



Soberanes Fire
Los Padres National Forest
September 5, 2016



DAILY UPDATE

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

Incident: The Soberanes Fire is burning in the Los Padres National Forest, Ventana Wilderness, Monterey County, CA. The fire was started by an illegal campfire on July 22, 2016, in Garrapata State Park.

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

Incident Command: Alaska Interagency Incident Management Team, Tom Kurth Incident Commander.

Current Size: 100,428 acres (63,234 acres CA-LPF, 37,194 acres CAL FIRE)

Containment: 60% **Cause:** Illegal campfire **Injuries:** 1 fatality, 6 injuries

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

Current Resources: Crews: 15 **Engines:** 62 **Helicopters:** 15 **Dozers:** 3

Water Tenders: 5 **Masticators:** 2

Total Personnel : 1130

Current Situation: The fire burned actively in several locations during the burn period Sunday with wind and terrain alignments encouraging spread through shrub and heavier fuels. Most of the new growth was to the southeast and southwest.

Fire is now established in the North Big Sur, Willow Creek and Zigzag Creek drainages on the southwest side. Fire advanced over 1 mile east from the previous operational period in that area. There was active fire spread in the Pick Creek and Willow Creek drainages and in the vicinity of Black Cone Mountain, though it was much reduced in that area after a run to the ridge on Saturday. The fire has not crossed the Willow Creek drainage. Anticipated north/northwest winds should slow the spread of the fire toward the Tassajara Zen Center. The fire is currently 2 ½ miles from the Zen Center.

On the southwest side, the fire is moving toward Higgins Creek and Indian Valley. Considerable effort was spent by crews and aircraft tending spot fires that ignited Saturday, east of Coast Ridge Road. There were no new spot fires across Coast Ridge Road today. Retardant drops were used to reinforce Coast Ridge Road. Active fire above the Carmel River on the east side of the fire continues to decline with little significant movement noted in recent infrared flights. Aircraft was used to check fire spread where needed.

Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) personnel have completed field assessment and are now doing modeling and analysis on erosion, soil severity, watershed response and debris flow probabilities. Fire suppression repair on the northern portion of the fire has also been completed.

Evacuation Orders and Warnings: An evacuation warning remains in effect for a small section of Monterey County along the Pacific Coast Highway bounded on the north by Castro Canyon, on the south by the Julie Pfeiffer Burns State Park, on the east by North Coast Ridge Rd, and on the west by Highway 1. An evacuation warning remains in place for Tassajara Road from Carmel Valley Road to the Tassajara Hot Springs Zen Center. An evacuation order remains in effect for North Coast Ridge Rd. from mile marker 1.5 to Marble Peak at the end of the road. Access to the businesses in the Carmel Valley and along highway 1 in Big Sur are mostly unaffected. Please stay alert and watch out for vehicles entering the highway along your route.

No Drone Zone: There was a reported drone incursion over the fire on Sunday. The public is reminded that per the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, 43 CFR 9212.1(f), it is illegal to resist or interfere with the efforts of firefighter(s) to extinguish a fire. Doing so can result in a significant fine and/or a mandatory court appearance.

Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER): A Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team has completed assessments on the northern portion of the fire. The program addresses the threats of erosion, flash flooding and many other issues with the goal of protecting life, property, water quality, endangered species and deteriorated ecosystems from further damage after the fire.

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.

US Forest Service Forest, Road and Trail Closures: A forest closure order #05-07-51-16-16 was implemented on September 2nd to close the trails and roads within the Los Padres National Forest, Monterey Ranger District pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a). The order prohibits going into or being upon National Forest System lands within the Monterey Ranger District. For a complete list of closures please visit: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/lpnf/alerts-notice/?aid=10432>. 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 for more information. Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park is closed to the public. The Big Sur Lodge is open, however, Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park Day Use and Campgrounds remain closed. Go to 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.

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 F.P.D.



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