



**U.S. Forest Service**  
**Kaibab National Forest**  
800 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
Williams, AZ 86046  
Voice: (928) 635-8200  
Email: [mailroom\\_r3\\_kaibab@fs.fed.us](mailto:mailroom_r3_kaibab@fs.fed.us)  
Web: [www.fs.usda.gov/kaibab](http://www.fs.usda.gov/kaibab)

# News Release

**Media Contact: Bob Blasi**  
**(928) 635-5653**  
[bobblasi@fs.fed.us](mailto:bobblasi@fs.fed.us)



## **Williams Ranger District nears completion of Green Base Prescribed Fire project**

**Williams, Ariz., Oct 26, 2017—For Immediate Release.** Unseasonably warm and dry weather conditions in northern Arizona have presented a unique opportunity for Fire Managers on the Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest to successfully treat just under 9000 acres of densely forested area with prescribed fire over the month of October.

The Green Base Prescribed Fire project which is 9836 acres in size is nearly complete and officials expect to finish the final two blocks totaling 769 acres in one more day of ignitions.

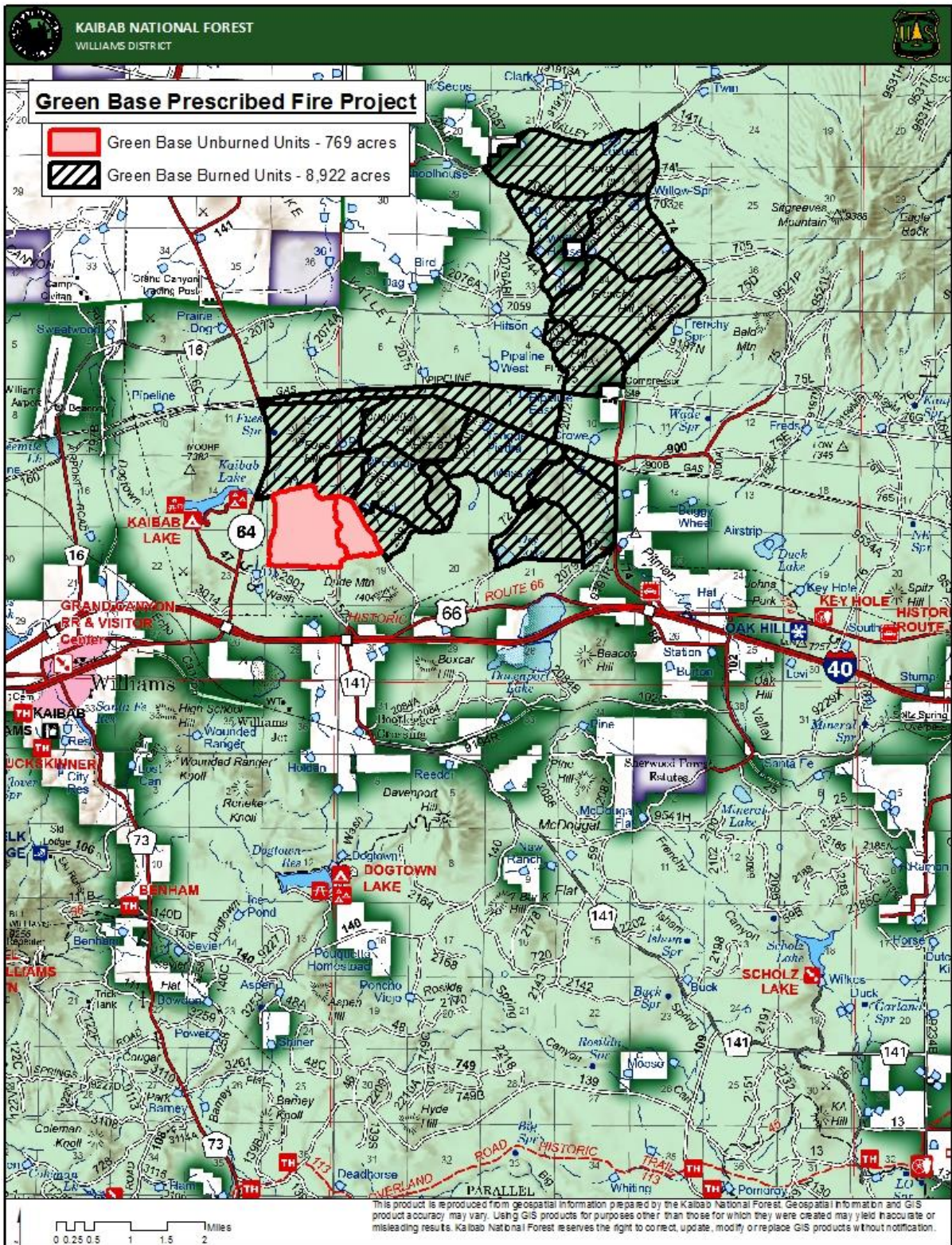
The Kaibab National Forest is actively working to restore the historic fire regime of frequent, low-to-moderate intensity fires on the local landscape. Prescribed fires are conducted to consume accumulated build ups of forest litter and debris that can pose an imminent threat to adjacent communities. There are a number of additional benefits which include protection of wildlife habitat, historic heritage sites, large old growth timber stands, watersheds and infrastructure that fall within the urban interface where human development meets the forest.

“We fully recognize that smoke impacts can be unpleasant for residents in the vicinity of these burns” said Jeremy Human South Zone Fire Management Officer. “Managing smoke is often our biggest challenge during these type of operations and we are constantly adjusting our methods to decrease exposure. Burn days are specifically chosen by forecasted wind patterns that maximize ventilation away from residential areas. Attempting to manage smoke during an uncontrolled wildfire event can be impossible at times. Overall we feel we achieved that goal significantly reducing the number of days people actually experienced smoke along travel corridors and in their neighborhoods.”

Forest Officials want to thank residents for their continued support of this critical work being done. Public Safety and health remain a top priority and public concerns are always taken very seriously.

All prescribed burning on the Kaibab National Forest is subject to approval by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

For additional information on the Smoke Management Division of the ADEQ and to view prescribed burns authorizations, please visit [www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/smoke/index.html](http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/smoke/index.html). Additional fire information for Kaibab National Forest can be obtained through the following sources: InciWeb [inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5160/](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5160/) Kaibab National Forest Fire Information Phone Line (928) 635-8311; Text Message – text ‘follow kaibabnf’ to 40404.



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