



**Wrightwood Fire Safe Council**

P.O. Box 3100  
Wrightwood, CA 92397  
(760) 249-3249

[www.wrightwoodfsc.com](http://www.wrightwoodfsc.com)

## Meeting Minutes

**Call to order:** The general meeting for the Wrightwood Fire Safe Council (WFSC) was called to order by Jim Emery on July 18, 2023 at 1807 hours local time. This meeting was held at the Wrightwood Community Building. Audio of this meeting is available here: <https://wrightwoodfsc.com/zoom/WFSC.7.18.23.mp3>

**Roll call:** The following WFSC Board of Directors were present: John Aziz, Robert Comperini, Jim Emery, Hank Hallmark, Ben Smith. Absent was Tim Heinrich, David Larkin, Kathy Smith.

The following agency representatives were present: Lauren Blake (SB National Forest), Julie Clark (US Cooperative Extension – Ventura), Travis Lemm (CAL FIRE), Ray Mitchilson (Los Angeles Fire), Isidro Mora (ANF), Vicky Renick (Mountaineer Progress), Strech Suba (CERT), Ariel Verayo (LA County Agricultural Commission), Capt Wright (SB CO FIRE).

**Public comments and questions:** None

**Approval of minutes:** The minutes of the June 20, 2023 meeting were approved as written. Motion to approve was made by John Aziz. Motion seconded by Hank Hallmark. Motion approved 4/0. Ben Smith abstained as he was not present at the meeting.

### Cooperative Partner & Agency Updates:

Angeles National Forest (Ron White): Big Pines project still in progress along the north side of the highway. Current plans include another contract that was awarded for fuel reduction continuing along the south side of Big Pines Highway all the way to Camp Elk. Ron briefly discussed other fuel reduction projects in other areas of the forest. ANF is at full staffing level. ANF was present at Mountaineer Days. Organizational camp inspections have begun. Current fire danger level is "high". Expect this level to be raised to "very high" soon.

San Bernardino National Forest (Lauren Blake): There are still staffing (and retention) issues in the forest. Lauren discussed how other agencies supply staff and equipment when needed. Aerial support is still well staffed. Fuel moisture levels: Sycamore 71-76. The average is 73. A level of 60 is considered critical. Lauren discussed upcoming fuel reduction projects that are planned. These include areas near Big Bear and Lytle Creek. Because of many factors, it appears that the I-15 corridor project may not get done this year. Caltrans has been mowing and doing what they can in that area. The SB National Forest is trying to hire more people.

CCC: No representative, no report.

CAL FIRE (Travis Lemm): Supported several smaller fires this season. CAL FIRE crews are currently working a fire in the Riverside area. CAL FIRE is fully staffed in this area. Burn permits have been suspended on state lands. CAL FIRE is also trying to hire more people.

LA County Agricultural Commission (Ariel Verayo): As of June 30, 2023, all Wrightwood properties are in compliance. Ariel discussed the current state of other areas within the Antelope Valley. 24 properties were cleared by their department. The remaining non-compliant properties in Wrightwood were cleared by their owners.

LA County Fire (Ray Mitchilson): July 4<sup>th</sup> was a very busy time for LA County Fire. Additional resources were stationed in the Antelope Valley to handle emergencies. We estimate that maybe 50 acres of land



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was burned between Lancaster and Palmdale. At one point, LA County Fire had 43 active incidents in the Antelope Valley.

SB County Fire (Capt. Wright): There was a recent small fire at Camp Wrightwood. The fire was on the ground, about 100 feet long. The cause is unknown, but most likely caused by a camper. Capt Wright discussed staffing levels, and how resources are moved around to cover shortages. WFSC board member Hank Hallmark asked for an updated map of all fire hydrants in town, so we could resurrect the adopt-a-hydrant program.

SB County Code Enforcement: No representative, no report.

US Cooperative Extension (Julie Clark): One new GSOB amplifier tree has been identified in Wrightwood. This tree is on private property. The contract for US Cooperative Extension to support GSOB in WW ends in November 2023. Julie made the Powerpoint presentations presented at the recent GSOB training event to the WFSC.

CERT (Strech Suba): The next CERT training will take place on September 9, 16 and 23 in the Wrightwood Community Center from 0800-1630. 51 People signed up to receive CERT information at Mountaineer Days.

**Treasurer's report:** Ben Smith reported on recent financial activity. Ben reported that during WDAD, we received \$380 in donations. The Green Waste event generated \$1,582 in donations. Several invoices were paid. Ending bank balance is \$24,117.54.

**New/ Continued Business:** None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1920 hours local time. The next general WFSC meeting will be held at the Wrightwood Community Building on August 15, 2023 at 6pm.

Minutes submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Comperini".

Robert Comperini, Secretary  
Wrightwood Fire Safe Council



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### Meeting Attendees

WFSC 7/18/23

Name	Agency
John Ruiz	WFSC
Robert Conperini	WFSC
Ben Smith	WFSC
Jim Emery	WFSC
Atank Hallmarks	WFSC
STRECH SuBA	CERT
Travis Lamm	CALFIRE
Ron Ukire	ANF BCSS
Isidro Mora	ANF PT-38
Lauren Blake	San Bernardino NF
Ariel Virayo	LA. Co. Agric. Comm / W & M
Julie Clark	VC Cooperative Extension