

**Fire Information: (575)258-6900**

[www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org)

[nmfireinfo.com](http://nmfireinfo.com)



## **Little Bear Fire June 20, 2012 – 9 p.m.**

### **Firefighters Near Completion of Burnout**

<b>Start Time/Date:</b>	Monday, June 4, 2012
<b>Location:</b>	Smokey Bear Ranger District, Lincoln NF, including White Mountain Wilderness
<b>Cause:</b>	Lightning
<b>Fuels:</b>	Mixed conifer, ponderosa pine
<b>Size:</b>	approx. 41,706 acres
<b>Containment:</b>	60 %
<b>Resources Committed:</b>	Personnel: 894; crews: 8 Type 1, 10 Type 2; engines: 57; helicopters: 4 Type 1 2 Type 2, 2 Type 3; dozers: 4; water tenders: 14
<b>Today's weather:</b>	88 degrees, relative humidity 6%, wind NNE 7 mph gusting to 18 mph
<b>Total Injuries to Date:</b>	5
<b>Structures destroyed:</b>	254 (242 residential & commercial structures and 12 outbuildings)
<b>Road Closures:</b>	NM 532 (Ski Run Road) west from the softball complex near NM 48 junction, and Forest Road 107 are <i>open to residents only</i>
<b>Area Closures:</b>	The entire White Mountain Wilderness, and that portion of the Smokey Bear Ranger District south of US 380 to the Mescalero Apache Reservation boundary, including a large area east and north of Ruidoso to the south boundary of the Fort Stanton Recreation Area

**Summary:** Crews mopped up and held the edge of the black line today, as helicopters ignited additional backing fires within the burnout area. At least 70% of the area within the burnout perimeter has now been burned. Fire was active in the burnout, producing smoke columns from torching and consumption of heavy fuels. Unstable atmosphere will readily disperse smoke tonight, and chance of heavy smoke settling on any community is minimal. Burnout of fuel around the Runnels Stables subdivision is nearly complete. Activity on the remainder of the fire consisted of patrol and mop up, and rehabilitation of dozer lines in all divisions. Release of excess resources continues, making these resources available for other assignments.

A large volume of telephone calls was received today from local residents and visitors who were reporting active fire and smoke. We appreciate the public's vigilance, but want to point out that this is still an active fire, and interior fuels will continue to flare up, especially with the high temperatures and low humidities we have been experiencing. We can expect to see flare ups of interior fuels for weeks to come, until wetting rains extinguish all burning fuels.

**All subdivisions are now open. Angus, Bonita Park, Ski Run Road, and Bonita Lake are open to residents only.** Residents returning to their homes should be alert for fire vehicle traffic and damaged roads.

**The Village of Ruidoso wants everyone to know that, despite the fire activity, it is open for business. See the following websites:** <http://www.discoverruidoso.com/>, <http://www.ruidoso.net/>, and <http://www.ruidosonow.com/>

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**Evacuations:** All campgrounds west of Bonito Lake

**Shelters: Pets and livestock** may be taken to Pet Paradise in La Luz (575-434-1784), Otero County fairgrounds in Alamogordo (575-434-0788, 575-491-7553, or 575-491-4643), Lincoln County fairgrounds in Capitan (575-808-2814), Humane Society of Lincoln County in Ruidoso (575-257-9841 or 575-378-1039), Ruidoso Animal Clinic (575-257-4027), Dunagan Farms in Ruidoso (575-257-9549 or 575-621-4056), New Mexico Livestock Board (575-649-2758), Carrizozo Animal Shelter (575-648-2351), Thundering Paws in Alto (575-336-7297), and Yolanda and Robert Espinoza (575-354-9019).

Many residents of the community have expressed interest in making monetary donations to the firefighting organizations. Local fire departments should be considered first. Additionally, the following websites provide avenues for making donations: [www.wffoundation.org](http://www.wffoundation.org), and [www.redcrossnewmexico.org](http://www.redcrossnewmexico.org).

Information on wildland fire smoke and your health can be found on the New Mexico Department of Health's website at: [https://nmtracking.unm.edu/eh\\_alerts/](https://nmtracking.unm.edu/eh_alerts/), or call the New Mexico statewide health line at (877)304-4161. Additional websites for accurate fire information are [Facebook.com/LittleBearFireNM](https://www.facebook.com/LittleBearFireNM), [Twitter.com/T1SWIMT](https://twitter.com/T1SWIMT), [Flickr.com.photos.lincolnnationalforest](https://www.flickr.com/photos/lincolnnationalforest) (maps), and [Flickr.com/photos/wildland-fires-2012/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/wildland-fires-2012/) (photos).

As the monsoons approach, heavy rainfall may produce flash floods. The National Weather Service Advisories are available at: <http://www.weather.gov/abq>.

A predictive model for probability of thunderstorms over burned areas, known as Burn Scar Thunderstorm Threat Matrix, is available at: [http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/fxc/abq/graphiccast/image\\_full5.gif](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/fxc/abq/graphiccast/image_full5.gif). Register for Lincoln County CodeRED Emergency Alerts at <http://www.lincolncountynm.net/>.

**The fire information call center in Ruidoso closed tonight. The phone number on the top of this update will continue to direct calls to a staffed telephone for anyone needing information.**

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