

<https://timesofsandiego.com/crime/2018/11/03/mexican-entering-illegally-near-otay-mountain-starts-brush-fire-as-signal/>

Mexican Entering Illegally Near Otay Mountain Starts Brush Fire as Signal

Posted by Chris Jennewein

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Cal Fire personnel with the man who started the fire. Courtesy OnScene.TV

A small brush fire that broke out on Otay Mountain Saturday was set as a signal by a man who was injured after entering the United States illegally.

Border Patrol agents interviewed a 25-year-old Mexican citizen who said he started the fire after he hurt his ankle and was left behind by a larger group he had crossed the border with, according to [U.S. Border Patrol](#) Agent Eduardo Olmos.

A Cal Fire battalion chief said the blaze was set as a signal fire, NBC San Diego reported.

The fire was reported on the mountain, which is east of Otay Mesa and just north of the U.S.-Mexico border, around 11:30 a.m., Cal Fire Capt. Issac Sanchez said.

It was stopped at about a third of an acre, Sanchez told City News Service.

Cal Fire took custody of the man and took him to a hospital, according to Sanchez and Olmos.

Border Patrol agents will take custody of the man at the hospital and begin the process of deporting the man to Mexico, Olmos said.