

NEWS RELEASE

Kaibab National Forest

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Managed Fires Continue Steady Progression

FREDONIA, Ariz. – The two managed wildfires actively burning on the North Kaibab Ranger District have grown slowly and steadily this week, despite light precipitation over the last two days.

The Dee Fire has reached the limits of its 217-acre defined management area and the Pipeline Fire has covered close to two-thirds of its 1501-acre management area.

Both fires continue to be managed for resource benefits, such as reducing the accumulation of ground fuels, which can lead to larger, more destructive fires, and allowing for the ecological benefits of fire, which promote general forest health.

The Pipeline Fire has grown to about 990 acres and is now well established below Forest Road 272C. Firefighters have begun burnout operations along Forest Road 447 and continue to monitor smoke impacts along that road for public safety.

The public is advised to use caution when travelling near Forest Road 447 and to be on the lookout for fire and smoke.

Located about one mile south/southwest of the Big Springs Field Station, the Pipeline Fire has been managed for resource benefits since it was discovered July 22 by the Big Springs Lookout. Bordered on three sides by areas that have experienced fire in recent years, the Pipeline Fire has moved steadily through ponderosa pine forests.

The Dee Fire reached the defined perimeter of its management area on Thursday, August 13. Anticipating the fire's arrival, firefighters had actively burned along the perimeter of the management area on previous days and now they're securing and monitoring those control lines.

The Dee Fire, located about two miles southwest of Mile-and-a-half Lake, covers an area of largely dead and down aspen. The management area is located north of Forest Road 429, west of Forest Road 462 and south of Forest Road 212. The fire was first spotted by aerial surveillance on July 28 and has been managed for resource benefits since then.

Around 80 firefighters and other personnel remain on the North Kaibab district to manage fire behavior and monitor control lines.

For additional information, please contact Patrick Lair, Public Affairs Specialist (928-643-8172).

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