



San Miguel /Mora County News Release



Calf Canyon Current Fire Evacuations

April 23, 2022 at 2:30 pm (Amended)

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Las Vegas, NM 2:30 pm. As predicted, yesterday was an unparalleled fire day with recorded gusts of 74 mph. The fire ran northeast approximately 14 miles. The total combined acreage for Hermits Peak and Calf Canyon Fires total over 42,000 acres. Wind is less severe today, allowing air and ground crews to work. However, extreme fire conditions and red flag winds still exist, and the fire is still traveling very quickly. It is still imperative that residents comply with evacuation orders as citizen, fire fighter and law enforcement safety is the highest priority.

Community Evacuation Status in San Miguel and Mora Counties:

GO (mandatory full evacuation, colored green): San Miguel evacuation status has not changed. Big Pine, Canovas Canyon, Porvenir Canyon, El Porvenir, Lower Canyon Road, Gallinas, Trout Springs, San Ignacio, Lone Pine Mesa, Chavez, Sapello, Las Tusas, La Canada, Manuelitas, Canoncito, Pendaries Village, Pendaries Valley East, Rociada, Upper Rociada and Tierra Monte Canon are all still in Go status.

In Mora County, Penasco Blanco, South Carmen, Rito Cebolla, Ledoux, Upper Morphy, Santiago Creek, Abuelo, Puertocito, Golondrinas and Buena Vista are all still in Go status, as well as Zone 1, as identified on the map, which includes Mora, La Cueva, El Alto, Rainsville and Guadalupita. These areas will be evacuated at 2:00 p.m. today, Saturday.

SET (prepare for evacuation, colored yellow): In San Miguel County, no communities are in Set status. In Mora County, Zone 2, as identified on the map, is currently in Set status, but will be moved to Go status as of 7:00 Sunday morning. Also in Set status will be Watrous and Valmora.

READY (get ready for possible evacuation, colored red): In San Miguel, the communities of Las Dispensas, County Road A3 and Los Alamos remain in Set status. In Mora County, the area of Ojo Feliz is in Set status.

The Incident Management Team, along with San Miguel & Mora County Sheriff's Departments and local law enforcement is and will continuously assess the conditions as the fire progresses. As we continue to work, please stay vigilant and adhere to instructions from press releases, law enforcement and fire personnel. The evacuation map is attached. **This emerging situation remains extremely serious and refusal to evacuate could be a fatal decision.**

Please remember that drones are still prohibited in the temporary flight restriction zone, outlined on the map. The evacuation/flight zone map is attached. If drones are in the flight zone, the aircraft are grounded.

Road Closures: In San Miguel County, State Road 65 at the Montezuma pond, and CR A27 will be closed. CR A3A and CR A4A will be closed. County Road A3A remains open to fire personnel and residents only. State Roads 105, 94, 266 and 276 will be closed. State Road 518 at the 94 is closed

northbound. Road blocks will be in effect. Road closures in Mora County include State Road 161 at 518, State Road 442 at 518 and State Road 94 at 518. State Road 518 is closed from La Cueva to Sapello. Mora residents are only able to evacuate on 434 to Angel Fire or 518 to Taos. County Road A011 is closed at 518. Routes to Las Vegas or I-25 aren't accessible.

Power Outages: Power has been shut down in all evacuated areas. Lines will be re-energized when conditions are safe for fire personnel and law enforcement.

Property Losses: We understand that residents are anxious to discover losses and saves; however, fire areas are still too dangerous to access for property and residence assessments. Crews are hoping that the areas will be accessible within the next few days. We know many residents are devastated by these potential losses, but please be patient and we'll have information as soon as humanly possible.

County Fire Restrictions: All open burning (burning of crop land, fields, range land, debris, burning slash piles, prescribed burning or weed burning) in San Miguel County, shall be banned throughout the unincorporated areas of the County, and the provisions of SMC Ordinance 03-9-99ORD are in effect. This ban shall prohibit any person from having, causing, starting, igniting and/or using open flame outside of a building, structure, automobile or other enclosed area anywhere, throughout the unincorporated portions of San Miguel County.

Shelter sites:

San Miguel County: Old Memorial Middle School gym, Legion St. Las Vegas, 505-429-0336

Mora County: Penasco High School gym, 13 Old School Road- Melissa Sandoval- 575-779-3057

Taos County Agricultural Center- 202 Chamisa Rd., Can accept small household pets

Taos Convention Center- 120 Civic Plaza Drive, Taos- 575-737-2627

Shelter site for horses and livestock: The Zamora arena continues to be utilized to temporarily house evacuated horses and livestock. The contact for livestock and horses is Matthew Romero, Livestock Inspector, 575-643-6805.

Link to Ready, Set Go, Wildland Fire Action Guide:

https://cms6.revize.com/revize/sanmiguelcounty/FINAL-new-mexico-RSG-guide-2017_000.pdf

Updates will be posted on San Miguel County OEM, Sheriff and Fire Facebook pages.