



## POWER HOUSE FIRE INFORMATION (626) 574-5200 8AM – 11 PM

Friday, May 31, 2013

**Acton, CA** – The Power House fire started on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> just after 3:30PM approximately 3 miles west of Bouquet Reservoir in San Francisquito Canyon on the Santa Clara / Mojave Rivers Ranger District of the Angeles National Forest. It is burning north toward Tule Ridge into steep brushy terrain, much of which has not burned in decades. High winds and low humidity contributed to rapid fire growth in the first 3 hours of the fire.

Although aggressive firefighting tactics were deployed immediately, the fire was spotting (jumping) up to quarter of mile. Both fixed-wing and helicopters dropped water and retardant to build and support fire-line. Firefighters on the ground built fire lines and caught spot fires as much as possible. Power lines were affected by the fires growth and are being assessed for damage. Residents of the Green Valley community were evacuated yesterday afternoon but were able to return to their homes by evening.

A Type 2 fire management team was requested yesterday afternoon. Southern California Interagency Incident Management Team One is in place and managing the fire as of 0600 this morning for the Angeles National Forest. The Incident Command Post is located at the Pelona Vista Park in Palmdale.

The fire grew to **1400 acres** overnight including a 200 acre spot fire to the east. Containment is at **15%**. Crews continued to build fire-line through the night.

Today firefighters are strengthening & reinforcing existing dozer lines, improving access roads to the fire and constructing line around the fire.

Weather for the next two days will be in the mid 90's with relative humidity dropping into the single digits. Wind will be coming out of the northwest at 15 mph. This predicted weather may cause some increased fire spread.

### Closures:

- Hikers on the PCT are being redirected for the 13 mile trail section between Bouquet Canyon and Lake Hughes. A re-route is being implemented.
- Francisquito Canyon road is closed above the Power House and below Green Valley.
- Calle Daggett road is open to residents only.
- Copper Portal road is open to residents only.
- Bouquet Canyon road is open to residents only.
- Elizabeth Lake road is open to residents only.

### Power House Fire Summary:

**Size:** 1,400 acres

**Containment:** 15%

**Date Started:** 05/30/2013

**Cause:** Under Investigation

**Expected Containment:** soon

**Resources:** 16 engines, 3 water tenders, 5 dozers, 6 hand-crews, 7 helicopters, 10 fixed-wing and 8 air tankers

**Injuries to Date:** 1 minor

**Impacts:** Smoke impacts to local communities (Palmdale area); Pelona Vista Park users may be displaced and PCT hikers are being re-routed

**Total Personnel:** 600