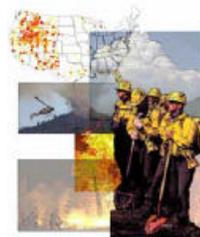


National Fire Plan

Angeles National Forest
Pacific Southwest Region
California



Hazard Fuel Reduction Project Garcia Fuelbreak

Fuelbreaks are strategically located wide blocks or strips of various widths on which dense heavy vegetation has been permanently changed to one of lower density and volume. This modification of the vegetation provides access routes for firefighters and provides opportunities for fire suppression resources to check or hold fire spread.

The Garcia Fuelbreak has been an established fuelbreak on the Angeles National Forest since the 1950s. It's approximately 300 feet wide and runs along portions of the Glendora Mountain Road. It has been mechanically treated by crews for many years.

On September 22nd the Williams Fire started at approximately 5:00 p.m. Vegetation consisted of highly volatile, drought-stricken chaparral, mixed oak and mixed conifer fuel types that had not burned in 30-100 years. Fire behavior was often extreme and forced the closure of the entire National Forest and evacuation of thousands of urban residents.

As the fire began moving towards the Garcia Fuelbreak the fire suppression crews began burning out the vegetation between the oncoming fire and the fuelbreak. Crews were successful in holding the fire's movement in that area because of the fuelbreak.

Fire behavior on the Williams Fire.





Photo was taken from the Glendora Ridge Motorway. The treated area is along the road.

The Williams Fire burned to the right of the fuelbreak.



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For additional information on the National Fire Plan, visit www.fireplan.gov