



Soberanes Fire
Los Padres National Forest
September 9, 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: 103,242 acres (66,048 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: 19 **Engines:** 83 **Helicopters:** 17 **Dozers:** 4

Water Tenders: 5 **Masticators:** 2

Total Personnel : 1333

Current Situation: The fire area experienced seasonal weather on Thursday, with temperatures 5 to 8 degrees cooler than Wednesday, due to the return of the marine layer. This weather pattern is expected to continue through Friday. Winds are expected to shift from the southeast to the northeast on Friday, pushing smoke offshore. Fire activity picked up once the marine layer broke up.

The fire continued to burn actively in Zigzag Creek downstream toward Lost Creek as well as to the east and west up to the ridge tops. Active burning took place in the North Fork of the Big Sur River and above Willow Creek. The fire remains about 2 miles from the Zen Center at its closest point. The uncontained fire edge in Willow Creek did not grow significantly on Thursday. Aircraft were used to drop retardant to help slow the spread of the fire in areas of concern.

Structure protection preparations continued on Partington Ridge and south from Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park to Dolan Road. The fire was monitored in the Big Sur and Pick Creek drainages and resources were moved to the area, including a group for initial attack. Weather did not support firing operations planned for along the east side of North Coast Ridge Road beyond Anderson Peak to extend and deepen the containment line.

Flight restrictions: On Tuesday, there were two drone intrusions into the Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) that is in effect over the fire area on Tuesday. Both drones were spotted by fire line personnel and on both occasions the drones were grounded without incident. One of the incidents occurred within ¼-mile of where helicopters were working. One individual was cited by California State Park law enforcement. The public is reminded that it is illegal to operate drones within a TFR. For details on the Soberanes Fire TFR go to:

http://tfr.faa.gov/save_pages/detail_6_3158.html. The objective is to provide a safe environment for firefighting aircraft operations. There were no reported drone incidents since the two on Tuesday.

Evacuation Orders and Warnings: An evacuation WARNING remains in effect along the Pacific Coast Highway and includes an area south of Anderson Canyon along Highway 1. The warning includes the Big Sur-Partington/South Coast Center Area and applies to all residents and businesses east of Highway 1 starting at the intersection of Highway 1 and Grimes Canyon, extending south to the intersection of Highway 1 and Dolan Canyon. This area is bounded to the east by North Coast Ridge Road and includes all residents and businesses on Dolan Ridge Road. The WARNING in place is due to warmer, drier weather that has increased fire activity on the east side of North Coast Ridge Road. 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 Road 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.

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 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.

Social Media Information:

Facebook: [U.S. Forest Service - Los Padres National Forest](#) [Alaska Interagency Incident Management Team](#)
<https://www.facebook.com/lospadresnationalforest/> <https://www.facebook.com/ALASKAIMT/?fref=ts>

Twitter: [@LosPadresN](#) <https://twitter.com/LosPadresNF>