

FIRE News Release

Kaibab National Forest Grand Canyon National Park



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Managed Fires Near Tusayan Remain Active; Other Fires Slow Substantially

WILLIAMS, Ariz. – The two fires being managed to achieve resource objectives near Tusayan, Ariz., remain active while the other managed fires on the Kaibab National Forest and the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park have slowed substantially or petered out due to rain. Much of northern Arizona has received substantial precipitation over the last few days, putting a damper on the naturally-ignited fires that were being managed to improve forest health and reduce the likelihood of future high-severity fires. However, heavy rain skirted both the McRae and Hammer fires on the Tusayan Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest, allowing them to continue burning actively and spreading within predetermined boundaries.

Tusayan Ranger District: The McRae Fire grew by 786 acres yesterday, bringing its total size to 4,997 acres. Crews were able to complete managed ignitions along Forest Road 305AB, securing the southeastern portion of the fire’s perimeter. Today, fire managers plan to move to the north end of the planning area and begin managed ignitions on the east side of State Highway 64 moving south. Given predicted winds, no smoke impacts are expected to Tusayan or the highway. The Hammer Fire grew by 163 acres yesterday while fire managers monitored its natural spread. Now at 225 acres, continued growth is expected today as crews conduct some managed ignitions around sensitive historic sites. If conditions are appropriate, fire managers may also burn slash piles that are located along Forest Road 310 within the predetermined boundary established for the Hammer Fire.

Williams Ranger District: The Sitgreaves Complex has received significant rainfall over the last two days and has not grown in size. It remains at 4,150 acres. Fire managers do not anticipate much if any growth, fire activity or smoke production on the Sitgreaves Complex over the next several days. Crews will continue monitoring the fire.

North Kaibab Ranger District: The Quaking Fire has reached a final size of 442 acres. The fire received rain several times over the past week and has petered out. Fire managers do not anticipate any future growth or activity on the Quaking Fire, so this will be the final update on the fire’s status. “Our resources have worked hard and have managed this fire very well,” said Ed Hiatt, fire management officer for the North Zone of Kaibab National Forest and Grand Canyon National Park. “We have been able to treat several hundred acres, but the fire has now lost energy and is dying out.”

North Rim Grand Canyon: The Kanabownits Fire, which remains at 303 acres, has also received rain and has not shown any growth or activity for several days. Until there is increased activity, this will be the final update on the fire’s status.

For fire information, visit inciweb.nwcg.gov or follow [@KaibabNF](https://twitter.com/KaibabNF) and [@GrandCanyonNPS](https://twitter.com/GrandCanyonNPS) on Twitter. For recorded fire information, call (928) 635-8311 (Kaibab National Forest) or (928) 638-7819 (Grand Canyon National Park).