



# News Release

**USDA Forest Service**  
**Cibola National Forest and Grasslands**  
**Mountainair Ranger District**  
PO Box 69 ■ Mountainair, NM 87036

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Rooster Fire Detected on the Mountainair Ranger District**

Approximately 17 Fire personnel from the Mountainair Ranger District as well as the Mt. Taylor Hot Shots and Apache Kid fire crew are working on suppression of the Rooster Fire which was detected Tuesday afternoon. The Rooster fire is approximately 5-6 acres in size and is burning in mixed conifer. It is located in an extremely rugged area just west of the Manzano Crest Trail near Gallo Peak. The cause of this fire is undetermined at this time but we do know there was a lightning storm that passed through this area on Friday, September 28.

Weather challenges are expected this afternoon on the West side of the Manzano Mountains as a front moves through the area. The winds are predicted to gust to up to 40mph with low relative humidities. Wind conditions should improve after today with a cold front expected to raise humidities through the weekend. A helicopter has been brought in to aid firefighters in shuttling gear, food and water to this very remote and rugged part of the mountain.

The Wester (A1) Prescribed Burn that was planned for today has been postponed. A decision will be made later today as to if and when the burn will occur. Members of the Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) Veterans Green Corps who are currently on the Mountainair Ranger District to assist with the Wester Burn will remain in place and could assist in the fire suppression efforts of the Rooster Fire if necessary. They are currently working on reinforcing fire lines on prescribed burn areas planned for later in the fall and winter.

For further information about the Rooster Fire or the Wester (A1) Prescribed Burn, please contact the Mountainair Ranger district at 505-847-2990 or email [atperea@fs.fed.us](mailto:atperea@fs.fed.us).

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