



SOUTHWEST INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM #3

Alan Sinclair-Incident Commander

New fire growth to benefit Park ecosystem

Wednesday May 11, 2016

Fire: Coyote Fire
Acres: 9,000
Cause: Lightning
Containment: 30%

Total Personnel: 215
Start Date: May 7, 2016
Location: 46 miles SW of Carlsbad, NM
Fuels/Topography: Grass/brush/chaparral, rugged terrain

Yesterday: For the third consecutive day, high winds pushed the fire through dried grasses and brush. The fire grew to approximately 9,000 acres with the most active fire spread to the south and east along the Bush Mountain ridge. Crews continued to actively patrol the fire perimeter line to the north along the New Mexico state line. Additional containment lines were built near Dog Tank to limit potential future spread to private lands in this area.

Today: The fire is expected to continue very active natural and healthy spread to the south and east within the borders of the Park. As a 100 percent fire adapted landscape, fire is an essential tool to maintain the ecosystem's stability and diversity. Fire managers will continue to assess the potential for natural growth while fully protecting private lands and historic cabins and camps within the Park.

“Firefighter and public safety are our number one priority,” said Incident Commander, Alan Sinclair. “Due to the steep and rugged terrain, it just makes sense to allow this naturally ignited fire to move across the landscape as conditions allow.”

The Southwest Incident Management Team #3 assumed control of the incident Wednesday May 11, 2016 at 6:00 a.m.

Smoke: Smoke is anticipated to lift and disperse to the east throughout the day. A smoke column may be highly visible from US 62/180 in the area. However, there are little to no impacts anticipated.

Closures: Dog Canyon, Devil's Hall Trail, and all back country areas of the Park are CLOSED due to fire activity. Closures will be in place until further notice. Park areas remaining open are Guadalupe Peak Trail, El Capitan, and Smith Springs Trail.

Fire Information:

Inciweb: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4719

Text Message: text “follow GuadalupeMtnsNP” to 40404

Facebook: [facebook.com/guadalupe.mountains](https://www.facebook.com/guadalupe.mountains)

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