



# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FIRE CHIEF

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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### - RED FLAG WARNING -

SANTA BARBARA, Ca. September 22, 2016 - The National Weather Service has issued a Red Flag Warning for the Santa Barbara County Mountains and the Santa Barbara south coast (zones CAZ252, CAZ239) in effect from 3pm Thursday September 22 to 6am Friday September 23, 2016.

A Red Flag Warning means that critical fire weather conditions are either occurring now or will shortly. A combination of strong winds, low relative humidity, and warm temperatures can create extreme fire behavior.

...RED FLAG WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT FROM 3 PM THIS AFTERNOON TO 6 AM PDT FRIDAY FOR WIND AND LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY FOR THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SOUTH COAST - SANTA BARBARA COUNTY MOUNTAINS.

\* WINDS...NORTH 25 TO 35 MPH WITH GUSTS UP TO 55 MPH.

\* RELATIVE HUMIDITY...AS LOW AS 10 PERCENT THIS EVENING THEN 20 TO 30 PERCENT LATE TONIGHT.

\* IMPACTS...IF FIRE IGNITION OCCURS THERE COULD BE RAPID SPREAD OF WILDFIRE THAT WOULD LEAD TO A THREAT TO LIFE AND PROPERTY.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

A RED FLAG WARNING MEANS THAT CRITICAL FIRE WEATHER CONDITIONS ARE EITHER OCCURRING NOW...OR WILL SHORTLY. A COMBINATION OF GUSTY WINDS...LOW RELATIVE HUMIDITY...AND WARM TEMPERATURES WILL CREATE EXTREME FIRE BEHAVIOR.

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