# Sandia Wildfire Response Flow

## West Side – Albuquerque Open Space/Albuquerque Fire Department

#### **Cooperator Contact**

- Albuquerque Fire & Rescue Wildland Coordinator Karina Hernandez 505-452-7406 or Duty Officer phone 505-768-9330 if Karina is unavailable.
- Bernalillo Wildland Coordinator Josh Skrondahl 505-250-7844

## **General Process**

- Most fires are identified via 911 through AFD Dispatch. AFD duty officer will call Sandia DO
  immediately. AFD response is timely and their resources will most likely be first on scene. AFD
  understands that we want to use appropriate tactics and may not suppress all fires on FS land. If
  fire is in ABQ open space property and/or FS land they will take direct action on city of ABQ lands.
- AFD DO will also help with joint press release in a very timely fashion, ensure press and PIO/PAO in Contact with each other.
- There will be high interest from the public and media with all wildland fires visible from the ABQ metro area. Expect media response through the open space and media helicopters. Sandia DO and AFD DO will meet near fire area if possible to assist fire personnel with media and public. This allows firefighters to IC and manage incident while the duty officers provide information and support.
- Coordinated and timely news release and social media release with FS and BERNCO is important. BERNCO PIO is William Harris 505-373-6739, he can post to next door and Facebook quickly and also has ability to send out NIXEL message. FS PAO is Patricia Johnson 413-575-4981 or 505-850-2657
- If needed, Bernalillo County, Albuquerque BLM and Kirtland AFB resources can assist.
  - Bernallio County resources will be ordered through Albuquerque Dispatch.
  - Bernalillo Wildland Coordinator for additional information and coordination-Josh Skrondahl 505-250-7844
  - BLM FMO Manny Martinez 505-616-6846
  - Kirtland AFB Wildland Coordinator Terrance Eatton 505-459-0568
  - Kirtland AFB Range Manager Lt. Mark Bean 505-350-3360
- AFD DO can make request to have ABQ open space closed as needed.
- Contact: AFD WLFC, BERNCO WLFC, District Ranger, Forest Duty Officer, BERNCO PIO, FS PAO

## North/Northeast Side – Placitas/Sandoval County Fire Department

## **Cooperator Contact**

- Sandoval County Fire Department
- Wildland Coordinator Ryan Louchard 505-206-6865
- Asstistan Wildland Coordinator Amanda Campos 505-553-5648

## **General Process**

• Most fires are identified via 911 through Sandoval County Dispatch. Sandoval County Wildland Coordinator will call Sandia DO immediately. Sandoval County fire resources and volunteers will

respond but they have limited capacity. Most fires in this jurisdiction are lightning caused and are difficult to access. Cooperators may not take action, but will standby until FS resources are on scene

- Ryan Louchard is experienced and easy to work with. He can provide adequate water support through tenders to support helicopter bucket operations.
- Expect high interest from the media and citizens of the north end. Some fires may be visible from Interstate 25.
- Any fire report in Las Huertas Canyon is immediate concern for life and safety of fire personnel and public. Narrow road (165) through highly recreated area and private land with structures.
- Contact: Sandoval County Wildland Coordinator, District Ranger, Forest Duty Officer, FS PAO Patricia Johnson 413-575-4981 or 505-850-2657

## East and South Sides – Bernalillo County Fire Department/Kirtland Air Force Base/Isleta Pueblo

#### **Cooperator Contact**

- Bernalillo County Battalion 7(East Area Commander) 505-225-5067
- Bernalillo Wildland Coordinator Josh Skrondahl 505-250-7844
- Isleta Pueblo Lester Gary 505-228-0938
- Kirtland AFB Wildland Coordinator Terrance Eatton 505-459-0568
- Kirtland AFB Range Manager-Lt. Mark Bean 505-350-3360

#### **General Process – Bernalillo County**

- Most fires identified through Bernalillo County Dispatch via 911. Bernalillo County has a department required response to all wildland incidents reported in Bernalillo County regardless of land ownership. Battalion 7 or BERNO WLFC should call Sandia DO and order FS resources through Albuquerque Dispatch. Multiple discussions with BERCO have happened about appropriate response to incidents on FS land and to inform FS if taking action on any fire that is not a direct threat to infrastructure or private land. Order needed BERNCO resources with request through Albuquerque Dispatch.
- Most wildland and structure incidents in the East Mountain portion of Bernalillo County are within the protection area of the FS and will require some level of response even if resources are utilized for standby.
- There varying degrees of wildland experience among Battalion 7 individuals. They work 72 hour shifts. Expect a new Battalion 7 every three days. BERNCO WFLC Josh Skrondahl or Battion 7 may contact FMO if in doubt about current DO.
- East mountain citizens are on high alert for any smoke or wildfire incident. Single tree snag fires during monsoon season will cause multiple 911 calls and concern among the community.
- Coordinated and timely news release and social media release with FS and BERNCO is important. BERNCO PIO is William Harris 505-373-6739, he can post to next door and facebook

and also has ability to send out NIXEL message. FS PAO Patricia Johnson 413-575-4981 or 505-850-2657

• Contact: BERNOC Batt. 7 & WLFC, District Ranger, Forest DO, FS PAO, BERNCO PIO

#### General Process – Kirtland AFB/Withdrawal Area

- Most incidents within the withdrawal are caused by testing or military drills. These fires are
  usually contained by KAFB wildland crews and remain small. Fire personnel are usually on
  standby during drills and testing. KAFB will eventually notify ABQ dispatch or Sandia
  FMO/AFMO of incident, sometimes after it happened. Sandia Fire will fill out a fire report on
  incident based on information provided by KAFB and claim as a statistical fire.
- Natural ignitions that happen in more remote areas of the withdrawal are more challenging and will require a coordinated response between FS and KAFB. FS personnel will not engage in fire fighting off of the road systems due to UXO's in the area. KAFB wildland crews can engage fires off road systems. Overall, fire suppression responsibilities fall to FS, however KAFB will provide a majority of resources most of the time.
- Public information is key in any incident that can be seen from Albuquerque or the East mountains. The Community near Raven road is of particular concern with the close proximity to the withdrawal area. Press releases and public information from KAFB is limited to none, and the responsibility will fall to Sandia RD many times.
- Contact: BERNCO Battalion 7, KAFB WLFC, AFR WLFC, District Ranger, Forest DO, FS PAO.