Sherpa Fire Facts as of June 22, a.m.

Current Situation:
The fire has burned 7,969 acres and is 89 percent contained as of 6 a.m. today, June 22. Infrared (IR) flight still indicates hot spots within the burn area and the focus is to extinguish hot spots near the containment lines and advancing containment lines in the remaining uncontained perimeter.

The Incident Command Post and base is fully operational, however the County’s Emergency Operations Center will be at level 1 operating during daytime hours with staff on-call overnight. Fire personnel, equipment and staging at Refugio Beach will be demobilized and dismantled on Thursday, June 23. Refugio State Beach will be prepared to re-open to the public on Saturday, June 25. El Capitan State Beach will remain closed at least through July 15.

Weather Forecast:
A return to cooler and more humid conditions across the area is helping firefighting efforts. The early morning marine layer created an inversion layer at about the 700-foot elevation.

Evacuations:
Evacuation warning areas opened for access today includes Calle Lippizana east to Farren Road, Las Llagas Canyon, Gato Canyon, Las Varas Canyon, Dos Pueblos Canyon and Eagle Canyon.

Mandatory evacuation areas have been reduced to warning areas today, with the exceptions listed below. Only landowners, residents and their farm laborers are allowed to enter areas designed as EvacuationWarning.

Evacuation Exceptions:
- El Capitan Canyon will remain closed with a tentative reopening of June 25.
- In Refugio Canyon, the area north of 1800 Refugio Canyon will remain under Mandatory Evacuation, with a tentative reopening of June 25. The road south of the 1800 block (also known as “The Narrows”) will be reduced to a WARNING area, but, closed to non-fire traffic between 7 to 9 a.m. and between 6 to 8 p.m. to allow safe passage of fire-fighting traffic.

Refugio State Beach will reopen to the public on Saturday, June 25. El Capitan State Beach will remain closed at least through July 15.
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Shelters:
The Wake Center at 300 N. Turnpike Road is no longer in use but on stand-by status until June 23, 2016.

For additional information, the public can call 211 (outside the county, call 800-400-1572), contact the Sherpa Fire Information Line at (800) 325-9604, or visit Santa Barbara County online at countyofsbc.org.