West Kendall Drive, was burning south of Cal State San Bernardino and north of Interstate 215. The **San Bernardino County Fire department** estimated the size of the burned area at 8 to 10 acres, and by mid-afternoon, the fire appeared to be contained.

"We do have structure defense still in place," said a fire department spokesman at the scene in a video he posted on the department's Facebook page at 3:20 pm. "We do have some structures threatened, however, you can see that there's progress ... significant progress on this vegetation fire."

The video showed firefighters watering a hillside that had burned up to the edge of hilltop properties, but no flames in sight.

A department update at about 3:45 pm called the fire 50% contained with its "forward rate of spread stopped."

Authorities established a local evacuation center at 3900 North Severance Ave.

Four homes were totally destroyed and another damaged, officials said.

Three firefighters suffered minor injuries, and one civilian suffered from smoke inhalation. One of the firefighters had to be hospitalized after rescuing a homeowner, just before flames claimed the structure.

The Kendall fire was one of several burning in California Saturday.

The Pine fire burning in the Sespe Wilderness north of Ojai has charred more than 1,450 acres, officials said Saturday.

The fire, which started in the Los Padres National Forest about 9 a.m. Thursday, is zero percent contained, officials said.

There are about 50 structures threatened but there are no mandatory evacuations in place, authorities said

The San Bernardino blaze comes a week after deadly fires in Kern and San Diego counties destroyed more than 150 homes.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-sb-fire-20160702-snap-htmlstory.html>

Kendall Fire: Vegetation fire burns 5 homes, injures 3 in San Bernardino

John M. Blodgett, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin

Posted: July 2, 2016, 7:57 PM



Several hilltop homes burn on Skylark Dr. in San Bernardino following a fast-moving brush fire, on Saturday, July 2, 2016. (Staff photo by David Bauman/Riverside Press-Enterprise, SCNG)



San Bernardino County firefighters battle a blaze that destroyed homes Saturday on Skylark and Edgerton drives in the Little Mountain area of San Bernardino. Photo by Eric Reed

SAN BERNARDINO >> A vegetation fire that broke out shortly after 1 p.m. Saturday in San Bernardino left three people injured, five homes burned and almost 9 acres scorched, fire officials said.

As of about 5:30 p.m., the blaze was 100 percent contained and the rate of spread had been stopped.

The fire is under investigation and arson has not been ruled out as a potential cause, said San Bernardino County fire spokeswoman Tracey Martinez. Initial reports indicated that witnesses saw someone set the blaze, but officials could not confirm the report.

The Kendall fire burned 8.7 acres of vegetation in the vicinity of Edgerton and Skylark drives forcing mandatory evacuations in the Little Mountain area, said Jeff Allen, spokesman for the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**.

Two firefighters were injured, Allen said, one from heat exhaustion and another from smoke inhalation. He said one civilian also suffered from smoke inhalation.

Allen said five homes caught fire, and four of them were total losses.

From the shade beneath a tree on North D Street near North Arrowhead Drive, evacuee Martha Hall watched the homes burn. One was hers, in the 500 block of Skylark, and she couldn't tell for sure whether it was a total loss.

Earlier, when she saw smoke coming up the hill, she rushed to get out with her cockatiel Andy. By the time they fled, the bushes around her home were burning and firefighters were on her roof.

"My house is like heaven up there," she said looking upward, hoping that because firefighters were still on her roof it meant her home would be salvageable. Yet she was in good spirits, surrounded by friends, holding a cold beer and grateful to have escaped safely with Andy, who perched in his cage on the grass behind her.

Nicole Larson was also among residents ordered to evacuate. She said that year after year she asked the city of San Bernardino to do something about the long, dead grass on the hill that burned Saturday, and they've told her that it's the county's responsibility.

"Hopefully, it will go a lot better," she said now that she's heard the county really has taken over firefighting responsibilities.

Evacuees were told to seek assistance from the American Red Cross at Marshall Boulevard and E Street, according to the San Bernardino Police Department. There was confusion earlier about where to send people displaced by the Kendall fire.

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At that time, the gate was locked.

"It was a surprise to me," said Spoon. "All we have is a field. Where would we put people?"

Residents near the gated Little League playing fields said they thought the evacuation facility might be Newmark Elementary School at 4121 N. Third Ave. A reporter went there and found people looking for a family member who lost her house in the fire.

The school was locked and deserted.

Family members declined to be interviewed. One family member did say, however, that a San Bernardino County sheriff's deputy told them their relative was likely at the school, which had been identified as an evacuation center.

A thick plume of gray smoke that could be seen rising up from the hills near the Castaway Restaurant at 670 Kendall Drive drew online concern for the beloved eatery. The Castaway restaurant was not among the buildings damaged.

The plume also caught the attention of San Bernardino Mayor Carey Davis, who left a pre-Fourth of July luncheon to check in at the fire's command center on Kendall Drive beneath the restaurant. Referring to the second day of the city's fire services being provided by the county, he said "the transition seems to have worked very smoothly."

Allen said that firefighters worked to get a line around the fire to protect other structures from burning.

In addition to the San Bernardino County Fire Department, firefighters from the San Bernardino City, Redlands, San Manuel, Rialto, Loma Linda, Colton and Cal Fire responded. Inmate crews also helped fight the blaze.

Staff Writers Alex Groves and Jim Steinberg contributed to this report.

<http://www.sbsun.com/20160702/kendall-fire-vegetation-fire-burns-5-homes-injures-3-in-san-bernardino>

Kendall Fire: Wildfire forces evacuations, causes injuries in San Bernardino

Elina Shatkin and Meghan McCarty, KPCC

Posted: July 03 2016



The Kendall Fire burns in San Bernardino on July 2, 2016. Photograph by Danielle Hobbs



Photo Courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire



Photo Courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire



Photo Courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire



Photo Courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire

A small but fast-moving fire in San Bernardino burned several structures and left three people with minor injuries Saturday.

Update Sun. 10:45 a.m. - The fire has been completely contained and evacuations were lifted by 7 p.m. Saturday. The cause of the fire is being investigated. The San Bernardino Fire Department said it received multiple reports from residents who said they witnessed a person starting the fire. Battalion Chief Steve Lasiter tells KPCC's Meghan McCarty: "We've had multiple reports of different things that possibly occurred so we're trying to sort them out to see if any of them have any validity."

Update Sat. 3:45 p.m. - Crews seem to have gained the upper hand and the fire is 50 percent contained.

Of the five structures that have been impacted by fire, four are potentially a complete loss. "At this point, crews are working their way in to get an estimate on what the damages are and to find out [whether] those occupancies are commercial or residential," Jeremy Kern a captain with the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** told KPCC.

Former fire fighter Ed Preciados tried to keep flames at bay until he was forced to evacuate. "I just saw the little flames coming up and they weren't bad and I had a garden hose and I was able to handle what I wanted but then the water pressure was going down and then it went off completely," Preciados says. "When I left, everything was good and had I stayed there my house wouldn't have burned."

Two firefighters and one civilian received minor injuries from smoke inhalation and heat exhaustion.

At about 1:12 p.m. Saturday afternoon, the San Bernardino County Fire Department began receiving reports of a possible brush fire in the area of Little Mountain near W. Kendall Dr. in the city of San Bernardino.

Danielle Hobbs was cooking lunch with her mom when the fire spread up the hillside behind her home: "When I looked out the window I saw some ashes raining and then I started to smell fire. I told my mom I think there's a fire and we evacuated just in time the fire was behind our house."

Homes off of Skylark Dr. and Edgerton Dr. west of Pershing Ave. were evacuated. An evacuation center has been set up at 3900 N. Severance in the city of San Bernardino.

Kern describes it as a large urban community where homes and businesses meet brush and hillside.

When the first engine company arrived on the scene, they found a half acre of brush burning on a hillside, Kern said.

The fire quickly elevated to a third-alarm assignment and multiple crews from around region arrived to help fight the blaze. Kern said a total of 120 firefighters are currently on scene.

"At this point, we have multiple engine companies in place as well as our inmate and paid hand crews all working to establish containment lines and mop up the fire," he said.

The cause of the fire is being investigated by investigators from the office of fire marshal.

<http://www.scpr.org/news/2016/07/03/62283/kendall-fire-burns-in-san-bernardino/>

Calif. homes burn as officials warn of fireworks danger

CBS World News

Posted: July 2, 2016, 9:23 PM



Photo Courtesy San Bernardino County Fire



Photo Courtesy San Bernardino County Fire



Photo Courtesy San Bernardino County Fire



Photo Courtesy San Bernardino County Fire

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. -- A small but fast-moving brush fire that broke out on a Southern California hillside burned five structures and injured three people, according to fire officials.

A spokesman for the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** said the fire broke out in the northern part of the city Saturday afternoon and quickly spread to about 10 acres before firefighters got a handle on it.

The fire burned five homes and threatened multiple other structures at its peak, spurring evacuation orders, CBS Los Angeles reported.

Capt. Jeremy Kern said investigators were trying to determine what kinds of structures were burned and the extent of their damage.

Two firefighters and a civilian were treated for smoke inhalation or heat exhaustion.

The cause of the fire was under investigation. Investigators told CBS Los Angeles they were looking into the fire as a possible case of arson in response to witness accounts.

Northeast of Sacramento, the Trailhead Fire has consumed more than 3,200 acres and forced mandatory evacuations, CBS News correspondent Teri Okita reported.

Battalion Chief Darren McMillan said nearly 2,000 firefighters were battling the flames in tough terrain.

"It's very, very steep and that's what's driving the fire," McMillan said. "It's slope-driven."

Firefighters were being aided by a growing network of about 20 high-definition, online cameras that run day and night.

The cause of the Trailhead Fire was still under investigation, but officials were worried about a rash of new fires -- both on forest land and in cities -- sparked by fireworks.

"On the Fourth of July, far more fires are reported than any other day of the year," said Los Angeles City Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas.

It's estimated fireworks cause more than 18,000 fires in the U.S. each year, including a 2,500 acre fire in Boise, Idaho this week.

Five years of record drought have made California a tinderbox, ripe for explosive fire conditions. The U.S. Forest Service reports the drought has killed off 66 million trees, increasing the risk for wildfires.

"This could be the most volatile fire season in over 100 years," L.A. County Fire Chief Daryl Osby said. "So we encourage people, whether it's fireworks or fires, to be extremely careful."

In L.A. County, authorities have already confiscated more 300,000 pounds of illegal fireworks and warned even small fireworks that appear harmless can be hazardous, if used without caution.

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/california-homes-burn-as-officials-warn-of-fireworks-danger/>

Fast-moving fires trigger new evacuations in California

FOX News

Posted: July 3, 2016

Firefighters on Sunday battled a wildfire burning in steep, inaccessible terrain in central California, threatening at least 300 homes in or near a gated community, one day after a fast-moving brush fire in San Bernardino burned five homes and injured at least three people.

The brush fire broke out in San Bernardino and quickly spread to about 10 acres before firefighters got a handle on the blaze, a spokesman for the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** said.

Four hilltop homes were destroyed -- one had only a swimming pool remaining after being burned to its foundation, county fire Engineer Jeff Allen said. A fifth house sustained serious damage on the inside.

Authorities evacuated residents in the four blocks closest to the fire, Capt. Jeremy Kern said. Two firefighters and a civilian were treated for smoke inhalation or heat exhaustion.

The cause of the fire was under investigation.

The central California fire has grown to 2.8 square miles since it began Friday afternoon, Phil Neufeld, a spokesman for the Kern County Fire Department said Saturday. It is 20 percent contained.

Firefighters were focused on keeping the fire from climbing over a ridge and potentially threatening another 1,000 homes in Bear Valley Spring, a private community of 7,500 in the Tehachapi Mountains and several hundred homes in the Hart Flat community.

"It if blows over the ridge, it can cause damage," Neufeld said.

The fire was burning a number of dead trees devastated by California's four-year drought and a severe bark beetle infestation. Firefighters were hampered by the rough terrain, 20 mph winds and hot, dry weather.

The blaze is among 12 wildfires burning in California.

The fire is about 60 miles south of a deadly 75-square-mile blaze that broke out near Lake Isabella last week. That fire is 90 percent contained, and resources from it are being diverted to fight the new fire.

Meanwhile, fire crews are fighting two brush fires in Kittitas County in central Washington.

One blaze is burning about 5 miles east of Cle Elum, said Jim Duck, a spokesman with the Central Washington Interagency Communications Center. Residents of about several homes were told to leave the area immediately, he said.

No injuries have been reported, and no structures have burned, he said.

The fire was reported 1 p.m. Saturday and had burned an estimated 40 acres, the state Department of Natural Resources said.

Crews are also fighting on a smaller blaze that has burned 4 acres in South Cle Elum.

A voluntary evacuation order has been partially lifted as firefighters make significant progress in containing a southern Utah wildfire.

Fire officials say the blaze near Pine Valley, north of St. George, was 42 percent contained Saturday.

The voluntary evacuation now applies only to a small area that includes a portion of Lloyd Canyon. According to law enforcement, property owners there should be prepared to evacuate should conditions change.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office also opened the road into town to public traffic.

But campgrounds and hiking trails inside the Pine Valley Recreation Area and Dixie National Forest remain closed.

The fire, which has torched 2.5 square miles of rugged terrain so far, had previously forced evacuations.

More than 550 firefighters are working on structure protection and other strategies to halt the fire from spreading.

The fire started June 13 with a lightning strike on Saddle Mountain.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2016/07/03/fast-moving-fires-trigger-new-evacuations-in-california.html>

The Latest: Southern California Fire Burns 5 Structures

The Associated Press

Posted: July 2, 2016, All Times Local

The Latest on the wildfires burning in the U.S. West:

3:30 p.m.

A small but fast-moving brush fire that broke out on a Southern California hillside has burned five structures and injured three people.

A spokesman for the B says the fire broke out in the northern part of the city Saturday afternoon and quickly spread to about 10 acres before firefighters got a handle of the blaze.

Capt. Jeremy Kern said authorities evacuated residents in the four blocks closest to the fire.

Kern said investigators were trying to determine what kinds of structures were burned and the extent of their damage.

Two firefighters and a civilian were treated for smoke inhalation or heat exhaustion.

The cause of the fire was under investigation.

2:05 p.m.

A massive wildfire that at one time hovered dangerously close to several eastern Arizona communities is now fully under control.

Fire officials said Saturday that a blaze that has burned almost 72 square miles of land, including on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, is 100 percent contained.

They say recent widespread rain and monsoon season moisture helped crews.

Firefighters say some spots in the burned out area will continue to smolder but crews will patrol the perimeter for the next several days.

Roads leading into the fire area will stay closed because of the potential for flooding.

The blaze began June 15 and the cause has not yet been determined.

Cedar Creek, Pinetop-Lakeside and Show Low were among several communities that were under evacuation or pre-evacuation notice at one point.

1:50 p.m.

A wildfire in central California is threatening up to 300 homes in a gated community.

Kern County fire officials say the blaze began Friday afternoon and has grown to 2.8 square miles.

Firefighters are focused on keeping fire from climbing over a ridge and potentially threatening 1,000 homes in Bear Valley Spring, a private community of 7,500 in the Tehachapi (teh-HAH-chah-pee) Mountains and several hundred homes in the Hart Flat community.

Officials say the fire is torching a large number of dead trees caused by California's four-year drought and a dramatic rise in bark beetle infestation. Firefighters are hampered by steep, inaccessible terrain, 20 mph winds and hot, dry weather.

10:25 a.m.

A wildfire in Northern California threatening 2,600 structures in the Sierra foothills grew to more than five square miles Saturday.

The fire started Tuesday afternoon, rapidly growing as it charged through inaccessible terrain and climbed out of a steep canyon along the middle fork of the American River.

Authorities say at least 1,650 people have been forced from their homes as the blaze about 50 miles northeast of Sacramento threatens hundreds of homes, businesses and other structures.

No damage to structures has been reported. The fire is 12 percent contained.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection says the Red Cross has set up an evacuation center in Auburn, near Sacramento.

9:45 a.m.

A call for voluntary evacuation has been partially lifted as firefighters make significant progress in containing a southern Utah wildfire.

Fire officials say the blaze near Pine Valley, north of St. George, was 42 percent contained as of Friday night.

The voluntary evacuation now applies only to a small area of Pine Valley near where firefighters are still building a fire line.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office also opened the road into town to public traffic.

The fire, which has torched 2.4 square miles of rugged terrain so far, had previously forced evacuations.

According to law enforcement, property owners should be prepared to evacuate should conditions change.

The Pine Valley Recreation Area in the Dixie National Forest remains closed.

More than 550 firefighters are working on structure protection and other strategies to halt the fire from spreading.

The fire started June 13 with a lightning strike on Saddle Mountain.

9:05 a.m.

A wildfire threatening up to 100 homes in central California has grown to 2.5 square miles.

Kern County fire officials say evacuation orders remain in effect Saturday for residents in the Bear Valley Springs community.

No structures have been burned and firefighters are focused on keeping the blaze from reaching Hart Flat, a community of about 5,000 people. Officials are warning people there to be on alert and prepared to leave their homes if necessary.

The fire, which broke out Friday afternoon, is about 60 miles south of a large and deadly blaze that started near Lake Isabella last week. That fire is 85 percent contained, and resources from it are being diverted to fight the new fire.

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/latest-central-california-fire-threatens-100-homes-40301328>

San Bernardino fire burns 5 structures, injures 3 people

Laura Yanez, KESQ (CBS Palm Springs)

Posted: July 2, 2016, 05:28 PM

Updated: July 2, 2016, 05:38 PM



SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. - A small but fast-moving brush fire broke out in San Bernardino and burned five structures and injured three people.

A spokesman for the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** said the fire broke out in the northern part of the city Saturday afternoon and quickly spread to about 10 acres before firefighters got a handle of the blaze.

Capt. Jeremy Kern said authorities evacuated homes in the four blocks closest to the fire.

Kern said investigators were trying to determine what kinds of structures were burned and the extent of their damage.

Two firefighters and a civilian were treated for smoke inhalation or heat exhaustion.

The cause of the fire was under investigation.

<http://www.kesq.com/news/san-bernardino-fire-burns-5-structures-injures-at-least-3-people/40332112>

UPDATE 4: Multiple Homes Destroyed – Kendall Fire 100 Percent Contained

Michael P. Neufeld, Rim of the World News

Posted: July 2, 2016, 2:24 PM



The Kendall Fire in San Bernardino burned multiple homes and scorched about 9 acres before it was declared 100 percent contained. (Photo by San Bernardino County Fire)

UPDATE 4: Saturday, July 2 – 6:25 p.m.

San Bernardino, CA – Multiple homes were destroyed or damaged in the fast-moving Kendall Fire in San Bernardino Saturday afternoon.

San Bernardino County Fire is now reporting the fire is 100 percent contained.

Four people — three firefighters and a civilian — were injured during the blaze that was reported about 1:30 p.m. and burned about 9 acres.

A wedding —scheduled for the Castaways Restaurant — was moved to a new location due to the fire but the eatery was not damaged.



San Bernardino County Fire now reporting at least five homes involved in the Kendall Fire in San Bernardino. (Photo by Kerri Jenkins/RimFire)

UPDATE 3: Saturday, July 2 – 3:47 p.m.

San Bernardino, CA – San Bernardino County Fire is reporting the forward rate of spread on the Kendall Fire has been stopped. The Incident Commander reports the fire is 50 percent contained.

UPDATE 2: Saturday, July 2 – 3:36 p.m.

San Bernardino, CA – An arson investigation has been launched into the Kendall Fire in San Bernardino that has burned about 10 acres and destroyed at least four homes, according to San Bernardino County Fire.

Evacuations of Skylark Drive and Edgerton Drive west of Pershing Avenue are in place.

The fire is reported to be near the Castaway Restaurant.

Newmark Elementary School is the primary evacuation point and is located at 4121 North Third Avenue in San Bernardino.



The Kendall Fire sent smoke into the mountain communities. (Photo by San Bernardino County Fire/Nathan Cooke)

UPDATE: Saturday, July 2 – 2:50 p.m.

San Bernardino, CA – At least five homes are involved in the Kendall Fire in San Bernardino, according to San Bernardino County Fire. At least four of the homes are total losses.

The fire — currently 78-10 acres — has caused at least three firefighters to sustain minor injuries and one civilian smoke inhalation.

County Fire has already assigned 120 firefighters to the incident.

An Evacuation Center has been established at 3900 North Severance Avenue in San Bernardino.

ORIGINAL STORY

San Bernardino, CA – What started as a brush fire near Kendall Drive and North “F” Street in San Bernardino about 1:30 p.m. has now destroyed at least two homes.

Smoke from the Kendall Fire — which has caused evacuations of Skylark Drive and is now a third alarm — is visible in the mountain communities.

The lead agency is San Bernardino County Fire that absorbed San Bernardino City Fire on July 1.

Additional details will be released as they become available.

<http://rotwnews.com/2016/07/02/fire-destroys-at-least-two-homes-in-san-bernardino-smoke-visible-in-mountain-communities/>

Response to Foothill Fire Prevents Spread into San Bernardino National Forest

Michael P. Neufeld, Rim of the World News

Posted: July 4, 2016, 7:14 AM



The Foothill Fire in San Bernardino Sunday afternoon was held to about 5 acres thanks to a quick response by fire personnel and the fact it burned into an area that burned just over a year ago. (Photo by San Bernardino County Fire)

San Bernardino, CA – Two things basically contributed to holding the Foothill Fire in San Bernardino to 5 acres Sunday afternoon — a quick response by firefighters and the fact the fire burned into a scar from a fire a little over a year ago in the same area.

U.S. Forest Service spokesperson Bob Poole told ROTWNEWS.com that the Foothill Fire — located near Foothill and Sterling in San Bernardino — consumed mostly grass and was fought by San Bernardino County Fire, U.S. Forest Service and CALFIRE personnel.

THE INCIDENT

The Foothill Fire — first reported about 6:19 p.m. — brought a full response including Air Attack 330, Bravo 52, Tranker 73 and Tanker 10.

The aircraft only made one drop on the fire and then returned to their base, according to Poole.

The fire was visible to motorists on Waterman Avenue (Highway 18) as about 100 firefighters contained the fire and conducted mop-up operations.

There were no reported injuries to firefighters or civilians.

<http://rotwnews.com/2016/07/04/response-to-foothill-fire-prevents-spread-into-san-bernardino-national-forest/>

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