

Dolan Fire Update



August 30, 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: 25,587

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

Containment: 25%

Injuries: 0

Resources:

Hand Crews: 17

Engines: 89

Dozers: 10

Helicopters: 8

Water Tenders: 29

Total Personnel: 1,055

Current Situation:

Last night firefighters continued to work in the steep terrain along McWay Ridge to establish fireline. Patches and lines of unburnt vegetation remain, and crews are keeping a close eye on fire activity. Crews are making good progress and are cautiously optimistic, but the containment lines will be tested by hot and dry weather that is forecasted to come in this afternoon and over the next few days. Air operations will be used when visibility allows, typically in the afternoons.

Good progress was made on the containment line around Hermitage last overnight. Firefighters continue to assess the fire behavior and plan for the southeast line in the Twin Peak and Cone Peak area. Crews will work along Nacimiento-Fergusson Road to prepare the road as a potential fireline.

Crews made progress along Highway 1 overnight and will continue work to fully contain the perimeter along the highway. The road remains closed because of the risk of the fire spreading to the west side and falling debris. The fire could ignite on the west side due to rolling materials or if the fire travels down underpasses and drainages. The east perimeter progressed today, traveling further into the Ventana Wilderness.

The fire poses 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 73 large uncontained fires nationwide. Fires have burned over 3.9 million acres with over 1.2 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 will be a virtual community meeting today at 2 PM. The meeting will be live-streamed on the [Los Padres National Forest](#) Facebook page can be viewed live or retroactively.

Weather: The marine inversion is around 1500 feet deep and covers the west flank of the fire. It is expected to lift midmorning. Otherwise, clear and smoky skies are in the forecast for the east side and for the afternoon in the west. 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/>.

Nacimiento-Fergusson Road 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. Los Burros Road, Plaskett Road and South Coast Ridge Road are closed to all but residential traffic.

Smoke: The air quality in communities around the fire are forecasted to range from Good to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (USG). Smoke and haze will likely be visible, especially in the afternoon when the marine layer lifts. Smoke intensity will continue to depend on the activity of the Dolan, River and Carmel fires.

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.