



NEWS



News Headlines 07/22/2020

- Easton fire in Highland stopped at 71 acres

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Water dropping helicopters battle the Easton fire on Monday July 20, 2020. (Courtesy San Bernardino County Fire Department)

A wildfire that broke out in Highland was fully contained Tuesday afternoon after scorching 71 acres, with no injuries or damage to structures reported, a **San Bernardino County Fire** Department spokesman said.

The Easton fire at Highway 330 and Highland Avenue fire was reported late Monday afternoon and moved quickly, heading for the San Bernardino National Forest, but firefighters and aircraft kept it from entering the forest boundary, said Jeremy Kern, a captain with the department.

The fire's progress had slowed by Monday evening, and it was declared 100 percent contained around 2 p.m. Tuesday.

Containment is when a fire break is created around the perimeter of a blaze and firefighters are able to enter the burn area for final detail work.

Firefighters remained on the scene to check on hot spots.

Cause of the fire remained under investigation, Kern said. Crews had initially been dispatched Monday in response to unconfirmed reports of a homeless encampment that had caught fire in the area.

Kern said Tuesday investigators had found the fire's point of origin and were using drones to help gather information.

There were more than 100 firefighters from several agencies on the scene at the height of the blaze, aided by aircraft. The large response was because "we know what the potential is for fire in those hills," Kern said.

The fire burned about a half-mile east of the highway, in the same area where the Mart fire blackened over 600 acres in 2017.

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