



NEWS



News Headlines 10/28-29/2020

- Winds spread brushfire in the wash
- Firefighters knock down late-night fire at vacant home in Lucerne Valley

Winds spread brushfire in the wash

Staff Writer, Redlands Community News

Posted: October 29, 2020



Two hose lines spray the area during Orange Fire 2 on Monday afternoon in the Santa Ana River Wash near CEMEX plant.

Joseph Ellis

Redlands firefighters responded to a vegetation fire in the Santa Ana River wash near Orange Street Monday, in the same area as another recent fire.

The fire, dubbed the Orange Fire 2, had burned approximately 23 acres as of 5:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26, and briefly threatened homes in the area of Riverview Drive.

Firefighters, responding at about noon to reports of a brush fire in the area of Orange Street and the Santa Ana River Wash observed a large column of smoke and requested additional resources from the San Bernardino Unit of Cal Fire, the Bureau of Land Management and the city of Highland.

Additional engines from **San Bernardino County Fire** Department, the San Bernardino National Forest and the city of Yucaipa also responded. Air resources were requested but were unavailable due to 25-30 mph winds with gusts up to 50 mph. Bulldozers were also unable to operate in the wash due to endangered habitat in the area.

Winds carried embers south of the Santa Ana River bed, briefly threatening homes along Riverview Drive before firefighters stopped the fire's forward momentum at about 4 p.m.

Fire crews remain on scene overnight, improving fire lines and are expected to remain on scene for several more days.

In September, a fire in the same area burned about 37 acres and continued smoldering for more than a week as a result of decades-old wood product left behind, following the closure of the Big Bear Lumber Company, which operated in the area from 1953 until it was closed in 1982.

The cause of Monday's fire is undetermined. No injuries or structure damage have been reported.

In the mountains to the east, smoke was drifting southward with the winds. A Cal Fire firefighter said it was from the El Dorado fire from last month. When high winds blow off surface ash and debris, embers deeper below can reignite, he said, causing the billows of smoke.

Monday's gusty winds also caused power outages in Redlands, one near Hemlock Court, one near Pacific Street and one near North Sunset Drive.

The outages affected 2,090 residents, according to Southern California Edison.

https://www.redlandscommunitynews.com/news/winds-spread-brushfire-in-the-wash/article_17997990-19fd-11eb-ad33-c32630555eed.html

Firefighters knock down late-night fire at vacant home in Lucerne Valley

Jose Quintero, Victorville Daily Press

Posted: October 28, 2020



Firefighters responded to a structure fire at the corner of Meridian and Rabbit Spring roads late Monday night, Oct. 26, 2020, in Lucerne Valley. Photo courtesy of San Bernardino County Fire

Officials on Tuesday said they were investigating a late-night residential fire that broke out Monday at a vacant home in Lucerne Valley before spreading to nearby vegetation.

San Bernardino County Fire Department personnel responded to reports of the structure fire on the corner of Rabbit Springs and Meridian roads just after 10:34 p.m. Monday.

The fire was located roughly half a mile east of Lucerne Valley Middle/High School.

County fire spokesperson Mike McClintock said multiple callers reported that the home was vacant. The first fire engine arrived on scene and found the home well involved, along with spread to nearby vegetation, he said.

Firefighters contained the vegetation fire to a quarter of an acre.

“Crews mounted a defensive fire attack, working on stopping the vegetation fire from spreading and protecting exposures,” McClintock said. “The fire was knocked down in approximately 30 minutes.”

County fire responded with three fire engines, one water tender, and a battalion chief and fire investigator. Cal Fire assisted one the blaze with one engine, according to McClintock.

No injuries were reported.

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/story/news/2020/10/28/firefighters-knock-down-late-night-fire-vacant-home-lucerne-valley/6052192002/>