Dolan Fire

Update - September 16, 2020

Rob Allen, Incident Commander











Fire Information: 831-272-0222 Email: 2020.Dolan@firenet.gov

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/lospadresnationalforest

Size: 122,178 acres Containment: 40% Personnel: 758 Start Date: August 18, 2020

Cause: Under Investigation Structures Damaged: 4 Structures Destroyed: 19

YESTERDAY'S ACTIVITIES: Firefighters began a burnout operation to tie in the southern portion of the fire from Highway 1 to the black containment line on southeast portion of the fire area yesterday. Crews began the methodical process of joining the burnout operation from Prewitt Ridge down to the highway through the Pacific Valley subdivision, along Prewitt Ridge to McKern Road.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES: Firefighters will continue the burnout operation on McKern Road today. Crews and heavy equipment spent several days preparing roads to be used as containment lines on a planned burnout that is intended to prevent the fire from moving south of McKern and Nacimiento-Ferguson Roads. Ignitions that began along Prewitt Ridge yesterday will progress slowly east today with firefighters along McKern Road using water to cool the perimeter. Fixed wing aircraft will be available for retardant drops to moderate fire behavior and helicopters could potentially assist with aerial ignitions to fill in areas of unburned fuel. This burnout operation is expected to take a few days to complete depending on wind and weather conditions.

CalFire and structure protection crews assigned to the incident have nearly completed structure protection work in Arroyo Seco and are continuing to prioritize that work for Tassajara as well. Helicopters assisted firefighters on the ground by cooling hot spots in the Arroyo Seco drainage yesterday and will continue to be available to pick up hot spots today. Firefighters will continue working to keep fire south and east of the river. There are no plans for a burnout operation from Arroyo Seco at this time unless wind and weather conditions push fire managers to execute a contingency plan to burnout around that area for the safety of the public and to protect private property.

Dozers from CalFire and Ft. Hunter Liggett are continuing the construction of fire line from Arroyo Seco along the base of Paloma Ridge and Pine Canyon and using the 2008 Indian Fire scar as a control feature. These fire lines are available if a possible burnout operation is necessary to prevent the fire from moving farther east into Pine Canyon.

There's a forecasted wind change on Thursday from generally southerly winds to northwest/west winds. While wind speeds are not predicted to increase, the change of direction could push fire farther east. Hot and dry conditions will persist inland and on the east side of the fire area and firefighters are expecting very active fire behavior.

EVACUATIONS: The Monterey County Sheriff's Office has evacuations ORDERS and WARNINGS in effect. For current evacuation information view the OES interactive map or call 211. SCPA Monterey County can assist with rescuing, sheltering, and evacuating animals. Call 831-373-2631 – day; 831-264-5455 – night; www.spcamc.org.

ROAD CLOSURES: HWY 1 is closed between mile post 25 and mile post 10. Nacimiento-Ferguson Rd is closed to all traffic from Highway 1 to the Fort Hunter Liggett base boundary line. For more information visit https://roads.dot.ca.gov/. REGIONAL FOREST CLOSURES: Regional Order No. 20-10 USDA Forest Service. All National Forest Lands are closed to public entry in California.

WEATHER: The marine layer has been difficult to forecast but generally, there has been decreasing coverage, especially inland where temperatures are getting hotter with lower relative humidities throughout the day. Continued winds out of the southwest.