



Soberanes Fire
Los Padres National Forest
August 26, 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

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

Current Size: 91,100 acres (53,906 acres CA-LPF, 37,194 acres CAL FIRE)

Containment: 60% **Cause:** Illegal campfire **Injuries:** 1 fatality, 4 injuries

Structures Destroyed: 57 homes, 11 outbuildings **Structures Threatened:** 410

Current Resources: Crews: 21 **Engines:** 65 **Helicopters:** 12 **Dozers:** 21 **Water Tenders:** 14

Total Personnel: 1413

Incident Command: Alaska Interagency Incident Management Team, Kurth commanding, has taken command of the incident at 7 am this morning from California Interagency Incident Management Team #3, von Tillow commanding. The incident will no longer be in unified command with Cal Fire, but Cal Fire resources are still being utilized.

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.

Current Situation: Most fire activity yesterday continued in the interior of the fire with minimal movement along the fire line. Aircraft water drops continued to cool and slow the progress of the fire. Humidity is expected to remain higher with a marine layer around 2,000 feet. No threats to the fire line are anticipated. Winds from the south and southwest will continue today making fire and smoke conditions much like yesterday.

Crews continue to construct and reinforce fire line while also preparing for structure defense. An additional structure protection group has been added. Reassessment of the tactical firing plan will evaluate the best areas to engage the fire. Line repair work continues on the northern perimeter near the Carmel zone.

Wilderness Tactics: To reduce the impacts associated with fire suppression activities in wilderness areas, fire managers and firefighting crews continue using Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) 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. For a complete list of closures please visit: www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf . The following sites are open: Pfeiffer Beach Day Use, Mill Creek Day Use, Willow Creek Day Use, Sand Dollar Day Use, Kirk Creek Campground, Nacimiento Campground, Ponderosa Campground and Plaskett Creek Campground.

California State Park Closures: Point Sur Light Station State Historic Park is open and guided tours will resume on Saturday August 27, 2016. Go to www.pointsur.org for more information. Portions of Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park including the McWay Falls trail have opened. All lands and trails east of the parking lot and the campground remain closed. The Big Sur Lodge is open, however, Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park Day Use and Campgrounds still 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.

Evacuation Orders and Warnings: An evacuation ORDER remains in effect for Coast Ridge Rd. from mile marker 1.5 to Marble Peak at the end of the road. 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 \(CPOA\)](http://www.coastpropertyowners.org) and the [Community Foundation for Monterey County](http://www.communityfoundationformontereycounty.org). 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. To donate, people can visit redcross.org/donate/, call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767), or text REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation. 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, 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 Fire Protection District.

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