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NEWS

GALLERY

JUN 17 2016, 10:35 AM ET

# Sherpa Wildfire Threatens Santa Barbara

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A wildfire continued to advance near the coast of Santa Barbara early Friday as it ripped through 1,400 acres and forced homeowners to flee.

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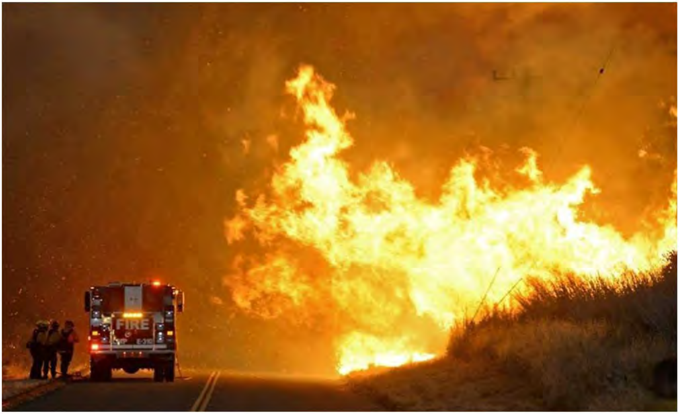

**1.** A fire crew takes shelter behind an engine as the Sherpa Fire advances at El Capitan State Beach in Santa Barbara, California, June 16, 2016. A wind-whipped wildfire continued to advance near the coast of Santa Barbara, California, early Friday as it ripped through some 1,400 acres and forced homeowners to flee, fire officials said.

Ron Eliason / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

**2.** A firefighter battles flames from the Sherpa Fire, June 16.

Mike Eliason / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

**3.** A sky crane helicopter makes a drop as the Sherpa Fire burns on the divider of Highway 101 at El Capitan State Beach, June 16.

Ron Eliason / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

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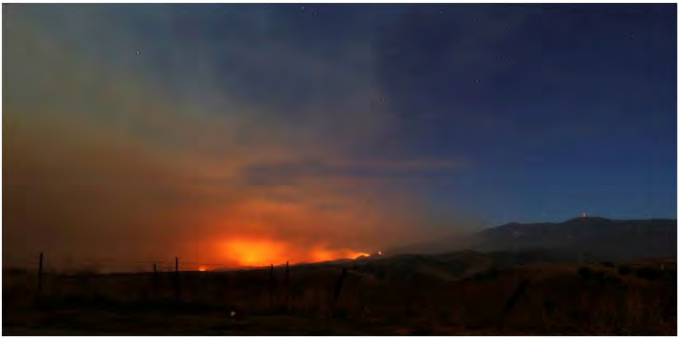

**4.** The so-called "Sherpa Fire" burns in the hills near Santa Barbara, June 16.

MARIO ANZUONI / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

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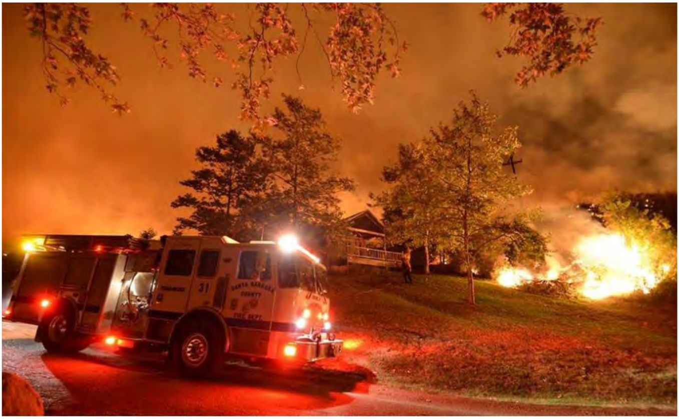

**5.** Fire crews are shown on scene for structure protection during the Sherpa Fire at El Capitan Ranch Campground, June 16.

Ron Eliason / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

**6.** A firefighter battles flames from the Sherpa Fire, June 16.

Mike Eliason / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

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**7.** Flames are shown from the Sherpa Fire in the hills above Santa Barbara, June 15.

Mike Eliason / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

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**8.** A Hotshots member from the U.S. Forest Department sets a back fire while battling the "Sherpa Fire", which has grown to over 1100 acres overnight, in the hills near Goleta, June 16.

MARIO ANZUONI / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

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**9.** A Hotshots member from the U.S. Forest Department sets a back fire while battling the "Sherpa Fire" in the hills near Goleta, June 16.

MARIO ANZUONI / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

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**10.** CalFire firefighters spray water on a controlled back fire while battling the "Sherpa Fire", June 16.

MARIO ANZUONI / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
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SUPT. 1

**11.** A DC-10 aircraft drops fire retardant on the Sherpa Fire in the hills above Santa Barbara, June 15.

Mike Eliason / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

**12.** Kimberly Yom and Trace Martin watch as smoke rises from the "Sherpa Fire" in the hills near Santa Barbara, June 16.

MARIO ANZUONI / Santa Barbara County Fire Department via Reuters

**TOPICS** U.S. NEWS, ENVIRONMENT, PHOTO, WEATHER

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**FIRST PUBLISHED** JUN 17 2016, 10:35 AM ET

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NEWS

JUN 20 2016, 11:55 PM ET

# Deadly Heat Wave Adds Misery to Fire-Ravaged West

by F. BRINLEY BRUTON , CORKY SIEMASZKO and ALEX JOHNSON

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▶ **Brutal Heat Wave in Arizona Responsible for at Least 5 Deaths**
2:17

Summer got off to a sizzling start Monday as a deadly heat wave sent temperatures soaring across the Southwest again and forecasters warned the mercury could hit anywhere from 120 to 125 degrees this week.

Excessive heat warnings and heat advisories were in effect across Southern California, Nevada and Arizona, affecting 25 million Americans, the National Weather Service reported.

Another heat-related death in Arizona was confirmed Monday, when authorities said a woman walking on a multi-use path called The Loop collapsed and died Sunday night in Tucson. The deaths of four people in Arizona over the weekend were confirmed Sunday.

Meanwhile, the searing temperatures were complicating the battle against explosive wildfires that have already scorched tens of thousands of acres in the region, forcing evacuations throughout the Southwest.

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It was hot enough in Arizona to fry eggs on the sidewalk, the Arizona Republic reported.

"Numerous locations in Arizona reaches 120 degrees yesterday, including city of Yuma," said Michael Palmer, The Weather Channel's lead meteorologist. "Excessive heat warnings continue for at least two more days."

About 150 miles northeast of Phoenix, firefighters battled the Cedar fire, which had consumed 26,739 acres by Monday afternoon, incident commanders said. It was only 40 percent contained, they said.

**NWS Tucson** ✓
@NWSTucson

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3:54 AM - 20 Jun 2016

66 28

A 25-year-old man died Saturday while hiking with two friends along the Peralta Trail in Pinal County, 70 miles southeast of Phoenix, Sheriff Paul Babeu said. A second hiker was still missing, he said.

Sunday, a 28-year-old woman who worked as a personal trainer died during a morning hike along the Desert Vista Trail in Maricopa County, Phoenix fire officials told NBC News.

Later Sunday, two hikers — a man and a woman in their early 20s hiking in Pima County — left the trail without taking along water and had to be rescued by helicopter, authorities said. The woman died before deputies arrived, and the man was being treated at a hospital, the Pima County Sheriff's Department said Sunday night.

Two other hikers had to be rescued Monday morning after they suffered heat-related-illnesses in Palm Desert, California, authorities told NBC News. Rescue crews hiked a mile up a hilly trail to reach the hikers after two attempts to get there by helicopter failed.

Their conditions weren't immediately reported.

The deadly heat was also hastening separate blazes across the region.

The Dog Head Fire covering close to 18,000 acres near southeast of Albuquerque, New Mexico, meanwhile, was 46 percent contained Monday night. A second New Mexico fire, dubbed North, continued growing near the town of Magdalena and was at 36,110 acres, with 30 percent containment.

**CAL FIRE** ✓
@CAL_FIRE

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#SherpaFire [update] west of Goleta (Santa Barbara Co) is now 7,893 acres & 51% contained. inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4786/

8:37 AM - 20 Jun 2016 · Roseville, CA, United States

55 40

In California, the 7,890-acre Sherpa fire, which had threatened communities and a campground near Santa Barbara, was 62 percent contained Monday night.

Meanwhile, near downtown Los Angeles, a small but dangerous fire threatened a densely populated, hilly neighborhood along Highway 39 amid sizzling temperatures Monday.

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TOPICS WEATHER

FIRST PUBLISHED JUN 20 2016, 7:15 AM ET

NEXT STORY Mom of 'Affluenza' Teen Gets Break on House Arrest

Smoke from wildfires burning in Angeles National Forest fills the sky as seen from Los Angeles. Ringo H.W. Chiu / AP

The highway was closed, and residents of the communities of Mountain Cove and San Gabriel Canyon were evacuated, incident commanders said late Monday afternoon.

"Both the heat and the breeze are helping spread the fire," said Brian Donegan, a meteorologist for The Weather Channel. But he said firefighters should catch a break Tuesday, when winds should die down.

And evacuations were ordered Monday afternoon for residents in the Mountain Cove and Rainbow Ranch neighborhoods in Azusa, California. Two brush fires are burning in Angeles National Forest, one of them believed to have been started by a vehicle that went off the road, the U.S. Forest Service said.

All told, more than 3,000 firefighters were battling 10 major wildfires across California, incident commanders said Monday.

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NEWS
JUN 20 2016, 4:42 PM ET

# Mom of 'Affluenza' Teen Gets Break on House Arrest

by THE ASSOCIATED PRESS