



SOBERANES FIRE

DAILY UPDATE: OCTOBER 6, 2016



CONTACT:

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

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

Incident Command: Central Coast Interagency Incident Management Team, Van Arroyo, Incident Commander.

Current Size: 132,095 acres (94,901 acres Los Padres National Forest; 37,194 acres CAL FIRE)

Containment: 97% **Personnel:** 953 **Cause:** Illegal campfire **Injuries:** 1 fatality, 10 injuries

Structures Destroyed: 57 homes, 11 outbuildings, **Structures Threatened:** 20, **Crews:** 12, **Engines:** 24

Helicopters: 12, **Dozers:** 7, **Water Tenders:** 30

Current Situation:

Hotshot crews were busy Wednesday as they completed sections of containment line in the Miller Creek area. They are taking advantage of moderate fire behavior before warmer temperatures and lower relative humidities move in as a high-pressure ridge builds over the fire area. Forecasters expect the warming and drying trend to continue through the weekend with inland valley temperatures likely reaching into the upper 80s to lower 90s. Relative humidities will drop to the lower, to mid-teens accompanied by light to moderate winds.

Nearly all of the structure defense equipment around the Tassajara Zen Center was removed Wednesday. The removal of excess equipment, hoselays and water pumps has also began in the Arroyo Seco area. Suppression repair work will follow in these areas. The repair of damage caused while extinguishing the fire is occurring all around the fire area now. Chipping of felled trees and piles of brush is continuing along the Coast Ridge Road. Crews are working their way north on dozer lines along Indians Road. Contingency lines from Arroyo Seco Road south towards Fort Hunter Liggett are being repaired.

A few persistent smoldering areas will continue to put up small amounts of smoke well within the perimeter as the drying trend builds through the weekend. These are in the steep, rocky areas north of Ventana Cone and the deep canyons in the upper reaches of the Big Sur River where the fire hasn't moved in several days. These areas are patrolled daily by helicopters to keep fire managers apprised of the situation. The public needs to be aware that these areas and possibly others inside the fire's perimeter will continue to smolder. This will happen until a season ending rain saturates the area.

An interagency meeting was held in Big Sur last evening presenting the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team's plan for addressing damage caused by the fire itself. Their plan highlighted areas that may be subject to increased mud and debris flow and identified properties that may be at risk.

The Monterey Ranger District of the Los Padres National Forest remains closed to public access. The Soberanes Fire is no longer affecting California Highway 1. The road is open through Big Sur from Monterey to San Luis Obispo.

For more information, visit: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4888/> or follow us at <http://www.facebook.com/LosPadresNationalForest> or www.twitter.com/LosPadresNF.