



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

# News Release



Public Information: (928) 527-3600  
[www.CoconinoNationalForest.us](http://www.CoconinoNationalForest.us)

**MEDIA CONTACTS**  
Brady Smith – Public Affairs Officer  
George Jozens – Dep. Public Affairs Officer  
Media Only: (928) 224-8306

## Update on forest's lightning fires

**FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., July 26, 2018, For Immediate Release** – Fire managers with the Coconino National Forest are making use of four lightning-caused fires to benefit the landscape and maintain a healthy ecosystem by allowing these fires to fulfill their natural role and consume forest debris.

Information and details about the Chimney, Bristow, Seep, and Deer fires, including their objectives, will be updated on Inciweb under the name of the fire at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/>. Quick updates will also be provided via the Forest's social media sites, to include Twitter at [www.twitter.com/coconinonf](http://www.twitter.com/coconinonf) (@CoconinoNF) and Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CoconinoNF](http://www.facebook.com/CoconinoNF) (@CoconinoNF).

These fires, as with any wildfire, do not have planned end dates, but firefighters determine a specific planning area within which the fire may run its natural course. However, this does not mean the fire will move across the entire planning area, as specific edges of a fire may be suppressed to protect certain values such as public safety, private property, cultural sites, major transmission power lines, trailheads, dispersed camping sites, and more. Additionally, monsoon weather and precipitation may extinguish any of these wildfires at any time, which would bring the fire to a conclusion.

### 1. BRISTOW FIRE OVERVIEW (<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6010/>)

**Discovery date:** July 20, 2018.

**Cause:** Lightning.

**Location:** Approximately 6 miles southeast of Munds Park and east of Interstate 17. (Lat/Long: [34.863611, -111.598500](https://www.google.com/maps/place/34.863611,-111.598500))

**Current size:** 631 acres. If weather and precipitation do not extinguish the fire, it is expected to grow to about 4,500 acres before it is fully suppressed.

**Current resources:** A total of 88 personnel including: three 20-person crews, a 12-person module, three engines, a dozer and miscellaneous overhead.

**Predicted smoke impacts:** Fire ignitions Wednesday created heavy to moderate smoke along I-17 in Munds Park in the evening, and smoke drained into Sedona and the Verde Valley in the early morning hours. Natural fire growth and burnout operations will likely increase smoke over the next



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Mogollon Rim Ranger Station: (928) 477-2255  
Red Rock Ranger Station: (928) 282-4119



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several days. Smoke impacts may continue near Lake Mary, Munds Park, Mormon Lake, Verde Valley, Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek.

**Current closures:** None.

**Recent and current operations:** Crews will continue to construct hand and dozer lines Thursday utilizing forest roads to help protect natural resource values and improvements. Periodic burnout operations are planned throughout the weekend.

## 2. CHIMNEY FIRE OVERVIEW (<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6009/>)

**Discovery date:** July 9, 2018.

**Cause:** Lightning.

**Location:** Approximately 3 miles northwest of Munds Park, along Forest Roads 253B and 253F. (Latitude/Longitude: [34.958306, -111.707194](#))

**Current size:** 210 acres.

**Current resources:** The fire is in monitor status and being patrolled several times each day.

**Predicted smoke impacts:** Light smoke will continue to be visible in the area. No additional ignitions are anticipated.

**Current closures:** None.

**Recent and current operations:** Fire crews completed burnout operations in the fire area.

## 3. SEEP FIRE OVERVIEW (<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6011/>)

**Discovery date:** July 17, 2018

**Cause:** Lightning.

**Location:** Approximately 3 miles north of Kendrick Park, east of state Route 180 along Forest Roads 523 and 9001E. (Lat/Long: [35.463500, -111.752889](#))



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**Current size:** 30 acres. If weather and precipitation do not extinguish the fire, it is expected to grow to about 5,000 acres before it is fully suppressed.

**Current resources:** One engine of five firefighters.

**Predicted smoke impacts:** Light to moderate smoke is expected along state Route 180 over the next several days.

**Current closures:** None.

**Recent and current operations:** One engine crew is assigned to the fire to protect natural resource values and monitor fire activity.

#### 4. DEER FIRE OVERVIEW (<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6012/>)

**Discovery date:** July 13, 2018.

**Cause:** Lightning.

**Location:** Approximately 8 miles southwest of C.C. Cragin Reservoir and 3 miles northeast of Kehl Springs Campground. (Lat/Long: [34.471194, -111.290111](#))

**Current size:** 600 acres. This wildfire is expected to grow to about 1,800 acres before it is fully suppressed.

**Resources:** One Type 2 hand crew, a fuels crew, three engines and several overhead, totaling 45 personnel.

**Predicted smoke impacts:** Smoke impacts from this wildfire may include C.C. Cragin Reservoir, Blue Ridge communities and the Blue Ridge Ranger Station throughout the weekend. Overnight drainage of the smoke may impact the Strawberry and Pine areas.

**Current closures:** None. However, there may be temporary traffic control along Forest Road 300 to allow firefighters to safely work.

**Recent and current operations:** Burnout operations are planned through the weekend. If the weather allows, this will complete all ignitions.

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**Coconino National Forest  
Managed Wildfires  
July 24, 2018**

