Public Works Agency Response: Thomas Fire

Ventura County Watershed Protection District

Glenn Shephard, P.E., Deputy Director, Public Works Agency
Ventura County Perspective

- Fire Timing
- Emergency Management
  - Sheriff’s EOC
- Flood Warning System
Are you Lucky or Are you Good?
Incident Command System Challenges

• Different response structures throughout state/federal organizations
• Incompatible communications across agency platforms
• Blurred lines of authority leading to response delays and confusion
• Difficulty coordinating planning efforts among multiple agencies
• Differences in terminology used amongst agencies
• Too many responders reporting to a single supervisor
• Lack of accurate and reliable incident information
Ventura County Emergency Management
VCPWA - Sheriff’s EOC Presence

PWA EOC Embedded Team:
• Hydrologists
• Geologist
• PWA Duty Officer (Transportation/Flood Fighting)

Forecasting and Modeling:
• National Weather Service
• Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
  • Fox Weather, LLC (Private Meteorological Consultant)
• Hydrology Models run every 4 hours with forecasted and observed rainfall
  • Updated QPF / Rainfall Actuals / Stream Flow plots

Thursday, May 31, 2018
Evacuation/Planning Zones
## Rainfall Ending 02/08/2018 14:01 PST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>La Conchita - Schaefer Ranch</th>
<th>Seycliff Fire Station</th>
<th>Carpinteria Fire Station</th>
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<tr>
<td>15-min Total</td>
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<td>30-min Total</td>
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<td>3-hour Total</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Evacuation Status:** No evacuations at this time
Flood Warning System - Rainfall
Observed and Forecast Stream Levels
Santa Clara River at Victoria Ave

Action: Prepare for possible backwater at Stroube Drain, Ventura Road Flooded.
Flooding: Possible backwater at Stroube Drain. Flooding Ventura Road near Town Center Dr.
Moderate: Flooding at Wagon Wheel area.
Major: Possible flooding Gonzales Road near Harbor Blvd and near Gap.

Data to be Considered Preliminary

Stream Gage Network
Watershed Protection District
Rain Season Preparations

Additional debris basin cleanouts

Additional channel cleanouts

Adjusted Flood Warning System alarm settings for debris flows

Pre-deployed USACOE contracted equipment - PL 84-99 authority

USGS Thresholds (Burned Areas)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Threshold</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>3 Hours</td>
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QUESTIONS
Ventura County Emergency Management