



## **Governor Bill Richardson Orders Full State Response to Wildfire in Bosque**

For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Pahl Shipley  
505.476.2202

SANTA FE- Governor Bill Richardson today ordered all available state resources to attack a fast-moving wildfire in the bosque south of Belen. The state was the lead agency on the fire, which was burning on a mix of state and private land, and appeared to have incinerated two residences.

“I will continue to insist that all available resources be brought to bear immediately on every wildfire in New Mexico,” said Governor Richardson. “We are in extreme drought conditions and all fires must be attacked, full-force, immediately.”

The state directed five aircraft to drop water and fire retardant on the blaze- two SEAT aircraft (Single Engine Air Tankers), two Type-1 (heavy) helicopters, and one Type-3 (small) helicopter. At last count, 40 personnel were assigned to the fire, along with several tanker trucks and other support resources. The fast response appeared to have significantly reduced the size of the fire by early evening.

The Governor also directed state emergency management officials to immediately apply for a Fire Management Assistance Grant from FEMA, which would provide a 75%-25% federal/local match for the cost of fighting the fire.

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