



# NEWS



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## **Sheriff's Hoist at Big Falls in Forest Falls**

Michael P. Neufeld, Rotwnews

Posted: May 31, 2018

Forest Falls, CA – On Tuesday, May 29, 2018, Araceli Hernandez, a 49 year old resident of Rialto, was attempting to climb up a rock face at Big Falls when she slipped and fell approximately 30 feet. Hernandez came to rest at the base of the falls and sustained serious injuries. Several witnesses called 911 to report the incident.

**San Bernardino County Fire** Department quickly responded to the incident location. Due to the rugged and remote location, ground personnel requested Sheriff's Air Rescue 306. When Air Rescue 306 arrived they lowered rescue personnel to the base of the waterfall. Hernandez was placed into a rescue litter, hoisted up into the helicopter, and transported to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center.

<https://rotwnews.com/2018/05/31/sheriffs-hoist-at-big-falls-in-forest-falls/>

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## **HIKER FINDS DEAD BODY AT AMBOY CRATER WEDNESDAY**

Staff Writer, z1077news

Posted: May 31, 2018

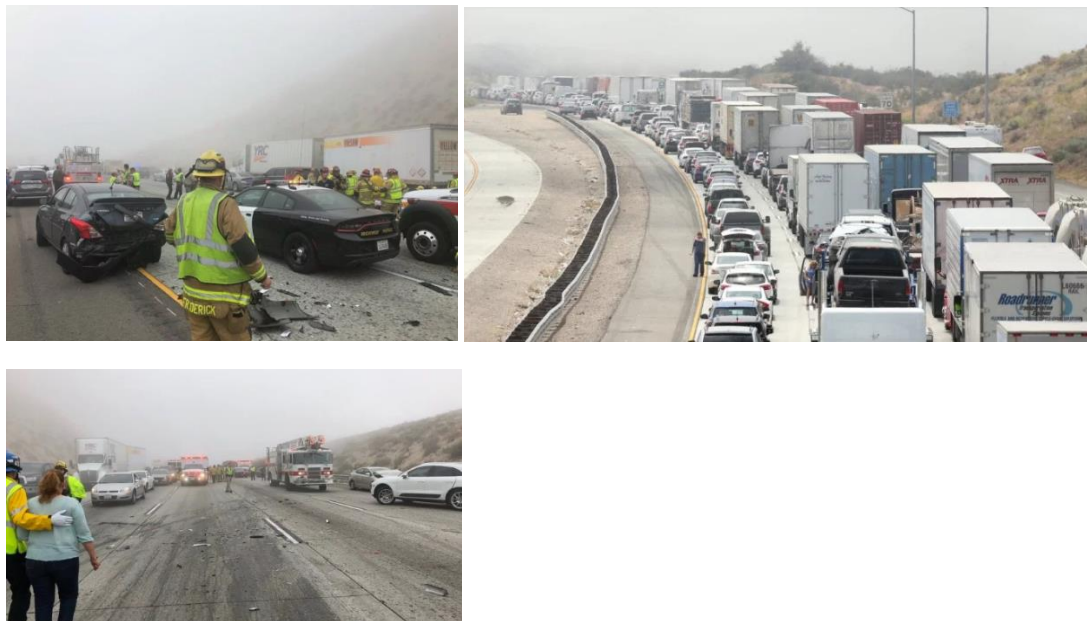
A man hiking out at Amboy Crater found a dead body Wednesday morning. According to **County Fire** Battalion Chief Scott Tuttle, the hiker found the dead man, estimated to be in his 60s or 70s, about 11 a.m. Temperatures at the crater Wednesday were in the low 100s. The Sheriff's Department is investigating.

<http://z1077fm.com/local-news/todays-full-newscast/>

## CHP: At least 20 cars involved in fog-related crashes on 15 Freeway in Cajon Pass

Richard K. De Atley, Press Enterprise

Posted: May 30, 2018, 6:09 p.m.



Authorities report a two-mile-long multi-vehicle accident in dense fog in the Cajon Pass (Courtesy San Bernardino County Fire Department)

A chain-collision of vehicles in dense fog Wednesday turned a stretch of the southbound 15 Freeway in the Cajon Pass into a mile-long trail of crumpled cars, injured multiple people, and stuck motorists in a backup that stretched 10 miles at one point, authorities said.

The fog will be back in the pass Thursday, the National Weather Service said. Electronic billboards in the area will warn motorists to slow down, but they should “avoid travel if they can,” said Caltrans spokeswoman Terri Kasinga. “It’s not safe driving in the fog.”

**San Bernardino County Fire** Department reported 17 injuries from the scene, and the California Highway Patrol incident log said eight people were sent to hospitals. Firefighters also said there were “numerous drivers and occupants declining treatment.” None of the injuries was life-threatening, the CHP said.

The crashes started at 10:42 a.m. when two vehicles heading southbound on the freeway were disabled in a collision south of Oak Hill Road, blocking lanes of traffic and starting a chain reaction of crashes, the CHP said in a release. A SigAlert was called.

The southbound lanes were eventually all closed with all gradually reopening by 1:20 p.m. The affected area was roughly from south of Oak Hill Road to north of the brake check area — there are few landmarks where the crashes occurred — CHP Officer Marcelo Llerena said.

“There were multiple separate collisions, it’s about a mile long,” Llerena said by phone. “There were a lot of two-or-three-or-four car (collisions),” he said.

Fire officials said traffic was backed up to Main Street in Hesperia due to the collisions, which Llerena said was a 10-mile lineup.

Between 20 to 30 cars were estimated to be involved, but the CHP said Wednesday afternoon it was still counting how many cars and people were involved in the various wrecks.

Amid the confusion, a CHP officer helped two stranded graduating seniors from Mojave High School in Hesperia by giving them a lift to their graduation at the Glen Helen Amphitheater near Devore, CHP Officer Brian Alvarez said.

At the time of the crashes, the CHP said visibility in the area was about 30 feet.

“Unfortunately, we are going to do it all over again,” NWS-San Diego meteorologist Dan Gregoria said Wednesday. He said the marine layer from the coast will be strong enough to again push into the Cajon Pass, rolling in overnight and staying until late Thursday morning.

“It could be severe, with restrictions in visibility,” Gregoria said. “Slow down and leave a good distance between you and other drivers.” Gregoria said the pattern will change for the weekend, with the marine layer more shallow and less likely to reach the Inland area.

The CHP asked anyone with information about the incident to call their San Bernardino office at (909) 383-4247.

Northbound traffic didn’t stop, but was slow because of the fog and the distraction of the pileups in the southbound lanes, Llerena said. The CHP had 16 to 17 units at the scene to help clear the lanes and control traffic, among other work.

<https://www.pe.com/2018/05/30/2-mile-long-multi-car-pileup-closes-portion-of-15-freeway-in-foggy-cajon-pass/>

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## **Pileup in the Pass: Amidst heavy fog, 17 injured as officials shut down I-15**

Staff Writer, Daily Press

Posted: May 30, 2018



Towing crews remove cars damaged in several collisions that prompted the closure of Southbound Interstate 15 in the Cajon Pass Wednesday morning. As many as 20 cars were reportedly involved and 17 people were injured, according to officials, who said heavy fog was a factor in the crashes. [David Ford, for the Daily Press]

**CAJON PASS** — A series of chain-reaction crashes left 17 people injured and forced the closure of a portion of Interstate 15 Wednesday morning.

As many as 20 vehicles were reported to be involved in a pileup that stretched roughly 2 miles in the Cajon Pass and was aided by heavy, dense fog conditions.

**San Bernardino County Fire** Department spokesman Eric Sherwin told the Daily Press that the first crash was reported at 10:44 a.m. as a rollover collision into the center divider near the runaway truck ramp.

“It sounds like due to low visibility, we had subsequent collisions as vehicles came into the primary scene,” said Sherwin, who noted that initial reports placed visibility below 100 feet due to heavy fog in the area. “As firefighters were on scene tending to the initial victim, they could hear additional crashes but they couldn’t see them.”

Photos and videos on social media showed vehicles with various states of damage spread across all lanes of traffic on southbound I-15 and California Highway Patrol logs reported that debris was scattered everywhere.

The fog conditions persisted into the afternoon, which the National Weather Service attributed to seasonal deep intrusion of ocean air known as “May gray” that has brought low clouds, fog, drizzle and even rain.

“We are firmly in the grips of a deep May gray marine layer,” the NWS said Wednesday afternoon as temperatures in some areas were down by as much as 30 degrees from a day earlier.

A traffic break was initiated and a SigAlert was issued at 11:05 a.m. to shut down all lanes of traffic at Oak Hills Road, according to CHP logs. County Fire officials reported that the closure was extended to Rancho Road as of 11:41 a.m.

A total of 10 engines, one truck, one heavy rescue and 14 ambulances were assigned to the crashes. Sherwin said the crashes occurred over a 2-mile stretch from north of the truck ramp to Highway 138. A total of 17 victims were reported, with two categorized as having life-threatening injuries.

Several drivers and passengers declined transport to area hospitals, Sherwin said.

All lanes were reported to be re-opened as of 1:24 p.m., according to Caltrans District 8 officials.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/news/20180530/pileup-in-pass-amidst-heavy-fog-17-injured-as-officials-shut-down-i-15>

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## **Fog, speed attributed to Cajon Pass pile-ups**

**Staff Writer, Inland News Today**

Posted: May 30, 2018

CAJON PASS – (INT) – Dense fog paralyzed Interstate 15 in Upper Cajon Pass Wednesday and contributed to a series of accidents that injured at least 17 people. All will survive. Many others declined medical attention.

The California Highway Patrol said the trouble began when two vehicles collided leaving them disabled. That was followed by a series of crashes involving oncoming vehicles.

Southbound lanes of the freeway were closed from Rancho Road in Hesperia, through the switchbacks to Highway 138, until the wreckage was removed early Wednesday afternoon.

**The San Bernardino County Fire** Department dispatched 14 ambulances and paramedics to tend to the injured.

Initial estimates were that as many as thirty vehicles were involved in the chain-reaction series of crashes.

<http://www.inlandnewstoday.com/story.php?s=50876>

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## **20-Car Cajon Pass Pileup Injures 17, California Authorities Say**

Sean Breslin, Weather.com

Posted: May 30, 2018

At least 17 injuries were reported in a 20-car pileup Wednesday morning along Interstate 15's southbound lanes in the Cajon Pass, Southern California authorities said.

The collision, which occurred just before 11 a.m. local time Wednesday morning, shut down the southbound lanes of the freeway between Oak Hills and Highway 138, according to the **San Bernardino County Fire Department**. Reports say thick fog was present in the area at the time of the crash.

A follow-up tweet from the fire department revised the number of injuries from 27 to 17.

"Drivers likely drove from nearly clear skies into a thick bank of marine layer fog," said weather.com meteorologist Jonathan Belles. "This dense fog is being propelled inland by a weak low-pressure system located near Los Angeles."

It wasn't immediately clear how serious any of the injuries were, but the San Bernardino County Fire Department said two of the injured were immediately transported to a nearby hospital.

The Cajon Pass is located about 60 miles northeast of Los Angeles.

<https://weather.com/news/news/2018-05-30-california-pileup-san-bernardino-county>

## **\$7 Million for Fire Stations, Equipment, and Services From Agreement Between SBCoFD and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians**

Staff Writer, Alpen Horn News

Posted: May 30, 2018



In May 29, 2018, media release, the **San Bernardino County Fire** Protection District announced it has entered into a partnership with The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians to assist with the cost of replacing two fire stations located within the City of San Bernardino. Beginning on July 1, 2018, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians will donate a total of \$7 million to provide a reciprocal exchange of fire, rescue, and emergency medical services from the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District over a 10-year period. Payment from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians will be provided in two \$3.5 million deposits; one payment in the 2018-2019 fiscal year and an additional payment in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

“Many of the fire stations in the City of San Bernardino were built as modular construction over 50 years ago with the intent to physically move the fire stations and reposition them to provide the best service possible,” explains San Bernardino County Fire Assistant Chief Dan Munsey. “Over time, the modular fire stations were placed on permanent foundations leading to infrastructure problems, including subfloor failure, asbestos and black mold issues. This agreement will provide for two new replacement stations and will allow the district to avoid budgeting the millions of dollars that are required for the significant modifications that these stations need to ensure the safety of our firefighters.”

As part of the agreement, the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District will provide repairs of equipment, aerial truck response, fuel reduction, and joint training opportunities to the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. The agreement will better protect the public in both agency jurisdictions by expediting response times during emergency situations. Munsey continues, “If the reservation is impacted by any kind of emergency, the fire district will provide as much aid as it possibly can to mitigate the emergency. For example, if there is a vegetation fire transitioning from the National Forest down into tribal lands, the fire district would assist with incident command, as well as provide resources such as bulldozers, fire engines, and hand-crews without cost to the tribe.”

Both agencies are said they are pleased to work together to better protect the public by providing expedited response to day-to-day emergencies, as well as guard against the increasing emergency incidents within San Bernardino City.

<http://alpenhornnews.com/million-for-fire-stations-equipment-and-services-from-agreement-between-p8818-155.htm>



## **Rialto woman is rescued by Sheriff's helicopter after being injured while rock climbing**

Staff Writer, Fontana Herald News

Posted: May 31, 2018

A 49-year-old Rialto woman who was injured while rock climbing in Forest Falls was rescued by the Sheriff's rescue helicopter, according to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

On May 29 at about 7 p.m., the woman was attempting to climb up a rock face at Big Falls in the Forest Falls area when she slipped and fell about 30 feet. Hernandez came to rest at the base of the waterfall and sustained serious injuries as a result of the fall. Several witnesses in the area called 911 to report the incident.

**San Bernardino County** Fire Department personnel quickly responded to the incident location. Due to the remote rugged terrain, ground personnel requested the Sheriff's rescue helicopter perform a hoist rescue.

Sheriff's Air Rescue 306 arrived at the scene and lowered rescue personnel to the the base of the waterfall. The hiker was placed into a rescue litter, hoisted up to the helicopter and transported to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for treatment of her injuries.

Air Rescue 306 is staffed by San Bernardino County Sheriff and Fire Department personnel.

[https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/inland\\_empire\\_news/rialto-woman-is-rescued-by-sheriff-s-helicopter-after-being/article\\_c8396068-64e1-11e8-9233-b7143a361628.html](https://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/news/inland_empire_news/rialto-woman-is-rescued-by-sheriff-s-helicopter-after-being/article_c8396068-64e1-11e8-9233-b7143a361628.html)

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## **Rialto hiker rescued in Forest Falls after falling 30 feet**

Sarah Batcha, San Bernardino Sun

Posted: May 30, 2018, 10:26 a.m.

A Rialto woman was rescued Tuesday by a sheriff's helicopter after she fell 30 feet while hiking at Big Falls in Forest Falls, officials said.

The 49-year-old woman "was attempting to climb up a rock face at Big Falls in the Forest Falls area when she slipped and fell approximately 30 feet," according to a San Bernardino County sheriff's news release. She "came to rest at the base of the waterfall and sustained serious injuries as a result of the fall."

**The San Bernardino County Fire** Department responded to 911 calls reporting the incident, but requested assistance from the sheriff's rescue helicopter due to the rugged terrain, according to the release.

Air Rescue 306, made up of sheriff's and fire department personnel, was able to lower a team member to the base of the waterfall and hoist rescue the hiker, the release said.

The woman was then transported to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton, according to the release.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2018/05/30/rialto-hiker-rescued-in-forest-falls-after-falling-30-feet/>