

Dolan Fire Update



August 30, 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: 27,936

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

Containment: 25%

Injuries: 0

Resources:

Hand Crews: 16

Engines: 77

Dozers: 9

Helicopters: 10

Water Tenders: 25

Total Personnel: 1,025

Current Situation:

Today there was a smoke inversion over the fire and a morning marine inversion on the west side. These inversions contributed to reduced fire behavior on all perimeters.

Crews made progress on the north edge of the fire along McWay Ridge and are cautiously optimistic that they will be able to hold the fire to that ridge. Work is still required in the area to manage the fire activity and the unburned vegetation that remains at risk of igniting. The east perimeter progressed today, traveling further into the Ventana Wilderness.

The eastern half of the south side is actively burning on Twin Peak Ridge, above Limekiln State Park. Crews are planning to keep working on the containment line which will parallel the fire's southern trajectory to protect the communities of Hermitage and Lucia. The western half of the south side is now contained. Crews will patrol the contained line and firefighters are confident that it is looking good.

Highway 1 has a section that is still burning on the east side of the highway in very steep terrain. Crews are monitoring the area to prevent the fire from spreading to the west side of the road, but given the rugged terrain, they are unable to get close to the burn. Large debris continues to roll onto, and across, the freeway. Patrols are watching for hazardous rolling material and removing it from the road.

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

Weather: A marine inversion is forecasted to develop in the early morning to around 1200 feet deep and it will cover the west flank of the fire. Otherwise, clear and smoky skies are 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/>.

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 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.