



SOUTHWEST AREA TEAM 3 INCIDENT COMMANDER: LANCE ELMORE

## Diamond Fire

Tonto National Forest & Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management

Public: 480-608-2054 Media: 480-608-5591 [2023.Diamond.Tonto@firenet.gov](mailto:2023.Diamond.Tonto@firenet.gov)

<https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/aztnf-diamond-fire>

August 3, 2023

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**Location:** Southwest of Sunflower **Start Date:** 07/22/2023 **Cause:** Under investigation  
**Size:** 5,060 acres **Containment:** 50% **Total Personnel:** 332

### Diamond Fire Transitions to Tonto National Forest Type 3 Organization Friday Morning

#### OPERATIONAL UPDATE

With a significant decrease in heat sources and increasing containment, Southwest Incident Management Team 3 will transition the Diamond Fire to the Tonto National Forest Type 3 organization on Friday morning. Ground resources have been patrolling and monitoring all areas of the fire and UAS infrared flights have yielded minimal heat detection. Additionally, crews have conducted grids in unburned fuels around Sunflower to ensure there is no heat outside of the line.

Today a Tonto National Forest Type 3 organization will shadow Southwest Incident Management Team 3 in anticipation of transition Friday morning. Resources on the fire line will continue with containment efforts, backhaul, and rehabilitation. The masticator will continue removing fuels along the Old Beeline Highway and an excavator will also be working in that area to clear brush piles from fuels removal. Temperatures are expected to climb into triple digits again today with decreasing humidities and chances for thunderstorms.

The Type 2 team fire information line listed above will be deactivated at 8:00 p.m. Thursday. However, information regarding the Diamond Fire moving forward will be through the Tonto National Forest Fire Information Line at 602-525-1042.

#### CLOSURES AND EVACUATIONS

The National Forest has issued a closure order for the fire area to provide public health and safety due to firefighting operations. The Old Beeline Hwy is closed to non-residents.

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office has lifted the SET notification status for residents of Sunflower, Cross F Ranch, and Diamond Ranch and returned them to READY. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/nhv6uyyt> for further information. An interactive evacuation map link is available on both Inciweb and Facebook: <https://tinyurl.com/54tbdhm2>

#### RESTRICTIONS

There is a temporary flight restriction over the fire area, which includes the use of drones (UAS). Flying a drone over a fire area is dangerous to pilots and will cause air operations to shut down. Flying a drone within the restricted area is also illegal.

The National Forest is currently under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions. Please see <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/tonto/alerts-notice/?aid=81280> for more information.

