



Southern California Wildfires – Update 12/17/17

Risk Services Division

17 December 2017

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Southern California Wildfires

December 17, 2017 - 8AM ET

- The Thomas fire is now the third-largest fire on record in the state.
- The fire has burned through 259,000 acres and is approximately 40 percent contained.
- Mandatory evacuation orders were issued for large swaths of the county, including Montecito and some parts of the city of Santa Barbara.
- The mandatory and voluntary evacuation orders in the City of Ventura have been lifted.
- 2 deaths have been reported in the fires.

Summary

Extreme fire danger will continue through Sunday evening, due to very dry conditions and gusty north winds shifting to northeast. There is potential for very rapid fire growth, long-range spotting and extreme fire behavior. Red flag conditions expected to continue in Ventura and LA counties through Sunday evening.

Individuals in cities near the fires are likely to experience health and safety concerns, as the winds will carry smoke and ash from the fires. Clients who operate in the construction, forestry, and infrastructure, among other outdoor industries, will likely experience the highest risk of exposure to smoke and ash. People with respiratory conditions are highly likely to be at risk of ash and smoke inhalation. It is recommended that individuals traveling to or through the affected areas monitor local news sources for any road closures; clients in the area are further encouraged to limit outdoor activity.

Impacts

- Burning in Santa Barbara (pop. 445k) and Ventura (pop. 851k) counties.
- Evacuations remain in effect for over 93k residents.
- Shelters: 2 open / 283 (+4) occupants.
- A boil water advisory remains in effect for both counties.

Active Fires

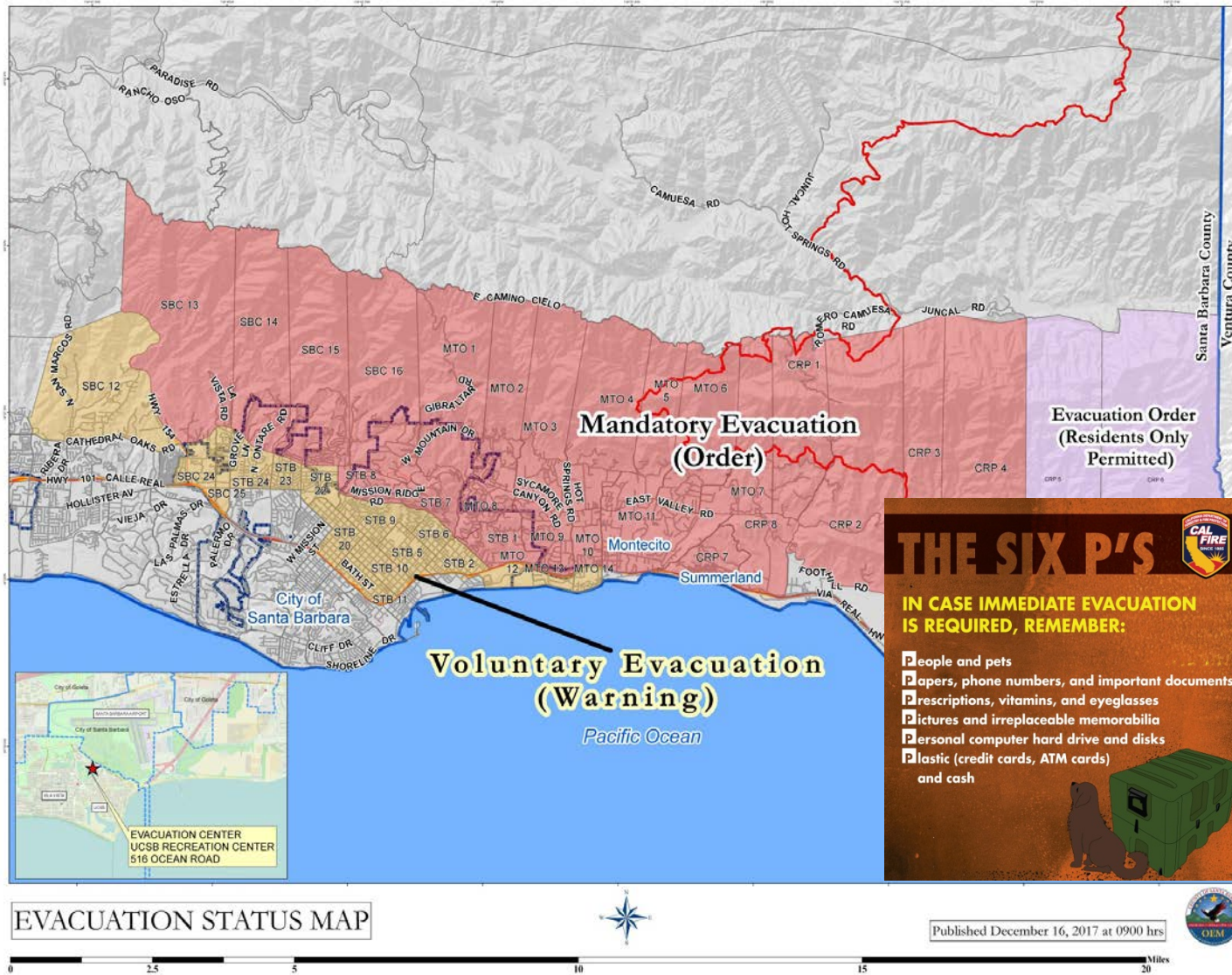
Fire Name (County)	Acres Burned	Percent Contained	Evacuations	Structures			Fatalities/Injuries
				Threatened	Damaged	Destroyed	
California							
Thomas (Ventura County)	259,000 (+3,000)	40%	Mandatory 93k	18,000	185 Homes 44 Other	746 Homes 241 Other	2 / 0

Status and Growth of Fires as of December 17



Evacuation Orders

- Keep your gas tank above half-full. This is especially important for residents in areas likely to be evacuated.
- Gas stations may be closed during emergencies and unable to pump gas during power outages.



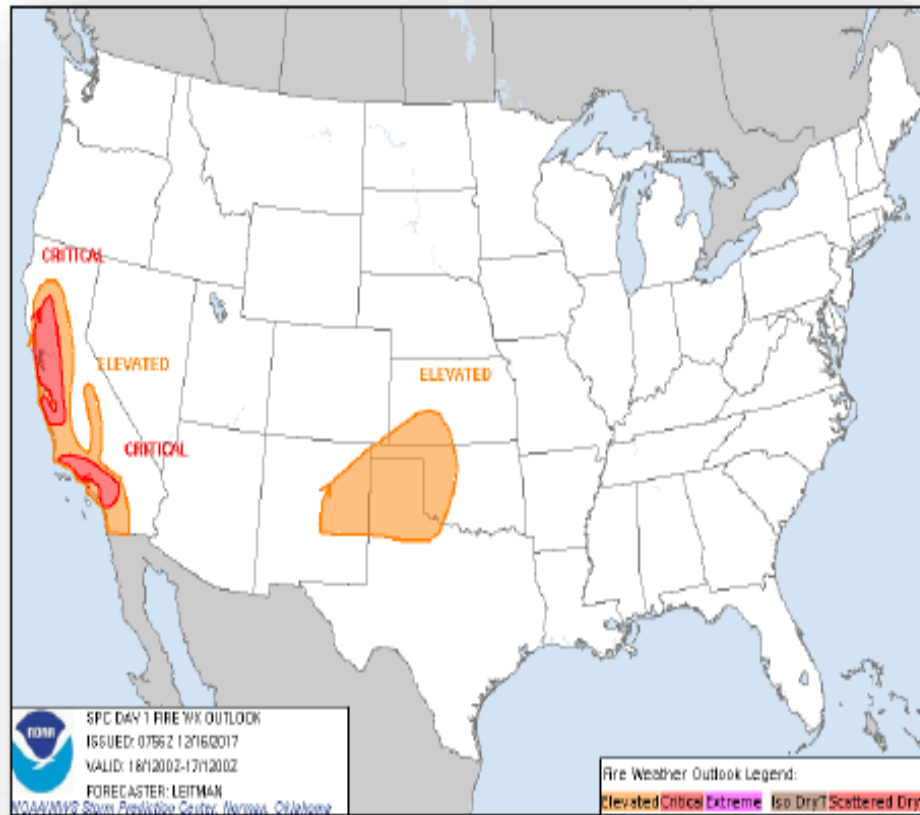
THE SIX P'S

IN CASE IMMEDIATE EVACUATION IS REQUIRED, REMEMBER:

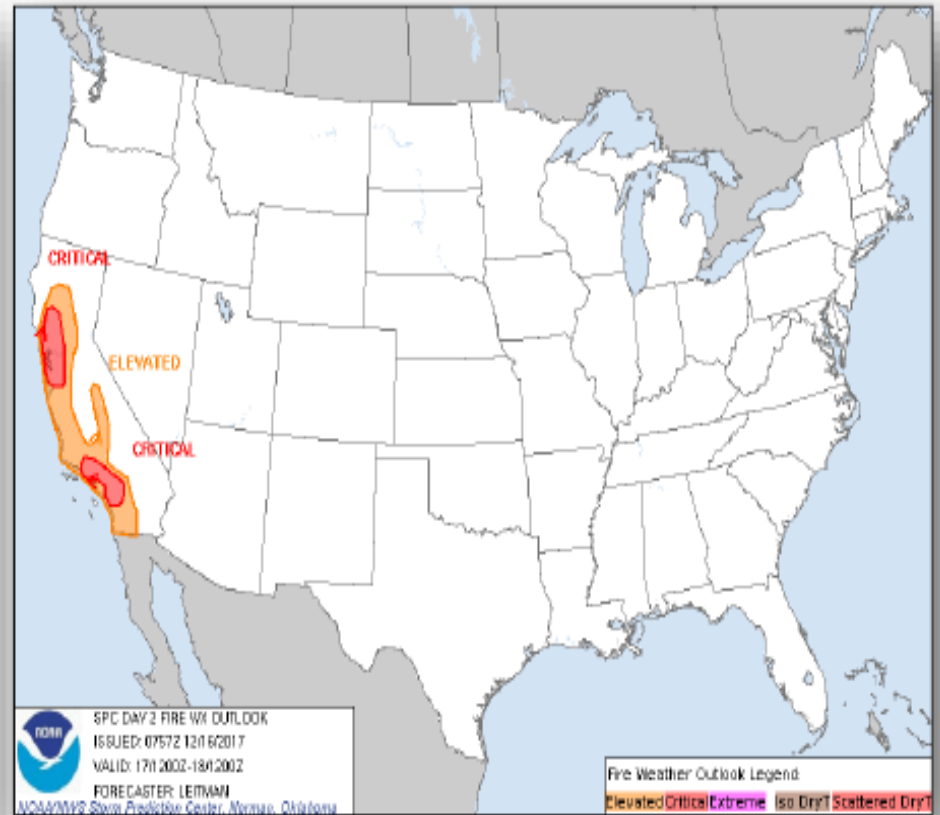
- People and pets
- Papers, phone numbers, and important documents
- Prescriptions, vitamins, and eyeglasses
- Pictures and irreplaceable memorabilia
- Personal computer hard drive and disks
- Plastic (credit cards, ATM cards) and cash

Fire Weather Outlook

- High fire danger this weekend due to 30-40 mph winds.



Today



Tomorrow

For Additional Information:

U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
www.fema.gov

U.S. FEMA – Mobile App
www.fema.gov/mobile-app

Ready Gov
www.ready.gov/wildfires

National Weather Service – Fire Weather
www.srh.noaa.gov/ridge2/fire/

California Gov - Alerts
www.ca.gov

American Red Cross – Active Wildfire Map
www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/wildfire