



# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- Santa Barbara County Fire Responds to Four Wildfires / Cause

Determined -

SANTA BARBARA, Ca. June 30, 2011 – At 12:30 pm, Santa Barbara County Fire was dispatched to four different wildfires all of which started over a 20 minute time period.

The Nojoqui Fire started at 12:30 pm with initial threat to structures. The fire was located at Highway 101 and the Nojoqui Summit. The fire was contained at 3:50 pm and was held to 7 acres with no structures damaged. As of 5 pm, firefighters remain on scene mopping up. The cause of the fire was accidental and related to bee keepers operating in the area.

Closely following, at 12:43pm, a second wildfire was reported in the 6800 block of Cat Canyon Road near Los Alamos. That fire was about 5 acres and was contained at 2:15pm. The fire was caused by a power surge in the area.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> and largest fire was the Alisos Fire. It started at 12:45pm in the 9200 block of Alisos Canyon Road. The fire burned approximately 120 acres, and as of 4 pm, is 100% contained. Structures were initially threatened, but no structures were lost or damaged. Weather conditions in the area are warm, dry, and windy. A total of 10 engines, 2 crews, 2 water tenders, 2 helicopters, 2 dozers, 1 air attack, 2 helicopters, and 2 air tankers were assigned to this fire. The cause of this fire was determined to be a large bird that contacted the power lines in the area. That contact most likely caused the power surge that started the Cat Canyon Fire. As of 5:30 pm, crews remain on scene mopping up and will remain on scene through out the night.

A 4<sup>th</sup> fire was started in the city of Los Alamos and was a small field fire that was quickly extinguished.

Lompoc Fire, the U.S. Forest Service, CAL FIRE, Santa Maria City, Vandenberg Fire, and the California Highway Patrol are all assisting Santa Barbara County Fire Department.

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