

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

Date: Sunday, July 21, 2019

Incident Number: 19-0057784

Incident Commander: Kris McDonald, Battalion Chief

Incident Type: Brush Fire

Date/Times of Incident: Sunday, July 21, 2019, 10:44-13:01 hours

Incident Location: Ventura River Bottom, Ventura, CA

Cause: Accidental, operation of a motorized bicycle.

Injuries: None Reported

Units Committed: 6 Engine Companies, 2 Hand Crews, 1 Water Tender, 1 Helicopter, 3 Chief Officers

Total Fire Personnel: 63

Agencies Involved: Ventura City Fire Dept, Ventura County Fire Dept, Oxnard Fire Dept, Cal Fire, Ventura Police Dept

Narrative: Ventura City Fire personnel and units responded to multiple reports of a brush fire in the area of Ventura River, near Highway 101 & Main St. First arriving unit reported a 50'x50' wind-driven vegetation fire in medium/heavy brush with a moderate rate of spread, no structures threatened, smoke and ash impacting adjacent bike path and Main St traffic. Rotor-wing aircraft dropped buckets of water to reduce the intensity, while fire engine crews used progressive hose lays and hand crews cut handline to surround the fire, cutting off its forward progress within 40 minutes. Total containment and thorough mop-up was accomplished within 2 hours. The cause/origin of the fire was determined to be accidental, resulting from a motorized bicycle which ignited some light grass, final size of fire determined to be just under 1 acre. No injuries were reported at the time of this release. No photos or further information available at this time.

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