

Response Efforts Continue for California Wildfires

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SACRAMENTO, Calif. – As record-breaking wildfires continue to cause severe devastation in California’s Butte, Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, FEMA is assisting state and local governments and first responders as they help survivors impacted by the Camp, Hill and Woolsey wildfires.

FEMA is bringing federal resources to bear to assist the State of California respond to and recover from the worst wildfires in the state’s history.

FEMA’s Disaster Survivor Assistance teams are visiting evacuation shelters throughout the wildfire areas to assist survivors with their disaster assistance registrations, updating their current application and answering questions about disaster recovery.

FEMA has opened a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in Butte County to assist survivors. Representatives from federal, state and local government agencies, as well as other disaster assistance organizations, are providing disaster recovery information to survivors at the DRC.

The DRC in Butte County is located in the former Sears store at 1982 E. 20th St. in Chico, Calif. Operating hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, including Thanksgiving Day. More DRCs will be open soon.

DRCs are accessible for individuals with disabilities and access and functional needs. They have on-site communication accessibility tools, including amplified



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listening devices, Video Relay Interpreting and Cap Tel phones. ASL interpreters are available on request.

The state of California has also opened three Disaster Assistance Centers in Ventura County:

Malibu Courthouse in Malibu Civic Center

23525 Civic Center Way, Malibu, CA 90265

Operating hours: Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed Sundays

Closed Thanksgiving Day

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

30440 Agoura Hills Rd., Agoura, CA 91301

Operating hours: Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed Sundays

Closed Thanksgiving Day

Grant R. Brimhall Library

1401 E. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

Operating hours through Sunday, November 25:

Monday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Tuesday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Wednesday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Thursday (Thanksgiving): CLOSED

Friday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is the federal government's primary source of money for long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA representatives will be available at the DRC and operating from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. SBA helps businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners and renters fund repairs or rebuilding efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property.

SBA offers low-interest disaster loans of up to \$2 million for businesses and private nonprofits, up to \$200,000 for homeowners and up to \$40,000 for renters to replace personal property.

SBA representatives are also staffing all Local Assistance Centers (LACs) and Disaster Assistance Centers (DACs). SBA has also established its own Business Recovery Center (BRC) in Butte County to serve the unique needs of the business community. The BRC is co-located with the DRC at 1982 E. 20th St. in Chico, Calif.

Applicants may apply to the SBA online at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>, visit their nearest disaster center for one-on-one assistance, call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call (800) 877-8339.

FEMA is also supporting the California wildfire response by coordinating federal resources from partner agencies including the Department of Defense, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Transportation, and others.



These response assignments include:

- Department of Defense – providing pilot support for high-altitude reconnaissance
- U.S. Department of Agriculture – assessing livestock and crop damage, along with long/short-term animal care needs
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – providing household waste removal
- U.S. Health and Human Services – providing prescription medication to uninsured survivors
- U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs – coordinate tribal monitors' oversight/training for ancestral lands

Survivors are encouraged to file insurance claims for damages to their cars, homes and businesses. Survivors who have unmet emergency needs may apply for aid online at DisasterAssistance.gov or by phone at 800-621-3362 or (TTY) 800-462-7585. Applicants who use 711 or Video Relay Service may call 800-621-3362. The toll-free numbers are open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. local time, seven days a week. Multi-lingual operators are available.

Applicants for disaster assistance should have the following information at hand:

- Social Security number.
- Address of the damaged primary residence.
- Description of the damage.
- Information about insurance coverage.
- A current contact telephone number.
- An address where they can receive mail.
- Bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of funds.

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All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), religion, national origin,



age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status, or retaliation. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, call 800-621-3362 or 800-462-7585(TTY/TDD).

FEMA's mission: Helping people before, during, and after disasters.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is the federal government's primary source of money for the long-term rebuilding of disaster-damaged private property. SBA helps businesses efforts and cover the cost of replacing lost or disaster-damaged personal property. These disaster loans cover losses not fully compensated by insurance or other recoveries and do not duplicate benefits of other agencies or organizations. For more information, applicants may contact SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center by calling 800-659-2955, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visiting SBA's website at [SBA.gov/disaster](https://www.sba.gov/disaster) Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals may call 800-877-8339.



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