



SOUTHWEST AREA TYPE 1 INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM 2

JOHN PIERSON - INCIDENT COMMANDER

Bighorn Fire – June 17, 2020 Morning Update

Red Flag warning poses challenge to firefighters and air operations

Acres: 17,492

Percent Containment: 40%

Start Date: June 5, 2020

Injuries: 3 minor heat-related illnesses

Jurisdiction: Coronado National Forest, including portions of the Pusch Ridge Wilderness

Resources: 8 hotshot crews, 7 Type 2 hand crews, 27 Type 3 engines, 1 Type 4 engine, 26 Type 6 engines, 4 Type 1 helicopters, 1 Type 2 helicopter, 2 Type 3 helicopters, 11 water tenders, 6 bulldozers

Cause: Lightning

Origin Location: Santa Catalina Mountains

Personnel: 700

A Red Flag Warning will be in place today from 10AM to 8PM. These warnings are triggered when humidity is less than 15% combined with winds over 20mph sustained over a period of three or more hours. Air resources including helicopters and airtankers will be out in full force this morning before high winds may limit aircraft use this afternoon.

Yesterday evening crews working near the community of Summerhaven conducting burnout operations around Radio Ridge and the Mt. Lemmon Sky Center. They will continue firing operations this morning as weather allows. Crews are reinforcing fire line around the community and creating defensible space around homes and businesses.

Fire is established along Samaniego Ridge, and crews are closely monitoring activity around the communities of Saddlebrooke and East Golder Ranch. Firefighters are prepared to engage the fire if it begins to move down from the ridgelines.

Evacuation Notices:

- Mt. Lemmon, Mt. Bigelow, and Lower Soldier HOA **north of Organization Ridge Road are in "GO - Evacuate" status, including the community of Summerhaven.**
- Lower Catalina Highway/Lower Mt. Lemmon communities from **Organization Ridge Road to South Willow Canyon are in the "SET - Be Alert" stage.** Residents are encouraged to voluntarily relocate outside the affected area.
- **SET notices for portions of the Catalina Foothills, Golder Ranch and Oro Valley remain in place.**

Sign up to receive emergency alerts at myalerts.pima.gov. Visit pima.gov/bighorn for the most up-to-date information on evacuation notices, an interactive map, and county resources. Residents may contact the Pima County Sheriff's Department at 520-351-FIRE (3473) with evacuation questions.

Closures: The Coronado National Forest closure order includes Sabino and Bear Canyons. Catalina State Park is closed. Large portions of the Coronado National Forest, Santa Catalina Ranger District near the fire are restricted. View the closure orders and maps at inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/closures/6741/. **Catalina Highway is closed to the public at milepost zero. Only residents and business owners may pass. Oracle Control Road is closed.**

Fire Information Phone Line: (520) 276-8981 and (520) 329-7439, 8AM-8PM

Media Phone Line: (520) 329-7640, 8AM-8PM

InciWeb: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6741/

Facebook: facebook.com/bighornfireinfo

Smoke Outlook:

wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks/EasternArizona

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