

FEMA Fire Management Assistance Granted for Tick Fire

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Oakland, Calif. – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has authorized the use of federal funds to assist the State of California in combatting the Tick Fire burning in Los Angeles County.

On Oct. 24, 2019, the State of California submitted a request for a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) for the Tick Fire. At the time of the request, the fire threatened 600 homes in and around Santa Clarita, with an approximate population of 100,000. The fire also threatened 600 buildings and infrastructure, including various schools, an urgent care, community center, as well as Edison power lines in the area.

The fire started on Oct. 24, 2019 and has burned in excess of 1,500 acres of state and private land. There are four other large fires burning uncontrolled within the state.

The FEMA Region IX regional administrator determined that the Tick Fire threatened such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. The state's request was approved on Oct. 24, 2019 at 5:29 p.m. PDT.

FMAGs provide federal funding for up to 75 percent of eligible firefighting costs. The Disaster Relief Fund provides funding for FMAGs through FEMA to assist in fighting fires that threaten to cause major disasters. Eligible costs covered by FMAGs can include expenses for field camps, equipment use, materials, supplies and mobilization, and demobilization activities attributed to fighting the fire.

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