

The Fires: Day 8



Firefighters survey fire damage

Sunday, October 28, 2007

Predictive Services Morning Report:

A ridge of high pressure over California will bring warmer temperatures and lower humidity to the region today. Temperatures will be around 10 degrees above normal, and humidity will be mainly between 15% and 30%. Winds will continue to be very light today.

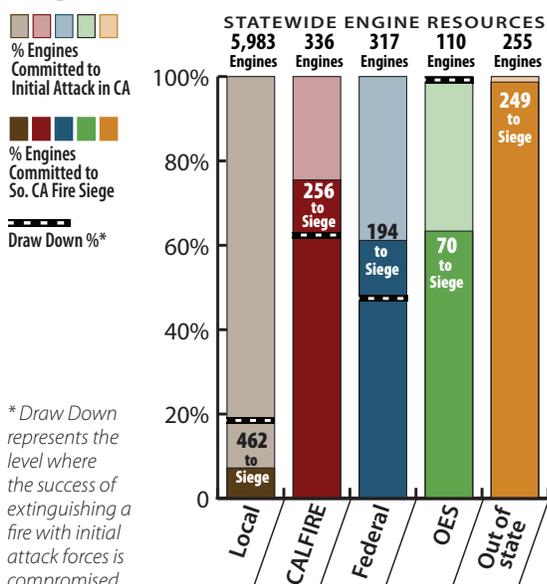
Today's Events:

Direct line construction on the fire perimeter is nearly completed for the **Santiago Fire**, but threats to property and structures continue. Continued aircraft support is deemed critical. Fire behavior is moderate with creeping and some short runs when the fire aligns with fuels and topography. Structure protection remains in place in Silverado & Trabuco Canyons. A burn plan is approved for Silverado Canyon and remains an option for future use.

The **Poomacha Fire** experiences active backing fire north of Palomar divide, and moderate runs upslope in the interior of the burn. The DC-10, Martin Mars, six C-130 (MAFFS), and six heavy air tankers are working together to contain the spread of the fire. The estimated containment date is pushed back two days to October 31. Firefighters continue structure protection and perimeter control. Crews

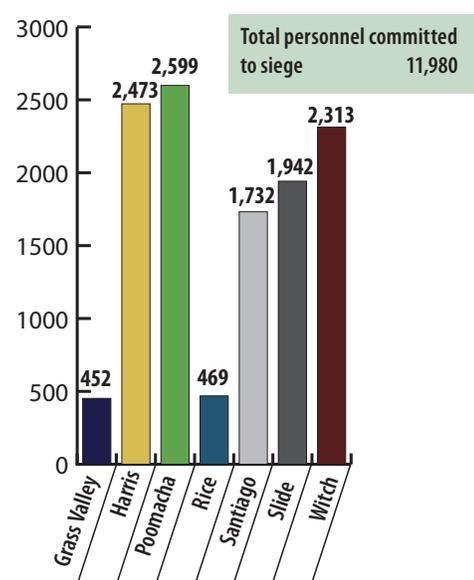
Resources Committed:

Engines, October 28, 2007



Resources Committed:

Personnel, October 28, 2007



experience difficulties in mop-up in the Agua Tibia Wilderness. A complete re-entry of residents is expected by this evening.

There is minimal fire activity with no significant fire spread on the **Harris Fire**. To prevent future escape, significant mop-up is required in steep terrain with heavy fuels. Residents re-enter the fire area. Navy Seabees work contingency lines and assist in demobilization. The fire team reports excellent production by out-of-state crews.

With the **Witch Fire** 95% contained, the cities of San Diego, Poway and Escondido along with the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District transition out of Unified Command and serve as Agency Representatives. All communities are repopulated and San Diego Gas and Electric continues to restore utility services. Damage assessment and fire line suppression repair continues. Significant demobilization is under way.

Evacuation and closure orders remain in effect for the **Grass Valley** and **Slide** fire areas. However, mandatory evacuations are lifted east of Heaps Peak. Re-entry for Lake Arrowhead area is expected shortly. Power, gas, and water companies work in the fire area to restore services. Meanwhile, crews continue to mop-up and patrol residential areas with helicopter infrared (IR) to identify hot spots and prioritize mop-up.

The **Ammo Fire** is contained at 21,004 acres.

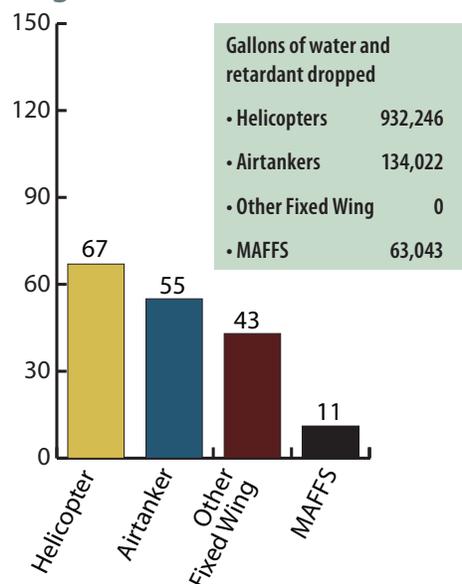
■ Tribal Task Force established to provide liaison and address concerns with impacted tribes in San Diego County.

■ Governor Schwarzenegger toured the local assistance center at Cuyamaca College.

■ Subject Matter Specialists from Planning, Logistics, Community Relations, Public Assistance and External Affairs deployed from the FEMA Joint Field Office in Pasadena to San Diego.

The California National Guard (CNG) has 2,388 personnel committed to supporting the siege. Since October 22, CNG has mobilized a total of 10 helicopters, helped deploy 6 C-130 aircraft with Modular Airborne Fire-fighting System (MAFFS), and coordinated airborne tactical reconnaissance aircraft. While two Air Guards were placed on standby for Search-and-Rescue, additional CNG resources provided security at evacuation centers at Del Mar Raceway and Qualcomm Park.

■ Resources Committed: Aircraft, Flight Hours, October 28, 2007



Flames subsided but smoky skies remained the norm throughout the week.