Dolan Fire



Update

August 24, 2020 8:00 PM

Public Information Phone: (831) 272-0222 Media Information Phone: (831) 272-0221 Incident E-mail: <u>2020.Dolan@firenet.gov</u> Incident Website: <u>inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7018</u> Los Padres National Forest: <u>www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf</u> Facebook: <u>facebook.com/lospadresnationalforest</u> Twitter: <u>twitter.com/LosPadresNF</u> Big Sur FD: <u>https://bigsurfire.org/</u>

Incident Information:

Start / Report Date: Aug. 18, 2020 Cause: Unknown Fuels Involved: Chaparral, Brush, Timber understory

Resources: Hand Crews: 11

Engines: 46 Dozers: 7 Size: 20,091 Location: Hwy 1(MM32.20) N of Limekiln State Park, 10 miles S of Big Sur

Helicopters: 4 Fixed wing: 1 Water Tenders: 7 Containment: 15% Injuries: 0

Total Personnel: 662

Current Situation:

Fire activity continued to be steady, with low intensity backing fire through the redwoods of Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park. The fire was also active within the existing perimeter, reburning in areas the fire had previously passed through. The fire spotted over on the Eastern perimeter near the North Coast Ridge Road at the transition of the North Coast Ridge trail, with fire behavior and growth driven largely by fuels in an area with no recent fire history. Firefighters are monitoring fire growth in this area.

Crews continued to focus on the Northern and Southern edges of the fire by constructing and enhancing contingency lines. These handlines will provide additional protection and management options for firefighters in the event that fire progresses towards the structures. More dozer line was constructed to provide point protection for communities.

Fire behavior this evening is expected to be similar to previous nights, with activity picking up along the coast ridges during a five-hour window starting around midnight. Night operations will be focused on monitoring fire conditions, gathering critical intel that will assist the fire operations in the morning. Crews will also be monitoring bridges that may serve as pathways for fire to cross into unburned areas. The hazards of rolling rocks and spot fires in the field, as well as driving and traffic conditions on the road continue to be safety concerns for crews.

The fire is threatening the communities of Hermitage, Partington Ridge, and Lucia. Multiple businesses, communications sites, parks and recreational sites are also threatened. Among natural resources threatened are the Ventana Wilderness and 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 in Preparedness Level 5 (PL5), the highest level. In PL5 over 80% of the nation's incident management teams and wildland firefighting personnel are committed to incidents. Resource orders are being prioritized to

fires across California and the west. Acreage reported here is an estimate and will be updated when IR images are available.

Carmel Fire Info: <u>https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/8/18/carmel-fire/</u> River Fire Info: <u>https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/8/16/river-fire/</u>

Updates and Meetings: Fire Information is producing two daily written updates. To request an update, email <u>2020.dolan@firenet.gov</u> and provide your email address. A daily video update will be posted to the Los Padres National Forest Facebook page and Inciweb (See links in header).

Weather: Tomorrow's weather is expected to be typical for late summer days with a marine layer and inversion lifting to clear skies.

Evacuations / Closures: Click <u>here</u> for an interactive map of Monterey County evacuations.

Smoke: The Monterey Bay Air Resources District has issued a Wildfire Air Quality Advisory. When the concentration of smoke has reached UNHEALTHY levels of the AQI, residents should limit their activity by staying indoors with the doors and windows closed to avoid breathing smoke. Updates on the current air quality forecast and Air Monitoring data can be found at <u>http://air.mbard.org/</u>.

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 <u>https://www.ready.gov/wildfires</u> to learn how to prepare.