Recent Fire History



The WRA was formed following the Sycamore Canyon Fire of 1977 that burned 195 homes in less than seven hours.

The Painted Cave Fire on June 27, 1990, burned over 5000 acres, 440 homes, 28 apartments and 30 other structures.

These recent local wildfires had a tremendous impact on the San Marcos Pass Communities:

Gaviota: 7440 acres

Zaca: 240,207 acres

Gap: 9443 acres

4 structures destroyed

Tea: 1940 acres

0 structures destroyed

Jesusita: 8733 acres

80 structures destroyed

La Brea: 89,489 acres

Whitier: 18,430 acres

16 structures destroyed

Thomas: 281,893 acres

1063 structures destroyed 280 structures damaged

Our Mission

The WRA

Our mission is to provide a liaison between the mountain communities and public safety agencies and to support the volunteer fire department and community safety activities.

The Wildland Residents Association, Inc., is a non-profit public benefit corporation, incorporated in 1982 under the laws of the State of California, as a 501 (c)(3) IRC corporation. All donations to the WRA are tax deductible. There are no salaried positions in the WRA. All work is done by volunteers.

The WRA serves as a liaison between the mountain communities and various government agencies. The Association provides the management of the San Marcos Pass Volunteer Fire Department. The primary mission of the fire department is prevention, planning and preparation through education.

Our fire suppression efforts are based on the concept of "self help," a quick initial attack prior to the arrival of County Fire and Forest Service firefighters has proven very successful in preventing small fires from becoming major incidents.

Wildland Residents Association, Inc. San Marcos Pass Volunteer Fire Dept.

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October 2018

WILDLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SAN MARCOS PASS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT

Working to make our mountain community safer Since 1982



Prevention
Planning
Preparation
Education

Yesenia Thomas, Program Manager wildlandresidents.org

San Marcos Pass Volunteer Fire Department

The Wildland Residents Association—San Marcos Pass Volunteer Fire Department serves the communities of the San Marcos Trout Club, East and West Camino Cielo, Rosario Park, Painted Cave, Paradise Road, and San Marcos Pass with initial attack fire response through an Automatic Aid Agreement with the Santa Barbara County Fire Department.

Two compressed air foam systems (CAFS) until are stationed in the Trout Club and Rosario Park to provide a rapid response to local fires and emergencies.

The WRA makes your like and home safer through your generous support.

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY SUPPORT YOUR SAFETY SUPPORT THE WRA

JOIN THE WRA TODAY

Family: \$125 Individual: \$75 Organization: \$150 Business: \$350

Pioneer: \$500

Sponsor a Firefighter: \$1000

Applications are available on our website. Memberships and gifts are tax deductible.

> EIN: 95-3737837 SMM 42065

UAVs in the UAS

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) are a component of the WRA Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS). From the air it is clear to see what needs to be done to ensure effective defensible space surrounding a property. UAVs provide this much needed information.

In addition, real-time mapping and aerial photography can be used to track the progress of brush mitigation and to mark important location information for use in the event of a fire.



UAV Operations

UAVs provide an efficient and effective way of gathering information to better understand situational awareness and assessment for prevention and suppression activities. UAVs will increase firefighter safety and efforts by utilizing a thermal imaging camera along with a high resolution visible camera with immediate low altitude pan-tilt visual feedback giving us critical views and inputs difficult to obtain otherwise.



UAS and the Community

The WRA continues our efforts to educate the community on prevention, planning, and preparation. The UAV would be available to all WRA members for help in making their home safer by using the visual and mapping capabilities. Our UAV will also be available in fire suppression, reconnaissance and public information.

The WRA UAS Program

The WRA UAS Program consists of a DJI Matrice 210 professional drone outfitted with a FLIR XT2 dual color (visible and infrared) camera currently piloted by two fully licensed Part 107 UAV pilots with private pilot certificates. The program has received a Public Safety Grant from DARTdrones and a generous donation from FLIR. All UAV operations fall under FAA Part 107.

