
MEDIA ADVISORY

Vandenberg Air Force Base

Launch update/
Rumor control line:
606-VAND



After hours contact:
(805) 606-9961

Public Affairs · 30th Space Wing · 867 Washington Ave · Vandenberg AFB, CA 93437 · (805) 606-3595 · Fax (805) 606-8303 · www.vandenberg.af.mil

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sunday September 18, 2016
Release No. 201609-006

CREWS FIGHT VANDENBERG AFB WILDLAND FIRE - UPDATE

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – The 1,200 acre Canyon Fire on south Vandenberg, Sept. 18, 2016, is burning at what responders describe as a “slow to moderate speed”.

Vandenberg AFB firefighters, assisted by U.S. Forestry Service, CalFire, and Santa Barbara County fire crews, continue to work around the clock fighting the fire, however as of 1:47 p.m. it remained zero percent contained.

Multiple protective measures such as aggressive air tanker drops, new fire breaks cut by Vandenberg and Santa Barbara County bulldozers, and attacking spot fires directly by engine crews are being employed by the 230+ firefighters on scene.

Vandenberg AFB Civil Engineers are also working to mitigate power outage caused by the fire burning in the remote VAFB canyon between Arguello and Santa Ynez Ridge Roads.

As additional responders arrive to assist in the efforts to fight the fire, on and off-base residents are directed to avoid the South Vandenberg AFB area. Effective immediately and until further notice, only mission-essential personnel, as designated by their commander, will be granted access to South Base. Mission-essential personnel who work north of Mesa Road in the South Base cantonment area should utilize the South Base gate to access South base. Mission-essential

personnel who work at facilities along Coast Road should enter through the Coast Gate. All others should contact their supervisory chain for reporting instructions.

There is no restriction for North Base activities. Personnel working on North Base should report for duty using normal procedures.

More information to follow as the situation develops, and the current situation is subject to change.

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VANDENBERG AFB CANYON FIRE PRESS CONFERENCE

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – There will be a press conference for local media regarding the Canyon Fire on South Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA at 2:00 p.m. PDT. All media wishing to attend the press conference are encouraged to meet at the South Base gate on Arguello Road and Ocean Ave and park at the adjacent parking lot.

For updates please check the Vandenberg AFB website at www.vandenberg.af.mil.

For questions regarding the conference please contact (805) 606-3595.

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Sunday September 18, 2016
Release No. 201609-004

CREWS FIGHT VANDENBERG AFB WILDLAND FIRE

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – Close to 800 Vandenberg AFB, U.S. Forestry Service, CalFire, and Santa Barbara County fire fighters continue to battle the nearly 500 acre wildland fire on south Vandenberg, Sept. 18.

In addition to the hand-crews and bulldozers, air assets are expected to rejoin Sunday morning according to Vandenberg Fire Chief Clem Marrero.

“We’re using Santa Barbara County helicopters and aircraft based out of Santa Maria and Paso Robles airports,” said Marrero.

Though our facilities are intact, some power lines have been damaged as the fire is located in a remote canyon between Arguello and Santa Ynez Ridge Roads.

“The team work exhibited between the Santa Barbara County, CalFire, U.S. Forestry Service and Air Force firefighters is why we have been as successful as we have been fighting this blaze,” said Lt. Col. Edward Simpson, Emergency Operations Center Director. “We are grateful to have their support.”

-MORE-

The launch of an Atlas V rocket was scheduled for lift off on Sept. 18 with a commercial imaging satellite.

More information to follow as the situation develops.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sep 18, 2016

VANDENBERG AFB LAUNCH DELAYED

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – The south Vandenberg AFB wildland fire that began on Sept. 17, has delayed the Atlas V launch scheduled for Sept. 18.

“Our procedures require stand-by firefighting crews for every launch to ensure safety of our personnel and facility protection,” said Col. Paul Nosek, Emergency Operations Center commander. “We’ve delayed the launch in order to concentrate our resources on the situation at hand.”

No facilities have been damaged by the fire in the remote canyon between Arguello and Santa Ynez Roads.

According to Col. Paul Nosek, no space launch complexes or critical range assets are in immediate danger.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sep 17, 2016

WILDLAND FIRE AT VANDENBERG - UPDATE

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – Fire crews from Vandenberg AFB and Santa Barbara County continue to fight a wildland fire on south Vandenberg, September 17.

No facilities or infrastructure have been damaged, as the fire is located in a remote canyon between Arguello and Santa Ynez Roads, and crews work to contain the blaze.

According to Col. Paul Nosek, Emergency Operations Center commander, no space launch complexes or critical range assets are in immediate danger.

An Atlas V rocket is scheduled to lift off September 18 with a commercial imaging satellite.

More information to follow as the situation develops.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sep 17, 2016

WILDLAND FIRE AT VANDENBERG

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. – Fire crews from Vandenberg Air Force Base and Santa Barbara County are responding to a wildland fire on Vandenberg AFB, South Base, Saturday, September 17.

The fire, named the Canyon Incident, is affecting 50 acres near Arguello and Santa Ynez Ridge roads.

Approximately 250 firefighters including hand-crews, bulldozers, and air assets are on-site.

More information to follow as the situation develops.

- 30 -