



SOUTHWEST AREA INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM #1

Bea Day - Incident Commander

Firefighters Will Continue to Build on Yesterday's Good Progress Tinder Fire – May 1, 2018 Morning Update

Acres: estimated 11,420 acres (based on infrared data) **Containment:** 0%
Start Date: April 27, 2018 **Cause:** Unknown, under investigation
Origin Location: 1.5 mi NE of Blue Ridge Reservoir **Jurisdiction:** Coconino National Forest
Fuels: Timber (grass and understory)
Resources: 559 personnel including 15 crews, 6 helicopters, 40 engines, 3 dozers, 10 watertenders and overhead

Increased cloud cover yesterday shaded fuels and helped limit fire spread. No additional fire growth occurred within local subdivisions or on the north end, where there's a transition to pinyon/juniper vegetation. The east flank was the most active because of continuous heavy fuels.

Yesterday firefighters continued to provide structure protection and began mop up in the communities to help ensure all heat in the area is extinguished. Crews also conducted burnout operations to help limit the fire's spread to the south. Four heavy helicopters dropped water throughout the day to support firefighters on the ground.

An approaching storm system will result in strong and gusty winds into this evening. Fire behavior will be reduced because of cloud cover and higher humidity. The chance of precipitation begins to increase over the next few days.

Today firefighters will focus on structure protection in the north and northwest, strengthening lines on the west flank, securing lines on the east flank, and continuing to patrol and mop-up the south end.

Cooperators are finalizing damage assessments and Coconino County will begin notifying residents who lost structures. Yesterday APS assessed damage and is mobilizing resources for restoration where safe to do so. APS power customers affected by the fire are invited to call their dedicated line at 602-371-3696.

The Coconino County Call Center has added an additional number for Blue Ridge evacuated residents. Contact 928-213-2990 or 928-679-8393. Evacuated residents are encouraged to call and provide the County with your contact info. This is the best way for them to directly communicate with evacuated residents on any assessment or reentry information when the time comes. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/CoconinoCounty> for details.

The Coconino County Sheriff's Office evacuation for all Blue Ridge Tinder Fire affected communities north, east and west of Hwy 87 remains in effect. The evacuation will remain in effect until firefighters are able to contain the west and north flanks of the fire and are confident there is no longer a threat to communities. Safety is our main priority.

Highway 87 closures are in effect in the fire area. Visit <https://twitter.com/ArizonaDOT> or call 511 for current status.

Firefighters will continue efforts to fully suppress the fire where they can do so safely and effectively. Objectives include ensuring emergency responder and public safety, protecting structures, facilities and infrastructure in local communities including Starlight Pines 1 & 2, Tamarron Pines Phase 1-5, Blue Ridge Estates Units 1 & 2, Mogollon Range Unit 1 & 2, Clear Creek Pines 8 & 9, Moqui Ranchettes and Ponderosa Pines, and Camp Colley, protecting sensitive natural and cultural resources, and minimizing prolonged smoke impacts.

Details on the time and location for the next community meeting will be announced as soon as they are available. Smoke impacts in Winslow and Holbrook will continue. Air quality updates will be posted to websites listed below.

Tinder Fire Information: (928) 792-1666 (public) (605) 351-7914 (media) or tinderfireinfo@gmail.com
Coconino County Evacuation/Structure/Re-entry Info: (928) 213-2990 or (928)-679-8393
InciWeb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5763/> (includes links to County Emergency Alert sign-up, etc.)
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TinderFireInfo/> **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/TinderFireInfo>