



# Smoke Outlook

## South-Central New Mexico - South Fork and Salt Fires

# 6/22 - 6/23

Issued by [Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program](#) on June 22, 2024 at 06:55 AM MDT

### Fire

The South Fork Fire is 16,614 acres and 26% contained; The Salt Fire is 7,652 acres and 7% contained. Further information on each fire is available at [inciweb.nwcg.gov](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov).

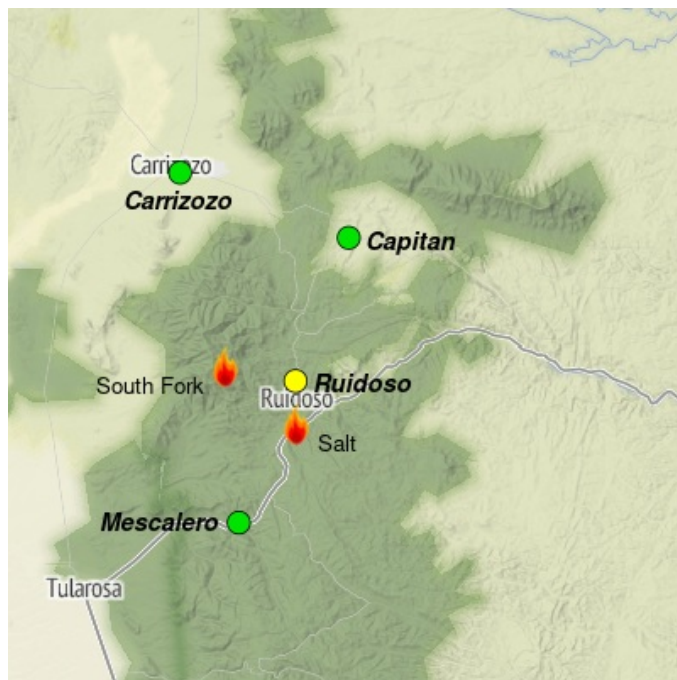
### Smoke

A slow increase in the amount of sunshine each day may result in a slow increase in smoke production. For this weekend continue to expect the worst smoke impacts to be confined to locations adjacent to the fires, including Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs, and far north Mescalero with MODERATE air quality and perhaps some brief worse conditions. Smoke may impact all areas of Mescalero and even to near Carrizozo Saturday evening, especially if showers or a storm develop near/east of the fires.

As winds turn slightly more southerly there is potential for MODERATE air quality and smoke impacts for Capitan for Sunday evening and overnight. Smoke may also flow further east along Highway 70 towards Hondo with at least MODERATE air quality conditions late Sunday. This pattern may continue early next week with smoke impacts from northern Mescalero and Ruidoso northward to Capitan and eastward towards Hondo.

### Showers/Storm Potential

The weather forecast continues to include at least a chance of showers and a storm this weekend and early next week. Any showers or storms could create gusty and erratic winds which could push smoke in any direction. Be alert to any changing weather conditions and remember **if you smell smoke, you are breathing smoke.**



Daily AQI Forecast\* for Saturday

Station	Yesterday			Fri 6/21	Comment for Today -- Sat, Jun 22	Forecast*	
	hourly					Sat 6/22	Sun 6/23
	6a	noon	6p				
Carrizozo	No hourly data				GOOD air quality overall but periods of light smoke may continue.	●	●
Capitan	No hourly data				GOOD air quality overall but some light smoke and MODERATE conditions possible.	●	●
Ruidoso				●	MODERATE air quality overall is expected to continue.	●	●
Mescalero	No hourly data				GOOD air quality overall but some brief MODERATE conditions possible.	●	●

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Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself
● Good	None
● Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.
● USG	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>reduce</b> prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
● Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>avoid all</b> physical outdoor activity.
● Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
● Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity.

**\*Disclaimer:** This forecast is based on fine particulates only; ozone is not included. Forecasts may be wrong; use at own risk. Use caution as conditions can change quickly. See your health professional as needed. Smoke sensitive groups should take appropriate precautions.

### Additional Links

[InciWeb South Fork & Salt Fire Information](https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/nmmea-south-fork-and-salt) -- <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/nmmea-south-fork-and-salt>

[NM Fire Information](https://nmfireinfo.com/) -- <https://nmfireinfo.com/>

[NM Environmental Public Health Tracking](https://nmtracking.doh.nm.gov/environment/air/FireAndSmoke.html) -- <https://nmtracking.doh.nm.gov/environment/air/FireAndSmoke.html>

[Smoke Ready Information and Resources](https://www.wildlandfiresmoke.net/smoke-ready-social-media) -- <https://www.wildlandfiresmoke.net/smoke-ready-social-media>



Issued by Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program -- [www.wildlandfiresmoke.net](http://www.wildlandfiresmoke.net)

South-Central New Mexico Updates -- <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/430b2c05>

\*Smoke and Health Info -- [www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health](http://www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health)