Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests

## Forest Service News Release

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## **Foote Fire Update**

Friday, June 21, 2024

**Location of Origin:** 12 miles south of Alpine **Size:** 3,934 acres **Start Date:** June 14, 2024 **Percent Contained:** 0

Cause: Lightning/Natural Fuels: Timber, brush, and grass

Personnel: 124

**Resources Assigned:** 5 Crews, 1 Helicopter, 1 Dozer

The Foote Fire is located in the Blue Range Primitive Area, and is being managed under a confine-contain strategy, due to its rugged and inaccessible terrain. The fire continues to exhibit low to moderate intensity and has not reached pre-planned containment lines. An aerial Infrared flight yesterday showed the most fire activity along the northwest portion of the fire, approximately one mile from the Josh Ranch. The fire has shown very little growth to the east towards the Blue River, or advancement north to Forest Road (FR) 567.

**Operations:** Firefighters continue to prepare U.S. Highway 191 and FR 567 for use as containment lines. A dozer along with ground crews have completed a fire line around three homes along FR 567 and are improving existing forest roads outside of the Primitive Area to prevent fire spread to U.S. Highway 191.

**Weather:** Today's forecast calls for partly sunny skies, with a high near 80, and south winds of 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. There is a chance for thunderstorms this afternoon, with potential for strong, erratic outflow winds and lightning. This increasing moisture will begin to raise minimum and overnight relative humidities starting tonight.

**Restrictions:** The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests are in Stage 2 Fire Restrictions. Learn more at: <u>Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests - Alerts & Closures (usda.gov)</u>.

**Smoke:** The public can expect to see smoke in the immediate future, and there is a potential for a U.S. Highway 191 closure in the coming days to provide for the safety of the crews working along the highway edge, as well as for public safety due to smoke impacts along the highway. All areas within proximity of the fire can be impacted by smoke, depending on wind directions and ventilation. Go to <u>fire.airnow.gov/</u> to see the latest smoke conditions in your community.

**Evacuations:** None at this time, and no structures are currently threatened.

Official fire information can be found on these sites:

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/apachesitgreavesnfs
- Inciweb: https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/azasf-foote-fire
- Apache-Sitgreaves website: https://www.fs.usda.gov/asnf

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