

Navy F/A-18 Strike Fighter Crashes in California



An F/A-18F Super Hornet prepares to land on the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68) in this 2020 U.S. Navy photo. A similar aircraft crashed Oct. 20 in California. U.S. Navy / Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Dalton Reidhead

ARLINGTON, Va. – A U.S. Navy F/A-18 strike fighter crashed Oct. 20 west of Ridgecrest, California, according to a source and a local news bulletin.

A source said the pilot of the Super Hornet – assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron 14 (VFA-14) – ejected. VFA-14 is based at Naval Air Station Lemoore, California.

The ABC station in Bakersfield, California, reported at 11:07 Pacific Time that the California Highway Patrol confirmed the crashed aircraft was a Navy fighter and that the Kern County Fire Department was on the scene. A small brush fire was caused by the crash.