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WILDFIRE NEWS OF THE DAY

United States

(1) NBC News provided an overview of wildfires in Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado, where dozens of homes have been destroyed and hundreds of thousands of acres burned.

Wildfires rage in several states with homes destroyed, neighborhoods at risk

<https://www.nbcnews.com/nightly-news/video/wildfires-rage-in-several-states-with-homes-destroyed-neighborhoods-at-risk-1215021123948>

(2) A storm is forecast to bring drenching rain along a 1,500-mile-long swath, including areas in the southwestern and south-central U.S. that have seen 470,000 acres go up in smoke.

Wildfire, drought relief from drenching rain aiming for south-central US may only be temporary <https://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/wildfire-drought-relief-may-only-be-temporary-with-drenching-rain-set-to-soak-the-southern-us/70004732>

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California

(3) San Diego Fire-Rescue Department crews responded to an 1/8-acre wildfire along Interstate 15 near City Heights yesterday which snarled traffic along the freeway.

Firefighters Extinguish Small Brush Fire Burning off I-15

<https://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/Firefighters-Extinguish-Small-Brush-Fire-Burning-off-I-15-480314483.html>

(4) MAFFS-equipped C-130 squadrons will be conducting training flights over the Tahoe National Forest near Nevada City from April 22 through April 27 as they prepare for wildfire season.

MAFFS Training Overflights near Nevada City next week

<https://yubanet.com/regional/maffs-training-overflights-near-nevada-city-next-week/>

(5) Wildfire NOTD subscriber Allison Jolley, Communications Manager for Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (<https://fireadaptednetwork.org/>), sent along a blog entry that looks at the financial and insurance aspects of preparing for a wildfire.

Wildfire Insurance 101: What Practitioners and Policy Owners Need to Know

<https://us12.campaign-archive.com/?e=e4f2b8ae5d&u=7e411e9bd91fcad6cf731f6d9&id=995305df59>

Colorado

(6) The Skipper Island Fire, burning in Mesa County's Horsethief Canyon State Wildlife Area near Fruita, forced officials to close all lanes of Interstate 70 for a few hours on Thursday.

Wildfire Closes I-70 Near Fruita <http://denver.cbslocal.com/2018/04/19/wildfire-fruita-loma-interstate-70/>

(7) El Paso County turned over command of the 117 Fire to the Rocky Mountain Area Incident Management Team Black as about 300 people used 150 apparatus to build containment lines around the fire with aerial support from Fort Carson and aircraft stationed in Pueblo and Denver.

Team Black takes over 117 Fire response <http://www.koaa.com/story/37999635/team-black-takes-over-117-fire-response>

Oklahoma

(8) ABC News provided a summary of wildfire activity in the Sooner State, where Oklahoma Forestry Services reported that the Rhea Fire in Dewey County has burned over 283,000 acres.

Oklahoma wildfire conditions remain critical, flames reaching up to 70 feet

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/oklahoma-wildfire-conditions-remain-critical-flames-reaching-70/story?id=54587352>

(9) Love County Emergency Management reported that a strike team composed of firefighters from Criner Hills and Jimtown Volunteer Fire Departments, along with Lake Murray Village Fire Department, has deployed to western Oklahoma to help fight wildfires.

Local strike team travels to aide firefighting efforts

<http://www.ardmoreite.com/news/20180419/local-strike-team-travels-to-aid-firefighting-efforts>

(10) After a week of heartache, loss and devastation for the small town of Vici from wildfires, a chance for a high school baseball team to play a game with a cloud of smoke behind right field provided a little relief.

Morning Bell: High school games continue as wildfire burns

<http://newsok.com/article/5591762>

(11) Ranchers in Dewey County in northwest Oklahoma reported losing more than 100 head to wildfires which blazed through the area this week.

Loss of livestock due to wildfires hitting Oklahoma ranchers hard

<http://kfor.com/2018/04/19/loss-of-livestock-due-to-wildfires-hitting-oklahoma-ranchers-hard/>



Texas

(12) The Fire Coordinator for the Texas A&M Forest Service warned that the forecast of rain will not be enough to significantly reduce the wildfire danger as the Panhandle region maintains a 97% chance of a spark igniting a wildfire.

Rain in Forecast Might Not Keep Wildfires from Starting in the South Plains

<http://www.everythinglubbock.com/news/klbk-news/rain-in-forecast-might-not-keep-wildfires-from-starting-in-the-south-plains/1131176199>

Montana

(13) A new report from the American Lung Association gives many western Montana counties a failing grade for "short-term" air quality during the 2014-2016 time period, due mostly to smoke from forest fires.

Forest Fire Smoke – 'F' Grades for Missoula and Ravalli Counties <http://klyq.com/forest-fire-smoke-f-grades-for-missoula-and-ravalli-counties/>



Minnesota

(14) The Brainerd Fire Department responded to a small wildfire in Baxter which resulted from a debris fire as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources wound up Wildfire Prevention Week.

Wildfire season is underway: Brainerd firefighters called to Baxter grass fire

<https://www.brainerddispatch.com/news/4434324-wildfire-season-underway-brainerd-firefighters-called-baxter-grass-fire>

Tennessee

(15) A report from a professor at the University of Tennessee's College of Social Work on the Dollywood Foundation's My People Fund confirms that cash donations are most helpful to survivors of a wildfire.

Gatlinburg wildfire survivors found cash most helpful for recovery, says UT report

<https://www.knoxnews.com/story/news/2018/04/19/ut-report-gatlinburg-wildfire-survivors-dolly-parton-my-people-fund/532618002/>

New Jersey

(16) The New Jersey Forest Fire Service reported that ground crews, supported by an air-tanker, quickly snuffed a small wildfire near Lacey Township in Ocean County on Thursday.

Small Pinelands wildfire is reminder that N.J. forest fire season is underway

<https://whyy.org/articles/small-pinelands-blaze-is-reminder-that-n-j-forest-fire-season-is-underway/>

(17) A retrospective looks back on New Jersey's biggest forest fire disaster, which covered 190,000 acres, laying waste to much of South Jersey - about 4% percent of the Garden State's territory - killing seven people and destroying hundreds of buildings with an estimated value of \$8.5 million.

"All hell broke loose": 55 years later, historic forest fire haunts region

http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/all-hell-broke-loose-years-later-historic-forest-fire-haunts/article_25d025f8-6c7e-590b-a351-f3d60ae996c3.html

Canada

(18) The British Columbia Wildfire Service is preparing for another intense wildfire season with a better trained pool of contract firefighters available and more full-time information officers.

Plans to fight the flames have already begun

<http://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/news/plans-to-fight-the-flames-have-already-begun-1.23273793>

Latin America

Mexico

(19) The National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR) lent a brigade to the fight against a 3-hectare wildfire on the outskirts of Zacapoxtla in Puebla State.

Forest fire consumes three hectares of pine trees in Zacapoxtla

<http://www.diariocambio.com.mx/2018/regiones/sierra-norte/item/9402-incendio-forestal-consume-tres-hectareas-plantadas-con-arboles-de-pino>

(20) CONAFOR and state firefighters managed to extinguish a 4-hectare wildfire outside of the capital of Zacatecas State after a three-day fight.

Wildfire extinguished in Parque Eólico

<https://www.expresszacatecas.com/municipios/capital/37937-sofocan-incendio-forestal-en-torre-del-parque-eolico>



Europe

France

(21) Another wildfire, this one a 6-hectare blaze, was reported in Gironde Department near Guillos, after a 10-hectare blaze was snuffed near Listrac-Médoc yesterday.

Gironde: 6 hectares of forest burnt <http://www.sudouest.fr/2018/04/19/gironde-6-hectares-de-foret-brules-4386863-2780.php>

Italy

(22) Helicopters were standing by as firefighters battled what may be an arson wildfire near the Turin neighborhood of Canischio in the Piedmont Region.

Canischio - A huge fire, possibly arson, destroys forests close to Cima Mares - PHOTO and VIDEO <http://www.quotidianocanavese.it/cronaca/canischio-un-vasto-incendio-forse-doloso-devasta-i-boschi-vicino-a-cima-mares-foto-e-video-16690>

(23) Wildfires returned to the slopes of Mount Musiné above Caselette, in the Valle di Susa, a region where 7,000 ha burned last October.

The return of flames in the Susa Valley: burns Mount Musiné. Fire threatens forests <http://www.cronacaqui.it/tornano-le-fiamme-in-val-susa-brucia-il-monte-musine-il-fuoco-minaccia-i-boschi/>

Croatia

(24) Firefighters reported that a wildfire which broke out Thursday afternoon in the vicinity of Male Airport, east of Omis, was brought under control by nightfall after the intervention of a

CL-415.

A wildfire near a town threatened homes, incredible images of the fire: Gora like alloy, in the middle! <https://www.tportal.hr/vijesti/clanak/veliki-pozar-kod-omisa-gasi-100-vatrogasaca-u-zraku-i-kanader-gori-k-o-usrid-lita-20180419>

Greece

(25) A wildfire which broke out Thursday afternoon near the settlement Dichova on the Mani Peninsula quickly spread across 5 ha because of strong winds.

Alarm for large fire in Mani <http://www.politisonline.com/%CE%B5%CE%BB%CE%BB%CE%AC%CE%B4%CE%B1/517182/synagermos-apo-megali-fotia-sti-mani/>

Asia

Nepal

(26) The Chief Conservation Officer at Bardiya National Park said that wildfires have already spread along the forests of the East West Highway due to strong winds, and that there is a risk of the fires going out of control as smoke inundated Bhuri Gaun, Karmala, Sainawar, Mainawar, and Aauri.

Forest fires at BNP at big risk of going out of control
<http://www.myrepublica.com/news/40211/?categoryId=81>

India

(27) An Op-Ed piece blamed the Adilabad Forest Department's failures in controlling forest fires for an influx of wildlife into agricultural areas in search of food after their natural sources were reduced to ashes.

Forest fires trigger man-animal conflict <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-telangana/forest-fires-trigger-man-animal-conflict/article23609217.ece>

(28) With temperatures hovering at 40° C, the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams, in Andhra Pradesh State, have taken up several initiatives to prevent forest fires, including setting up firefighting squads, cutting fire lines 10-20 meters wide, and erecting watchtowers.

TTD forms special fighting squads to prevent forest fires
<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-andhrapradesh/ttd-forms-special-fighting-squads-to-prevent-forest-fires/article23610171.ece>

Indonesia

(29) Asia Pacific Resources International, a producer of fiber, pulp and paper, announced that a record number of villages participating in its Fire-Free Village Program will receive full awards for refraining from setting agricultural burns which can turn into wildfires.

APRIL Announces Significant Progress in Forest-Fire Prevention
<http://jakartaglobe.id/special-reports/april-announces-significant-progress-in-forest-fire-prevention/>

Australia

New South Wales

(30) Although there are still active fire sites at Holsworthy and Menai, Rural Fire Service officials said that only 5 homes had been damaged and that the blazes, which have scorched 3,800 ha, were contained.

GALLERY | Bushfire aftermath

<https://www.liverpoolchampion.com.au/story/5350877/gallery-bushfire-aftermath/>

(31) East Coast Radio's flagship stations 2EC and PowerFM brought forward their yearly Radiothon, now in its 34th year, to raise funds for the Tathra Bushfire Mayoral Appeal Fund to help the bushfire-ravaged NSW South Coast town.

2EC and PowerFM raise over \$100K for Tathra Bushfire victims

<http://radiotoday.com.au/2ec-and-powerfm-raise-over-100k-for-tathra-bushfire-victims/>

(32) The Tathra Sea Eagles presented a \$38,000 check for the Tathra Mayoral Appeal, raised through raffle prizes and auctions, to the Bega Valley Shire Mayor on Thursday night.

Tathra Sea Eagles kick in \$38,000 to bushfire appeal

<https://www.begadistrictnews.com.au/story/5354663/tathra-sea-eagles-kick-in-38000-to-bushfire-appeal/>

Victoria

(33) Bushfires & Natural Hazards CRC (<https://www.bnhcrc.com.au>) sent along the latest issue of their Hazard News.

Hazard News April 2018 <https://mailchi.mp/bnhcrc.com.au/hazard-news-march-3116253?e=4ceed2d92f>

Western Australia

(34) A bushfire advice has been issued for parts of Kudardup in the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River as 12 firefighters continued to battle a bushfire that is moving in a south easterly direction, and is contained but not controlled.

Bushfire advice issued for Kudardup <https://thewest.com.au/news/augusta-margaret-river-times/bushfire-advice-issued-for-kudardup-ng-b88812977z>

Best Regards,

Mike Archer
Professional Copywriter
Archer Copywriting
P.O. Box 128
Glendora, CA 91740
Phone: (626) 915-4779
E-Mail: marcher47@archercopywriting.com
Website: <http://archercopywriting.com>
Blog: <http://archercopywriting.blogspot.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Archer-Copywriting/425922337528949>
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