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News Release

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Burnout Operations Continue on Cat Fire, More Monsoonal Precipitation Forecasted

Fredonia, Ariz., Sept. 27, 2018 — For Immediate Release. If conditions are favorable to do so, firefighters will continue to conduct burnout operations on the Cat Fire today that has burned approximately 4,497 acres in the rugged terrain of Saddle Mountain Wilderness in the North Kaibab Ranger District, Kaibab National Forest.

Incident Commander Kody Stoner said that crews were successful with their burnout on the fire's west flank adjacent to Forest Road 2599 yesterday and plan to continue to burnout that western flank and work south toward Forest Road 610 today.

Cat Fire Overview:

Date reported: August 6, 2018

Size: 4,497 acres

Location: The Cat Fire is about 25 miles southeast of Jacob Lake in the Saddle Mountain Wilderness on the North Kaibab Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest.

Fuel: Mixed conifer, ponderosa pine and pinyon-juniper/mountain mahogany.

Cause: Lightning

Personnel: 13

Weather: Northwest flow aloft will bring dry and warmer air to Northern Arizona through Friday. High temperatures will be 5 to 10 degrees above normal. Expect poor overnight humidity recovery. Saturday through Monday, expect dry conditions, slightly cooler high temperatures, and breezy southwest winds through Sunday afternoon. Subtropical moisture from what is left of Hurricane Rosa is expected to increase over Arizona starting Sunday night. Shower and thunderstorm coverage to increase on Monday, with the potential for several inches of rain across large portions of northern Arizona.

Area, road and trail closure: The Restricted Area includes the boundary roads and trails described as beginning at the junction of Forest Road (FR) 610 and the Arizona Trail #101, then north to the junction with the Arizona Trail #101 and North Canyon Trail #4, then proceeding east on the North Canyon Trail #4 to FR 631 continuing to FR 8910 Junction. Then south on the FR8910 to South Canyon #6/Nankoweap Trail #57, then going west on the South Canyon #6/Nankoweap Trail #57 to FR610 continuing west on FR610 to the Junction of FR 610 and the Arizona Trail #101.

Trails. All trails described above and depicted on the map attached as Exhibit A and within the Restricted Area, and the Point Imperial Trail (NPS Trail) from the National Forest boundary to FR 610; along the North Canyon Trail #4; along the South Canyon Trail #6; and along the Nankoweap Trail #57.

Roads. All Forest Roads described above and depicted on the map attached as Exhibit A, which are identified as the area perimeter; the area within the perimeter boundary is closed.

Smoke: Smoke impacts have been minimal thus far, but motorists are asked to always use caution when driving near or around all fires. For more information on local air quality resources, please visit <https://www.airnow.gov/>.

For additional information the following sources are available:

InciWeb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6109/>

Website: www.fs.usda.gov/kaibab

Twitter: twitter.com/kaibabnf

Facebook: www.facebook.com/KaibabNF/

Kaibab National Forest Fire Information Phone Line (928) 635-8311.

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