

Alisal Fire Update for Friday, October 15, 2021

Forest Service News Release

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16,901 Acres

41% Containment

1,731 Total Personnel

Yesterday

Fire crews made significant progress resulting in the reopening of California Highway 101 and the Union Pacific Railroad. Both had been shut down as a result of the fire's spread. Firefighters began to mop-up around much of the fire, including Camino Cielo, Refugio Canyon and along Hwy 101. Firefighters "mop-up" after the fire has been controlled by extinguishing or removing burning material near the control line. Crews secured the perimeter along Reagan Ranch and Refugio Canyon. Hot shot crews also began to cold trail areas along the old Sherpa Fire burn scars, which is a method of controlling a partly dead fire edge by carefully inspecting with the hand for heat to detect any fire. And along Hwy 101, crews removed hazard trees, while helicopters engaged the fire's edge. The public is reminded to drive cautiously on Hwy 101 as crews continue to monitor the area. Last night, firefighters responded to isolated fire activity on the western most portion of the fire.

Today

Today's priorities will be to secure the fire's eastern edge along the old Sherpa Fire burn scar, address the western portion near the Cañada San Onofre, and ensure the fire holds where it has been contained. Crews will continue to use aviation assets as conditions allow.

Weather

Winds are the primary force behind fire growth. Expect winds to switch back and forth from a northerly to southerly direction throughout the day with gusts up to 20 mph. Wind switches, warm temperatures and decreasing humidity combined have the potential to increase fire activity. Strong down sloping winds will continue to impact fire behavior over the next several days.

Evacuations

Santa Barbara County's evacuation orders remain in effect for Arroyo Hondo Canyon, Refugio Canyon, and the area between El Capitan Beach State Park and West Camino Cielo. Evacuation warnings are still in effect for the area east of El Capitan Beach State Park, west of Dos Pueblos Canyon Rd, and south of West Camino Cielo.

Stay connected for the latest accurate information:

- Incident Information (Inciweb): <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7862>
- StoryMap: <https://bit.ly/AlisalFire>
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/LosPadresNationalForest
- Evacuations: <https://readysbc.org>

[LINKS - InciWeb the Incident Information System \(nwcg.gov\)](#)

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