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News Release

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Kaibab National Forest plans pile burn on Kaibab Plateau

Fredonia, Ariz., April 26, 2016 — For Immediate Release. North Zone fire managers plan to burn piles in the vicinity of Jacob Lake and the Arizona Department of Transportation Jacob Lake Maintenance Yard starting as early as tomorrow.

Comprised mostly of ponderosa pine, these hand piles are a result of fuel reduction efforts within both the Jacob-Ryan Vegetation Management Project area and the Plateau Facilities Fire Protection Project area, an ongoing fuels reduction project at multiple sites on the Kaibab Plateau.

“The goal of this operation is to continue improving defensible space along the east side of Highway 89A and near structures in the vicinity of Jacob Lake and the ADOT yard”, said North Zone Fuels Specialist Dave Robinson.

Having cured now for approximately two years, these hand-piled fuels scattered throughout this 200-acre area are ready for treatment, according to Robinson. “The prescribed treatment of this woody debris will help improve tree-canopy spacing that if left untreated could increase crown fire potential.”

Tomorrow’s weather forecast predicts 10 to 15 mph winds from the southwest. Fire managers anticipate winds to help reduce smoke impacts to Highway 89A and visitors in the vicinity of Jacob Lake. However, smoke will likely be visible as it disperses north-northeast.

No road or trail closures are expected. However, visitors should use caution when traveling along the east side of Highway 89A and be aware of emergency vehicles in the area.

Prescribed burning activities will continue as air quality standards, weather and resources permit, and crews will monitor the area after burning is complete.

Notifications of upcoming prescribed burns are provided regularly throughout the season. The public can find this information online or through a recorded hotline. Contact your local Kaibab National Forest office for additional information.

Fire Information Recorded Hotline: 928-635-8311

Twitter: www.twitter.com/KaibabNF (Text ‘follow kaibabnf’ to 40404 to receive text messages.)

Kaibab website “News & Events”: www.fs.usda.gov/kaibab

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