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

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 October 20, 2026 at 1800 hours local time. This meeting was held at the Wrightwood Community Building. Audio of this meeting is available here: https://www.wrightwoodfsc.com/zoom/WFSC.10.20.26.mp3.

Flag salute: The flag salute was led by Jim Emery.

Roll call: The following WFSC Board of Directors were present: John Aziz, Robert Comperini, Jim Emery, Tim Heinrich, Ben Smith. Absent was Tom Foley.

The following agency representatives were present: See attached attendance log.

Approval of minutes: The minutes of the 09/15/2026 meeting was accepted as written. Motion to approve made by Jim Emery. Motion seconded by Ben Smith. Motion approved 5/0.

Public comments: Strech Suba (CERT) CERT held a training class last weekend. The class included 6 people from Wrightwood. The upcoming sandbagging event has moved to November 7, 2026.

Jim Emery announced that the annual Winter Traffic meeting would take place at the Wrightwood Community Center on October 21, 2026.

Cooperative partner & agency updates:

Angeles National Forest: The ANF fuel reduction project along the north side of Big Pines Highway, is 50-65% complete.

San Bernardino National Forest: No representative, no report.

CCC: No representative, no report.

CAL FIRE: CAL FIRE thanks the Wrightwood Chamber of Commerce for hosting the annual chili cookoff event. CAL FIRE had a booth at that event. CAL FIRE representatives discussed the current staffing and equipment levels. Also discussed was a recap of various fires in the southern California area, that took place during the most recent Santa Ana wind event. Fenner crews have been out in the Wrightwood area working on removing infested trees. Fuel moisture values are 56% this month. Last month's value was 54%. Values below 60% moisture is considered "critical".

Adrian Poloni: Discussed his role. Adrian talked about tree mortality rates. See attached handout.

Matt Edmonton announced his retirement from CAL FIRE. His last day will be October 29, 2026.

Caltrans: No representative was present, but Adrian Shum sent an email, indicating that fuel reduction work continues along the south bound I-15 near the highway 138 interchange.

IERCD: No representative, no report.

LA County AG: No representative, no report.

LA County Fire: No representative, no report.

SB County Fire: Statistics for this month: 60 total calls, including 43 medical aid, 4 vegetation fires, 1 structure fire, 6 traffic collisions and 6 miscellaneous calls. Station 14 is staffed 24/7/365. The station expects to be busier when winter arrives. Station 14 has sand and bags available to residents.

SB County Code Enforcement: First inspections are done. We are currently working in other mountain communities. In Wrightwood, abatement will begin for properties that are still not in compliance.

CORE: No representative, no report.

Golden State Water: Chase Nankivell, the Water Operations Superintendent in Wrightwood, discussed system upgrades currently taking place. The average water level in the wells is 35 feet. Chase described flow testing that is required to be done to all fire hydrants in the system. All hydrants get tested on a 3-year cycle. Each year, approximately one third of all the hydrants (150) get tested. All water meters in Wrightwood have been upgraded and are remotely read now.

New/continued business: Jim Emery discussed a $3,000 grant we should be receiving from SCE.

Fire Hydrant Adoption: No updates.

CWPP: No updates.

Treasurer's report: Ben Smith mentioned several checks that were written for various items.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1854 hours local time. The next general WFSC meeting will be held on November 17, 2026.

Minutes submitted by:

Robert Comperini

Robert Comperini, Secretary
Wrightwood Fire Safe Council

Wrightwood Fire Safe Council
Attendance Sign In Sheet

Meeting Date: October 20, 2026

Name	Agency/Organization	Email Address
John Katz	WFSC	
Robert Compernolle	WFSC	
Tim Heinrich	WFSC	
Jim Ewing	WFSC	
Ben Smith	WFSC	
STRECH SUBA	CERT	
Drew Smith	Cal Fire / BDU	
Adrian Luis Polon	Cal Fire / SAC HQ	
JORGE PEREZ	USFS	
Kevin Moreire	USFS	
Max Pavlovich	Resident	
Kara Hatfield	resident	
Matt Edmiston	CALFire	
Chase VANKIVELL	GSWC	
Clay Rosenerans	SBCFD - FHA	crosenerans@sbcfire.org
Brandon McGarvey	SBCoFD Station 14	
A. Hernandez	SBCoFD Station 14	
A. Lujan	SBCoFD Station 14	

USDA Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Aerial Detection Survey, Pacific Southwest Region
Southern California, Preliminary Report, June 2026

Preliminary Summary
(numbers may change)
Area surveyed: 2.5 million acres
Acres with mortality: 3,230 acres

Objective: The objective of this survey is to detect and record recently killed and damaged trees. Most of the recorded mortality and damage is caused by insects and diseases.

Surveyors: J. Moore, A. Poloni

Methodology: Recent tree damage and mortality was recorded using Digital Mobile Sketch Mapping systems. When dead or damaged trees were observed surveyors drew a polygon around the trees on a map and recorded the percent of that area that was dead or damaged, the tree species, and the suspected causal agent. It is likely that other pathogens are contributing to damage and mortality, however, they are difficult to assess from the air; therefore, they are not recorded during the aerial survey. Severity of mortality and damage within each polygon was rated as follows: very light (1-3% of mapped area affected), light (4-10%), moderate (11-29%), severe (30-50%) and very severe (>50%).

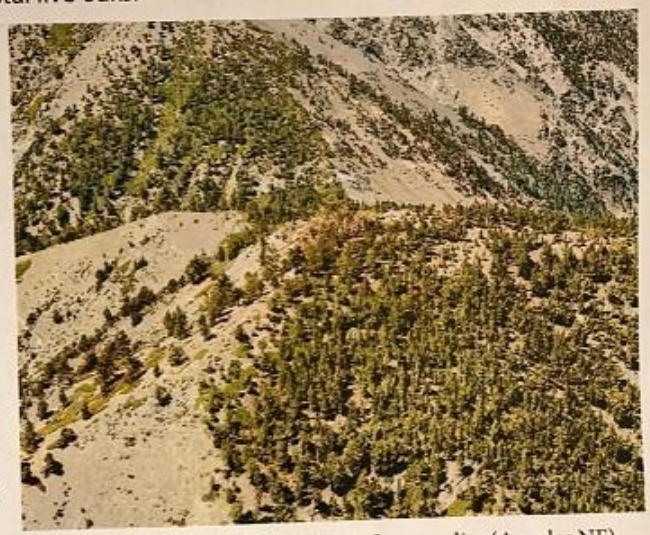
Small groups of trees were recorded as point data and do not have acreage assigned until later processing. Southern California had a high incidence of point data that is not tabulated in this report but is depicted on the map at an exaggerated scale.

Survey Highlights:
This report presents preliminary findings in and around the San Bernardino, Angeles, and Cleveland National Forests (NFs). Recent tree mortality was mostly comprised of white fir, mixed oak, and yellow pine. Yellow pine may include Jeffrey, ponderosa, or Coulter pine as these species are difficult to differentiate from the air

- Yellow pines (ponderosa, Jeffrey, and Coulter) accounted for roughly 2,850 acres of mortality and was primarily concentrated in the San Bernardino Mountains, the areas surrounding Big Bear Lake, and along the North Fork San Jacinto River on the San Bernardino NF. On the Cleveland NF, yellow pine mortality was concentrated in and around the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area. Mortality was typically diffuse or at light to moderate severity.
- Oak mortality was observed across 240 acres. Species included California black, Engelmann, canyon live, interior, and coastal live oaks. Mortality was widespread across the Cleveland NF but was primarily concentrated in the Santa Ana and Palomar Mountains.
- White fir mortality was detected on 50 acres throughout southern California but was primarily concentrated in the areas south of Wrightwood on the Angeles NF and south of Big Bear on the San Bernardino NF. Mortality tended to be diffuse with single and small groups, but with a few larger areas experiencing light to moderate severity.
- High elevation five-needle pine mortality was observed on approximately 10 acres at moderate severity in the San Gorgonio Wilderness on the San Bernardino NF.
- Other conifer mortality, consisting of big-cone Douglas fir, sugar pine, and single-leaf, four-leaf, and Parry pinyon pine was detected in diffuse amounts and was mostly recorded as point data with acreages yet to be assigned.

Host	Acres with Mortality
Mixed oak	240
Yellow pine (Jeffrey, ponderosa, Coulter)	2,850
White fir	50
Mixed conifer	40
Limber pine	10
Unknown hardwood	40
Total	**3,230**

Damage other than mortality: 1,800 acres



Diffuse and group big cone Douglas-fir mortality (Angeles NF).

Please direct questions pertaining to this report to Jeffrey Moore
jeffrey.moore@usda.gov | 530.759.1753 | Report date: August 21, 2026

USDA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



FOREST HEALTH PROTECTION
AERIAL DETECTION MONITORING

2026 SURVEY
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



*This map depicts tree mortality **only** within the surveyed area.

Percent Trees Affected (areas)

- Very Light (1-3%)
- Light (4-10%)
- Moderate (11-29%)
- Severe (30-50%)
- Very Severe (>50%)

Number of Trees Affected (points)

- Very Light (1 tree)
- Light (2 - 5 trees)
- Moderate (6 - 15 trees)
- Severe (16 - 30 trees)
- Very Severe (>30 trees)

Map only depicts dead trees surveyed in 2026.
Areas of tree mortality are for visualization purposes only.

FOREST SERVICE

https://www.fs.usda.gov/r05/natural-resources/forest-health/aerial-detection-monitoring