

U.S. Forest Service Coconino National Forest 1824 S. Thompson Street Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

## News Release

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## Coconino NF to lift fire restrictions, area closures Wednesday

**FLAGSTAFF**, **Ariz.**, **July 9**, **2018**, **For Immediate Release** – Coconino National Forest will lift all fire restrictions and area closures this Wednesday (7/11) at 8 a.m. due to the recent increase in moisture and humidity, as well as the decreasing fire danger across the entire forest and a forecast of more rain over the next 10 days.

The National Weather Service predicts increased moisture for the region over the next seven to 10 days, with 1-2 inches of rain accumulation predicted during this period. This will continue to significantly reduce the fire danger over the next couple of days, allowing for the complete rescission of restrictions and closures on Wednesday.

Campgrounds across the forest will be open, but some require reservations through <a href="www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a> and may temporarily have limited water and other services, so check the status of your particular campground before heading out by contacting the district office of where the campground is located. District office contact information can be found online at <a href="www.CoconinoNationalForest.us">www.CoconinoNationalForest.us</a>.

In addition to temporary limitations at campgrounds, access and reservations to Fossil Creek may also be limited for a short time while operations return to normal. The public can purchase a daily permit through <a href="https://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a> (search "Fossil Creek Wild and Scenic River") or by calling (877) 444-6777. Permits will be available through September 30. During monsoon season the road into Fossil Creek may be closed due to wet weather; if this happens permit holders will be issued a refund. The status of Fossil Creek can be checked by calling the Fossil Creek Hotline at (928) 226-4611, where updates will be provided as received.

Coconino National Forest entered Stage 1 Fire Restrictions on April 27 and moved to Stage 2 on May 4, eventually implementing area closures on May 23 for specific high risk areas.



