



Pass Fire

Gila National Forest

Incident Commander – Jorge Amaya



Pass Fire Daily Update June 12, 2023

Information Phone: 575 297-0790 Hours: 8 am-8pm

Email: 2023.Pass@Firenet.gov

Acres: 49,754

Start Date: May 18, 2023

Location: 40 miles west of Winston, NM

Cause: Lightning

Containment: 13%

Fuels: Timber, pinon/juniper and grass

Personnel: 54

Yesterday's southwest winds pushed the Pass Fire back into itself with new growth of only 639 acres in the fire's interior. Most of the fire activity was showing between House Log Canyon and along the south end of Jordan Canyon, near Jordan Hot Springs, where low to moderate fire intensity is steadily cleaning up ground fuels including downed logs, brush, pine needles, along with some pine stringers. Since there are no closures, visitors are reminded to use extreme caution when traveling near the fire area.

At the start of the Pass Fire in May, moist vegetation and cooler temperatures allowed the fire to play its natural role in a fire-adapted ecosystem. This was due to recent intermittent rains and the moisture received over the last months.

As expected, the Pass Fire has continued to burn with low to moderate intensity gradually consuming excess ground fuels, some pine stringers, and improving the landscape. Firefighters are working to keep the fire within the established boundaries under a confine-contain strategy, using various methods, including roads, natural barriers in wilderness and constructing containment lines. Aerial ignitions have allowed for slow consumption of fuels to protect values at risk.

Firefighters are monitoring and patrolling from the air and ground ensuring the Pass fire stays within the pre-determined planning area.

Weather: Sunny, with a high near 77. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to 18 to 23 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 31 mph.

Aviation Restrictions: A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is still in place over the Pass Fire. All non-fire aircraft are restricted. **This includes civilian drones.** Unauthorized aircraft in the area will ground firefighting aircraft, hindering firefighting efforts.

Closures: The Gila National Forest remains open. Visitors are encouraged to use extreme caution when traveling near the fire area, due to the presence of firefighters and equipment.

For More Information:

- **Inciweb:** <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/nmgnf-pass-fire> Inciweb is the official site for fire information. This site is secure and updated daily.
- **New Mexico Fire Information:** <https://nmfireinfo.com/>
- **Air Quality:** <https://www.airnow.gov>