South-Central New Mexico - South Fork and Salt Fires

Issued by Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program on June 24, 2024 at 06:34 AM MDT

Fire

The South Fork Fire is 17,551 acres and 37% contained; The Salt Fire is 7,816 acres and 7% contained. Further information on each fire is available at inciweb.nwcg.gov.

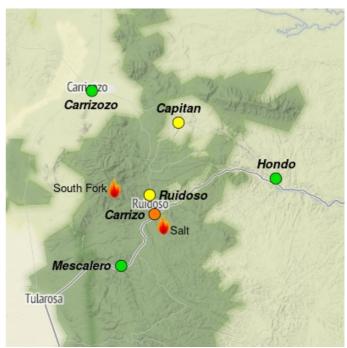
Smoke

Smoke will have the highest impacts during the late overnight and morning hours, primarily for areas near the fires such as Ruidoso, Carrizo, and Ruidoso Downs. Air quality will likely reach UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS or even UNHEALTHY for a brief period during the morning. Smoke will also likely continue to impact Capitan, Hondo, and nearby areas with at least MODERATE air quality at times during the overnight and morning hours. Elsewhere, such as Carrizozo and Mescalero should see GOOD air quality with minimal smoke impacts.

All areas should see GOOD air quality during much of the late afternoon into evening hours, especially if showers or storms are overhead. Showers or storms nearby though could create gusty and erratic winds which could push smoke in any direction causing brief air quality impacts to any location.

Smoke Safety

Smoke will continue to impact air quality, especially for those near the fires. Take precautions when smoke is present by limiting outdoor activities, staying hydrated, and/or wearing a mask (N95 or P100). Precautions are especially important if you are sensitive to smoke. If you smell smoke, you are breathing smoke.



Daily AQI Forecast* for Monday

	Yesterday	Sun	Forecast*	Mon	Tue
Station	hourly	6/23	Comment for Today Mon, Jun 24	6/24	6/25
	6a noon 6p			_	_
Carrizozo	No hourly data		GOOD air quality conditions expected with minimal smoke impacts.		
Capitan			Occasional smoke and MODERATE air quality expected at times.		
Hondo	No hourly data		GOOD air quality overall but some smoke and MODERATE air quality at times.		
Ruidoso			Smoke during the late overnight into moming hours with MODERATE to USG AQI.		
Carrizo			Smoke will cause air quality that is UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS at times.		
Mescalero	No hourly data		Air quality expected to remain GOOD with minimal smoke impacts.		

Issued Jun 24, 2024 by Jayson Prentice, Air Resource Advisor (Jayson.Prentice@ks.gov)

Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself		
Good	None		
Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.		
USG	People within Sensitive Groups* should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.		
Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups* should avoid all physical outdoor activity.		
Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.		
Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity.		

*Disclaimer: This forecast is based on fine particulates only; ozone is not included. Forecasts may be wrong; use at own risk. Use caution as conditions can change quickly. See your health professional as needed. Smoke sensitive groups should take appropriate precautions.

Additional Links

 $\label{local-problem} InciWeb\ South\ Fork\ \&\ Salt\ Fire\ Information\ --\ https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/nmmea-south-fork-and-salt$

NM Environmental Public Health Tracking --

https://nmtracking.doh.nm.gov/environment/air/FireAndSmoke.html

NM Fire Information -- https://nmfireinfo.com/

Smoke Ready Information and Resources --

https://www.wildlandfiresmoke.net/smoke-ready/smoke-ready-social-media

