News Headlines 09/09/2022

- Radford Fire: Looking good, but ‘Not out of the woods’
- California Statewide Fire Summary for Thursday, September 8, 2022
- Fairview Fire erupts to 27,319 acres, 5% contained with 2 fatalities
Rain associated with weakening Hurricane Kay in the Pacific may help firefighters battling the Radford Fire, which began Labor Day south of Big Bear Lake.

Update Thursday night: Today's rain showers over the Radford Fire south of Big Bear Lake helped reduce fire activity. The fire is at 1,088 acres with 40% containment, the San Bernardino National Forest Service reported.

Isolated showers associated with Hurricane Kay in the Pacific is helping firefighters to battle the Radford Fire, which began on Labor Day south of Big Bear Lake.

Light rain fell in the Big Bear area on Thursday morning and more is expected as the weakening hurricane near the Baja California Peninsula heads north and off the coast of Southern California.

The Radford fire on Thursday afternoon continued to hold at about 1,100 acres with 2% containment, which was reported the previous day.

“Rain still looks likely for the weekend,” said local Meteorologist Ben Brissey. “Thankfully any lightning should be accompanied by soaking rains.”

As of last night, the Radford Fire has consumed 1100 acres and is 2% contained. Multiple evacuations have been ordered The National Weather Service on Thursday issued a flood watch from Friday afternoon through Saturday evening for portions of Southern California, including Big Bear, the San Bernardino Mountains, Apple Valley, Lucerne Valley and the Coachella Valley.

Kay is expected to bring heavy rainfall, up to 2-inches, in areas like Big Bear, Beaumont and the Coachella Valley. The Victor Valley should pick up about an inch of rain, the NWS said.

The fire continues to burn north of State Route 38 and generally between Bear Mountain and Snow Summit ski resorts.

There have been no reported injuries or structures lost due to the Radford Fire.
The ignition source of the fire is currently under investigation.

Radford Fire Community Meeting

On Thursday afternoon, agency officials spoke to the public during the Radford Fire Community Meeting at Big Bear Lake City Hall- Performing Arts Center.

A repeated phrase heard by fire officials at the meeting was that “things were looking good,” but “We’re not out of the woods.”

Fire officials said the “stubborn and complex” fire was prevented from further spread by fire lines carved out nearly a decade ago.

A current dozer line was created around the perimeter of the fire and spot fires have been prevented from jumping fire lines.

Concerns shared by agency officials included possible flash floods and expected 30 to 40 mph wind gusts coming from Hurricane Kay over the next few days.

Fire, law enforcement and elected officials at the meeting had a celebratory tone as they thanked the community and responding agencies for their assistance in battling the fire.

The meeting was also streamed live online at facebook.com/bigbearfire.

Evacuation orders downgraded
Previously closed State Route 38 is now open, according to a CHP official.

As of 1 p.m. on Thursday, all previously issued evacuation orders were downgraded to “evacuation warnings,” San Bernardino County Sheriff’s officials announced.

Evacuation warning areas include Glass Road to South Fork Road and Beverly Lane south to Forest Service Roads 2N10 and 2N08 west to Castlerock.

Also, Summit Boulevard east to Club View and Evergreen Drive south; and Club View east to Angels Camp Road and Vine Avenue south to Lassen Drive.

Summit Boulevard east to McAllister Road, east of Highway 18, and Fox Farm Road south to Evergreen Road.

These areas are open to residents only. Please use caution when returning to your homes and be mindful of emergency personnel and equipment still working in the area, sheriff’s officials said.

The Radford Fire

Dubbed the Radford Fire, the blaze was first reported at around 1:30 p.m. on Labor Day north of the residential and business areas of Big Bear Lake, according to the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

Multiple-fire agencies from the ground and air began attacking the fire, which had grown to 200 acres, with 0% containment, just after 7:30 p.m. on Monday, the U.S. Forest Service reported.
Agencies responding to the fire include the U.S. Forest Service, Cal Fire, the Big Bear Fire Department, California Interagency Incident Management Team 11, and the SBC Fire and Sheriff’s departments.

September 8, 2022 - As of this morning, there are 7,474 firefighters making progress on 11 major wildfires and four extended attack wildfires in California. One major wildfire is now Cal Firefully contained. Yesterday, firefighters also responded to 33 new initial attack wildfires across the state.

Since the beginning of the year, 272,144 acres have burned in California. While firefighters continue battling the current major wildfires, CAL FIRE and fire departments across the state remain prepared for potential more significant wildfires due to critical fire weather.

Northern California will continue to see high risk for heat wave conditions and/or gusty winds due to a weak to moderate northerly wind push through Friday. Ridging thru Friday with a north northeast-east wind push and continued hot to very hot conditions and low to very low relative humidity (both day-night). Areas of expanding north-northeast breezes (peak gusts 20-35 mph) today across the north and Sacramento Valley, then enhancing tonight across most of the region excluding most of the Greater Bay Area. High pressure remains centered over the Great Basin today, bringing hot weather to Southern California. The remnants of Hurricane Kay will bring significant impacts to southern portions of the area Friday into Saturday. Hot weather is expected again today, though most areas will see about 2 to 5 degrees of cooling. The remnants of Hurricane Kay will bring a wetting rainfall to much of southern California from Friday afternoon through Saturday. Many areas will likely see 0.5 to 1 inch of rainfall, but east facing mountain slopes of the Cleveland and San Bernadino Nation Forest may see localized rainfall amounts of 2 to 4 inches. This could lead to flash flooding and mudslides.

Do you have a plan for all your family should a wildfire strike near you? Don’t forget anyone, including your four-legged family members! Have a plan in place for your pets and have go bag ready for them to keep with yours. To learn ways to be prepared and protect everyone in your family, visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.

Fires of Interest:
**CAL FIRE Fires**

Mountain, Siskiyou County (more info…)
Gazelle-Callahan Road x Gazelle Mountain Lookout Road
11,690 acres 45% contained
*Continued threat to structures
*Evacuation orders and warnings remain in place
*Fire behavior moderated overnight
*Red Flag warning in effect in area
*CAL FIRE IMT 5 (Hopkins) is in command

Mill, Siskiyou County (more info…)
Woodridge Court x Woodridge Way, City of Weed
3,935 acres, 75% contained
*Continued threat to structures
*Evacuation orders and warnings remain in place
*Repopulation plan implemented and ongoing
*Minimal fire behavior observed
*Red Flag warning in effect in area
*DINS Teams continue to assess structures
*Suppression repair is underway
*CAL FIRE IMT 5 (Hopkins) is in command

Walker, Mendocino County* (more info…)
Highway 101 and Walker Road
124 acres, 90% contained

**Unified Command Fires**

Mosquito, Placer County (more info…)
Oxbow Reservoir, 3 miles east of Foresthill
*6870 acres, 0% contained
*Continued threat to structures and powerlines
*Threat to the communities of Foresthill, Volcanoville, and areas of Michigan Bluff, Baker Ranch and Chicken Hawk
*Threats exist to critical infrastructure
*Evacuation orders and warnings remain in place
*Additional evacuations in progress
*Evacuation center established
*Fire burned actively overnight and made significant runs
*Weather and terrain hindering suppression efforts
*Unified Command CAL FIRE, USFS and Placer County Sheriff's Office

Radford, San Bernardino County* (more info…)
2N10 x 2N06, Community of Big Bear
*1,100 acres, 2% contained
*Threat to structures
*Evacuation orders issued for South Fork Canyon
*Short range spotting observed
*Fire is in remote location with difficult access*
*CAIIMT Team 11 (Fogle) mobilized. In-briefing 0700 tomorrow*
*Unified Command USFS and **San Bernardino County Fire***

Fairview, Riverside County* (more info…)
Fairview Ave x Bautista Rd, Bautista Canyon
*18,657 acres grass and brush, 5% contained
*Threat to structures and powerlines
*Damage inspection initiated
*Evacuations in progress
*Fire running upslope aligned with terrain and wind
*CAL FIRE ECC Support Team 10 assigned
*CAL FIRE IMT 6 (Veik) in transition this morning
*Unified Command CAL FIRE and Hemet City Fire

**Federal Incidents**

2022 SRF Lightning Complex, Trinity County* (more info…)
Willow Creek Area
*41,502 acres, 81% contained

Yeti, Siskiyou County (more info…)
Seiad south of HWY 96 and south of the Klamath River
*7,886 acres, 98% contained

Red, Mariposa County* (more info…)
Between Red Creek and Illilouette Creek
*6,082 acres, 15% contained

Rodgers, Mariposa County* (more info…)
Northwest of Rodgers Canyon and southwest of Pleasant Valley
*2,552 acres, 20% contained

Barnes, Modoc County (more info…)
NEW Buck Creek Rd x Buck Creek Overlook Rd
*1,621 acres, 0% contained

**Initial Attack Incidents**

Hill, Placer County (more info…)
Iowa Hill Rd x Giant Gap Rd
*11 acres, 95% contained

Power, Fresno County (more info…)
Powerhouse Rd 2 miles north of Madera County line
*130 acres, 65% contained

Coyote, Siskiyou County (more info…) NEW
Coyote Ridge, one mile west of Red Rock Lakes
*297 acres, 20% contained
*Forward spread stopped

Fork, Madera County (more info…) NEW
Road 222 x Road 200, North Fork
*400 acres, 5% contained
*Evacuation orders in effect

*Updated acreage based on incident information released after ICS-209 0700 taken from Inciweb.

*Fairview – Damage Assessment Teams assigned.

Source: CAL FIRE.

Fire crews with the Riverside County Fire Department continue to battle the Fairview Fire in Hemet, which has grown to 27,319 acres and was 5% contained as of Thursday evening.

The size of the fire nearly quadrupled on Wednesday alone, which had it mapped at 19,377 acres. The first report had the fire at 5,000+ acres

Authorities confirmed that two residents died while trying to flee the fire, and one other person was transported to the hospital with serious burns to their arms, back and face. All three were trying to escape the wildfire in the same vehicle.

Fire crews were able to rescue several people who were trapped by the flames on Gibbel Road.

Seven structures have been completely destroyed, with several others damaged. Officials also estimated that 5,000 structures are threatened by the fire. Around 1,500 homes have been evacuated.

The Fairview Fire erupted at around 3:37 p.m. Monday and burned in light to medium vegetation at a rapid pace near Fairview Avenue and Bautista Road.

Mandatory evacuations have been ordered for several neighborhoods, and others were warned to be ready to go at a moment's notice.

A care and reception area for evacuees was established at Tahquitz High School, located at 4425 Titan Trail. The Red Cross opened a second shelter at the Temecula Community Recreation Center, 30875 Rancho Vista Rd.

Officials with the Hemet Unified School District said campuses would remain closed Wednesday and until further notice as a result of the fire.

Southern California Edison notified the California Public Utilities Commission on Tuesday that "circuit activity" occurred at the approximate time that the Fairview Fire started.
Water officials issued a boil water notice for dozens of residents on Polly Butte Road and the area east of 41477 Gibbel Road, but that was canceled Thursday.