**Palisades Fire Weather Report – January 7, 2025**

**Summary:**  
On January 7, 2025, wind conditions near Pacific Palisades were not unprecedented based on historical weather data from 48 nearby weather stations. During the critical period of potential containment from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (6 hours), when Cal Fire reported the fire expanding from 20 to 200 acres, weather conditions remained manageable. The highest sustained wind speed was 39 mph in Malibu (13.5 miles from the fire), with gusts reaching 44 mph in the Santa Monica Mountains (11 miles away). For context, hurricane-force winds begin at 74 mph, with Category 1 hurricanes ranging from 74 to 95 mph. The recorded winds on January 7 were well below this threshold and do not support false claims that the fire spread under hurricane-strength conditions or that it was unmanageable due to record-breaking wind speeds.

This report includes:

* Analysis of data from 48 regional weather stations.
* Charts and downloadable CSV files documenting:
  + Max wind speed and wind gust per station for the full day of January 7, 2025.
  + Max wind speed and wind gust per station between 10:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
  + Historical drought period data.
  + Cal Fire acreage reports with links to archived updates.
  + Historical wind data since 1947 from station KLAX.

**1) Wind Conditions Throughout the Day of January 7, 2025**  
Analysis of 48 weather stations across the impacted region shows that the greatest wind speeds did not exceed 40 mph and gusts peaked at 60 mph throughout the day. Most stations remained significantly below these maximums.

*Inclusion:* Max wind speed and gust charts and downloadable CSV file for all stations.

**2) Wind Conditions During Period of Potential Containment (10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)**  
During the time window when Cal Fire updated the fire’s size from 20 acres to 200 acres (10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), the wind speeds were moderate and stable. The highest sustained wind speed across stations was 39 mph, with gusts up to 44 mph.

*Inclusion:* Max wind speed and gust charts and downloadable CSV file for this period.

**3) Forecast and Fire Risk Warnings**  
The National Weather Service had issued warnings between January 3 and January 6, 2025, forecasting a known wind event following an extended drought. Malibu had already experienced fires in November and December 2024.

(contrast forecasted with false claims of unforeseen)

*Inclusion:* Chart and CSV file of historical drought conditions.

**4) Historical Context – Wind and Drought**  
Wind speeds recorded on January 7, 2025, were not exceptional when compared to historical data dating back to 1947. Historical precipitation trends since 2015 further establish that drought conditions are frequent in this region.

Wind occurrences

Draught occurrences

*Inclusion:* Chart of historical wind data since 1947 from KLAX and historical drought data CSV.

**5) Weather Station Data and Anomalies**  
This analysis draws on data from 48 regional weather stations. A detailed table of stations, addresses, zip codes, and distance from the fire is included.

**Anomalies Omitted:**

* **KCATOPAN8** (2.34 miles from fire origin): Reported excessive values with sustained winds of 89 mph and gusts of 98 mph, not corroborated by nearby stations.  
  Note that this area does not show any signs of burning and is known as 69 Bravo Helistop  
  https://69bravo.com/
* **KCALOSAN842**, **KCASANTA4733**, **KCASANTA630**: Reported zero wind and gust values throughout the day and during the fire growth window.

*Inclusion:* Station data table and downloadable CSV file.

**6) Cal Fire Reports**  
At 10:30 a.m., Cal Fire reported the fire at 20 acres. By 4:00 p.m., it was reported at 200 acres. These updates occurred during the period of moderate, manageable wind conditions.

*Inclusion:* Timeline of Cal Fire acreage reports with hyperlinks to official sources.

**Appendices and Downloads:**

* [CSV] Max Wind and Gust Jan 7 Full Day
* [CSV] Max Wind and Gust Jan 7 (10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
* [CSV] Historical Drought Data
* [CSV] Weather Station Details
* [CSV] Historical Wind Speeds (KLAX)
* [Links] Cal Fire Acreage Reports and Updates