

Dolan Fire



Update

August 28, 2020 Evening

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: 24,860

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

Containment: 20%

Injuries: 0

Resources:

Hand Crews: 16

Engines: 84

Dozers: 10

Helicopters: 8

Water Tenders: 31

Total Personnel: 1,019

Current Situation:

Today the fire was very active on the north side, picking up around 10 AM. Crews worked hard to maintain the northern fire perimeter along McWay Ridge despite the active fire behavior. There is a spot along this Ridge where the fire escaped the perimeter by a few meters and firefighters are working to clean up that area and pull the fire back.

In the southeast, firefighters are assessing how to best engage the fire around Cone Peak. If the fire behavior is low and slow, then crews can engage directly along the fireline and potentially cut it off before Cone Peak. If fire behavior is active and aggressive, then firefighters will pull back create a new line to the southeast of Cone Peak.

The east side of the fire progressed and continues to grow as crews prioritize the north and the south sides of the fire to protect local communities in the north and south. The west side of the fire along Highway 1 is the next highest priority. Long stretches of the fire east of the highway have been contained, but some sections are persisting to smolder, burn, and deploy rolling material over the highway. Crews will be patrolling Highway 1 overnight to prevent the fire from crossing via rolling material or by burning down drainages and underpasses.

Overnight the fire is expected to be active until early in the morning, slowing down before dawn, and then picking back up as the marine layer lifts around 10 AM.

There is a new road closure at Nacimiento-Fergusson Road, which is closed to all traffic (public and residential) from Highway 1 to the Fort Hunter Liggett base boundary line 16 miles inland. This closure includes the intersection with South Coast Ridge Road at Nacimiento-Fergusson Road summit. All other 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 3.8 million acres with over 1.1 million acres burned in California alone. Resource orders are being prioritized to fires across 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.

There was a community meeting today at 2 PM. The meeting was live-streamed on the [Los Padres National Forest](#) Facebook page can be viewed retroactively.

Weather: The marine inversion will develop overnight to around 1200 feet deep and will create 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 perimeter burns in drier and warmer conditions. 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/>. Los Burros Road, Plaskett Ridge Road, and South Coast Ridge Road are closed to all but residents.

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.