



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 – 8:00 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 **628** acres

Percent contained: **10%**

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 5th. 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.

Initially, during the first burning period, the fire was burning along the top of the mountain range at an elevation of 6500 ft., surrounded by steep, rugged terrain.

Resources: 4 Engines staffed with 11 firefighters and three overhead personnel for a total of 14 assigned personnel.

Today: The fire exhibited increased fire behavior today, due to a combination of hot, dry weather, steady winds and vegetation across the landscape, resulting in an additional growth of 500+ acres. Due to today's weather conditions, increased fire behavior carried the fire across slopes, into ravines and over rough and rugged terrain. Firefighters did not conduct any burnout operations, instead, they focused their efforts on holding the northwestern edge of the fire in order to minimize its spread towards the Las Uvas Mountains Wilderness Area. The added growth of the fire did result in increased smoke emissions, however light and steady winds aided in dispersing the smoke. Smoke is expected to be visible from Hatch, Las Cruces and surrounding areas, as well as I-10 and I-25 over the next few days.

Firefighter and public safety remain the top priority on the Uvas Fire.

For further information, please visit or call the following:

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

-BLM-

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