

March 2009 www.cityemployeesclub.com

battalion Chief Officer command teams; one Division Chief Officer command team; the Dozer Company; Park Rangers;

Brush Fire: La Tuna Canyon

Photo by Juan Guerra

On Sunday, Feb. 1, at 2:50 p.m., 26 companies of LAFD

Firefighters; one LAFD rescue ambulance; one arson unit; one

1-1-unit: four helicopters; one EMS Battalion Captain; six

Animal Services; LAPD; Transportation; a Southern California Edison representative; and L.A. County and Glendale Fire Departments, under the direction of Assistant Chief Jeffery S. Mottram, responded to a greater alarm brush fire at 8300 W. La Tuna Canyon Rd. in Sun Valley.

The first arriving Firefighters on scene found an auto fire, which ignited approximately one acre of heavy brush. The winds were mild, approximately 15 miles per hour, but enough to aid the uphill moving fire. As the fire spread, several spot fires developed, causing the fire to run from east to west. Additional companies, water dropping helicopters and hand crews were immediately requested to gain control of the blaze.

The fire did challenge Firefighters, moving into a draw with homes located directly above, along the ridge. Firefighters moved with precision, deploying handlines for potential structure protection, coordinated with attacking the flanks of the fire with the assistance of helicopters.

158 L.A. City Firefighters, and five engines from L.A. County and Glendale Departments were needed to contain the fire to 20 acres. No evacuations were called, and no homes were directly threatened. Animal Services was requested for a resident who wished to evacuate their pets.

