



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



Locust Fire being managed on Kaibab National Forest

Fredonia, Ariz., June 17, 2015 — For Immediate Release. North Zone fire managers met yesterday to discuss strategies for managing a second fire in the North Kaibab Ranger District, and the possible impacts this managed fire could potentially have on forest visitors. This lightning-caused fire is located in the vicinity of Locust Point near the Rainbow Rim Trail. The Rainbow Rim will not be closed during this managed fire, and fire managers are aware of the anticipated increase in visitor use during this weekend's scheduled bike festival.

Fire Name/Date Started: Locust Fire; discovered by fire personnel on June 15 at approximately noon during an aerial reconnaissance flight.

Location: North Kaibab Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest; the Locust Fire is located approximately 39 miles south-southeast of Fredonia, Arizona northeast of Locust Point near the Rainbow Rim Trail. The planning area is bound by Forest Service Road (FSR) 214 on the north, FSR 206 on the east, FSR 293 on the south and FSR 250 on the west.

Cause: Lightning

Forest Types: Spruce-fir, ponderosa pine, mixed conifer and aspen

Fuel Types: Pine litter, down woody debris and grass

Smoke: Smoke may be visible from FSR 22, FSR 206 and Arizona Highway 67, Highway 89A and the scenic vista viewpoints on the Rainbow Rim.

Closures: Currently no road or trail closures are in effect or anticipated; however, hazard signs are posted, and motorists should exercise caution.

Size: Approximately 2 acres. Fire managers plan to manage the Locust Fire within predetermined boundaries, and if the fire grows to the maximum boundary area would be limited to 3,282 acres in size.

Resources Committed: Forest and district fire managers are monitoring the Locust Fire daily.

Resource Benefits: Restoration of a fire-adapted ecosystem; reduction of accumulated fuels on the forest floor; recycling of nutrients into the soil; protection of the greater area from future high-intensity wildland fires.

###