

Wildfires spark evacuations in northern California

2 July 2018



Firefighters scramble to control flames surrounding a fire truck as the Pawnee fire jumps across highway 20 near Clearlake Oaks, California

The Thomas fire, in the Santa Barbara area in December, killed two people, destroyed more than 1,000 buildings—including multimillion-dollar homes—and torched some 259,000 acres. It was deemed the third most destructive blaze since 1932.



Other active blazes include the Pawnee Fire in Lake County and the Waverly Fire in San Joaquin County

Californian authorities have issued red flag weather warnings and mandatory evacuation orders after a series of wildfires fanned by high winds and hot temperatures ripped through thousands of acres.

The latest blaze, the County Fire sparked in Yolo County on Saturday, had by Sunday afternoon spread across 22,000 acres (9,000 hectares) with zero percent containment, according to Cal Fire.

More than 100 [fire](#) trucks and a dozen helicopters are involved in putting out the inferno. The fire crossed over into Napa County on Sunday afternoon.

Other active blazes include the Pawnee Fire in Lake County, which had burned 14,150 acres but was 73 percent contained as of early Sunday. The Waverly Fire in San Joaquin County had spread some 12,300 acres and was 75 percent contained.

Last year was California's deadliest for fires.

October fires in the wine regions of Napa and Sonoma valleys, north of San Francisco, killed some 40 people, razed some 245,000 [acres](#) of forest and scrub, and destroyed more than 7,000 homes and buildings.



A helicopter drops water on a hillside as firefighters scramble to get control as flames from the Pawnee fire near Clearlake Oaks, California

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APA citation: Wildfires spark evacuations in northern California (2018, July 2) retrieved 26 June 2019 from <https://phys.org/news/2018-07-wildfires-evacuations-northern-california.html>

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