



**Soberanes Fire**  
Los Padres National Forest  
August 27, 2016



**DAILY UPDATE**

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<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4888/>

[http://www.fire.ca.gov/current\\_incidents/incidentdetails/Index/1348](http://www.fire.ca.gov/current_incidents/incidentdetails/Index/1348)

**Incident:** The Soberanes Fire was started by an Illegal campfire on the morning of July 22, 2016, in the Garrapta State Park. The fire is burning in areas of previous large fires including the Basin Complex in 2008 and the Marble-Cone Fire in 1977.

**Location:** Los Padres National Forest, Ventana Wilderness, Monterey County, CA

**Agency Jurisdiction:** CAL FIRE San Benito-Monterey Unit/Los Padres National Forest

**Current Size:** 91,543 acres (54,259 acres CA-LPF, 37,194 acres CAL FIRE)

**Containment:** 60% **Cause:** Illegal campfire **Injuries:** 1 fatality, 4 injuries

**Structures Destroyed:** 57 homes, 11 outbuildings **Structures Threatened:** 410

**Current Resources:** Crews: 22 **Engines:** 85 **Helicopters:** 12 **Dozers:** 19 **Water Tenders:** 14

**Total Personnel:** 1501

**Incident Command:** Alaska Interagency Incident Management Team, Tom Kurth Incident Commander. The incident is no longer in unified command with Cal Fire, many Cal Fire resources are still being utilized.

**Fire Restrictions:** [Forest Order 05-07-16-15 Fire Use Restrictions](#) - **Level IV Fire Restrictions**. This Order is effective from August 23, 2016, through the end of the official 2016 fire season.

**Current Situation:** Yesterday, a thick marine layer kept fire activity along the coastal area low. Weather stations positioned around the fire area continue to show significant differences in humidity between the lower and higher elevations. Interior portions of the fire continue to grow slowly. Similar fire behavior is expected today and no threats to fire containment lines are anticipated.

Additional structure protection and firing operation crews have arrived and are taking this time of slow fire growth to develop preparing for potential fire movement. Suppression line repair work continues on the northern perimeter of the fire.

**Defensible Space:** The best action homeowners can take to protect their property from wildfire is to create defensible space around their homes or cabins. This allows firefighters to take advantage of extra room to operate equipment to safely reach and extinguish any active fire when they check your home after the fire passes. Research has shown that homes with defensible space, free of flammable fuels, can often survive a wildfire. For more information on getting a home assessment contact your local Cal Fire station. Other tips and information is available on [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org).

**Wilderness Tactics:** To reduce the impacts associated with fire suppression activities in wilderness areas, fire managers and firefighting crews continue using Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) as much as possible. The steep, rugged terrain of the Ventana Wilderness is inherently treacherous to firefighters. Most

direct fireline is being constructed near the perimeter in areas that have been pretreated and supported by aircraft. The inaccessibility into the Ventana Wilderness along much of the fire's east side continually requires patience, as well as slow and steady hard work from the crews, as they look for options to construct direct line.

**US Forest Service Road and Trail Closures:** A forest closure order has been implemented to close the trails and roads within the Los Padres National Forest, Monterey Ranger District pursuant to USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a). The order prohibits going into or being upon National Forest System lands within the Soberanes Fire area. For a complete list of closures please visit: [www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf) . The following sites are open: Pfeiffer Beach Day Use, Mill Creek Day Use, Willow Creek Day Use, Sand Dollar Day Use, Kirk Creek Campground, Nacimiento Campground, Ponderosa Campground and Plaskett Creek Campground.

**California State Park Closures:** Point Sur Light Station State Historic Park is open and guided tours will resume today. Go to [www.pointsur.org](http://www.pointsur.org) for more information. Portions of Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park including the McWay Falls trail have opened. All lands and trails east of the parking lot and the campground remain closed. The Big Sur Lodge is open, however, Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park Day Use and Campgrounds remain closed. Go to [www.bigsurlodge.com](http://www.bigsurlodge.com) for more information.

The following park units remain closed: Andrew Molera State Park -All park lands closed to public entry; Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park – All park lands except the Big Sur Lodge closed to public entry; Garrapata State Park – All park lands east of Hwy 1 closed to public entry.

**Evacuation Orders and Warnings:** An evacuation ORDER remains in effect for Coast Ridge Rd. from mile marker 1.5 to Marble Peak at the end of the road. A WARNING remains for Tassajara Road from Carmel Valley Road to the Tassajara Hot Springs Zen Center. This area includes all roads that lead from the above described roads.

**Donations:** Local relief efforts to the fire victims have been provided by the [Coast Property Owners Association \(CPOA\)](#) and the [Community Foundation for Monterey County](#). Donations can be made to the CPOA at Coast Property Owners Association, PO Box 59, Big Sur, CA 93920 or the Community Foundation for Monterey County, 2354 Garden Road, Monterey, CA 93940 (831)375-9712.

The Red Cross prepares for, responds to, and helps people recover from disasters big and small. For any unmet disaster related needs, please call their 24 hour hotline at 1-866-272-2237.

**Additional Cooperating and Assisting Organizations:** California State Parks and Recreation, California Highway Patrol California Office of Emergency Services , California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation, California National Guard, Big Sur Land Trust, SPCA of Monterey County, California Department of Transportation, California National Guard, California Fish & Wildlife, Coast Property Owners Association (CPOA), Community Foundation for Monterey County, Bureau of Land Management, American Red Cross, County of Monterey, Pacific Gas and Electric, Carmel Highlands F.P.D., Monterey County Regional Fire Protection District, Mid Coast Volunteer Fire Brigade, Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade and the Cachagua Fire Protection District.

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