



CIBOLA NF & GRASSLANDS
2024 VISITOR BRIEFING
PACKET
Edited April 2024

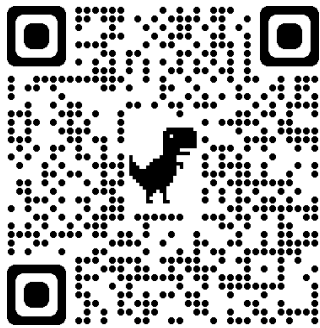


Buford Fire, Mountainair RD

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QR codes



Maps, Emergency Response,
Comms, and Briefing Guides

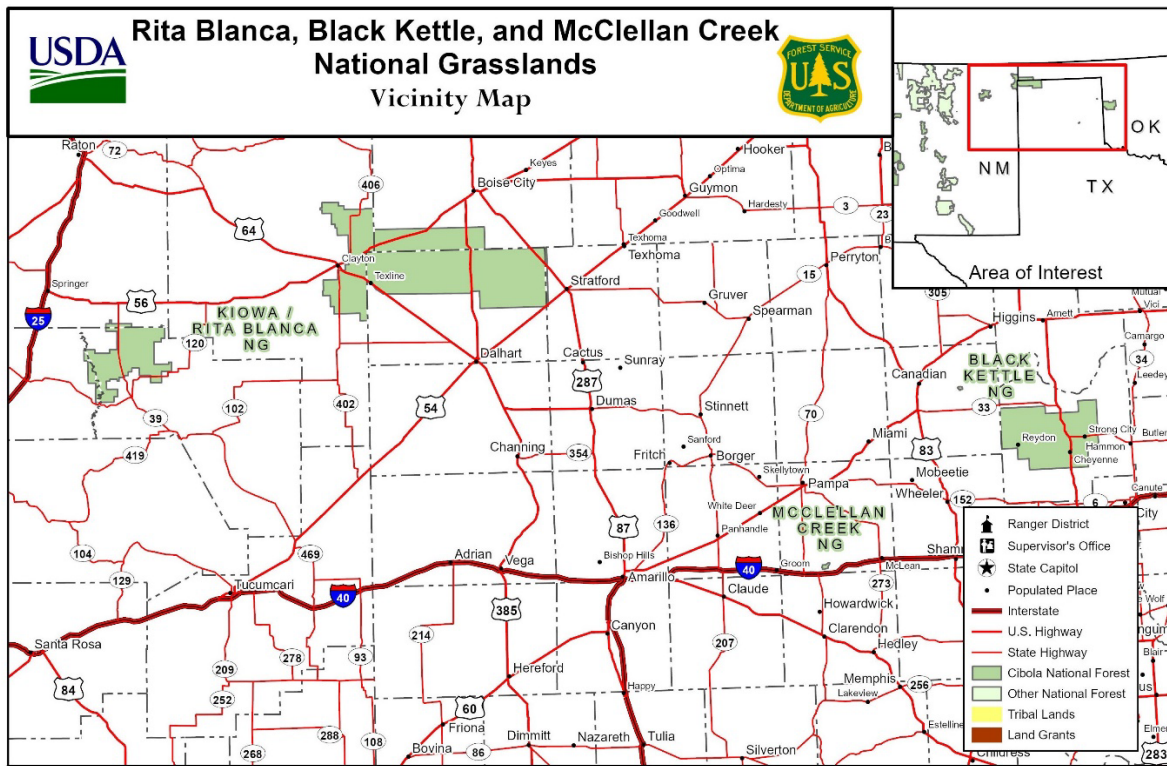
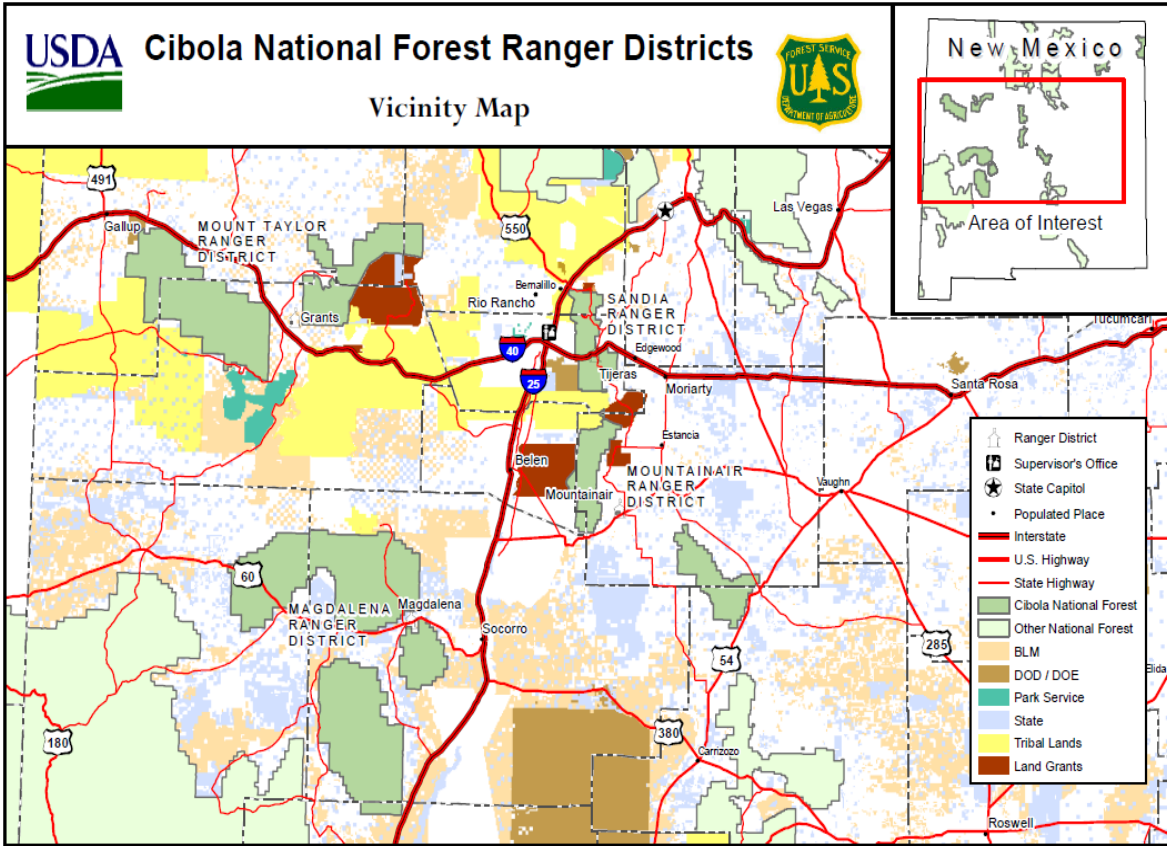


Retardant Avoidance

Guide Passwords:

0303fire

Vicinity Maps



Cibola Fire Management Organizational Contacts

Cibola National Forest Supervisor's Office 2113 Osuna Road NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113-1001

Dispatch Number/24HR: 505346-2660 Unit Designator: **NM-CIF**
Dispatch Toll-Free: 1-888-971-0100 Dispatch Center: **NM-ABC**
Main Office: 505-356-3900
ABQ Air Tanker Base: 505-846-7408

Name	Position	Work	Cell
Vacant	Forest Supt.	505-346-3900	
Yolynda Begay	Dep. For Sup.		505-269-4995
Patricia Johnson	Forest PAO	505-346-3894	505-850-2657
Matt Rau	Chief 1	505-346-3874	505-250-4769
Manuel Martinez	Chief 2	505-346-3880	575-640-2131
Anthony Martinez	Chief 3 (Fuels)	505-346-3834	505-506-1971
Mike Wallace	Chief 4 (FAO)	505-346-3844	928-699-5190
Jeff Gehlhausen	Tanker Base Mgr.	505-846-7408	505-382-6777
Vacant	Center Mgr.	505-346-3877	
Melissa Olsen	Asst. CTR. Mgr.	505-346-3862	239-431-1046
Luke Holden	Training Officer		505-379-9502
Molly Wright	Fire Ecologist	505-346-3872	505-220-5980
Kym Escalante	Incident Business Specialist	505-346-3892	505-549-5090

D2 Mt. Taylor RD 1800 Lobo Canyon Road, Grants, NM 87020

Name	Call Sign	Office	Cell
Ryan Washam	Ranger 2	505-287-8833	859-663-1946
Christian Larson	Ranger 21	505-287-8833	719-300-9312
Eddie Baca	Division 32	505-287-8833	505-290-7714
Ryan Carabajal	Battalion 32	505-287-8833	505-803-2442
Geraldine Antonio	Battalion 321	505-287-8833	928-551-8196
Howard Kenny	Hotshot Supt	505-287-6764	505-240-3996
Sandee Pasquale	Crew 3-2 CPT	505-287-8833	505-967-5588
Wade Nez	Prevention	505-287-8833	575-556-4512
Beula Woodie	Eng CPT 622	505-287-8833	505-382-3817

D3 Magdalena RD Box 45, Magdalena, NM 87825

Name	Call Sign	Office	Cell
Tina Cason	Ranger 3	575-854-2281	505-252-6550
Ken Watkins	Division 33	575-854-2281	505-681-8736
Wyatt Shellhorn	Battalion 33	575-854-2281	575-538-1702
Kyrk Barron	Battalion 331	575-854-2281	541-999-2083
Vacant	Prevention Tech		
Chris Sanchez	WFM CPT	575-854-2281	505-859-1470
Andrew Walters	Eng CPT 631	575-854-2281	505-418-7875
Brandon Swope	Eng CPT 632	575-854-2281	575-491-6012

Cibola Fire Management Organizational Contacts (continued)

D4 Mountainair RD P.O. Box 69, Mountainair, NM 87036

Name	Call Sign	Office	Cell
Vacant	Ranger 4	505-847-2990	
Adrian Padilla	Division 34	505-847-2990x104	505-414-9469
Mike Myrick	Battalion 34	505-847-2990x108	505-441-8658
Brent Baca	Battalion 351	505-547-2990x108	505-506-1967
Vacant	Fuels Crew		
Vacant	Prevention		
Vacant	Eng CPT 641		
Vacant	Eng CPT 642		

D5 Sandia RD 11776 Highway 337, Tijeras, NM 87059

Name	Call Sign	Office	Cell
Crystal Powell	Ranger 5	505-281-3304x5117	505-225-4062
Amanda Rael	Deputy 51	505-281-3304x5115	505-331-0553
Brad Tausan	Division 35	505-281-3304x5114	505 690-6173
Beau Jarvis	Battalion 35	505-281-3304x5130	575 808-7903
Brent Baca	Battalion 351	505-281-3304	505 506-1967
Mike Lewton	Heli Supt	505-281-3304x5219	520-604-6287
Dylan Kane	Heli Asst Supt	505-281-3304x5222	609-651-7431
Vacant	Prevention Tech	505 281-3304x5213	
Benny Mendoza	Eng CPT 651	505-281-3304x5223	505 259-6116
Kyle Kollo	Eng CPT 652	505-281-3304x5216	505 850-3563

D6 Black Kettle NG 18555 Hwy. 47A Cheyenne, OK 73628

Name	Call Sign	Office	Cell
Tom Smeltzer	Ranger 6		
Matt Lamb	Division 36	580-497-2143	580-821-6604
Vacant	Battalion Zoned	580-497-2143	
Drew Horning	Engine Cpt 661	580-497-2143	580-878-0807

D7 Kiowa/Rita Blanca NG 714 Main Street, Clayton, NM 88415

Name	Call Sign	Office	Cell
Levi Irwin	Ranger 7	575) 374-9652	575-207-6696
Matt Lamb	Division 36	575) 374-9652	580-821-6604
Vacant	Battalion 37	580) 497-2143	
Thomas Warren	Eng CPT 671		903-918-9975

Forest Information

Forest Overview

The Cibola National Forest and Grasslands is comprised of more than 1.9 million acres. Forested lands account for approximately 1.6 million acres which range from 5000 to 11,300 feet. The Forest includes the Datil, Gallinas, Magdalena, Bear, Manzano, Sandia, San Mateo, Mt. Taylor, and Zuni mountains. The four Wilderness Areas on the Forest are the Sandia Mountain, Manzano Mountain, Withington, and Apache Kid. The Cibola National Grasslands are in Northeastern New Mexico, Western Oklahoma, and Northwestern Texas. The Cibola N.F. is a non-contiguous forest system with intermixed jurisdictions of BLM, NPS, BIA, DOD, and State and private lands.

Desired Condition and Goals

The Forest Fire Management Program goal is to always provide for firefighter and public safety. The Forest will make every attempt to mitigate exposure to all associated resources and personnel. Furthermore, losses and resource damage will be kept to a minimum in managing fire suppression activities and costs will be appropriate for values at risk.

General Discussion

The Zone, with the hub being Albuquerque, is comprised of the most densely populated area in the State. The immediate jurisdictions of suppression include the USDA-Forest Service, New Mexico State Forestry (NMSF), USDI-Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), USDI-Bureau of Land Management (BLM), USDI-Fish & Wildlife (USFWS), USDI-National Park Service (NPS), Kirtland Air Force Base, and incorporated municipalities/towns/villages. Although the areas of Initial Attack are identified by the “closest forces” philosophy, this can also present complex situations for responding forces. Due to multiple land jurisdictions, an apparent Type 4 incident can quickly evolve into multiple land ownerships creating a complex delegation and numerous resource concerns. Accurate and timely incident location will resolve confusion, regarding the parent agency as well the cooperators.

Critical Areas/ Issue

- The east side of the Sandia and Manzano Mountains also contains a high number of year-round inhabitants that reside in a true urban intermix. There exists an interagency partnership referred to as EMIFPA (East Mountain Interagency Fire Protection Association) that seeks to promote coordination among agencies should an incident occur along the Sandia and northern region of the Manzano Mountains. Furthermore, the Sandia Mountain range is a heavily utilized year-round recreational area which can present challenging logistical and suppression concerns.
- The vegetative area on each side of the Rio Grande River “Bosque” also presents itself with multiple ownerships and historic communities in an urban interface situation. The river also contains Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species as well as complex water allocations used by local farmers.
- The two major interstate highways (I-25 North/South and I-40 East/West) bisect Albuquerque. Local and interstate traffic can cause response delays as well as concerns with smoke and/or traffic management issues.

Area Resources

- New Mexico State Forestry maintains the Rural Mobilization Plan (RMP) which pre-identifies structural fire resources compliant with 310-1 and available for a minimum of five-to-fourteen-day tour. Resources include staffed structural, wildland and emergency medical equipment/personnel.
- The DOI-Bureau of Indian Affairs may sponsor a Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT) at Double Eagle airport.
- The Zone maintains two Type 1 Hot Shot crews, three Type 21A hand crews and seven camp crews.
- There are four major affiliate television stations in Albuquerque. Three stations have media helicopters based locally.
- USFS Region 3’s Office as well as the Albuquerque Service Center (ASC) are also located in Albuquerque.
- There are five Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMT’s) in the Region and two Buying Teams. Also, there are three Type 3 Teams (IMT’s) in the State and one within the ABQ Zone.

Fire Management Considerations

Partnership

The Cibola NF&G annually coordinates with the local offices of the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs and states of New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma to establish guidelines for implementing fire management practices. Interagency cooperation is essential in maintaining a safe, efficient, and cost-effective fire management program.

Common Management Tactics

The Cibola Forest Plan authorizes and outlines the use of wildland fires to achieve Wildfire crises strategy management objectives:

- Naturally ignited wildfires should be allowed to perform their natural ecological role to meet multiple resource objectives and facilitate progress toward desired conditions. Naturally ignited wildfires should only be suppressed when not expected to achieve desired conditions or where necessary to protect life, investments, and valuable resources.
- Base wildfire objectives on interdisciplinary assessment of site-specific values such as desired conditions, existing fuel conditions, current and expected weather, fire location, resource availability, and social and economic considerations; consider courses of action to protect or enhance those values.
- Wildfires that threaten life, investments, and valuable resources (such as cultural resources or the wildland- urban interface) must be suppressed at the lowest cost with the fewest negative consequences with respect to fire responder and public safety.

Potential Fire Behavior

Fire season may begin in early April and run through the August/September monsoon season. Annually, around 100 fires burn and with a total of 3300 acres. Lightning accounts for roughly 80% of the fires with the remaining 20% being human caused. Of these fires, Initial Attack resources successfully suppress 95% at less than 10 acres.

These fires start out as running surface fires; then, at some point they transition from surface spread into the crowns of the trees leading to extreme fire behavior and the highest resistance to control by suppression resources. **Strong winds** are usually the catalyst for these types of events and elevate moderate fire danger to high/extreme leading to the potential for large and catastrophic fires. These infrequent stand replacement events typically burn at high fire intensity and result in incidents on the scale of thousands of acres. The Forest commonly monitors the likelihood of these catastrophic fires by following trends in Burning Index (BI) and Energy Release Component (ERC). These indices serve as indicators for the potential of extreme fire behavior occurrence.

Fire Management Situation

- *Weather patterns influencing fire behavior* - Strong southwest winds and low humidity are prevalent from mid- April to mid-June, resulting in mainly wind driven fire behavior. Hot, dry and unstable conditions usually occur from mid-June to early July, leading to the potential for plume dominated fire behavior. The potential for dry lightning is most prevalent from June to early July. The monsoon, accompanied by higher humidity, rainfall potential, less wind, and subdued fire behavior. Monsoon begins during the first or second week in July and ends in the second or third week in September when dry and mild conditions return leading to a period of increased fire behavior potential before the onset of winter conditions.
- *Fuel conditions* - There is a large range of fuel conditions across the Forest. The dead and down component ranges from .1 tons per acre in the Pinyon-Juniper vegetation class to over 50 tons per acre on some of the steeper slopes in the mixed conifer vegetation class. There is a substantial amount of sapling and pole sized trees (over 200 trees per acre) across most of the forest. Higher fuel loading in timber and grassy fuel types are expected to burn at greater intensities, and with higher rates of spread than the same fuel model at lower tons per acre.
- *Control problems* - Access is a problem in many areas of the Forest, this is especially true in the Wilderness areas.
- *Other elements of the fire environment* - The Cibola NF&G regularly coordinates with state, and federal land management agencies. Due to differing agency policies, coordination between the Forest and cooperating agencies occurs during all fire management activities, e.g., wildland fire managed for resource benefit, prescribed fire, wildland fire suppression activities, etc. This might require changing management objectives for all, or part of an unplanned ignition.

Weather

Local Fire Weather

The Cibola NF&G is in 8 weather zones in New Mexico and the Roger Mills County Zone out of Norman, OK NWS, covers both the districts in Texas and Oklahoma. The include: 101, 104, 105, 106, 107, 109, 124, and 125. The daily forecast will be electronically distributed by the National Weather Service (NWS) in the mornings and evenings throughout the fire season. The New Mexico forecasts can be downloaded from the *Southwest Area Coordination Center website (SWCC)* fire weather link (<http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/predictive/weather/weather.htm>). The Texas and Oklahoma forecasts can be obtained through the NWS page. The forecast will also be transmitted via radio by the Albuquerque Zone Dispatch Center.

Fire Danger Rating System (FDRS)

Preparedness Level Determinations

A. Fire Danger Index based Preparedness Level (initial)

Averaged fire danger index values will provide initial baseline 5-class, preparedness levels to demonstrate wildfire risk for NM-CIF Mountain districts, KRB and BK grasslands independent of other considerations.

Final Preparedness Level Determination

The designated NM-CIF Forest Duty Officer will make the final Preparedness Level (1-5) determination using the initial Fire Danger index Preparedness level as a baseline, and consider forecast changes in Weather conditions, wildfire risk, and fire activity, which include but are not limited to:

Considerations for increasing Forest PL

- Short or long-term forecast worsening of wildfire risk (SWCC 7-day Outlook, Long term-forecasts)
- Fire restrictions imminent or in place/Severity Funds Requested
- Predicted or actual increase in fire activity (local resource commitment, IMT(s) ordered/committed)

Considerations for decreasing Forest PL

- Anticipated significant decrease in wildfire risk due to forecast weather change (i.e. significant precipitation, monsoon onset or persistence)
- Limited burn periods on shoulder seasons (Spring/Fall/Winter)

Appendix A. NM-CIF Preparedness Level Draw Down Resource Staffing

NM-CIF Mountain Districts Recommended Draw Down Resource Staffing					
Preparedness Level	PL 1	PL 2	PL 3	PL 4	PL 5
Suppression Resources	1 FFT2	2 FFT2	1 Engine Consider ordering additional	2 Engines (order additional)	2 Engines (order additional)
Prevention/Patrol/LEO			Consider	1 Patrol 1 Shared LEO	1 Patrol 1 Shared LEO
Overhead	1 ICT5	1 ICT5	1 ICT4	2 ICT4 Order shared ICT3	2 ICT4 1 Shared ICT3
District Duty Officer	Shared	Shared	1 DO	1 DO Order additional	1 DO Order additional
Lookouts		As needed with Lightning	Staffed	Staffed	Staffed
Agency Administrator			Shared WFA3	1 WFA3	1 WFA3
NM-CIF Grassland Districts Recommended Draw Down Resource Staffing					
Preparedness Level	PL 1	PL 2	PL 3	PL 4	PL 5
Suppression Resources	1 FFT2	2 FFT2	1 Engine	2 Engines consider ordering additional	2 Engines consider ordering additional
Overhead	1 ICT5	1 ICT5	1 ICT4	1 ICT4	1 ICT4
District Duty Officer	Shared	Shared	Shared KRB-BK	1 DO	1 DO Consider additional
Agency Administrator			Shared WFA3	Shared WFA3 KRB-BK	1 WFA3
NM-CIF Combined Mtn District Recommended Draw Down Resource Staffing					
Preparedness Level	PL 1	PL 2	PL 3	PL 4	PL 5
Engines	2 Engines	3 Engines	5 engines	8 Engines	10 engines
Crews (T2IA or IHC)			Consider Hosting	Consider Hosting	Consider Hosting
ATGS w/Platform			Consider	Consider	1
T2 or T3 Helicopter w/crew			Consider	1	1
T1 Helicopter w/bucket			Consider Hosting	Consider Hosting	Consider Hosting
T2 Rappel Helicopter			Consider Hosting	Consider Hosting	1
Support Forest DO			Consider	1	1
Agency Administrator			1 WFA2 (8hr Call)	1 WFA2 (2hr Call)	2 WFA2 (2 Hr Call)
Public Affairs/PIO Support			Consider	1	1
WFSS Support			1 (8hr Call)	1 (2hr Call)	1 (2hr Call), 1 remote (8hr call)
Logistics Support			Consider	Consider	Consider

Appendix B. NM-CIF Preparedness Level Recommended Actions

Responsible Party	NM-CIF Recommended Actions	PL 1	PL 2	PL 3	PL 4	PL 5
Agency Administrator	Ensure resource advisors are designated and available for fire assignments.			X	X	X
	Evaluate work/rest needs of fire personnel.			X	X	X
	Provide appropriate political support to fire staff regarding the implementation of preparedness level actions.			X	X	X
	Consider need for fire restriction or closures.			X	X	X
	Issue guidance to agency staff indicating severity of the season and increased need and availability for fire support personnel.			X	X	X
	Review, approve and transmit severity requests to the appropriate level.			X	X	X
Forest D.O./District D.O.	Evaluate season severity data (BI and ERC trends for season, fuel loadings, live FM, drought indices, and long term forecasts).	X	X	X	X	X
	Briefings conducted daily relating safety, weather, fuel conditions, and other resource availability to all fire personnel.		X	X	X	X
	Evaluate work/rest needs of crews, dispatchers, and aviation bases	X	X	X	X	X
	Validate prescribed burn projects are in prescription and that adequate resources are available to execute	X	X	X		
	Ensure that roadside fire danger signs reflect the current adjective fire danger rating.	X	X	X	X	X
	If preparedness level is decreasing, consider releasing pre-positioned and detailed resources.			X	X	X
	Brief agency administrator on burning conditions and fire activity.	X	X	X	X	X
	Review geographical and national preparedness levels and evaluate need to suspend local prescribe fire activities.			X	X	X
	Brief appropriate FMO on USFS fires threatening thier jurisdiction	X	X	X	X	X
	Evaluate need for fire restrictions or closures			X	X	X
	Consider aerial detection flights after lightning events			X	X	X
	Consider fire severity request and pre-positioning of resources including: suppression resources, aerial support, aerial supervision, command positions,			X	X	X
	Consider extending staffing beyond normal shift length.			X	X	X
	Ensure Education/Mitigation personnel have initiated media contacts and public notifications on current incidents	X	X	X	X	X
	Consider suspension of project work away from station				X	X
Consider ordering a SEAT or heavy air tanker for Initial Response				X	X	

February 28, 2024

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Appendix C. NM-CIF Staffing and Response Level Actions

NM-CIF STAFFING ACTIONS					
Staffing Level	1	2	3	4	5
Getaway Timeframe	1 hour	30 min.	15 min./5 min. after lightning	2 min.	2 min.
Response Distance			On District	Staged or Patrol	Staged or Patrol
Extended Staffing			Consider corresponding to RFW, LAL, New Starts	YES Hours determined by District DO	YES Hours determined by District DO
Detection Flights			Consider following Lightning	Place Order following Lightning	Place Order following Lightning

NM-CIF INITIAL RESPONSE ACTIONS	
Response Level	Response
Low	Automatic: Contact District DO/POC and Forest DO Consider: 1 T6 Engine
Moderate	Automatic: 1 Engine with 1 ICT5, Contact District DO and Forest DO Recommended: 1-2 additional Engines and ICT4 Consider: ICT3, T2/3 Helo and/or ATGS
High	Automatic: All available IA resources at District, Contact District DO and Forest DO Recommended: 2-3 additional Engines, ICT3, IHC/T2IA, ATGS and T1/2 Helo Consider: Additional Engines/Helos/Crews/Air Tankers, Water Tenders, IMT3

Safety

Cibola National Forest Incident Emergency Plan (IEP)

The primary goal of this Incident Emergency Plan (IEP) is to assist forest personnel in responding to an emergency. The following checklist will ensure that all personnel involved understand their role in the emergency and who they must be in contact with.

- All emergency radio traffic will have priority over other traffic.
- **Names of injured or deceased individuals will not be used on the radio.**
- Use of crew names or designators should be limited.
- Deceased individuals and their equipment are not to be moved except to accomplish rescue work, to protect the health and safety of others.

Position Responsibilities

On-Scene Coordinator (Ensure injured personnel get medical attention and secure the scene)

- Notify dispatch – description of incident, location, # of injuries, and # of fatalities.
- Maintain communications until injured are transported or relieved by higher ranking.
- Ensure injured are given medical attention until medical personnel arrive.
- Appoint someone to secure area.

District

- Ensure dispatch has been notified.
- Assist On-Scene Coordinator with accident scene management, if needed.
- Notify District Ranger or any Staff Officer, if not available.

District Ranger

- Notify Forest Supervisor on nature of incident.
- Refer to Agency Administrator's Guide to Critical Incident Management.

Dispatch

- Once notified by the On-Scene Commander, ensure emergency has radio priority.
- After size-up from the On-Scene Commander, ensure proper emergency response is dispatched (fire, EMS, Medevac, etc.).
- Notify the following key forest personnel: Forest Fire Staff Officer/ Forest Duty Officer,
- Forest Aviation Officer (if an aircraft accident),
- Forest Supervisor,
- Forest Safety Officer,
- Forest Public Information Officer,
- Ensure notified forest personnel have enough information to carry out their own duties correctly and efficiently.

Forest Supervisor

- Notify Regional Forester, if warranted.
- Refer to Agency Administrator's Guide to Critical Incident Management.
- Establish a command center (conference room) where the key forest personnel will convene to coordinate efforts.
- Determine additional management needs at the Forest and District level.
- Identify a family liaison.

Forest Safety Officer

- Upon arrival on-scene, evaluate any safety issues that may be present and ensure proper mitigation.
- Initiate the investigation of the emergency and ensure that the proper accident investigation resources or teams are requested.
- Coordinate Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) if needed.
- Secure witness names and contact information, as well as initial statements.
- Obtain sketches and photographs of the emergency site.
- Coordinate and support the On-Scene Coordinator as necessary.

Forest Public Information Officer

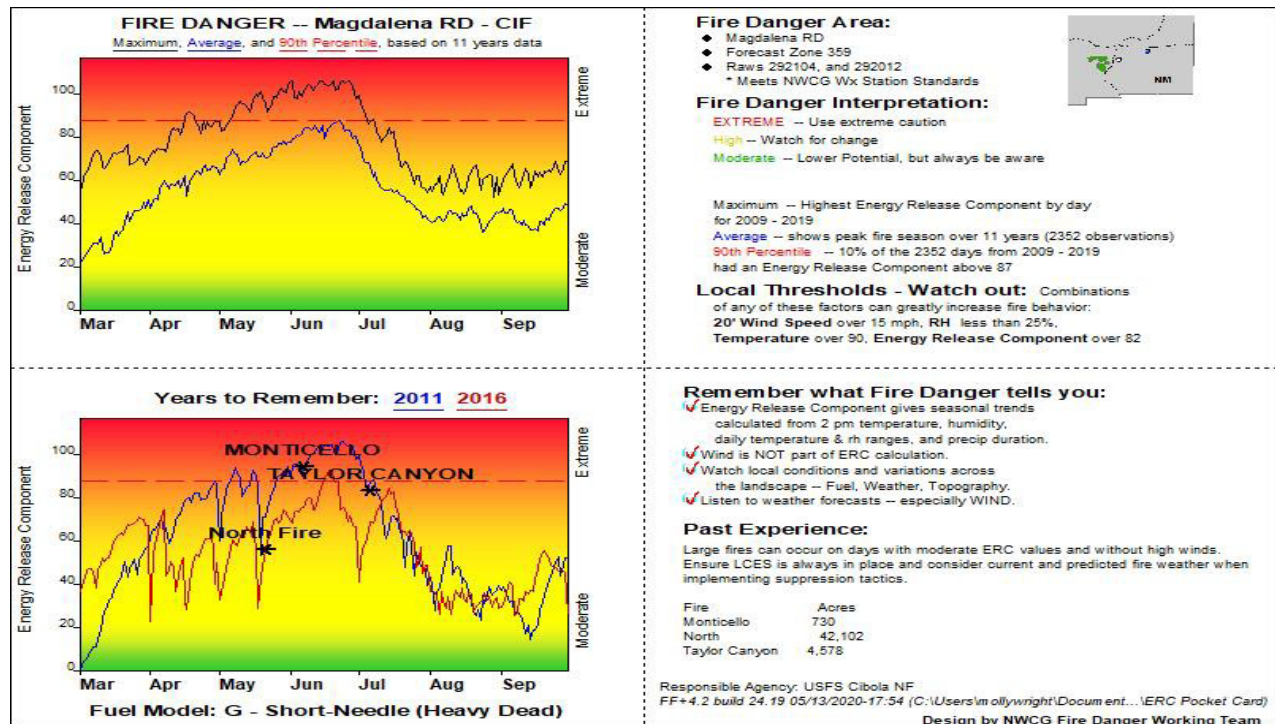
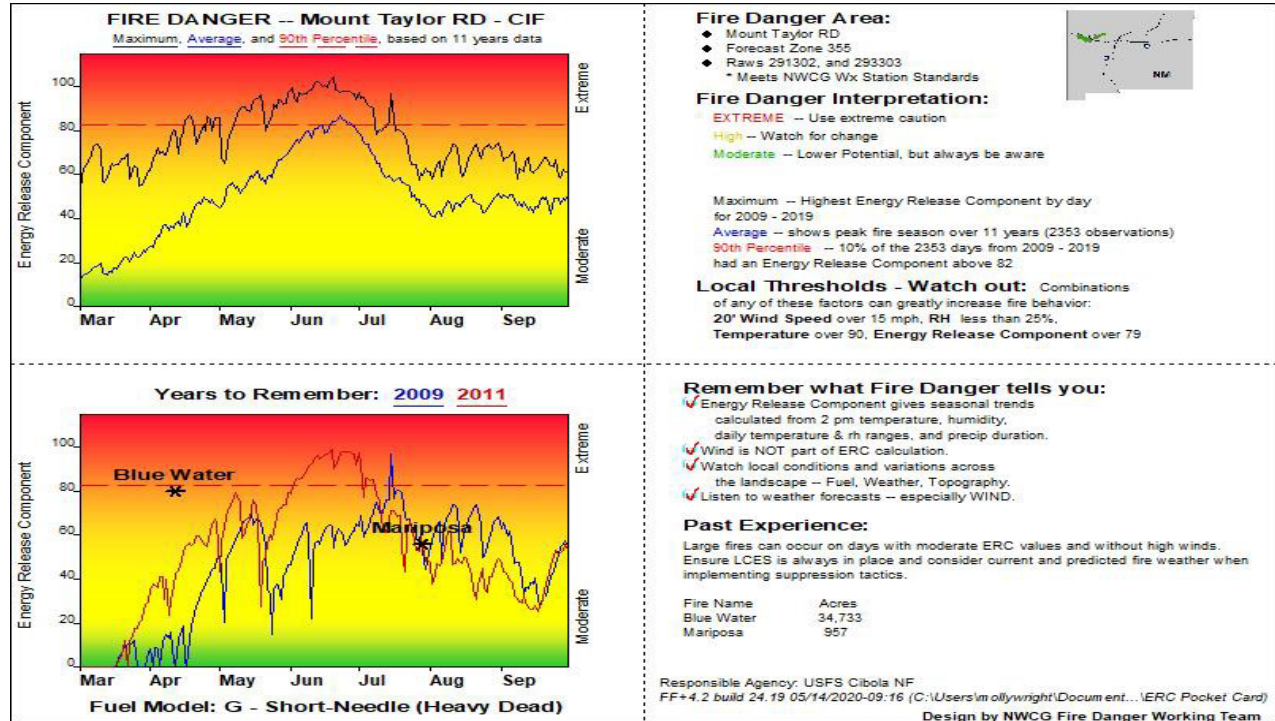
- Collect pertinent emergency information.
- Coordinate information release with Forest Supervisor.
- Assign other public information officers as necessary to field media inquiries on-scene, at the hospital, and medevac location.
- Coordinate with the Forest Safety Officer regarding roadblocks, evacuations, and emergency medical needs.
- No personal information is to be released without Forest Supervisor approval.**

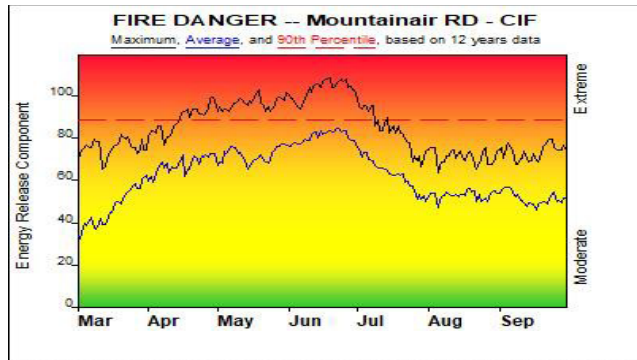
Forest Fire Management Officer

- Following notification by Dispatch, ensure that the Forest Supervisor has been notified.
- Notify SWCC and other agency personnel as necessary, but do not release any sensitive info.
- Ensure that the Incident Emergency Plan is adhered to by all personnel.
- Develop a fact sheet within 4 hours of the incident.
- Provide a briefing for all involved personnel following development of the fact sheet.
- Complete NFES 0869 (Wildland Entrapment/Fatality Initial Report), if needed.

Fire Danger Info

The following pocket card information can be used for the purpose of tracking trends of expected fire behavior.





Fire Danger Area:

- ◆ Mountainair RD
- ◆ Forecast Zone 357
- ◆ Mountainair Rawls, 291501
- * Meets NWCG Wx Station Standards

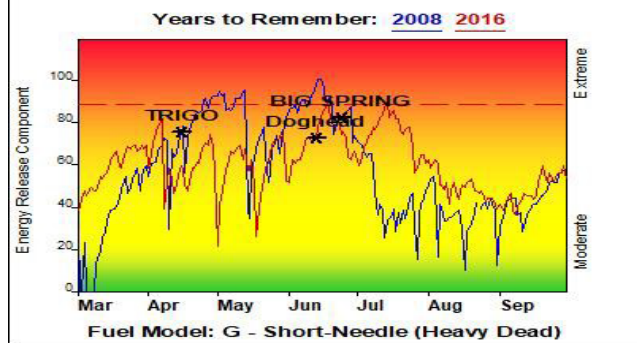


Fire Danger Interpretation:

- EXTREME -- Use extreme caution
- High -- Watch for change
- Moderate -- Lower Potential, but always be aware

Maximum -- Highest Energy Release Component by day for 2008 - 2019
 Average -- shows peak fire season over 12 years (2504 observations)
 90th Percentile -- 10% of the 2504 days from 2008 - 2019 had an Energy Release Component above 88

Local Thresholds - Watch out: Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior:
 20' Wind Speed over 15 mph, RH less than 25%,
 Temperature over 90, Energy Release Component over 80



Remember what Fire Danger tells you:

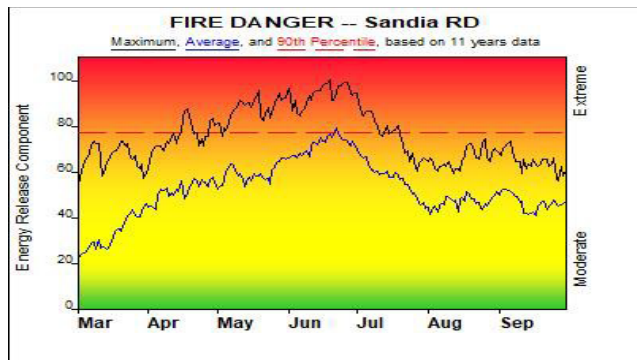
- ✓ Energy Release Component gives seasonal trends calculated from 2 pm temperature, humidity, daily temperature & rh ranges, and precip duration.
- ✓ Wind is NOT part of ERC calculation.
- ✓ Watch local conditions and variations across the landscape -- Fuel, Weather, Topography.
- ✓ Listen to weather forecasts -- especially WIND.

Past Experience:

Large fires can occur on days with moderate ERC values and without high winds. Ensure LCES is always in place and consider current and predicted fire weather when implementing suppression tactics.

Fire Name	Acres
Big Springs	5,478
Trigo	3,709
Doghead	17,874

Responsible Agency: USFS Cibola NF
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 Design by NWCG Fire Danger Working Team



Fire Danger Area:

- ◆ Sandia RD
- ◆ Forecast Zone 101
- ◆ Oak Flats Rawls, 291402
- * Meets NWCG Wx Station Standards

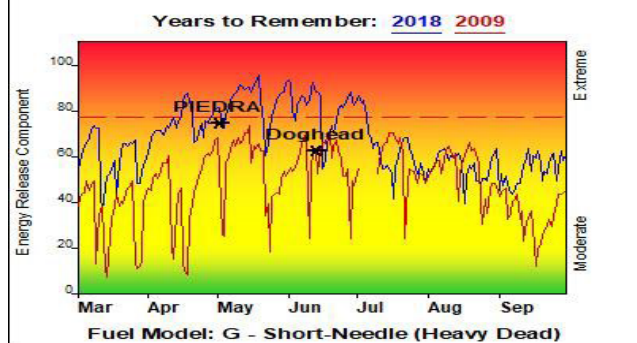


Fire Danger Interpretation:

- EXTREME -- Use extreme caution
- High -- Watch for change
- Moderate -- Lower Potential, but always be aware

Maximum -- Highest Energy Release Component by day for 2009 - 2019
 Average -- shows peak fire season over 11 years (2327 observations)
 90th Percentile -- 10% of the 2327 days from 2009 - 2019 had an Energy Release Component above 77

Local Thresholds - Watch out: Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior:
 20' Wind Speed over 15 mph, RH less than 25%,
 Temperature over 85, Energy Release Component over 78



Remember what Fire Danger tells you:

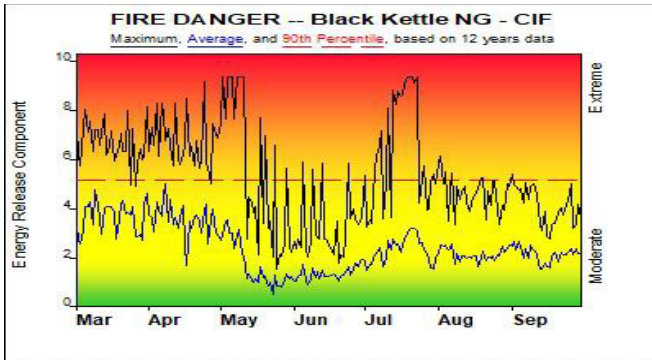
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Past Experience:

Large fires can occur on days with moderate ERC values and without high winds. Ensure LCES is always in place and consider current and predicted fire weather when implementing suppression tactics.

Fire	Acres
Piedra	50
Doghead	17,874

Responsible Agency: USFS Cibola NF
 FF+4.2 build 24.19 05/13/2020-18:42 (C:\Users\mollywright\Docum ent...\IERC Pocket Card)
 Design by NWCG Fire Danger Working Team



Fire Danger Area:

- Black Kettle NG
- Forecast Zone
- Cheyenne Rawls, 343301
- * Does NOT Meet NWCG Wx Station Standards

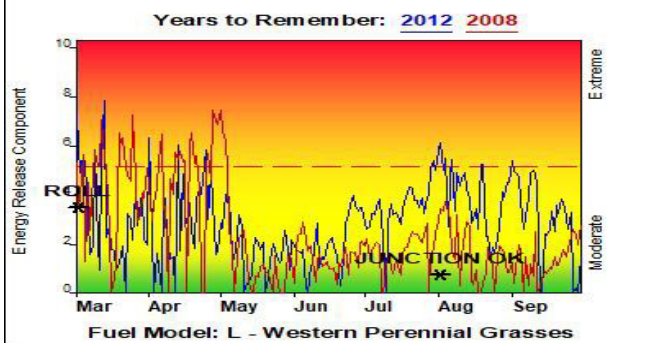


Fire Danger Interpretation:

- EXTREME -- Use extreme caution
- High -- Watch for change
- Moderate -- Lower Potential, but always be aware

Maximum -- Highest Energy Release Component by day for 2008 - 2019
 Average -- shows peak fire season over 12 years (2233 observations)
 90th Percentile -- 10% of the 2233 days from 2008 - 2019 had an Energy Release Component above 5

Local Thresholds - Watch out: Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior:
 20' Wind Speed over 20 mph, RH less than 25%,
 Temperature over 80



Remember what Fire Danger tells you:

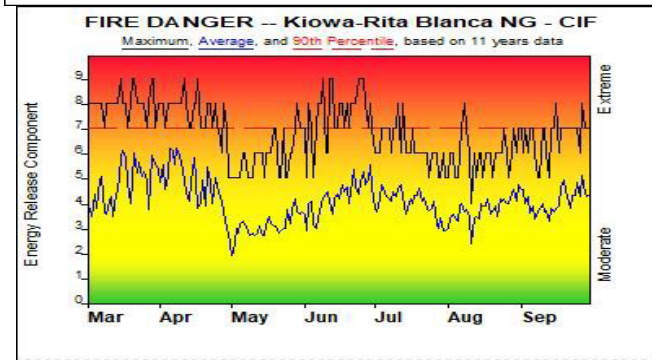
- ✓ Energy Release Component gives seasonal trends calculated from 2 pm temperature, humidity, daily temperature & rh ranges, and precip duration.
- ✓ Wind is NOT part of ERC calculation.
- ✓ Watch local conditions and variations across the landscape -- Fuel, Weather, Topography.
- ✓ Listen to weather forecasts -- especially WIND.

Past Experience:

20' winds above 15 mph with RH less than 17% may cause erratic fire behavior. Large fires may occur on days without high winds and moderate ERC values. Ensure LCES is in place. Consider current and predicted fire weather when implementing a suppression strategy.

Name	Acres
Roll	900
Junction Ok	692

Responsible Agency: USFS Cibola NF
 FF+5.0 build 20191211 05/15/2020-08:15 (C:\Users\mollywright\Doc... \CIF_Indices_FFv5)
 Design by NWCG Fire Danger Working Team



Fire Danger Area:

- Kiowa-Rita Blanca NG
- Forecast Zone 354
- Mills Canyon Rawls, 291101
- * Meets NWCG Wx Station Standards

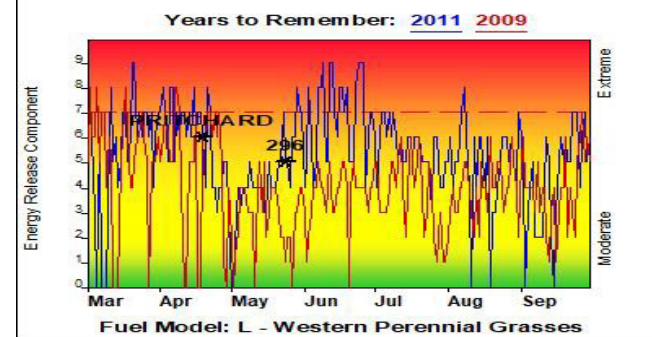


Fire Danger Interpretation:

- EXTREME -- Use extreme caution
- High -- Watch for change
- Moderate -- Lower Potential, but always be aware

Maximum -- Highest Energy Release Component by day for 2009 - 2019
 Average -- shows peak fire season over 11 years (2322 observations)
 90th Percentile -- 10% of the 2322 days from 2009 - 2019 had an Energy Release Component above 7

Local Thresholds - Watch out: Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior:
 20' Wind Speed over 20 mph, RH less than 25%,
 Temperature over 80, Energy Release Component over 75



Remember what Fire Danger tells you:

- ✓ Energy Release Component gives seasonal trends calculated from 2 pm temperature, humidity, daily temperature & rh ranges, and precip duration.
- ✓ Wind is NOT part of ERC calculation.
- ✓ Watch local conditions and variations across the landscape -- Fuel, Weather, Topography.
- ✓ Listen to weather forecasts -- especially WIND.

Past Experience:

Hot, windy spring days are most likely when large fires occur, although they have occurred during all times of the year. High ERC's presents a watchout situation, especially during extended drought after higher than average precipitation seasons that result in substantial herbaceous fuel loadings.

Fires	Acres
296	15,252
Pritohard	>5,000

Responsible Agency: USFS Cibola NF
 FF+4.2 build 24.19 05/12/2020-15:29 (C:\Users\mollywright\Document... \ERC Pocket Card)
 Design by NWCG Fire Danger Working Team

Dispatch Operations

General

The principal mission of the Albuquerque Interagency Dispatch Center is timely cost-effective coordination of resources to any incident within or outside of the Albuquerque Zone jurisdiction.

All incidents in the zone will be managed according to policies and guidelines established by the Albuquerque Zone Board and can be reference in the Albuquerque Zone Operating Plan.

The dispatch center will be staffed seven days a week during fire season. Normal hours of operation are 0700-01800; but the dispatch center can be utilized on a 24/7 basis as needed. Furthermore, an expanded dispatch can be used in the supervisor's office in periods of increased workload and/or fire danger.

Location:

The Albuquerque Interagency Dispatch Center is located at the Cibola National Forest Supervisor's Office. Address: 2113 Osuna Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113

Albuquerque Dispatch (NM-ABC) Contact Phone Numbers

Unit Designator: NM-ABC
Dispatch Number: (505) 346-2660
24-Hour Number: (505) 346-2660
Dispatch Toll-Free: 1 (888) 971-0100
ABC FAX Number: (505) 346-3911

Website: https://firenet365.sharepoint.com/sites/DC_NMABC/SitePages/Albuquerque-Interagency-Dispatch-Center.aspx

The Albuquerque Zone Dispatch Center (located in the Cibola N.F. Supervisor's Office) provides Support for the Following Units:

Albuquerque Zone Dispatch Center, Albuquerque, NM

Agency	Name (Unit)	Designator		Agency	Name (Unit)	Designator
FS	Cibola NF	CIF		NPS	Alibates Flint Quarries NM	AFP
BIA	Southwest Regional Office	SWA		NPS	Aztec Ruins NM	AZP
BIA	Laguna Agency	LAA		NPS	Chaco Culture NHP	CHP
BIA	Ramah Navajo Agency	RNA		NPS	El Morro NM	ELP
BIA	Southern Pueblos Agency	SPA		NPS	El Malpais NM	EMP
BIA	Zuni Agency	ZUA		NPS	Lake Meridith NRA	LAP
BLM	Rio Puerco Field Office	RPD		NPS	Petroglyphs NM	PGP
BLM	Socorro Field Office	SCD		NPS	Salinas Pueblo Missions NM	
FWS	Region 2 Regional Office	R2R		ST	Bernalillo District	N6S
FWS	Buffalo Lake Refuge	BFR		ST	Socorro District	N3S
FWS	Grulla Refuge	GRR				
FWS	Optima Refuge	OPR				
FWS	Mule Shoe Refuge	MLR				

Communications

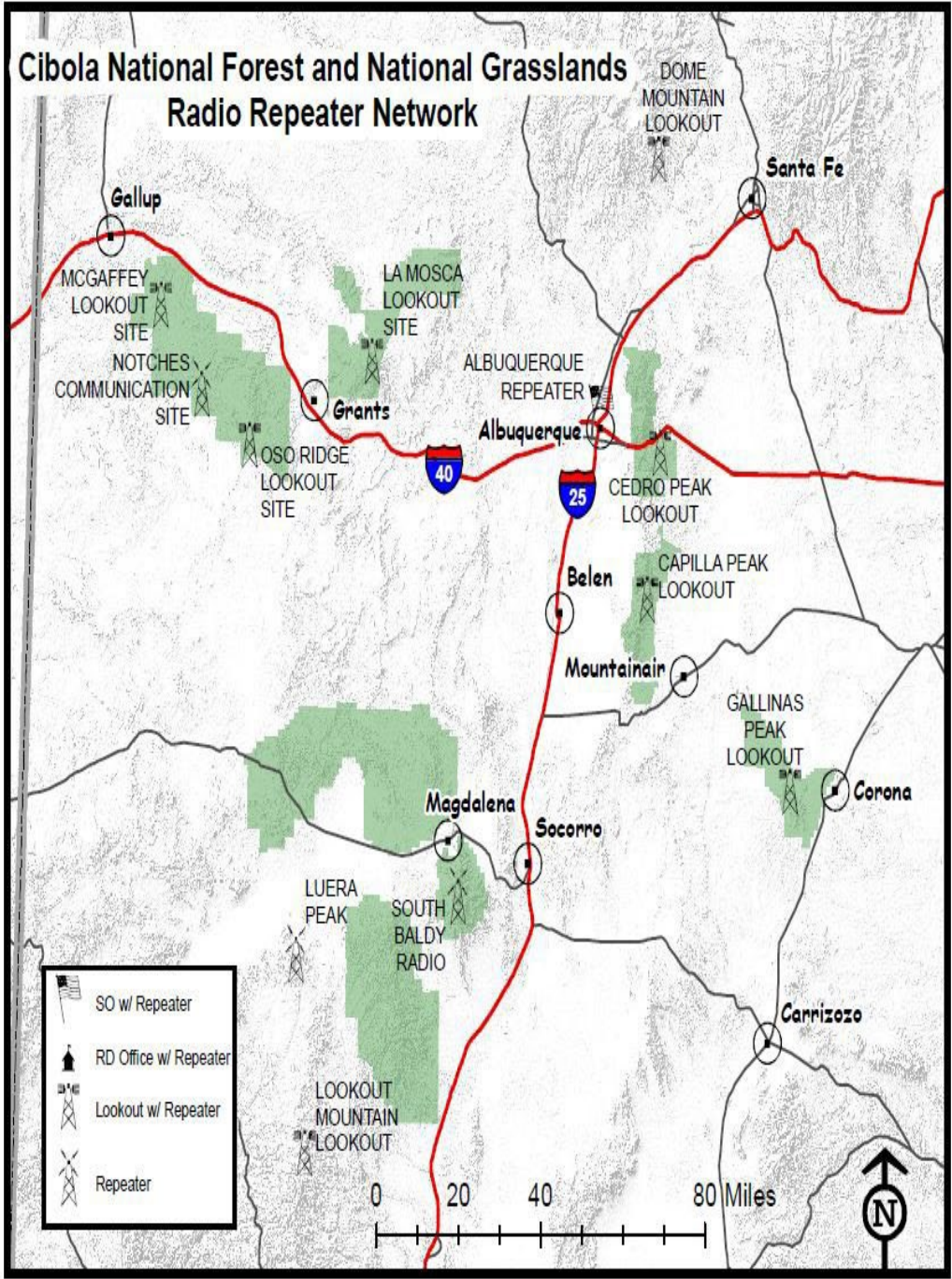
Group 9 Fire/IA (see tone sheet)

Channel	RX	Tone	TX	Tone	Description
1	170.525		165.075	103.5	Cibola Repeater
2	170.525		170.525	107.2	Cedro Admin
3	172.225		172.225	110.9	Project 2(car to car only)
4	172.675		172.675	114.8	BIA SPA
5	159.225		159.225	123.0	State Forestry
6	154.310		154.310	131.8	State Fire
7	172.500		169.775	192.8	BLM RPT
8	169.650		169.650	192.8	BLM Socorro
9	167.5500		167.5500	136.5	TAC - 1
10	168.6750		168.6750	141.3	TAC - 2
11	168.7750		168.7750	146.2	TAC - 3
12	168.350		168.350	156.7	Travel
13	168.4875		168.4875	167.9	A / G 53
14	155.340		154.340	156.7	V MED 28
15	168.0125		168.0125	203.5	A / G 18
16	168.625		168.625	110.9	GUARD

Tones for Group 9 Fire IA

Channel	Tone	Description
1	103.5	La Mosca Repeater
2	107.2	Capilla Repeater
3	110.9	Notches Repeater
4	114.8	Cedro Repeater
5	123.0	Lookout Mountain Repeater
6	131.8	Gallinas Repeater
7	192.8	BLM RPT
8	192.8	BLM Socorro
9	136.5	Dome Repeater
10	141.3	South Baldy Repeater
11	146.2	Albq Repeater/
12	156.7	Magaffy Repeater
13	167.9	Luera Repeater /
14	156.7	V MED 28
15	162.2	A / G 18
16	110.9	Gaurd

Forest Repeater Sites



Aviation

Pilots and crews working on the Cibola N.F. shall work in a safe, efficient, and cost-effective manner. Pilots and crews will decline any mission or assignment they feel cannot be accomplished safely and help provide safe alternatives to meet mission objectives. Pilots and crews will actively identify and mitigate risks as applicable and share with others. Incidents or mishaps will immediately be brought to the attention of supervisors, Duty Officers (D.O.), and the Forest Aviation Officer (F.A.O.).

Aviation Briefing Checklist

- Dispatch office location, phone list and numbers, explain Forest map including Ranger Districts and cooperating agencies.
- Forest/Zone aviation resource location and availability.
- Special Use Airspace, MOA, MTRs discussed and explained on sectional chart.
- Forest Frequencies; air-ground, air-air IA (victor), administrative, fire, and repeaters. Give frequency lists and repeater map. Ensure flight crews know and understand medical aircraft frequencies for R3 VMed 28, VMed 29.
- De-confliction procedures: dispatch and pilot look for special use airspace when a fire location has been determined; pilots are to make dispatch aware if dispatch has not confirmed de-confliction.
- Dispatch and flight following procedures.
- All fire aircraft will squawk transponder code 1255 unless otherwise directed by air attack or ATC. In an emergency, use 7600 for communications failure and 7700 for an emergency.
- Initial attack procedures and requirement for dip site monitoring.
- Crash-Rescue plan:

Aviation Operations

All aircraft used on the Cibola NF are ordered through Albuquerque Dispatch. Use of aerial resources can be part of an aggressive suppression response; however, many things should be considered before ordering aircraft. The Cibola N.F. practices Systems Management Safety (SMS) in the use of aircraft. Be aware that though aviation accidents are usually very unlikely, their consequences are very severe.

Available Aviation Resources

The Cibola hosts an Air Attack (303) out of the tanker base an Exclusive Use Type III Helicopter w/helitack module based at Sandia Helibase, Sandia Helitack. The adjacent Santa Fe (type 3) and Gila Forests (type 1 and 3) also host exclusive use helicopters. The BIA hosts a type 3 helicopter w/ helitack module (Vulcan Peak) at Double Eagle Airport. The New Mexico Air National Guard also has carded helicopters that are mobilized through the State. When these local government helicopters are used, a replacement helicopter needs to be ordered as soon as possible. Communication between the Zone and the State is essential.

Albuquerque hosts an Air Tanker Base on Kirkland AFB. For directions to the ATB call the manager or dispatch. If an air tanker is ordered, it may come from off the forest, however, reload turn-around times will be relatively short. Region 3 hosts five Exclusive Use Air Attack platforms, Coronado, Cibola (303), Tonto, Prescott, Alamogordo and one HLCO platform Coronado. Available aviation resources are listed in the SIT 300A daily report on the Southwest Interagency Coordination Center website, or you may call Dispatch for a list of available aviation resources.

Requests for Aircraft

All aircraft orders will be placed by Albuquerque dispatch. Center Managers will request an air tanker after coordination with Duty Officers or Incident Commanders based on present weather conditions, and/or response time of the first initial drop to avoid undue delays. The closest air tanker base is either Albuquerque, NM or Durango, CO.

The Forest has a Type 3 Helicopter at Sandia Ranger District. Certain limiting factors such as good ingress and egress for air tankers, visibility, high density altitude weight limits, winds, turn-around times, consolidating personnel and equipment orders for efficient use of helicopter time, etc.

Dispatch Flight Following Procedure

Detailed flight following and dispatch procedures are outlined in the Mobilization Guide.

https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/mobguide/Mobilization_Guide.pdf

Mission requests will come through Dispatch. AFF is the preferred method of flight following. After clearing sterile cockpit environment, the initial call to Dispatch should include aircraft designation and location of departure. When Dispatch acknowledges provide number of personnel onboard, amount of fuel onboard, destination, and estimated time enroute, plus confirm AFF of the aircraft. Ensure that Dispatch acknowledges aircraft is positive AFF. If AFF is unavailable for any reason a 15-minute check-in by radio will be required for all operational aircraft.

Standard Fire Traffic Area (FTA)

All fires have FTAs, regardless of aircraft over or assigned to the incident. The established national guidance for FTAs will be strictly adhered to on all fire incidents. This includes blind calls for unoccupied fires and obtaining clearance from tactical aircraft if occupied and there is not Aerial Supervision in the FTA.

- NWCG Fire Traffic Area Diagram: [Fire Traffic Area](#)
- NWCG Stands for Aerial Supervision: [NWCG Standards for Aerial Supervision](#)

Airspace

The Albuquerque zone has active Military Training Routes (MTRs), Military Operation Areas (MOAs) and Low Altitude Tactical Navigation Areas (LATNs) within the area boundaries. Albuquerque Dispatch is responsible for conducting airspace deconfliction with the military. Air crews will receive a copy of the current aerial hazard map as part of their in-briefing. Dispatch will identify any known hazards on the aircraft dispatch form.

- Forest Aerial Hazard Maps (geo-referenced) are available on the SWCC website: [Southwest Forest Service Aerial Hazard Maps](#).

Aerial Hazards

Towers, windmill farms, wires, and power lines are located on mountain tops and plateaus. Drainages may have windmills, towers, cables, and powerlines. Pilots should always conduct a high-level recon prior to descending.

Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR)

Current TFR information will be reviewed each day during the morning briefing. Cibola Dispatch is responsible for processing all orders for TFR through SWCC. Anyone has authority to request a TFR.

Boundary Issues

Aircrews should provide the neighboring dispatch a courtesy radio call on National Flight Following if they are within 5 miles of any boundary. Dispatch will contact the neighboring unit dispatch to notify them of aircraft responding to the incident in the boundary area, obtain information regarding any aircraft responding from the neighboring district, coordinate IA frequencies, and relay this information to the responding aircraft.

Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) aka “Drones”

Key Points from the February 2019 NWCG Standards for Fire Unmanned Aircraft Systems – Appendix A – UAS Incursion Protocol: [NWCG Standards for Fire UAS Operations](#)

- UAS are like any other hazard – “if you see something, say something.” Ground personnel should inform Aerial Supervision. If there is none present inform aircraft over the fire (e.g., helicopter, airtanker).
- Unless a temporary flight restriction (TFR) is in place, it may be possible for the drone activity to be “legal.” If anticipating extended air operations, requesting a TFR is recommended.
- If you encounter a person operating a UAS over your incident, a simple request for them to stop should be made. If they fail to comply, law enforcement should be notified.

- Albuquerque Dispatch should report UAS incursions to a TFR to the nearest Air Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) (505) 856-4500.
- Fire personnel should report all unauthorized UAS activity via the SAFECOM system ([SAFECOM](#)). UAS information (color, size, altitude, flight pattern, rotor, or fixed wing) should be reported in known.

Retardant Avoidance and Reporting Requirements

Aerial retardant drops are not allowed in mapped avoidance areas for certain aquatic/hydrographic avoidance areas, terrestrial avoidance areas, and cultural resources, including historic properties, traditional cultural resources, and sacred sites. The Carson and Santa Fe National Forests have identified forest-wide aerial fire-retardant avoidance areas.

Maps:

Retardant Avoidance Maps for the Southwest Forest are available on using the QR Code on the cover page and the NIFC website: [FTP Site Retardant Avoidance Maps](#).

Notification Process for Aerial Assets:

Follow information from the Implementation Guide for Aerial Application of Fire Retardant found on the Forest Service Website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/chemicals>.

Misapplication in an Avoidance Area:

Implementation Guide for Aerial Application of Fire Retardant

1. Determine if it is safe to enter the area where the aerial application of fire retardant has occurred, the goal is to visit the site as soon as it is safe to do so and not later than 30 days after the misapplication.
2. Calculate the area (size of coverage in the avoidance area or waterway) with retardant and if possible, estimate the amount of coverage of retardant.
3. Determine if the exception to protect public and/or fire fighter safety was used.
4. If possible, document GPS location, time of event, and date of event.
5. Complete the Reporting form found at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/chemicals>
6. Contact the IC to inform them a report was complete and contact:
 - A. The Resource Advisor assigned to the fire or local unit's Resource Advisor if they are not the one completing the report OR
 - B. Any agency administrator for the unit where the misapplication occurred.

Retardant Jettison Area is located at Albuquerque Airtanker Base

Jettison area established for the Albuquerque Airtanker Base.

Coordinates are N34° 58.062' x W106° 26.117'.

¼ mile radius around center point. This location is 92° at approximately 19 nautical miles from the Albuquerque (ABQ)VOR. 2,000 ft. AGL recommended drop height. This jettison area is available for use by all aircraft supporting aerial retardant delivery when practicable.

Region 3 Dip Site Monitors

Use of dip site monitors/observers is required in the Southwest Region. During helicopter bucket operations from any source, a monitor/observer will be in place at the dip site as soon as feasible. The individual will identify and communicate operational hazards (i.e., fouled bucket lines, shifting winds, etc.) to the pilot.

Guidance for Prevention of Aquatic Organisms

There are known issues with invasive aquatics and water use on both Forests. Whirling disease and Didymo are known to exist in water bodies on both Forests. A list of locations of these sites is maintained by both dispatches. In general, it will be assumed that invasive aquatic species are present. Helicopter buckets, snorkels, tanks, etc. will be kept clean and dried out or treated between being used in differing water sources or watersheds.

Guide to preventing Aquatic Invasive Species: <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/444>.

Safety

([SAFECOM](#)). The SAFECOM accident/incident reporting system is a tool for promoting aviation safety. By sharing information about incidents, we may help to prevent additional incidents and accidents from occurring in the future. Please report any accident or incident that occurs while operating on the Carson National Forest and the Taos Zone. **Hazardous Flying Conditions:** Flying in mountainous terrain during the fire season can expose aircraft to severe winds, turbulence, down drafts, and other environmental problems resulting in the potential for aviation operations to stop until conditions improve. Pilots are usually the first to become aware of challenging conditions. PLEASE do not be hesitant about recommending aviation operations cease until conditions improve. Let other aircraft and Dispatch know of conditions in your area.

Emergency Medical Aircraft

Emergency Medical Extraction aircraft are available from Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque and from the New Mexico Air National Guard in Santa Fe. Keep in mind that response times from these aircraft may be longer than expected, especially after hours or on weekends.

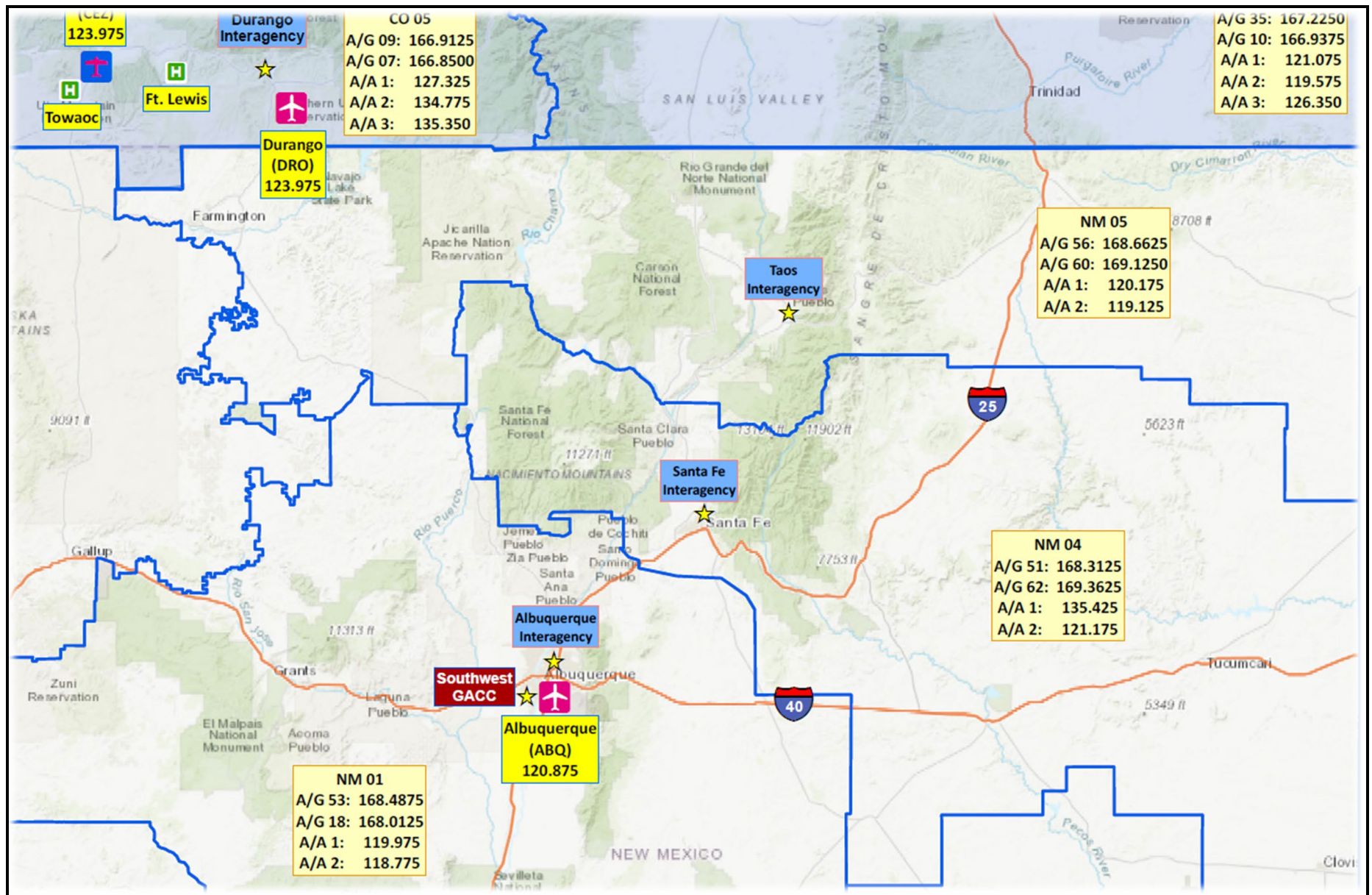
Several medical response helicopters are available in Northern New Mexico. Medical helicopters are based in Socorro, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Farmington, and Grants. Call Dispatch and order medical or extraction aircraft.

Communications

For emergency or initial contact, the Southwest Region uses National Air Guard 168.625 with a TX tone guard of 110.9.

National Flight Following 168.650 with a tone guard of 110.9 on both transmit and receive.

V-MED 28 155.3400 and **V-MED 29 155.3475** both with a **transmit tone of 156.7** are primarily used in the Southwest area for Air Ambulance/Air medivac operations.



Sandia Helibase @ Sandia Ranger District – Sandia Helitack

N35°05.00' x W 106°22.50'
Elevation: 6,500 ft.

Base Phone:
 (505) 281-3304 ext. 5222

Contacts:

Program Manager:
 Mike Lewton
 520-604-6287

Asst. Program Manager
 Dylan Kane
 609-651-7431



Sandia Helibase is co-located with Sandia Ranger District.

- From I-40 at exit 175. The District Office is .25 miles south on NM Hwy 337.
- Sandia Helibase access on Chamiso Canyon Road located on the left of Highway 337 approximately .7 miles past the Ranger District.
- Helibase is approximately 2 miles from the turn-off. Two gates with Forest Service lock secures access to the Helibase.

Dipsites and Helibases

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>OWNERSHIP/ELEVATION</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>
Helispots and dipsites			
Magdalena Helibase	N 34° 05.98' x W 107° 15.55'	FS/6,700 ft.	Magdalena
Sandia Helibase	N 35°05.00' x W 106°22.50'	FS/6,500 ft.	Sandia
Sandia Peak Ski Area	N 35°12.15' x W 106°25.05'	Private/9,300 ft.	Sandia
Kirtland Heliwell	N 34° 57.985' x W 106° 27.065'	KFB/6100 ft.	Sandia
Paa-Ko Ridge Golf Dipsite	N 35°12.2' x W 106°18.73'	Private/6,600 ft.	Sandia
Manzana Mountain Retreat	N 34°41.253' x W 106°20.837'	Private/7,000 ft.	Mountainair
Mountainair APT	N 34°31.892' x W 106°13.843'	City/6,500ft.	Mountainair
Corona Pond	N 34°15.30' x W 105°35.79'	Agreement/Corona/	Mountainair
Manzano Lake	N 34°38.728' x W 106°20.756'	Private/6,900 ft.	Mountainair
Post Office flats	35° 10' .06" x -108° 08' .71"	FS/8,500 ft.	Mt. Taylor
McGaffey Lake	N 35°22.638' x W 108°30.797'	FS/7,800 ft.	Mt. Taylor
Bluewater Lake	N 35°17.726' x W 108°06.958'	State/7,500 ft.	Mt. Taylor

Dip Site Contacts:

Sandia:

Kirtland Heliwell:

Kirtland Fire Department, Terance Eaton (505)459-0568

Mountainair:

Corona Pond:

Terri Racher 575-512-6510 or Brad Gage 575-799-0907

Meadow Lake:

Pete Cordova 505-865-6911, Cell 505-379-6429

Manzana Lake:

Jason Quintana 505-321-1681

Albuquerque Air Tanker base

Access through Truman Gate: Truman Ave off Gibson Blvd SE.

- Go through security gate and take right turn onto Aberdeen.
- Continue west on Aberdeen and left at traffic light onto Carlisle Ave.
- Continue south taking a right turn Mather Ave.
- Drive west to gate which just the left of Sunport ATC Tower.

Regional Contacts

Name	Position	Work Phone	Cell Phone
Jake Nuttall	Director Fire & Aviation	505-842-3281	505-250-1353
Harold Riggs	Deputy Director FAM	505-842-3894	505-235-8950
James Pettit	Fire Operations (Regional DO)	505-842-3418	505-205-6214
Chris Niccoli	Deputy Fire Ops (Regional DO)	505-842-3804	505-414-4046
Jami Anzalone	Regional Aviation Officer	505-842-3351	505-362-7024
Travis Stanfill	RASM		541-390-1792
Justin Maloney	Helicopter Operations. Specialist		520-404-4464
Mike Fusilier	Helicopter Insp. Pilot	505-842-3356	505-681-1114
Robert Torres	Aviation Safety Inspector	505-842-3384	505-280-8801
Ryan Demeritt	Aviation Safety Inspector		
Patrick Lunn	Aviation Safety Inspect.		541-419-6644
Trevor Dowdy	Avionics inspector		505-503-9345
Hunter Wall	Lead Plane Pilot		602-679-3217
RJ Estes	Fixed Wing Program. Mgr.		505-270-6362
Bryan Brazzeal	Fixed Wing Ops Specialist (Tanker base)		435-632-6412
Jonnie Vanderhoeven	Fixed Wing Ops Specialist (Air Attacks)		480-487-1057
Jennifer Martynuik	Fixed Wing Ops Specialist (ASM)		505-288-2112
Brian Anderson	UAS Specialist Fire		505-927-5513
Phillip Truitt	UAS Specialist NRM		505-842-3357



Southwestern Area Latitude-longitude* procedures

For our purposes in the Southwestern Area on any dispatches, fire locations, aerial ignition plans or anything that might need to be located from an aircraft will use the

Degrees decimal minutes (B) format!

Latitude and longitude shown in three formats:

A. Degrees Decimal Degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seldom Used 	48.3612°N x 114.0812°W	Said: "Forty-eight point three six one two degree"
B. Degrees Decimal Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aircraft mounted GPS units. Contracts FAA documents such as airport guides 	48°36.12'N x 114°08.12'W	Said: "Forty-eight degrees, thirty- six point one two"
C. Degrees Minutes Seconds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many maps ROSS TFR requests forms 	48°36'12" N x 114°08'12" W	Said: "Forty-eight degrees, thirty- six minutes, and twelve seconds."

Plotting the three formats above will place the location in **three different locations**, so it is critical we all remain on the same page.

Conversion between Degrees Minutes Second and Degrees Decimal Minutes

Most handheld GPS units and mapping software can be easily set up to do any of the formats. Most aircraft mounted GPS units are not easily changed from the degree's decimal minutes format. There are conversion charts, software programs, and formulas available through multiple websites.

Degrees and **whole minutes** don't change with either "B" or "C" formats. Only seconds and decimal minutes change. A minute is broken into either 60 or 100 parts, depending on which format you want to use. For our purposes, we want to divide a minute into 100 parts: **decimal minutes**.

- To manually convert **degrees minutes seconds** to **degrees decimal minutes** divide seconds by 60.
Example: 48° 20' 30" → 30" ÷ 60 + .5' → 48° 20.5'
- To manually convert **degrees decimal minutes** to **degrees minutes seconds**, multiply hundredths by 60.
Example: 48° 20.5' → .5' x 60 = 30" → 48° 20' 30"

Important "Etiquette"

- Use ONLY ONE period/decimal point when writing a latitude or longitude.
- Do NOT use ANY periods/decimal points when writing a latitude or longitude in Degrees Minutes Seconds format(C).
- Remember there can never be more than 60 seconds in degrees minutes seconds format (C).
- For clarity, insert a zero "0" in front of single digit minutes as many GPS units and map programs require two digits.
- Do NOT mix formats.



File Code: 1230/5100

Date: April 2nd, 2024

Route To:

Subject: Delegation of Authority, Type 3, 4, and 5 Incident Commanders

To: Type 3, 4, And 5 Incident Commanders

As a qualified Incident Commander Type 3, 4, or 5, you are hereby delegated the authority to manage incidents to which you are assigned on the Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands. This responsibility requires you to recognize risks associated with tactical decisions for firefighters and equipment and how to communicate that risk to the District Ranger, DFMO/DAFMO, and personnel under your command. You must develop a specific plan of action, communicate that plan to all involved, and accomplish the objectives safely. You will be expected to monitor conditions and adjust the plan and mitigate hazards to meet the fire on your terms, and not those of the fire.

Following are our expectations for management of incidents during calendar year 2024.

1. Wildland fire response will be based on a full range of strategic and tactical options. Be clear on management direction upon dispatch to incident. Select strategies and tactics that provide for firefighter and public safety first.
2. All incident activities must provide for firefighter and public safety. The Ten Standard Fire Orders and the Eighteen Watch-Out Situations are there to help you develop your actions on the ground with full focus to the safety of the people under your command.
3. You will provide all personnel assigned to an incident under your command with a thorough briefing (use format in Incident Response Pocket Guide) before they engage the fire. Ensure all personnel on your incident are qualified for the positions they are performing. I encourage you to use trainees, but only when a qualified individual supervises them.
4. You will personally monitor for cumulative fatigue and ensure that employees receive adequate opportunity for rest following a fire suppression assignment. The 2-to-1 work-to-rest guidelines must be followed. Request approval through the District Duty Officer to the District Ranger and document the reason for any work shifts that exceed 16-hours in length for all personnel, along with measures you took to reduce fatigue.
5. All activities will be executed in accordance with the chosen wildland fire response and land management direction for the area on which the fire is burning. Coordinate with the District Duty Officer on WFDSS inputs and updates as the incident progresses.

Continually evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy and tactics on your incident. If they are ineffective or unsafe, I expect you to delay, modify or stop your plan, and continue to





6. take actions where it is safe, to the extent appropriate to your qualifications and experience. Use the Risk Management Process in the Incident Pocket Response Guide to aid you in this process.
7. Minimize suppression-related impacts to protect natural resources and improvements that occur in the fire area. Follow the intent of minimum impact management tactics by only employing resources and tactics that are necessary to accomplish the objectives developed for the incident. If you are supervising fire management activities in a wilderness area, any use of mechanized equipment must first be approved by the respective District Ranger or Forest Supervisor. Show respect for private property and citizens in the fire area.
8. If cooperators, including other Federal, State, or local fire suppression forces join in the initial or extended attack response you will be expected to include these forces in the incident organization. Encourage them to participate in development of strategy and tactics to safely and efficiently meet the objectives for the incident. Be knowledgeable and considerate of cooperating agency's policies when assisting in fire suppression on other protected lands.
9. Continue to assess the incident and right size the organization to the fewest resources needed to accomplish the mission.
10. If additional direction is required for a specific incident you are assigned to, that information will be provided to you by the respective District Ranger, FMO or duty officer at the appropriate time.
11. Plan for and make a smooth transition, including an adequate briefing between Incident Commanders and/or Initial and Extended attack organizations should it be necessary. These include communication to all fire line personnel and dispatch any changes in IC's, including name and timelines for transition.
12. Hold yourself and those you supervise accountable for the work environment on the incident. As the IC you are ultimately responsible for ensuring that the desired work environment is achieved. Some measures of success relative to that are,
 - Everyone on the incident is treated with dignity and respect.
 - As an IC continually model integrity.
 - All responders are free of harassment or bullying.
 - Instances of improper conduct are reported and elevated in a timely fashion as appropriate.

If you have any questions of the expectations set before you, please contact your District Ranger or FMO to discuss. Thank you for your commitment to manage incidents on the Cibola NF&NG.

