



# Smoke Outlook

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

### 6/23 - 6/24

Issued by Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program on June 23, 2024 at 06:42 AM MDT

#### Fire

The South Fork Fire is 17,551 acres and 31% contained; The Salt Fire is 7,775 acres and 7% contained. Further information on each fire is available at [inciweb.nwcg.gov](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov).

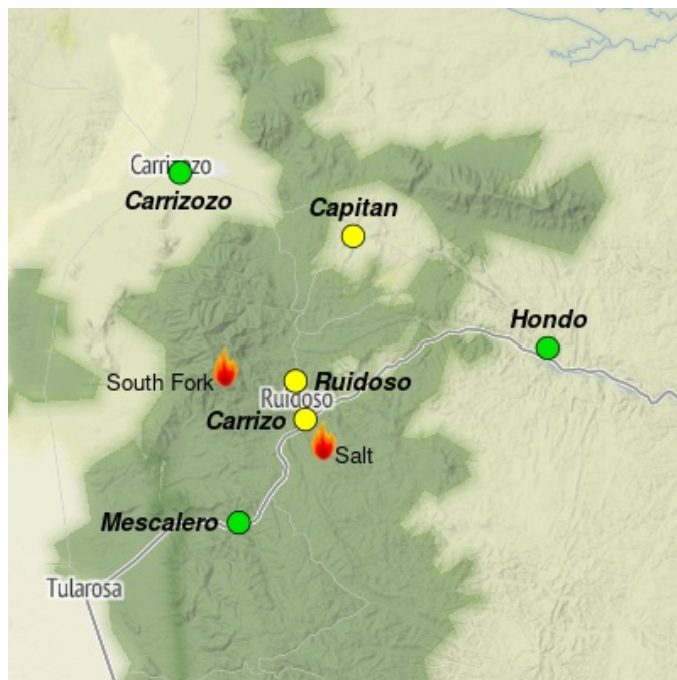
#### Smoke

Despite recent rainfall we continue to see smoldering and smoke production from both fires. Expect this to continue and perhaps increase in some areas that do not receive rain. Locations adjacent to the fires, such as Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs, and Carrizo (north Mescalero) will see the worst air quality with MODERATE to perhaps brief UNHEALTHY conditions. The highest smoke impacts will typically be during the morning hours.

Carrizozo and Mescalero should continue to see primarily GOOD air quality early this week, but some brief light smoke and MODERATE air quality is possible. As winds become more south and southwesterly look for smoke during the evening and nighttime to be transported towards Capitan. This smoke may drain eastward along Highways 70 and 380 from Ruidoso and Capitan eventually impacting areas out to Hondo with at least MODERATE air quality possible.

#### Showers/Storm Potential

The weather forecast continues to include at least a chance of showers and a storm each day. 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 Sunday

Station	Yesterday	Sat	Comment for Today -- Sun, Jun 23	Forecast*	
	hourly	6/22		Sun	Mon
	6a noon 6p			6/23	6/24
Carrizozo	No hourly data		GOOD air quality overall but periods of light smoke may continue.	Green	Green
Capitan		Yellow	GOOD to MODERATE air quality expected with occasional light smoke.	Yellow	Yellow
Hondo	No hourly data		GOOD air quality overall but some smoke and MODERATE air quality possible.	Green	Green
Ruidoso		Yellow	MODERATE air quality expected to continue with brief GOOD conditions.	Yellow	Yellow
Carrizo		Orange	Periods of smoke with MODERATE to UNHEALTHY AQI, especially during the morning.	Yellow	Orange
Mescalero	No hourly data		GOOD air quality overall but some brief MODERATE conditions possible.	Green	Green

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Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself
Green Good	None
Yellow Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.
Orange USG	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>reduce</b> prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
Red Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>avoid all</b> physical outdoor activity.
Purple Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
Brown 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/smoke-ready-social-media) -- <https://www.wildlandfiresmoke.net/smoke-ready/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)