From the Palomar Mountain FSC's Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Evacuation planning is a dynamic process subject to the nuances of each community.

A. Overview of Ingress and Egress

There are currently two primary roads used to access Palomar Mountain: South Grade (S6) and East Grade (S7)

S6 runs south from the community, connecting with state Route 76 at the base of the mountain. S7 runs southeast and connects with SR 76 near Lake Henshaw. Residents on the eastern crest of Palomar Mountain in the Crestline, Birch Hill and Observation Point areas have a single primary escape corridor leading directly west on Crestline Rd. to South Grade Rd. (S6) and East Grade Rd (S7) at the Summit, where access to both S6 and S7 can be blocked by fire.

Most habitable structures on Palomar Mountain are in the Birch Hill/Crestline area, and are accessed by narrow, overgrown, private dirt roads which would be difficult to traverse for residential evacuation and are not accessible for San Diego County Fire/CAL FIRE emergency or firefighting equipment.

B. Designated Evacuation Corridors and Temporary Safe Refuge Area(s) (TSRA)

Using the PACE system, the Palomar Mountain community has these options designated for use during emergencies (see Appendix B for maps)

Primary: East Grade Road (S7) Alternate: South Grade Road (S6)

Contingency: None

Emergency: TSRAs (e.g., Palomar Observatory parking lot and Palomar Mountain State Park Doane Pond

parking lot and meadow or as designated by San Diego County Fire)

CAL FIRE's "If you become trapped by a wildfire" education CAL FIRE Ready Set Go! Program.

In your home:

Stay calm and keep your family together.

Call 911 to advise officials.

Have a water supply ready.

Keep doors and windows closed but unlocked.

Stay inside your house, away from exterior walls and windows.

In your car:

Stay calm and park away from vegetation.

Call 911 to advise officials.

Close all windows and vents.

Cover mouth with dry cloth to protect airway.

Cover yourself with a wool blanket or jacket.

Lay on vehicle floor and stay in the car until the fire passes.

On foot:

Stay calm and find an area clear of vegetation, a ditch, or a depression on level ground.

Call 911 to advise officials.

Lay face down and cover up your body.

Cover mouth with a dry cloth to protect airway.

Call 911 for all emergencies or if unable to self-evacuate.

Report new fires. If you are elderly, infirm, and physically unable to assist yourself and cannot evacuate, notify 911. Pre-planning for evacuation should include friends, family and neighbors who can assist you during an emergency. If you cannot self-evacuate, call 911.

Individuals within our communities are encouraged to plan, prepare, and practice a personal and specific household evacuation planning. Personal plans should indicate PACE planning for their location, noting the TSRAs for evacuation survivability.

