



Southwest Area Pecos Zone Incident Management Team

Pecos Zone— Josh DuBoise – INCIDENT COMMANDER

The Blue 2 Fire Achieves 91% Containment while Repair Work Nears Completion Daily Update: June 12, 2024

Acres: 7,532

Location: 8 miles North of Ruidoso, White Mountain Wilderness Area

Personnel: 118

Containment: 91%

Start Date: May 16, 2024

Cause: Lightning

Fuels: Timber/Grass/Brush

Resources: 1 Crew | 2 Engines | 3 Water Tenders | 3 Masticators

Operations: Yesterday, fire managers were able to fly over the fire. The flight focused on assessing the status of the uncontained perimeter, which has been difficult to access. It was determined that the area of the western perimeter was not holding heat, and the percentage was increased to 91% containment. Smoldering within the fire's interior, where downed trees can keep heat for longer, may cause limited smoke to be seen throughout the summer, depending on dry weather and wind. The repair work on Soldier Mountain has been completed, and firefighters are working to complete the rest of the planned repair work.

According to their scientific modeling, the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team released their Burn Severity Map, which showed 8% moderate burn severity and no high burn severity across the entire fire area. The team will work on proposed plans for the forest to assist in erosion control and promote native plant regrowth.

Weather: Sunshine and afternoon clouds are forecasted over the mountains. Overall, warming to above normal, fair overnight recovery, and lower afternoon relative humidity are to be expected. Winds will be light and favor a westerly component over high terrain and terrain influences over lower terrain.

Smoke: Interior fuel pockets inside the fire area can produce limited smoke throughout the day that may impact the surrounding areas, dependent on wind. The interactive smoke map can still be found at fire.airnow.gov/

Closures: The 532 road heading west toward Ski Apache is accessible until Indian Service Route 21. Fire traffic and construction crews are still in the area. In the interest of public safety, camping and other recreation activities in the Bonito Lake Area are still restricted due to ongoing firefighter activities. The Forest closure order will remain in effect for the White Mountain Wilderness Area. Law enforcement will have a presence to enforce the forest closure so firefighters can safely complete their work.

Evacuations: All evacuation statuses have been lifted. For an interactive evacuation map, go to tinyurl.com/Blue2Evacs

Phone Number: 575-386-5077 (7 a-7 p) **Inciweb:** tinyurl.com/Blue2Fire

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Links to further information can be found at the QR code or <https://linktr.ee/bluefire.2024>

