

Davenport Fire Update

Date: Tuesday, June 29, 2004, 11 a.m.

Fire Information phone: **(505) 854-2281**

Website: www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire

This will be the last Davenport Fire update unless conditions change. Please call the Magdalena Ranger District at (505) 854-2281 for fresh information.

Date/Time Started: Friday, June 25, 2004; reported by Davenport Lookout at 1:45 p.m.

Location: Thirteen miles NW of Datil, NM, on north-facing slope ¼ mile E of Road 6 and ¼ mile SE of Davenport Lookout: Lat 34 16 52 N, Long 107 55 31 W

Cause: Lightning (strike had 10 witnesses 45 minutes before fire report)

Fuels: mixed ponderosa pine and juniper; heavy fuels; lots of beetle-killed trees, portions with heavy downed material

Size: 194 acres

Percent contained: 100% at 7 pm Monday night

Resources committed: For Tuesday: 1 engine, 3 crews, and 1 water tender for a total of about 80 personnel. A light helicopter is nearby if needed. An additional engine is patrolling the Datil Mountains this afternoon. Crews will remain on the fire for several days.

Cooperating Agencies: Datil Volunteer Fire Department, National Weather Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service. Many other volunteer fire departments and agencies have assisted in the past few days.

Predicted Weather: 40% chance of rain and thunderstorms Tuesday afternoon, with a high of 71. 5 mph southeast winds, gusty and shifting near storms. Warming and sunnier into the weekend.

Structures Lost: none

Structures Threatened: none

Road and Forest Closures: Road 6 is closed north of US Highway 60. The Datil Unit, Magdalena Unit, and north side of the San Mateos Unit of the Magdalena Ranger District are completely closed to public entry due to fire danger.

Restrictions: The Cibola National Forest, on which the fire is located, implemented restrictions and partial closures June 18th. Please call (505) 854-2281 for specific information on fire restrictions and open recreation areas.

Note: Media representatives wanting to visit areas of the fire should call Fire Information to set up an appointment.

Summary: After a tour of fire camp, Mohave Academy students and staff returned to their school at noon yesterday. Magdalena District Ranger Dennis Aldridge also shared surplus lunches with the students this morning. Davenport Lookout is staffed today both for regular service and as a radio communications link for the fire.

Incident Commander Steve Hawkins called the fire 100% contained at the end of shift last night, as hot fuels were reduced within 300 feet of the fire's edge. The fire and base camp both received a quick drenching Monday evening, with lots of lightning nearby. Only a few smokes showed this morning within the fireline, but more will appear as the heat of the day increases. Sunny hotter weather is predicted for the end of the week.

The number of people working to cool the fire will decline to about 40 on the fireline today, accompanied by one engine. A light helicopter is located in Magdalena, available if needed. Crews will continue for several days to "cold trail" the fire, checking for hot spots until no heat remains anywhere within the fireline.