



Little Bear Fire

June 10, 2012 – 12:00 Noon

Management of Fire Transferred to Type 1 Incident Management Team

Start Time/Date Monday, June 4, 2012
Location: Smokey Bear Ranger District, Lincoln NF, including White Mountain Wilderness
Cause: Lightning
Fuels: Mixed conifer, ponderosa pine
Size: approx. 26,000 acres (change due to more accurate mapping, not fire growth)
Containment: 0 %
Resources Committed: Personnel 144, crews: 2 Type 1, 1 Type 2; 20 engines; helicopters: 6 Type 1
2 Type 2, 2 Type 3; 2 dozers
Today's Weather: 82 degrees, relative humidity 6%, winds west 20 mph
Structures/threats: 36 (an accurate damage assessment has not been made yet)
Road Closures: State Highway 532 (Ski Run Road) at mile marker 3, State Highway 48 to Capitan, and State Highway 37 to Highway 380

Summary: The Southwest Area Type 1 Incident Management Team, commanded by Joe Reinarz, assumed management of this fire from the Pecos Zone Type 3 Interagency Management Team at 6 a.m. today. We cannot overemphasize the fact that the strategy for this fire is, and has been since the start, full suppression. A primary objective is to keep fire north of State Highways 220 and 532, and south of State Highway 380.

Today crews will hold improve containment lines along Crest Trail on the northwest side of the fire. Dozer lines constructed yesterday on the northeast and southeast flanks held overnight, and firefighters will construct additional containment lines and burn out fuels as necessary. Similar activity is occurring on the south and north sides of the fire.

An unusual firefighting tactic is being used on the southwest corner of the. Snow making machines at Ski Apache Resort are being utilized to wet down fuels, slowing the spread of the fire.

A public meeting will be conducted at 4:30 p.m. in the main gymnasium of the Ruidoso High School at 124 Warrior Road, to discuss status of the fire and firefighting activities.

Evacuations: All campgrounds west of Bonito Lake; subdivisions of Villa Madonna, Enchanted Forest, Nogal Canyon (Forest Road 400, campground and summer homes), Angus, Sierra Vista, Sontara (1,2 and 3), Rancho Ruidoso, Copper Canyon, and Loma Grande; Eagle Lakes Campground, Eagle Creek summer homes, Ski Run Road (State Highway 532) at mile marker 3, State Highway 48 to Capitan, and State Highway 37 to Highway 380 and Ski Apache.

Shelters: First Baptist Church on Country Club Road, Church of Christ on Sudderth Road in Ruidoso, and Trinity Baptist Church in Capitan. Pets and livestock may be taken to J&J Country Church in Ruidoso, or the fairgrounds in Capitan.

Information on wildland fire smoke and your health can be found on the New Mexico Department of Health's website at:
http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/documents/Health_Effects_Smoke_06152010.pdf

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