

1 **CITY OF SANTA, NEW MEXICO**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2011-39**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4
5 Mayor Coss
6 Councilor Bushee
7 Councilor Wurzbarger
8
9

10 **AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION**

11 **DIRECTING STAFF TO SUBMIT A SPONSOR LETTER TO THE NATURAL**
12 **RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF**
13 **AGRICULTURE, TO REQUEST EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION**
14 **PROGRAM FUNDS TO PROTECT, PRESERVE AND RESTORE ANY DAMAGE OR**
15 **POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO THE BUCKMAN DIRECT DIVERSION PROJECT AS A**
16 **RESULT OF THE LAS CONCHAS FIRE.**

17
18 **WHEREAS**, the Las Conchas Fire began on June 26, 2011, approximately 12 miles
19 southwest of Los Alamos and as of June 28, 2011 has burned 60,741 acres and is 0% contained;
20 and

21 **WHEREAS**, the Las Conchas Fire is being fueled by mixed conifer and Ponderosa Pine
22 and the fuel moisture is extremely low; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the Las Conchas Fire Update, as of June 28, 2011, is attached hereto as
24 Exhibit "A"; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the Las Conchas Fire is an immediate potential threat to the Buckman

1 Direct Diversion Project (“BDD”) because the fire could have direct impact on watersheds with
2 tributaries that feed the Rio Grande above the BDD; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the Las Conchas Fire could also be a long term threat to the BDD because
4 after the Fire the lands will no longer have sufficient vegetative cover to hold back torrential
5 monsoon rains which may cause flooding, degradation and soot and debris to impair the
6 watersheds that feed the Rio Grande above the BDD; and

7 **WHEREAS**, if the watersheds with tributaries that feed the Rio Grande are affected by
8 the Las Conchas Fire, there would be a direct impact on the incoming water quality to the BDD,
9 including without limitation, impact on treatment requirements and sampling requirements; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (“NRCS”), a division of the
11 Department of Agriculture, has established the Emergency Watershed Protection (“EWP”)
12 program; and

13 **WHEREAS**, EWP is designed to resolve imminent hazards to life and property caused
14 by fires and other natural disasters and is a funding mechanism for the City to tap into to protect
15 its land and private land and to protect the citizens of the City from the aftermath of the Las
16 Conchas Fire; and

17 **WHEREAS**, EWP funds may be used to remove debris from stream channels, stabilize
18 road culverts and bridges, reshape and protect eroded banks, correct damaged drainage facilities,
19 stabilize levees and structures, revegetate damaged areas, and purchase floodplain easements on
20 lands subject to frequent flooding; and

21 **WHEREAS**, NRCS can typically pay up to 75 percent of construction costs of eligible
22 emergency treatments and the remaining 25 percent must come from local sources and can be in
23 the form of cash or in-kind services; and

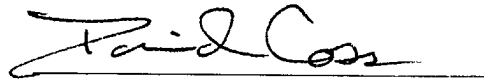
24 **WHEREAS**, in order to request EWP funds, the City of Santa Fe must submit a sponsor
25 letter to the NRCS which will be forwarded to Congress in the order it is received; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Congress will make a determination, as to whether the City of Santa Fe
2 would be approved for funding, depending on the availability of such funding.

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
4 **CITY OF SANTA FE** staff is directed to draft a sponsor letter signed by the Mayor, along with
5 this resolution, to the NRCS to request EWP funding in the event there is direct impact or a long
6 term threat to the BDD resulting from the Las Conchas Fire. Staff is further directed to work
7 with the New Mexico Office of the NRCS and the State Conservationist's staff in the application
8 for EWP funds and the implementation of the EWP program.

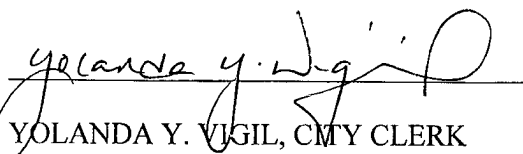
9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff is directed to forward a copy of the sponsor
10 letter and this resolution to New Mexico's Congressional Delegation.

11 **PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 29th day of June, 2011.**

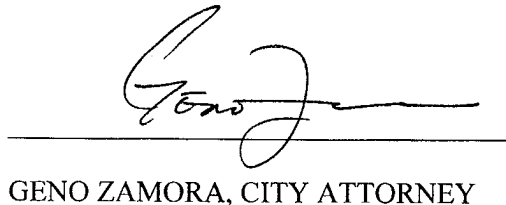
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14 DAVID COSS, MAYOR

15 ATTEST:

16
17 
18 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

19 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

20 
21
22 GENO ZAMORA, CITY ATTORNEY

InciWeb - Incident Information System

EXHIBIT A

Las Conchas

ANNOUNCEMENT

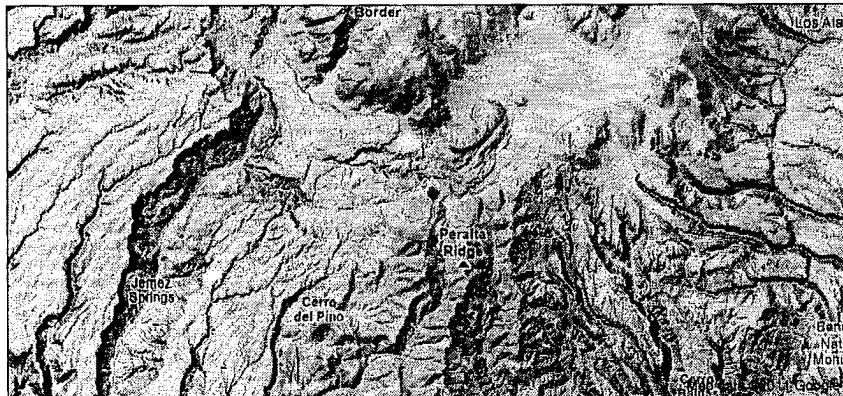
PUBLIC MEETING TONIGHT

A public meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. tonight (6/28/11) in the Ben Lujan Gym, Pojoaque Valley High School, 1574 State Road 502. more

INCIDENT UPDATED 11 MIN. AGO

Approximate Location

35.812 latitude, -106.544 longitude reset view



Incident Overview

Las Conchas Fire Update

For Immediate Release: June 28, 2011, 11:30 am

Fire Information: 505-428-7735 or 505-216-2685 (Daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.)

Website Info: <http://www.inciweb.org/> or <http://www.nmfireinfo.com/>

Twitter: www.twitter.com/T1SWIMT

Date Started: 1 p.m., 6/26/2011

Number of Personnel: Approximately 315. Resources include two hotshot crews and nine hand crews. An Area Command Team and an additional Type I Incident Management Team have been assigned to the fire.

Location: Approximately 12 miles southwest of Los Alamos off NM 4 at mile marker 35

Fuels: Mixed Conifer, Ponderosa Pine. Fuel moisture is extremely low.

Cause: Unknown - under investigation

Equipment: Five dozers and 13 engines

Size: 60,741 acres based on infrared data

Aircraft: Seven helicopters

Percent Contained: 0%

• Media should call (505) 428-7739 to coordinate interviews.

• For information regarding evacuations or information regarding the Los Alamos National Laboratory, please call 505-820-1226.

• A public meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m., Wednesday, June 29, at the Madonna Parish Hall in Jemez Springs, off Hwy 4 between mile marker 15 and 16. Los Alamos National Laboratory will participate in a joint news conference with Los Alamos County public safety officials at noon MDT today, June 28, at the news media staging area located at 20th and Trinity Drive. Los Alamos National Laboratory will participate in a joint news conference with Los Alamos County public safety officials at noon MDT today, June 28, at the news media staging area located at 20th and Trinity Drive. Los Alamos National Laboratory will participate in a joint news conference with Los Alamos County public safety officials at noon MDT today, June 28, at the news media staging area located at 20th and Trinity Drive.

Fire Update:

East - Crews are working to protect structures near Bandelier, as well as working to contain the fire along the Frijole Canyon.

West - Crews are building direct lines to prevent fire movement to the west.

Northeast - Crews are working to contain the fire using burnout methods to prevent the fire from spreading north of Pajarito Road and east of Highway 501.

South - North of Cochiti fire progression is being slowed by lighter fuel types. Firefighters are evaluating methods to stop the fire from spreading south.

Current Evacuations:

City of Los Alamos - The acting Los Alamos County Administrator issued an evacuation order for the city of Los Alamos. The Cities of Gold hotel in Pojoaque is offering shelter services for evacuating residents of Los Alamos. Los Alamos evacuees are advised against sheltering in White Rock, although White Rock is not at risk. White Rock is currently under a voluntary evacuation. The Cities of Gold hotel in Pojoaque offers shelter services for evacuating residents of the Los Alamos townsites. Cities of Gold also accepts pets. Many residents remain in White Rock following voluntary

evacuations which began Sunday. Los Alamos townsite evacuees are advised against sheltering in White Rock, although White Rock is not at risk. The Cities of Gold hotel in Pojoaque offers shelter services for evacuating residents of the Los Alamos townsite. Cities of Gold also accepts pets. Many residents remain in White Rock following voluntary evacuations which began Sunday. Los Alamos townsite evacuees are advised against sheltering in White Rock, although White Rock is not at risk. The Cities of Gold hotel in Pojoaque offers shelter services for evacuating residents of the Los Alamos townsite. Cities of Gold also accepts pets. Many residents remain in White Rock following voluntary evacuations which began Sunday. Los Alamos townsite evacuees are advised against sheltering in White Rock, although White Rock is not at risk.



Pre-Evacuation Alert

If you live near the fire or near the Forest, you should always be ready for emergencies including evacuations, the three-step process is easy to remember and implement:

- **Ready** - Take personal responsibility and prepare before the threat of a wildland fire so your home is ready in case of a fire. Create defensible space by clearing brush away from your home. Use fire-resistant landscaping and harden your home with fire-safe construction measures. Assemble emergency supplies and belongings in a safe spot. Plan escapes routes. Make sure all those residing within the home know the plan of action.
- **Set - Act** immediately. Pack your vehicle with your emergency items. Remember your six P's: people, personal computers, pets, pills, papers and pictures. Stay aware of the latest news and information on the fire from local media and your local fire department.
- **Go** - Leave early! Follow your personal action plan. Doing so will not only support your safety, but will allow firefighters to best maneuver resources to combat the fire.

Closures

NM 4 is closed at Jemez Falls Campground and at NM 501. NM 502 westbound into Los Alamos is now closed to all motorists. Access is controlled and limited to official traffic until further notification. NM 502 westbound into Los Alamos is now closed to all motorists. Access is controlled and limited to official traffic until further notification. NM 502 westbound into Los Alamos is now closed to all motorists. Access is controlled and limited to official traffic until further notification.

Bandelier National Monument: The Bandelier National Monument will be closed indefinitely.

Los Alamos National Labs: The Los Alamos National Laboratory will be closed due to the fire. All laboratory facilities will be closed for all activities, and nonessential employees are directed to remain off site. Employees that are considered nonessential should not report to work unless specifically directed by their line managers. Employees should check local news sources, the LANL Update Hotline (505) 667-6622 and the LANL web page www.lanl.gov for updates. All radioactive and hazardous material is appropriately accounted for and protected. LANL staff is coordinating the on-site response and supporting the county and federal fire response.

Safety Message

The wildfire and burnout operations will continue to produce heavy smoke. Residents with respiratory problems in the path of smoke may want to consider relocating temporarily until smoke dissipates. Motorists should exercise caution due to reduced visibility.

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Basic Information

Incident Type	Wildfire
Cause	Unknown, Under Investigation
Date of Origin	Sunday June 26th, 2011 approx. 01:00 PM
Location	Approximately 12 miles southwest of Los Alamos off NM 4 at mile marker 35
Incident Commander	Joe S. Reinarz

Current Situation

Total Personnel	315
Size	60,741 acres
Fuels Involved	Mixed Conifer, Ponderosa Pine. Fuel moisture is extremely low.



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