

Arizona Central West Zone Type 3 Incident Management Team



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Cat Fire is Growing Slowly

Fredonia, Ariz., Aug. 15, 2018 — For Immediate Release. The Cat Fire continues to spread slowly to the southeast, creeping along the forest floor and occasionally flaming up in areas where there are dense pockets of unburned fuel.

“The fire is creating a mosaic of burned and unburned patches within the wilderness,” said North Kaibab District Ranger Randall Walker. “It’s doing what fire has naturally done here, enhancing the wilderness character and creating a diverse landscape.”

Resources:

Total of 102 personnel including two hotshot crews, nine engines, and two water tenders

Overview:

Date Reported: August 6, 2018 **Size:** 3,635 acres

Strategy: Full suppression

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.

Weather: Forecasters anticipate a continuation of scattered thundershowers in the area

Situational update: Moisture on the fire has slowed the fire progress and preparations along Forest Roads (FR) 610 and 219 are nearing completion. Crews are continuing to monitor the fire activity and have begun to chip the woody debris, or slash, generated from the road preparation work.

Closures: Fire management resources have closed all roads within the planning area boundary, which includes FR 213 and 220 on the north, FR 610 on the east and south, and House Rock Valley Road 8910 on the east.

The following trails are closed: Arizona Trail from FR 213 to FR 610, North Canyon Trail, South Canyon Trail, Saddle Mountain Trail, and Pt. Imperial and Nankoweap Trails, which are both located on Kaibab National Forest and Grand Canyon National Park land. The closure will remain in effect until it is considered safe to enter the area. Roads 213, 219, 220 south of 213, 610 (Marble Viewpoint, South Canyon), 611 (East Rim), and 8910 south of 220 are closed.

Smoke: Smoke is visible on both the North and South Rims of the park, and there is a regional haze present in surrounding communities from multiple wildfires in the West. Individuals sensitive to smoke can learn how to help protect their health by visiting the Coconino County Public Health Services District website at <http://bit.ly/SmokeHealthAwareness>.

For fire information on the Kaibab National Forest, visit www.fs.usda.gov/kaibab and Inciweb under the name of the fire at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov> or visit us on Facebook and Twitter @KaibabNF or call (928) 635-8311 for recorded fire information.

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