



U.S. Forest Service  
Coconino National Forest  
1824 S. Thompson Street  
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# News Release



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

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## Tinder fire update: Firefighting ops transition to Type 3 team

**HAPPY JACK, Ariz., May 7, 2018, For Immediate Release** – The Southwest Incident

Management Team #1 overseeing firefighting operations for the Tinder Fire has demobilized, and a local Type III team has assumed command of operations and will continue patrols, mop-up, and suppression where needed.

Firefighting objectives include ensuring emergency responder and public safety, protecting structures, facilities, and infrastructure in local communities, protecting sensitive natural and cultural resources, and minimizing prolonged smoke impacts.

The potential for increased wildfire activity still exists throughout the Tinder Fire area, as windy and dry conditions will increase and existing pockets of fuel such as logs and stumps continue to burn within the fire perimeter.

Tomorrow, a Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team will begin their assessment of the burn area, which is normal protocol and consists of resource specialists from diverse disciplines who assess fire damage and suppression effects. The specialists will evaluate mitigation measures with the goal of protecting life, property, water quality, and deteriorated ecosystems from further damage after the fire is out. For more information about the Forest Service BAER program, please visit <https://bit.ly/2rs80xr>.

### **Tinder Fire Summary**

**Date/Time Reported:** April 27, 2018 at 11:43 a.m. by Moqui Tower lookout.

**Origin Location:** Origin and Cause Investigators determined that the fire originated in the East Clear Creek drainage approximately 1 mile downstream from Forest Road 95. Forest Road 95 runs north-south and is located approximately 1.5 miles east of C.C. Cragin Reservoir: [34°33'26.8"N 111°09'41.4"W](#)

**Current Size:** 16,309 acres.

**Topography & Fuels:** Steep rocky canyons and cliffs, burning in grass and understory.

**Cause:** Abandoned Illegal Campfire.

**Containment:** 79%.

**Current Resources:** 125 personnel including three crews, one helicopter, six engines, three dozers and other support personnel.

**Resources En Route:** None; Additional resources will be ordered if necessary.

**Structures Lost:** 33 primary residences, 54 minor structures.

**Structures Threatened:** None.

**Evacuations:** None.

**Injuries:** None.

**Closures & Restrictions:** A large area around the wildfire is currently under a **Closure Order**, which prohibits anyone from entering the area other than authorized personnel such as first responders and firefighting personnel. For details regarding this Closure Order, please see for the Coconino National Forest Orders website at <https://bit.ly/2KKx380>. Portions of the Arizona Trail in the closure area are closed until further notice. However, a safe and scenic detour has been established, so please contact the Mogollon Rim Ranger Station at (928) 477-2255 for details. Additionally, **Stage II Fire Restrictions** are in effect across the entire Coconino National Forest, which prohibit a list of activities. Details of these prohibitions can be found online at <https://bit.ly/2rqSQJF>.

**Smoke Impacts:** Internal smoldering will continue to produce residual smoke. South/southwest winds will produce smoke impacts to Blue Ridge communities. In the evening hours smoke will likely drain into canyon areas, possibly impacting areas such as Strawberry, Payson and the Verde Valley.

**Investigation Contacts:** If anyone was in the area of Forest Road 95 or East Clear Creek near the origin of the Tinder Fire on April 26 or 27 and has information that could help this investigation, please contact Coconino National Forest Law Enforcement at (928) 527-3511.

**Tinder Fire Information Resources:**

- Coconino County Recovery: (928) 213-2990 or (928) 679-8393, [www.coconino.az.gov/tinderfirerecovery](http://www.coconino.az.gov/tinderfirerecovery)
- Tinder Fire Information (InciWeb): <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5763/>
- Tinder Fire Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TinderFireInfo/>
- Tinder Fire Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TinderFireInfo>



Flagstaff Ranger Station: (928) 526-0866  
Mogollon Rim Ranger Station: (928) 477-2255  
Red Rock Ranger Station: (928) 282-4119



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