



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# News Release

Las Cruces District Office, New Mexico

June 7, 2020

**For Additional Information**

Uvas Fire Info Line, 575-525-4360

## Uvas Fire Update – June 7, 2020 – 1:00 pm

**Location:** Uvas Mountains on BLM Land, approximately 10 miles SSW of Hatch, NM and 18 miles N of Interstate 10 between Deming and Las Cruces, NM.

**Date detected:** June 6, 2020 at 3:41 pm

**Current size:** Estimated at 75 – 100 acres

**Percent contained:** 0%

**Cause:** Lightning

**Vegetation:** Grass, brush and Pinon Juniper

**Summary:** The Uvas Fire was started by lightning from a thunderstorm that moved over the southern portion of New Mexico on the evening of June 5<sup>th</sup>. The fire was detected the next day, as smoke became very visible from Hatch and travelers along I-10, and I-25. An aerial reconnaissance flight was conducted as BLM fire engines mobilized to the area.

The fire is burning along the top of the mountain range at an elevation of 6500 ft., surrounded by steep, rugged terrain.

**Resources:** 4 Engines staffed with a total of 12 firefighters and miscellaneous overhead for a total of 20 personnel.

**Today:** Firefighters will focus their efforts on keeping the fire from spreading north towards the Las Uvas Mountains Wilderness Area. They plan to conduct burnout operations, as weather conditions allow. The burnout operations are the safest way for the firefighters to minimize risks by reducing the vegetation between themselves and the advancing fire. As burnout operations are strategically implemented, there will be an increase in smoke, however, the smoke will decrease as firing operations cease later in the day. Smoke will continue to be visible from Hatch, Las Cruces and surrounding areas, as well as I-10 and I-25.

**Firefighter and public safety remain the top priority.**

For further information, please visit or call the following:

- NMFIREINFO at <https://nmfireinfo.com/>
- Uvas Fire Information phone line: 575-525-4360

-BLM-

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. In fiscal year 2018, the diverse activities authorized on BLM-managed lands generated \$105 billion in economic output across the country. This economic activity supported 471,000 jobs and contributed substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state governments, mostly through royalties on minerals.