

Dolan Fire



Update

August 26, 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](https://www.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: 21,861

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

Containment: 15%

Injuries: 0

Resources:

Hand Crews: 13

Engines: 70

Dozers: 10

Helicopters: 7

Water Tenders: 14

Total Personnel: 951

Current Situation:

Today, fire activity picked up in the north and east, promoted by weather patterns. The deep marine layer lifted around noon and fuels rapidly dried out. The fire pushed significantly into McWay Ridge, slopping over the ridge approximately 150-200 acres. Crews are working to stay ahead of the fire and are optimistic that the contingency lines will be successful for protection of the community. On the eastern perimeter, the fire has not moved significantly, although the potential for fire growth remains. While crews are monitoring the eastern perimeter, they do not have personnel assigned to the eastern flank. The focus remains on maximizing resources to provide protection to communities on the north and south. The rumored spot fire in Lost Valley was proved to be inaccurate today with a flight over the area. Aerial resources, in conjunction with ground crews, worked on spot fires on the southeast side. On the southern perimeter, crews made good progress in securing direct and indirect lines to keep the fire out of Hermitage, Lucia and Morning Glory. Crews monitored the creeping and smoldering fire along Highway 1 to prevent impact to telecommunication lines. Firefighters also patrolled Highway 1 as rolling material impacted the highway, potentially presenting hazards to vehicles and apparatuses, as well as potential vectors for spot fires across the road.

More resources have arrived on the fire to assist in both night and day operations. Tonight, crews will be actively monitoring the fire progression, particularly north of McWay Ridge. Crews will be taking advantage of night-time conditions to strategically reinforce contingency lines, focusing work on North Coast Ridge Road. This ridge is critical to holding the fire west of the wilderness region. Night operations will be monitoring fire progression and conditions, gathering critical information that will assist the fire operations tomorrow morning.

The fire is threatening the communities of Hermitage and Lucia on the south, and Partington Ridge on the north. Multiple businesses, communications sites, parks, and recreational sites are also threatened. 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 in Preparedness Level 5 (PL5), the highest level. In PL5 over 80% of the nation's incident management teams and wildland firefighting personnel are committed to incidents. Currently there are 96 large uncontained fires nationwide with nearly 28,000 firefighters. To date, fires have burned 3.7 million acres with 1.84 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. A daily video update will be posted to the Los Padres National Forest Facebook page and Inciweb (See links in header).

There was a community meeting held today at 2:00 PM that was livestreamed on the [Los Padres National Forest](#) Facebook page. That video can also be viewed retroactively on the same Facebook page. Please send any questions to 2020.dolan@firenet.gov.

Weather: Tonight's weather will be under the marine layer influence along the coastal side of the fire with some low clouds and fog. Marine inversion is expected to be around 1200 feet deep.

Evacuations / Closures: Click [here](#) for an interactive map of Monterey County evacuations.

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 Alert 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.