



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

ERIC L.PETERSON
FIRE CHIEF

4410 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- Sherpa Fire Cause Released-

SANTA BARBARA, Ca. May 2, 2017 – Fire investigators from the Santa Barbara County Fire Department (SBCFD) have released the official cause of the Sherpa Fire as accidental. A resident living on La Scherpa Ranch was burning a log in his indoor fireplace when the wind picked up, causing smoke to fill the residence. The resident then carried the burning log to an outside water faucet, dropping hot embers on the ground, which ignited the vegetation fire. The Sherpa Fire started on June 15, 2016 and burned 7,474 acres before it was fully contained on July 12, 2016.

Although cause determination was found early after the fire began, the SBCFD is now able to officially release the information as the investigation is now closed.

Contact Information:

Captain Dave Zaniboni
Information Officer
Office 805-681-5531
Cell 805-896-6336
News Line 805-681-5546
Email david.zaniboni@sbcfire.com
Twitter @SBCFireInfo

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