

Dolan Fire

Update – September 17, 2020

Rob Allen, Incident Commander



Fire Information: 831-272-0222

Email: 2020.Dolan@firenet.gov

Media Information: 831-272-0221

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7018>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lospadresnationalforest>

Size: 122,178 acres

Containment: 40%

Personnel: 758

Start Date: August 18, 2020

Cause: Under Investigation

Structures Damaged: 4

Structures Destroyed: 19

YESTERDAY'S ACTIVITIES: Crews continued the process of bringing fire east along McKern Road yesterday. This plan has been put in place to join fire lines from Highway 1 to the contained fire perimeter on Nacimiento-Ferguson Road on the southeast portion of the fire. A spot fire escaped the fire lines and firefighters quickly responded, supported by two heavy helicopters dropping water to prevent the spread.

Structure protection work continued in Arroyo Seco with the assistance of CalFire. Additionally, heavy equipment operators have been working to reopen fire lines north of Arroyo Seco from the 2017 Soberanes Fire.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES: On the south side of the fire, firefighters expect to complete the burnout operation on McKern road today to the Nacimiento-Ferguson Road. Crews along the road will be assisted by helicopters again today cooling hot spots along the fire line. This burnout operation was executed in anticipation of today's forecasted weather change with winds now coming out of the northwest around noon.

CalFire and crews assigned to the incident have completed structure preparation efforts in Arroyo Seco but will continue to look for opportunities to improve that work and test equipment to ensure generators and sprinklers are working properly if forecasted winds begin pushing fire towards the community. Structure protection work will also continue in Tassajara. Aerial resources were able to both assist firefighting efforts on the ground to cool hot spots and also to scout for opportunities for crews to put in control lines in the steep, rugged terrain of the Arroyo Seco drainage. There are still no plans for a burnout operation from Arroyo Seco at this time unless wind and weather conditions push fire managers to execute a contingency plan to burnout around that area for the safety of the public and to protect private property.

Dozers from CalFire and Ft. Hunter Liggett are continuing the construction of fire line from Arroyo Seco to Coleman Canyon area where structure protection work continues. Crews are using the 2008 Indian Fire scar as a control feature if forecasted winds begin to push the fire east toward homes, private property and other values at risk.

Crews are continuing the methodical work of slowly bringing fire through structures in the Pacific Valley area down to Highway 1. Aerial ignitions continue to assist firefighters on the ground by safely igniting the steep hillside so fire backs down to the Highway.

EVACUATIONS: The Monterey County Sheriff's Office has evacuations ORDERS and WARNINGS in effect. For current evacuation information view the OES interactive map or call 211. SCPA Monterey County can assist with rescuing, sheltering, and evacuating animals. Call 831-373-2631 – day; 831-264-5455 – night; www.spcamc.org.

ROAD CLOSURES: HWY 1 is closed between mile post 25 and mile post 10. Nacimiento-Ferguson Rd is closed to all traffic from Highway 1 to the Fort Hunter Liggett base boundary line. For more information visit <https://roads.dot.ca.gov/>.
REGIONAL FOREST CLOSURES: Regional Order No. 20-10 USDA Forest Service. All National Forest Lands are closed to public entry in California.

WEATHER: A forecasted high pressure weather system will begin moving through the fire area this afternoon and evening, bringing hotter temperatures to the eastern portion of the fire area which will increase fire behavior. The system will also change the wind direction from a southwesterly low to a north westerly flow.

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