



## Soberanes Fire

Los Padres National Forest Service

August 22, 2016

### DAILY UPDATE

**Fire Information Phone (831)204-0446**

**soberanesfire2016@gmail.com**

**Media Line: (831)484-9647**

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

[http://www.fire.ca.gov/current\\_incidents/incidentdetails/Index/1348](http://www.fire.ca.gov/current_incidents/incidentdetails/Index/1348)

**Incident:** The Soberanes Fire was started by an Illegal campfire on the morning of July 22, 2016, in the Garrapta State Park. The fire is burning in areas of previous large fires including the Basin Complex in 2008 and the Marble-Cone Fire in 1977.

**Location:** Los Padres National Forest, Ventana Wilderness, Monterey County, CA

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

**Additional Cooperating and Assisting Organizations:** CA State Parks and Recreation, CHP, CAL-OES, CDCR, CA National Guard, Big Sur Land Trust, CAL-TRANS, CCC, CA Fish & Wildlife, Coast Property Owners Association (CPOA), Community Foundation for Monterey County, BLM, American Red Cross, the County of Monterey, PG&E, Carmel Highlands F.P.D., Monterey County Regional Fire Protection District, Mid Coast Volunteer Fire Brigade, Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade and the Cachagua Fire Protection District.

**Current Size:** 86,294 acres (49,100 CA-LPF, 37,194 CAL FIRE,) **Containment:** 60% **Cause:** Illegal campfire  
**Injuries:** 1 fatality, 3 injuries **Structures Destroyed:** 57 homes, 11 outbuildings **Structures Threatened:** 410  
**Current Resources:** **Crews:** 34 **Engines:** 60 **Helicopters:** 13 **Dozers:** 29 **Water Tenders:** 29  
**Total Personnel:** 2109

**Current Situation:** Today marks day thirty of the Soberanes Fire. Nominal growth occurred the last twenty four hours of 1,082 acres. The fire continues to slowly burn interior islands with heavier fuels within the Ventana Wilderness portions of the fire. No movement outside the fireline is expected in this area. Crews continue to patrol and extinguish hot spots with their primary focus on suppression repair.

On the east side, the fire advanced towards Miller Mountain and Ventana Cone. Firefighters continue to prepare and reinforce contingency lines from the Los Padres Reservoir to Chews Ridge. Lines are also being strengthened from Arroyo Seco south to Santa Lucia Memorial Park. Crew have provided enhanced protection measures to structures within the predicted path of the Soberanes Fire in the Ventana Wilderness.

Near the Big Sur area, no firing operations occurred yesterday but may occur today if conditions are favorable. Aircraft was utilized yesterday to slow the southward progression of the fire. Most of the fire activity occurred east of Barlow Camp and west of Redwood Creek Camp, flanking to the south in the Big Sur River drainage area. The fire is established on Logwood Ridge. Crews are working hard to reinforce hand-line along portions of Logwood Ridge where possible.

**Wilderness Tactics:** To reduce the impacts associated with fire suppression activities in wilderness areas, fire managers and firefighting crews continue using MIST (Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics) as much as possible. The steep, rugged terrain of the Ventana Wilderness is inherently treacherous to firefighters. Most direct fireline is being constructed near the perimeter in areas that have been pretreated and supported by aircraft. The inaccessibility into the Ventana Wilderness along much of the fire's east side continually requires patience, and slow and steady hard work from the crews, as they look for options to construct direct line.

The fire was caused by an illegal, unattended campfire on the Soberanes Canyon trail in the Garrapata State Park. Anyone with information is asked to call the CAL FIRE Tip Line at: (800) 468-4408.

Fire managers want to remind the public that human caused fires are preventable. Please be aware of current fire restrictions and be careful with anything that could spark a fire.

**US Forest Service Road and Trail Closures:** A forest closure order has been implemented to close the trails and roads within the Los Padres National Forest, Monterey Ranger District pursuant to USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a). The order prohibits going into or being upon National Forest System lands within the Soberanes Fire area. The Arroyo Seco Campground and Day Use Area is closed. For a complete list of closures please visit: [www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf)

**California State Park Closures:** All California State Parks from Garrapata State Park through Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park are closed until further notice; this includes Point Sur State Historic Park (Lighthouse), Andrew Molera State Park, Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park Campground and Day Use.

**Evacuation Orders:** An evacuation ORDER remains in effect for Coast Ridge Rd. from mile marker 1.5 to Marble Peak at the end of the road.

**Evacuation Warnings:** A WARNING remains for Tassajara Road from Carmel Valley Road to the Tassajara Hot Springs Zen Center. This area includes all roads that lead from the above described roads.

**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.

People can also help those affected by disasters by making a gift to American Red Cross Disaster Relief. These donations enable the Red Cross to prepare for, respond to, and help people recover from disasters big and small. To donate, people can visit [redcross.org/donate/](http://redcross.org/donate/), call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767), or text REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation.

The American Red Cross Resource Center has closed. For any unmet disaster related needs, please call their 24 hour hotline at [1.866.272.2237](tel:1.866.272.2237).

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