

SITUATION REPORT New Jersey Healthcare Coalitions (NJHCC)		
Situation Report Number: #2		
Incident Name: Jones Road Wildfire		
Incident Number: 0002		
Emergency Proclamations/Declarations: State of Emergency (SOE) for Ocean County, NJ declared by Lt. Governor Tahesha Way as of approximately 0938 Hours/04-23-2025		
Coalition EOC Status: Partially Activated		
Leads or Incident Commanders: Ryan Cassidy, Incident Commander		
Date: 04/24/2025	Time: 1200 Hrs	Situation reports will be released Daily at approximately 1200 Hrs until the event's conclusion. Red text reflects new or updated information.
<u>Key Updates</u>		
Health Advisories/Orders	New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has declared an air quality day of action for four (4) counties, including: until 0000 hours/04-24-2025. Impacted Counties: Ocean County, Atlantic County, Cape May County, Burlington County	
Policy Changes	State of Emergency (SOE) for Ocean County, NJ declared by Lt. Governor Tahesha Way as of approximately 0938 Hours/04-23-2025	
Announcements & Featured Media	<p>Please see the media updates shared from the below involved in this response:</p> <p>State of Emergency (SOE) for Ocean County, NJ declared by Acting Governor Tahesha Way as of approximately 0938 Hours/04-23-2025</p> <p>New Jersey Forest Fire Service (NJFFS) – Approximately 1019 Hours, 04/24/2025 via NJFFS' Social Media Pages: Click Here.</p> <p>Below is NJFFS' most recent update posted to their social media pages.</p> <p>WILDFIRE UPDATE: Jones Road Wildfire - Ocean & Lacey Townships, Ocean County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Jersey Forest Fire Service continues to make progress containing a wildfire burning in Ocean & Lacey Townships, Ocean County. • SIZE & CONTAINMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 15,000 acres ○ 50% contained 	

- **STRUCTURES THREATENED**
 - 8 structures threatened
 - Evacuations are 100% lifted for the approximately 5,000 residents evacuated on April 22 in Lacey and Ocean Townships.

- **PROPERTY DAMAGE**
 - 1 commercial building destroyed
 - Multiple outbuilding and vehicles destroyed
 - A complete damage assessment is underway

- **ROADS AFFECTED**
 - Rt. 532 (Wells Mills Road) has reopened
 - Garden State Parkway has reopened
 - Unimproved roadways within the fire perimeter remain closed

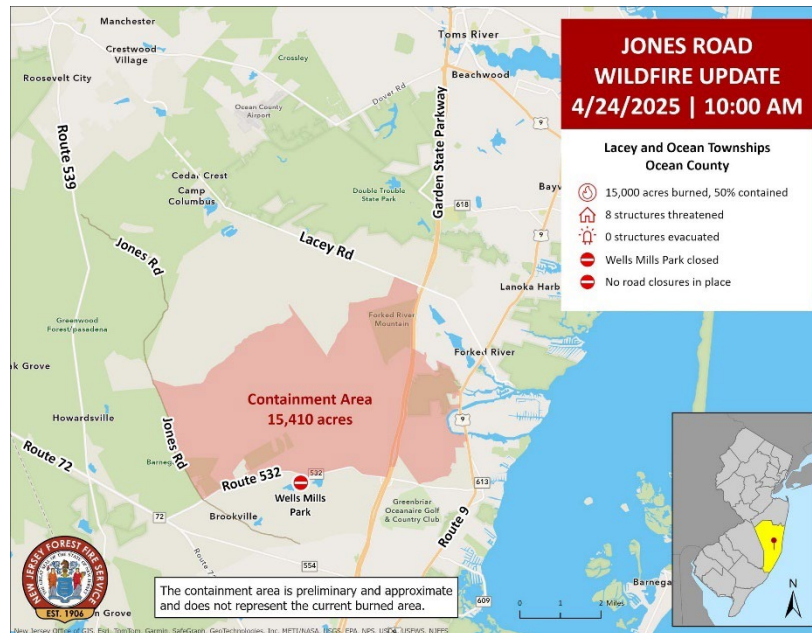
- **RESOURCES DEPLOYED**
 - Forest Fire Service fire engines, bulldozers, helicopters and ground crews

- **FIRE CAUSE**
 - A Waretown man has been charged with aggravated arson and arson in connection with Jones Road Wildfire. Learn more:
<https://www.facebook.com/NJForestFireService/posts/pfbid0PKULT9w7YRDjXopauP3qbbnrELitmCyHrnBcsBq6prWgtuHcUDAFyWNqCDZQPGSHI>

- **PRESS CONFERENCE:**
 - At 4 p.m. today, at Wells Mills County Park in Ocean County, Forest Fire Service Chief Bill Donnelly and Ocean County Prosecutor Bradley D. Billhimer will discuss the status of the ongoing Jones Road Wildfire and an arrest announced earlier today in connection with the more than 15,000-acre blaze burning in Ocean and Lacey townships.

- **NEXT UPDATE**
 - Approximately 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 24

• **Associated Graphic (See Below)**



Priorities for Current Operational Period

The priority is to ensure that all members of the New Jersey healthcare continuum are operating without any major challenges caused by this wildfire. This will be achieved by continuing to actively engage with verified intelligence, healthcare stakeholder feedback and response via survey tools, and conducting outreach to potentially impacted agencies in a timely manner.

Additionally, the NJHA EM Team will make updating Juvare eICS a priority in an effort to maintain accurate record keeping for an after-action report/improvement plan.

Completed Activities Since Last Operational Period

- **Surveilled for potential healthcare facility impacts**
 - **As of 1100 (04/24/2025), two (2) facilities are in an area of concern**
 - 1 Assisted Living
 - 1 Rehab/SNF
 - Both facilities have been relayed to the Healthcare Association of New Jersey (HCANJ) EM Staff
 - Continued surveillance operations ongoing
- **SITREP #1 Distributed to Central HCC Members and Central HCC Acute Care Roster at approximately 1039 Hours (04/23/2025)**
- **SITREP #2 developed and pending distribution to Central HCC Members and Central HCC Acute Care Roster at approximately 11:50 Hours (04/24/2025)**

Future Activities

- **NJHA EM Team situation briefing took place at approximately 0800 hours (04/24/2025) at 760 Alexander Road, Princeton, NJ 08540 – EM Team POD (1st Floor)**
- **NJHA EM Team to discuss current situation re-assessment and considerations of escalation or de-escalation based on verified intelligence at 1400 Hours (04/24/2025)**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pending updates from NJFFS – consideration for demobilization and de-escalation to advanced operations (specifically enhanced surveillance) phase of internal response cycle.
Other Essential Information	
Other Essential Information	Weather/hazard forecasts: Per the National Weather Service (NWS) no adverse weather events have been noted as of 1100 Hours (04/24/2025).
	Critical infrastructure impacts: As noted above, 8 structures are currently threatened.
	Jersey Central Power and Light’s (JCP&L/JCPL) outage map as of 1100 Hours (04/24/2025) is indicating that there are presently no major outages in the area.
	Population evacuation statistics: Per American Red Cross and NJFFS, all disaster-related shelters have been closed as of 1115 Hours (04/24/2025)
	Ingress and egress routes information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rt. 532 (Wells Mills Road) has reopened • Garden State Parkway has reopened • Unimproved roadways within the fire perimeter remain closed
	Damage assessments: Cost impacts from this event have begun to be gathered, additional and more in-depth assessments will likely be conducted following the response phase.
	Agricultural impact: N/A
	Wildlife impacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIZE & CONTAINMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 15,000 acres ○ 50% contained • STRUCTURES THREATENED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8 structures threatened ○ Evacuations are 100% lifted for the approximately 5,000 residents evacuated on April 22 in Lacey and Ocean Townships. ○ Damage assessments underway. ○ Disaster-related shelters have been closed.
Forestation impacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIZE & CONTAINMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 15,000 acres ○ 50% contained 	

Community Public Health & Medical Impacts	
Public Health System Status	Minimal Impact: No formal outreach beyond making NJACCHO’s representative aware of the NJHCC’s actions has taken place in regard to public health assessment.
Health Care System Status	Minimal Impact: In regard to the Central HCC Region, there are concerns surrounding the potential for staff outages and higher than typical ER visits as the fire is contained.

Hospitals on divert	<p>There are two (2) Acute Care facilities on Active Emergency Operations Center (EOC) diverts. Two (2) of the active EOCs are unrelated to the Jones Road Wildfire.</p> <p>There are zero (0) facilities on a Facility Divert. There are zero (0) Acute Care facilities on an active emergency department divert as of 1140 Hours/04-24-2025.</p> <p>There is one (1) facility with a Facility Status of Compromised. This facility indicating a compromised status is unrelated to the Jones Road Wildfire. This information is accurate as of 1150 hours/04-24-2025.</p>
Long term care facilities impacted	Minimal Impact: Two (2) assisted living/SNF/LTCs are within the area of concern.
Healthcare provider availability	Emergency Departments: Concerns surrounding staffing and potential for a higher than typical patient arrival at emergency departments remains, as the fire is contained.
	EMS: No identified availability challenges at this time.
	Dialysis Centers No identified availability challenges at this time.
Mortuary services impacts	Medical examiner: No identified challenges at this time.
	Funeral homes: No identified challenges at this time.
	Transportation and storage: No identified availability challenges at this time.
Environmental Health Impacts	Environmental Health Inspections/Re-inspections: No identified challenges at this time.
	Water Advisories: No identified challenges at this time.
	Air Quality Advisories: The previous NDEP Air Quality Action Day has expired as of 0000 Hours/04-24-2025. No existing advisories are in place at this time.
Supply Chain Impacts	No identified availability challenges at this time.
Epidemiology Data	Case definition: N/A
	Demographics: N/A
	Epidemiological Curve: N/A
	Number of emergency department visits: N/A
	Number of hospitalizations: N/A
	Number of deaths: N/A
	N/A
Emerging Threats/Issues	N/A

Populations most at-risk of negative health impacts	N/A
Number of staff affected	N/A
Number of staff activated	N/A
Community partnership being leveraged	The partnerships between NJHA, NJHCC, NJDOH, NJFFS, and the several healthcare associations are being leveraged to gather information and gauge overall local and regional impacts to this event.