



U.S. Forest Service
Kaibab National Forest
800 S. 6th St.
Williams, AZ 86046
Voice: (928) 635-8200
Email: mailroom_r3_kaibab@fs.fed.us
Web: www.fs.usda.gov/kaibab

News Release

Media Contact: David Hercher
(928) 643-8110
davidjhercher@fs.fed.us



Cat Fire Update: Critical Fire Weather Conditions Forecast this Afternoon

Fredonia, Ariz., Sept. 29, 2018 — For Immediate Release. A smoke column was visible yesterday as increased fire activity simultaneously pushed growth south to Forest Road 610 and west to Forest Road 219. Firefighters successfully established the dozer line off FR D2441, which was done to help reinforce movement of the fire's western flank.

"We expect strong winds this afternoon," said Cat Fire Incident Commander Kody Stoner. "Today, the plan is to monitor the drainage to the west of the main fire and initiate firing operations as necessary in order to reduce the effects of high severity fire behavior that could occur today."

Cat Fire Overview:

Date reported: August 6, 2018

Size: 4,620 acres

Cause: Lightning

Personnel: 13

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.

Weather: Expect dry and warm conditions again today with breezy southwest winds developing in the afternoon. Northwestern Coconino County may see brief critical fire weather conditions this afternoon. Moisture from Rosa will begin to move northward into the state on Sunday with shower and thunderstorm chances increasing through the day. Monday through Wednesday, a southerly flow ahead of the trough of low pressure along the West Coast will draw deep moisture into the region from Rosa. This will lead to widespread wetting rains, thunderstorms, and possible strong winds.

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.

###

