



Wildland Fire in a Fire Adapted Ecosystem

The National Park Service has evolved from suppressing fire to managing fire

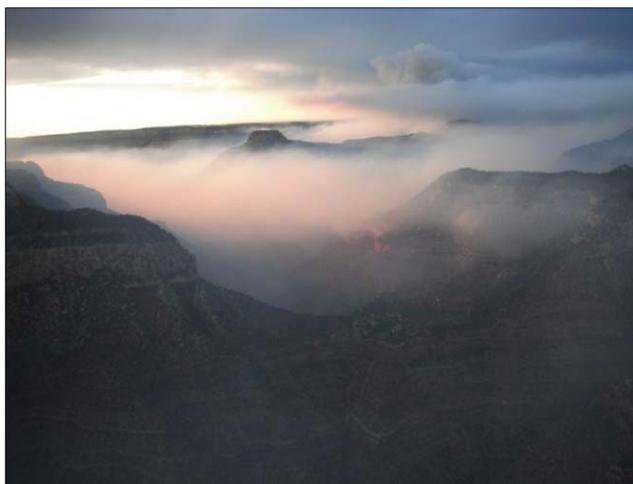
Firefighters are currently managing one or more lightning-ignited wildland fires burning in the park. Fires are always suppressed where they threaten life, property or sensitive natural and cultural resources. In other areas fires may be managed to burn as naturally as possible. Fire activity may vary in intensity depending on weather, fuels, and topography. Hot spots within the fire's perimeter will continue to smolder until extinguished naturally by repeated rain or snow.



A historic cabin is wrapped with a fire-resistant aluminum material that reflects heat to help protect it from fire.



All fires are different. Fire managers evaluate each one and determine the safest, most effective, and cost efficient strategies to manage it for protection and/or resource objectives. Firefighter and public safety is always the top priority.



Visibility may be reduced during increased fire activity. Smoke may settle into the canyon when air temperatures cool at night and in the early morning hours. Smoke usually lifts during the day as temperatures increase.



Wildland fire plays an important role in returning fire to a fire-adapted ecosystem, reducing hazardous accumulations of forest fuels, improving wildlife habitat, and recycling forest nutrients in order to maintain forest health.