



NEWS



News Headlines 07/21/2020

- Easton fire burns 50 acres near Highland
- Wildfire in Highland holds at 50 acres, is 30% contained

Easton fire burns 50 acres near Highland

Jose Quintero, Victorville Daily Press

Posted: July 20, 2020, 7:32 pm



San Bernardino County Fire Department and San Bernardino National Forest personnel were in unified command of a wildfire that quickly burned at least 50 acres near Highland on Monday. [PHOTO COURTESY OF SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST]

HIGHLAND — Firefighters promptly established a 30% containment line on a wildfire that scorched at least 50 acres in about an hour near the San Bernardino National Forest on Monday.

According to San Bernardino National Forest spokesperson Lisa Cox, firefighters were dispatched to a vegetation fire near Highway 330 and Highland Avenue just before 5 p.m.

The blaze, dubbed the Easton fire, was reported to have charred at least 10 acres, followed by 25 about according to an update from the San Bernardino National Forest's twitter account just after 5:30 p.m. The agency reported 50 acres had been burned just before 6 p.m., with zero containment.

Cox said the fire was holding at 50 acres, and the agency would have an update on the exact acreage Tuesday.

Cox said firefighters were expected to work through the night to continue establishing a containment perimeter.

No injuries were reported, and no structures were damaged, Cox said.

San Bernardino County Fire Department was in unified command with the SBNF on the blaze.

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/news/20200720/easton-fire-burns-50-acres-near-highland>

Wildfire in Highland holds at 50 acres, is 30% contained

Eric Licas, Orange County Register / San Bernardino Sun / SCNG

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A plane assists firefighters battling flames in Highland, near the San Bernardino National Forest, on Monday, July 20. (Photo from video courtesy of the San Bernardino National Forest)

Firefighters in Highland battled a wildfire that spread quickly toward the San Bernardino National Forest on Monday, July 20.

The Easton fire was reported near Highway 330 and Highland Avenue, and had scorched at least 10 acres by 5:04 p.m., **San Bernardino County Fire** Department officials said. It was spreading uphill toward the forest at a rapid pace and had grown to consume 50 acres by 5:54 p.m.

No structures were immediately threatened, San Bernardino National Forest officials said. It was holding at 50 acres and was 30% contained by 7:18 p.m., the San Bernardino County Fire Department said.

However, it was producing noticeably less smoke and appeared to be slowing down about an hour later, U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Lisa Cox said. The fire had not reached the forest as of 6:18 p.m., and no injuries were immediately reported.

The cause of the fire was under investigation Monday evening, San Bernardino County Fire Department spokesman Ryan Vaccaro said. Crews had initially been dispatched in response to unconfirmed reports of a homeless encampment that had caught fire in the area.

Flames were driven uphill by light to moderate winds as crews attacked the Easton fire from at least two sides. Those burned about a half-mile east of the highway, in the same area where the Mart fire blackened over 600 acres in 2017.

San Bernardino County Fire Department firefighters manning five engines, two hand crews, two water tenders and aircraft; along with teams from the San Bernardino National Forest, were dispatched to fight the blaze. They were aided by helicopters from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

Aerial support was critical in helping firefighters slow the spread of flames, Vaccaro said. Crews were working to surround and contain the fire as of 6:45 p.m.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2020/07/20/wildfire-in-highland-spreads-rapidly-toward-san-bernardino-national-forest/>