

SOUTHWEST AREA INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM #1



Bea Day - Incident Commander

Firefighters Hold All Lines – Growth Limited to Interier Island Burning Out Highline Fire - June 20, 2017 Morning Update

Acres: 6,768 acres (based on infrared data)	Start Date: June 10, 2017
Cause: Unknown, under investigation	Origin: 8 mi N of Payson in 1990 Dude Fire Scar
Containment: 76%	Fuels: Grass, brush, heavy and down fuels, ponderosa pine
Total personnel: 1,181	and mixed conifer

Last night the fire was in patrol status and crews held containment lines in check. Crews continue to extinguish any remaining heat near containment lines to reduce the risk of spotting. The infrared flight indicated isolated spots of heat well within containment lines. The increase in acres burned is due to unburned islands of vegetation within the fire's perimeter burning out in Bear Canyon at the fire's north end.

Today firefighters will focus on patrolling for hotspots near containment lines and mopping up remaining heat. Crews will be monitoring thunderstorm activity today for potential strong erratic winds that could develop over the fire. Firefighting resources assigned to the fire are also prepared to respond any new fire starts that may occur due to lightning.

Repair of suppression impacts including dozer and handlines, equipment staging areas and safety zones continues. Repairs include construction of water bars to channel water off lines during monsoon rain events. In areas where brush was cleared crews are now using chippers to remove slash piles along control lines. The Highline and General Cook Scenic Trails will be repaired where they were used as a control line and impacted by suppression actions. Mitigation may include flush cutting stumps close to the ground, felling of hazard trees, and use of cut trees to prevent unauthorized Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use in the future.

Thunderstorms are expected to develop this afternoon in the vicinity of the fire area. Winds are expected to be upslope during the day and out of the south. Winds may become erratic due to thunderstorm development. Extreme heat is expected to continue today.

No additional community meetings are planned at this time. Updates will continue to be posted to the social media sites listed below and Information Officers will be out in the communities posting updated information at key locations.

All evacuations and pre-evacuations have been lifted. Some roads near the fire are only open to residents and businesses due to heavy fire equipment traffic and fire crews working in the area.

The Coconino and Tonto National Forests Closure Orders and Fire Restrictions remain in effect.

Firefighters are working to protect values at risk where they can do so safely and effectively. Values include watersheds, private property and adjoining communities, pipelines, range improvements, powerlines, air quality, prehistoric and historic resources, federally protected species, and nationally and regionally significant trail systems.

Wildfires are a No Drone Zone. If you fly, we can't. More info: Know Before You Fly, http://knowbeforeyoufly.org

Fire Information: (928) 985-0097 and (928) 362-2916 (8:00 am to 8:00 pm) Media Line: 928-793-1955 InciWeb: <u>https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5233/</u> Arizona Emergency Information: <u>http://azein.gov</u> Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/HighlineFireInfo/</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/highlinefire</u>