

Dolan Fire



Update

August 28, 2020 Morning

Public Information Phone: (831) 272-0222

Media Information Phone: (831) 272-0221

Incident E-mail: 2020.Dolan@firenet.gov

Incident Website: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7018

Los Padres National Forest: www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf

Facebook: facebook.com/lospadresnationalforest

Twitter: twitter.com/LosPadresNF

Big Sur FD: <https://bigsurfire.org/>

Incident Information:

Start / Report Date: Aug. 18, 2020

Cause: Unknown

Fuels Involved: Chaparral, Brush,
Timber understory

Size: 23,365*

Location: Hwy 1(MM32.20) N of
Limekiln State Park, 10 miles S of
Big Sur

Containment: 20%

Injuries: 0

Resources:

Hand Crews: 14

Engines: 74

Dozers: 10

Helicopters: 8

Water Tenders: 25

Total Personnel: 902

*No IR flight was completed last night due to demands from other fires.

Virtual Meeting Today:

There will be a community meeting today at 2:00 PM that will be live-streamed on the [Los Padres National Forest](https://facebook.com/lospadresnationalforest) Facebook page. That video can also be viewed retroactively on the same Facebook page. Please send any questions to 2020.dolan@firenet.gov prior to 1:30 PM today.

Current Situation:

Overnight the fire was active in the north, but crews worked to keep the fire contained, prioritizing the protection of local communities and infrastructure. Firefighters patrolled Highway 1 and kept the fire from spreading to the west side of the road. In the south, near Hermitage, crews were able to get a direct line along the fire, attacking it aggressively.

Crews continue to prioritize the north and the south sides of the fire to protect the communities of Partington Ridge, Hermitage, and Lucia. The west side of the fire along Highway 1 is the next highest priority as smoldering and rolling material continue to threaten large sections of the highway.

Today, Hot Shot crews will be working from the top and bottom of McWay Ridge to secure the line to the north. The McWay Ridge is the primary control line for the northern area of the fire.

In the southeast, where fire southeasterly spread forced the abandonment of the planned line to Cone Peak, firefighters will be scouting the area for suitable trails or roads to re-engage. The point protection of structures in Hermitage will also be a focus.

Smoke will be visible, especially in the afternoon as the fog lifts. Fire activity will also increase as the marine layer lifts towards the afternoon. Road closures remain in place.

The fire continues to pose a risk to multiple businesses, parks, recreational sites, and communication infrastructure as well as the communities of Hermitage and Lucia in the south, and Partington Ridge in the north. Among natural resources threatened are the Ventana Wilderness, coastal watershed, and habitat for threatened and endangered species, including the California condor.

Fire activity in the western United States has caused a high demand for fire personnel and equipment. The nation is at the highest level, Preparedness Level 5 (PL5). In PL5 over 80% of the nation's incident management teams and wildland firefighting personnel are committed to incidents. Currently, there are 82 large uncontained fires nationwide. Fires have burned over 2 million acres with over 1.1 million acres burned in California alone. Resource orders are being prioritized to fires across California and the west. Acreage reported here is an estimate and will be updated when IR images are available.

Carmel Fire Info: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/8/18/carmel-fire/>

River Fire Info: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/8/16/river-fire/>

Updates and Meetings: Fire Information is producing two daily written updates. To request an update, email 2020.dolan@firenet.gov and provide your email address.

Weather: The marine inversion (around 1200 feet) will once again impact the fire producing morning low clouds and fog across the west flank of the fire. Clear and smoky skies are expected for the afternoon in the west. The eastern sections burn in drier and warmer conditions; sun and smoke is in the forecast. Weather conditions will be monitored closely to adapt and execute an appropriate plan.

Evacuations / Closures: Click [here](#) for an interactive map of Monterey County evacuations. For information about state highway closures go to <https://roads.dot.ca.gov/>

Smoke: The Monterey Bay Air Resources District has issued a Wildfire Air Quality Advisory. When the concentration of smoke has reached UNHEALTHY levels of the AQI, residents should limit their activity by staying indoors with the doors and windows closed to avoid breathing smoke. Updates on the current air quality forecast and Air Monitoring data can be found at <http://air.mbard.org/>.

Alert Monterey County: To receive emergency notifications regarding evacuations and critical events in Monterey County please sign up for A!ert Monterey County at the following website: <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085611217/login>.

Cooperating and Assisting Organizations: National Weather Service, California Highway Patrol, Monterey County Sheriff's Department, Big Sur Volunteers, Cal Trans, California State Parks, OES, Ventana Wilderness Alliance

Safety Message: This will be a long duration event. Residents in the affected area are encouraged to continue to prepare for the possibility of fire in their area in advance. Go to <https://www.ready.gov/wildfires> to learn how to prepare.