

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

Incident Number: 17-0062226

Information Contact: Douglas Miser, Battalion Chief

Incident Type: Fire in the Ventura River Area

Date/Time of Incident: July 29, 2017 at 10:03am

Incident Location: **Ventura River at West Main Street**

Cause: Under Investigation

Injuries: (general) None Reported

Number of Personnel: 30 Fire, 1 State Lifeguard and 1 State Ranger

Fire Equipment: 3 Engines, 2 Battalion Chiefs, 1 Operations Chief, County Fire Helicopter, 1 County Fire Hand Crew, 1 Water Tender

Agencies Involved: Ventura City Fire Department, Ventura County Fire Department
California State Parks Department

Narrative: A fire erupted in a vagrant encampment adjacent to the Emma Wood Group Campground just after 10am this morning. The Ventura Fire Communications center received multiple calls as the fire grew quickly. The fire was located in a 30X30 area in a remote location far into the river bottom. The fire consisted of a very large pile of human debris and trash. The fire spread into the brush and was moving towards the Union Pacific train trestle. The Ventura County Sheriff/Fire Air unit was able to make multiple water drops on the fire to arrest the spread of the fire.

Ventura County hand crews, in coordination with Ventura Firefighters, were able to fully extinguish the fire in approximately an hour and a half with hand tools and saws. The cause of the fire is under investigation and there were no witnesses to the start of the fire. If the public has any information in regard to the incident, please call (805) 339-4300.

Photo attached on next page.



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