



Southern California Wildfires – Update 12/7/17

Risk Services Division

7 December 2017

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Southern California Wildfires
December 7, 2017 - 12PM ET

Summary

Santa Ana winds, combined with dry brush and dead trees fueled multiple fires in Ventura and Los Angeles counties the evening of December 4. Thousands of acres burned overnight destroying infrastructure, residences, and prompting mass evacuations. In addition, several major freeways shut down, schools closed, and historical landmarks were threatened. The State Operations Center is activated to coordinate resources in support the communities being affected by the fire. State, local and federal agencies are working together around the clock to support emergency management efforts and provide all the necessary resources.

Forecast

Santa Ana Winds will continue to elevate fire danger in Southern CA with expectant winds reaching 80 mph on Thursday. Any new fires will have extreme levels of fire growth potential.

Active Fires

Fire Name (County)	Acres Burned	Percent Contained	Evacuations	Structures			Fatalities/Injuries
				Threatened	Damaged	Destroyed	
California							
Thomas (Ventura County)	90,000 (+25,000)	5%	Mandatory (80k)	12,000 homes	14 homes	64 homes 10 other	1 / 1
Creek (San Fernando/LA County)	12,605 (+1,200)	5% (+5)	Mandatory (99k)	2,500 homes	1	4 homes	0 / 2
Rye (LA County)	7,000 (+2,000)	10% (+5)	Mandatory (2k)	5,460 (5,090 homes)	0	1	0 / 0
Skirball (LA County)	475	0%	Mandatory (2.2k)	258 (250 homes)	0	4	0 / 0

Status and Growth of Fires as of December 7

Creek

- Start: 12/5/17
- Containment: 5%
- Acres Burned: 12,605

Rye

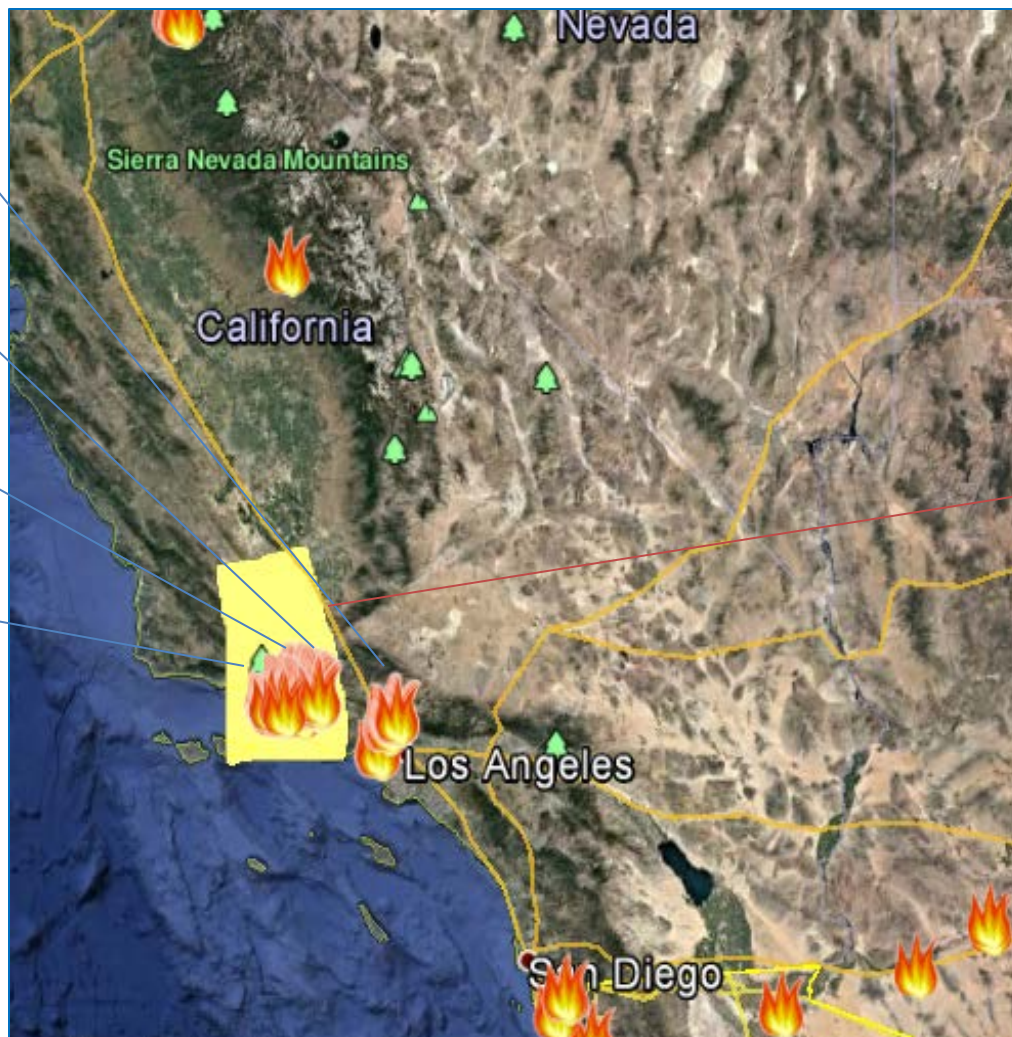
- Start: 12/5/17
- Containment: 10%
- Acres Burned: 7,000

Skirball

- Start: 12/6/17
- Containment: 0%
- Acres Burned: 475

Thomas

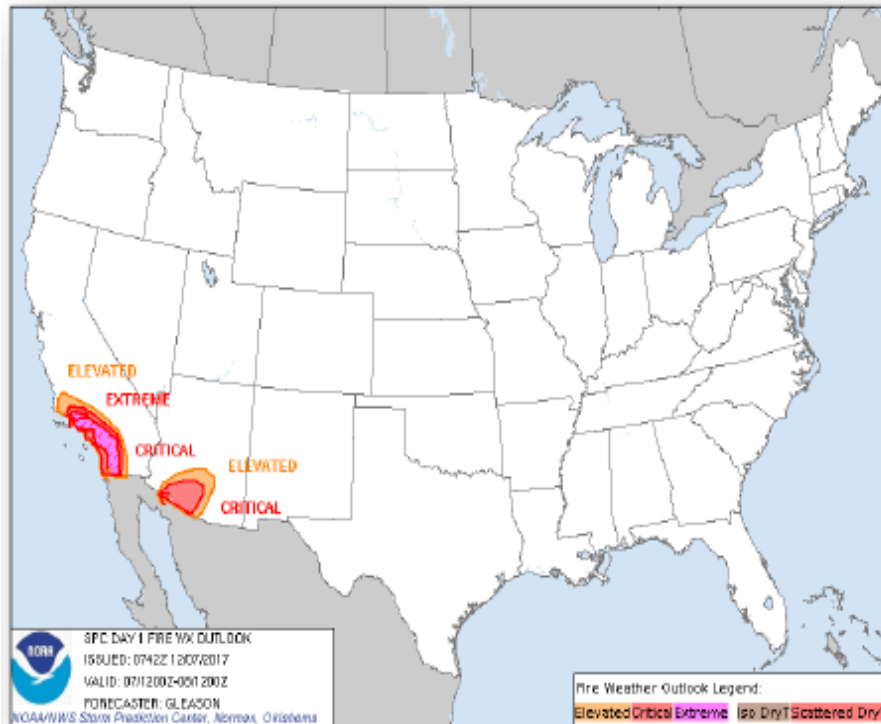
- Start: 12/4/17
- Containment: 5%
- Acres Burned: 90,000



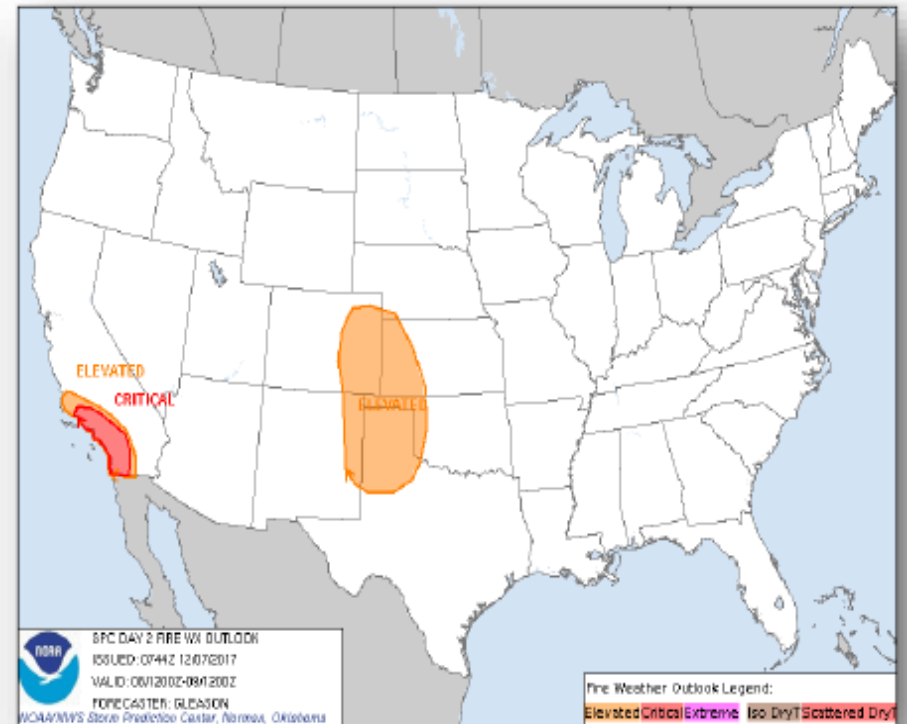
Fire Direction

Fire Weather Outlook

- Any fires that develop will likely spread rapidly.
- Shifting winds may push ongoing fires in new directions.



Today

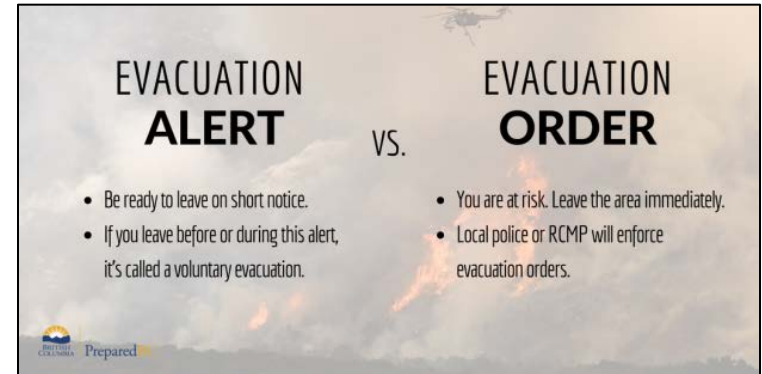


Tomorrow

Advice - preparing for evacuation:

An evacuation alert is a notification of potential danger that might arise. An evacuation alert does not mean you have to evacuate; rather, you should be prepared to evacuate with very short notice. Consider the following actions:

- Family members should agree on which evacuation resource center they're traveling to
- Set up meeting point in case they are separated
- Establish an emergency contact who lives out of town that will be able to keep track of their whereabouts
- Pack an emergency kit or "go bag" to include items such as:
 - Important paperwork like insurance and identification documents
 - Medicine
 - Non-perishable food
 - Water (4 liters per person per day)
 - Clothing for a few days
 - Blankets
 - Cash
 - Comfort items for children
 - Cellphone chargers
- Secure your home – you should do the following if it is deemed safe:
 - Close doors and windows
 - Close and latch gates, but leave them unlocked
 - Shut off the water
 - Switch electricity off
 - Leave the natural gas "on."
- Officials say you should take your pets with you.
- However, you'll need to plan where to take them as many evacuation shelters do not allow animals.
- Household pets should be leashed or in a carrier.



For Additional Information:

U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<https://www.fema.gov/>

U.S. FEMA – Mobile App
<https://www.fema.gov/mobile-app>

Ready Gov
<https://www.ready.gov/wildfires>

National Weather Service – Fire Weather
<https://www.srh.noaa.gov/ridge2/fire/>

California Gov - Alerts
<https://ca.gov/#alertsection>

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