# Wildfires in Greece prompt tourist evacuations and injuries on Chios and Kos islands



Wildfires in Greece have led to tourist evacuations and injuries on the eastern Aegean islands of Chios and Kos. Over 140 firefighters, specialized teams, and aerial support were dispatched to combat the blaze, which broke out Monday, July 1, 2024. Five individuals, including two firefighters and a volunteer, suffered non-life-threatening burns.

Emergency services ordered evacuations in Chios, urging residents to move to safer areas. In Kos, tourists were evacuated from hotels as a precaution. The fires come amidst warnings from Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis of a challenging summer ahead due to dry conditions and strong winds, factors linked to climate change.

On Monday alone, Greece recorded 52 wildfires, managing to tackle 44 in the early stages. Jet2 has advised travelers in affected regions to follow local guidance to stay safe. The situation, described as "apocalyptic" by witnesses, follows a similar series of wildfires in Rhodes last year.