



For Immediate Release
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Silver Fire Grows

SILVER CITY, NM. – The Silver Fire continues to burn actively and has spotted to the north across New Mexico Highway 152 and is one half mile east of the fire. Areas near the Upper Gallinas and Iron Creek Campgrounds along Highway 152 burned actively late in the afternoon producing several large columns of smoke visible from as far away as Deming. The fire has grown to 8,400 acres and continues to be managed under a full suppression strategy. Weather forecasts call for continuing high temperatures, low humidity and windy conditions through Thursday. Due to these conditions and the amount of dry beetle killed pine, the fire is expected to remain active and continue to grow. A public meeting has been scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday at the Hillsboro Community Center.

Ground forces scouted areas and started construction of firelines on the east and south portions to continue the suppression of the fire. Protection is in place for the community of Kingston, forest campgrounds and roads. More than 350 personnel are assigned to the fire including eight hotshot crews, two 20-person crews, five helicopters, 12 engines, and two dozers.

New Mexico State Route 152 remains closed through the Black Range from San Lorenzo to Hillsboro and the Royal John Road is closed to the public but remains open to residents.

Silver Fire information is posted at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3414>.

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