

*Soriano*

November 29, 2006

TO: Rod H. Kubomoto

FROM: Patricia Wood  
Facilities Section

*THANKS! PROCEED  
Rod Kubomoto*

**CROSS FIRE  
BURNED AREA REPORT  
FILE NO. 2-11.40**

The Cross Fire occurred in the City of Santa Clarita on August 28 to 30, 2006, and burned 644 acres within an unincorporated area of the County of Los Angeles and in the Angeles National Forest.

Recommendations

1. Notify Road Maintenance Division (RMD) of the potential impact to all roads and culverts maintained by Public Works within/below the burned area. RMD should inspect all the culverts under the county maintained Placerita Canyon Road and clean them as necessary in preparation for the upcoming storm season. It is recommended that RMD monitor these facilities for postfire sediment impacts during storms and clean these facilities in accordance with the established criteria. The monitoring should continue for the next four to five years until the watershed has significantly recovered from the burn.
2. Authorize us to send a copy of the Burned Area Report to the following agencies apprising them of the potential impact of the burn:
  - a. Los Angeles County Fire Department
  - b. City of Santa Clarita
  - c. U.S. Forest Service, Angeles National Forest

Attachments

- A. Burned Area Map
- B. Description of Burn and Potential Sediment Impact
- C. Mudflow Phase Maps:
  - Attachment C-1, Phase 1 map
  - Attachment C-2, Phase 2 map
  - Attachment C-3, Phase 3 map
- D. List of residents either contacted or received mudflow protection advice

*CS*

### Summary of Potential Sediment Impact

The burned area which is located in Debris Production Areas (DPA) 3 and 5 is subdivided into a total of thirteen subarea watersheds (see Attachment A).

During storms, debris-laden flows from burned canyons may subject the culverts under the county-maintained Placerita Canyon Road to plugging and cause flooding of the roadway. The roadway may experience mudflow and sediment deposition resulting in periodic closure to traffic. Several private roads/driveways with culverts and dip-crossings may also be subject to potential flooding/mudflow problems.

Eleven residents may be impacted by potential mudflow from the burn during storms. Nine residents were provided with mudflow protection advice and two were left with an advice packet with a note to call Public Works to schedule for further evaluation of potential mudflow impact to their backyard as access to it was not possible during the field evaluation.

Details of potential sediment impacts in each subarea are provided in Attachment B.

### Mudflow Phase Maps

The phase maps for the fire are found in Attachment C. These maps and the approved Burned Area Report can be accessed through the Internet at <http://www.ladpw.org/WRD/FIRE/>. The phase maps were given to impacted divisions and emergency response agencies. Debris and mudflow forecast phase level alerts will be posted in the Internet prior to each significant storm event throughout the storm season. The phase maps (phase 1, 2, and 3) identify the critical locations and magnitudes of potential mudflow impacts below the burned area. Generally, these maps are prepared when potential mudflows pose a major threat to homes, roadways, flood control facilities, or other public infrastructure.

### Coordination


Water Resources Division (WRD) staff has discussed with the Los Angeles County Fire Department the potential mudflow impacts of the burn to the homes during storms. Copies of the postburn mudflow protective advice forms given by WRD to the residents have been provided to the Fire Department. RMD has been apprised of the potential sediment impact to the Placerita Canyon Road below the burn. They have assessed the current condition of the culverts under Placerita Canyon Road and proposed to install a standpipe at the culvert inlet at three locations (MM 6.16, MM 6.47, and

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MM 6.59, see Attachment A) and clean the culvert inlets of debris in preparation for the upcoming storm season.

Mitch Miller of Building of Safety Division was informed of a significant amount of dirt dumped in a vacant wide, flat area at the westerly end of Oakwell Road located within the City of Santa Clarita. The material appears to be blocking a portion of Reynier Canyon natural watercourse. Land Development Division has informed the City of Santa Clarita of the dumped material since it is within the City's jurisdiction. As a follow-up, WRD has contacted the City of Santa Clarita, and Adrian Silva ((661) 255-4966) of the City indicated that the owner of the property has a grading permit for the property. Further, he indicated that he is working with the property owner to correct the problem.

If you have any questions regarding this fire report, please contact Loreto P. Soriano at 458-6145 or Arevik Vardanyan at 458-6115.

<sup>A.V.</sup>  
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Attach.

cc: Building of Safety (Miller)  
Disaster Services (Dai Bui)  
Flood Maintenance (West Area)  
Road Maintenance (MD-5)  
Watershed Management  
Water Resources (Walden, Wood, Soriano, Files)

**ATTACHMENT A**

**CROSS FIRE**

**BURNED AREA MAP**

**ATTACHMENT B**

**CROSS FIRE**

**DESCRIPTION OF BURN**

**AND**

**POTENTIAL SEDIMENT IMPACT**

**ATTACHMENT B  
CROSS FIRE  
DESCRIPTION OF BURN AND POTENTIAL SEDIMENT IMPACT**

Fire Name: Cross Fire  
Date of Fire: August 28-30, 2006  
Burned Area: 644 acres  
Location: East of Palmdale (14) Freeway, west of the intersection of Sand Canyon Road and Placerita Canyon Road in the City of Santa Clarita and within the Angeles National Forest. Refer to Thomas Guide Pages 4552 and 4642 (2003 Edition). The burned area boundary is plotted on Attachment A.

Vegetation Types Before Burn

Grass  
Sage Scrub  
Chamise

Improvements Damaged

According to the Fire Department, some out buildings at the abandoned explosives facilities located south of 16742 Placerita Canyon Road (T.G. Page 4642, C-2) were burned. No homes were lost.

Fire History

The Pacy Fire of July 31, 1989, overlapped approximately 30 percent of the burned area. The Pacy Fire is most recent significant fire in the same area.

Potential Sediment Impact Below/Within Burned Area

The burned area, which is located in Debris Production Areas (DPA) 3 and 5, is subdivided into 13 subarea watersheds (see Attachment A).

Subarea 1, 2, and 3

Subarea 1 watershed has an area of 17 acres and is 24 percent burned. An estimated 1,400 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed.

Subarea 2 watershed has an area of 32 acres and is 97 percent burned. An estimated 4,100 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed.

Subarea 3 watershed has an area of 30 acres and is 50 percent burned. An estimated 2,900 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed.

Sediment flows from the watersheds are expected to deposit in a wide, flat area at the mouth of the canyons. There are no homes or structures that exist below the canyons.

#### Subarea 3a

Subarea 3a watershed has an area of 5 acres and is 100 percent burned. An estimated 650 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed. During a major storm, sediment flow from the small canyon would exit onto the driveway leading up to the residence at 16337 Ravenglen Road, cross the driveway, and then into the barn area below. Some sediment would flow along the steep driveway. The barn is anticipated to be impacted by mudflow. Art Moore at 16337 Ravenglen Road has been given mudflow engineering advice.

#### Subarea 4

Subarea 4 watershed has an area of 85 acres and is 91 percent burned. An estimated 9,100 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed. Sediment flow would follow its natural watercourse into Sand Canyon natural channel. Three culverts under driveways and at Ravenhill Road would be subject to potential sediment plugging, causing inundation at the culvert crossings. There are no homes that may be impacted by mudflow.

#### Subarea 5

Subarea 5 has an area of 14 acres and is 79 percent burned. An estimated 1,600 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed. Sediment flow from the burned canyon would exit onto Pineview Road and deposit sediment on the road way. A recreational vehicle parked at the mouth of the canyon (16344 Pineview Road) and a home downstream at 16303 Pineview Road may be subject to mudflow in a storm. Mr. Gunnison at 16303 and Ms. Rainen at 16344 Pineview Road have been given mudflow engineering advice.

#### Subarea 6

Subarea 6 has an area of 21 acres and is 86 percent burned. An estimated 2,500 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed. Sediment flow is anticipated to spread and settle on the wide, flat area below the watershed. No homes appear to be potentially impacted by mudflow.

#### Subarea 7

Subarea 7, which is located in DPAs 3 and 5, has an area of 99 acres and is 92 percent burned. An estimated 14,000 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to

burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed. Sediment flow from the burned watershed may potentially impact two residences during storms. The flow in the channel could spill over the low channel bank onto the driveway and may spread into the garage of the home located at 25915 Pacy Street. Further downstream, the tennis court at the backyard of the residence at 25707 Pacy Street may experience potential sediment deposition during a major storm. Ms. Majstorich at 25915 Pacy Street and the property at 25707 Pacy Street have been given mudflow engineering advice on measures to protect the properties.

The inlet of the culvert (MM 6.47) under Placerita Canyon Road has been evaluated by RMD, and a standpipe has been proposed to be installed.

Further downstream of the watershed, a significant amount of dirt is dumped in a vacant wide, flat area at the westerly end of Oakwell Road in the City of Santa Clarita. The material appears to be blocking a portion of Reynier Canyon, a natural watercourse. Mitch Miller of Land Development Division has been informed of the dumped material, and he notified the City of Santa Clarita who has the jurisdiction. WRD has followed up by calling the City, and Adrian Silva of the City ((626) 255-4966) indicated that he is working with the property owner, who has a City permit for the grading at the site to correct the problem.

#### Subarea 8

Subarea 8 has an area of 34 acres and is 88 percent burned. An estimated 7,000 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed. Sediment flow from the burned area would be conveyed via the access driveway in the canyon bottom to the culvert inlet (MM 6.59) at Placerita Canyon Road. The access driveway would be subject to sediment flow and deposition during storms. The house at 25316 Pacy Street, located on the southerly end of the access driveway, may experience debris nuisance at the back of the house from the steep burned hillside and the swimming pool adjacent to the driveway. Cathy Miller, the owner of the property, has been provided with mudflow engineering advice. The residence at 16400 Placerita Canyon Road, on the north side of Ms. Miller, may be impacted by nuisance debris, and a packet containing a Homeowner's Guide, Flood Insurance fact sheet, and WRD's contact for engineering advice was left at the gate of the property.

RMD has assessed the culvert inlet (MM 6.59), and they proposed a standpipe at the culvert inlet to prevent it from plugging. The roadway at the culvert crossing is anticipated to be subject to flooding/mudflow from potential overflow of the inlet. RMD has to monitor the culvert crossing during storms and clean the facilities as necessary.

#### Subarea 9

Subarea 9 has an area of 27 acres and is 52 percent burned. An estimated 4,500 cubic yards of sediment (adjusted debris potential due to burn) may be produced in a design storm from the watershed. Sediment flow from the burned canyon would be conveyed via the access driveway and may reach Placerita Canyon Road. The flow may spread

## **ATTACHMENT C**

### **CROSS FIRE**

## **MUDFLOW PHASE MAPS**

- **PHASE 1 MAP**
- **PHASE 2 MAP**
- **PHASE 3 MAP**

**ATTACHMENT D**

**CROSS FIRE**

**LIST OF RESIDENTS CONTACTED  
OR RECEIVED MUDFLOW PROTECTION  
ADVICE**

ATTACHMENT D  
CROSS FIRE

November 22, 2006

LIST OF RESIDENTS EITHER CONTACTED OR RECEIVED MUDFLOW PROTECTION ADVICE

Subarea No.	Name	Address	Mudflow Engineering Advice	Engineers/Division
3a	Art Moore	16337 Ravenglen, Santa Clarita, CA 91387	Provided Mudflow Advice	Soriano/Vardanyan; WRD
5	Marlene Rainen	16344 Pineview Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91387	Provided Mudflow Advice	Soriano/Vardanyan; WRD
5	Richard & Pam Gunnison	16303 Pineview Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91387	Provided Mudflow Advice	Soriano/Vardanyan; WRD
7	Liane Majstorich	25915 Pacy St., Newhall, CA 91321	Provided Mudflow Advice	Soriano/Vardanyan; WRD
7	Resident	25707 Pacy St., Newhall, CA 91321	Provided Mudflow Advice	Soriano/Vardanyan; WRD
8	Resident	16400 Placerita Cyn Road, Newhall, CA 91321	Left a note to resident to call Public Works for mudflow protection advice. Need to access backyard to evaluate mudflow impact.	Soriano/Vardanyan; WRD
8	Cathy Miller	25316 Pacy St., Newhall, CA 91321	Provided Mudflow Advice	Soriano/Vardanyan; WRD
9	Ms. K. Hacker	16302 Placerita Cyn, Newhall, CA 91321	Provided Mudflow Advice	Soriano; WRD
9	Resident	16303 Placerita Cyn, Newhall, CA 91321	Provided Mudflow Advice	Soriano/Vardanyan; WRD
9	Resident	16308 Placerita Cyn, Newhall, CA 91321	Left a note to resident to call Public Works for mudflow protection advice. Need to access backyard to evaluate mudflow impact.	Soriano/Vardanyan; WRD
11	Steve Arklin	25975 Sand Cyn, Canyon Country, CA 91351	Advised Mr. Arklin by phone (661)251-4586 to protect three filtration tanks located below the burn. There are no homes/structures below the burn.	Soriano; WRD