



News Release

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Burnt Complex update: July 27, 2015

Fredonia, Ariz., July 27, 2015 – Due to more than an inch-plus of recent monsoonal precipitation received on the Burnt Complex, fire spread had significantly slowed and North Zone fire managers started downsizing operations on July 18. Since then, last week’s drying trend started to increase fire behavior and fire managers have responded accordingly, increasing the operational tempo.

The Burnt Complex on the North Kaibab Ranger District is now at 1,823 acres with approximately 16 personnel on the incident. Today firefighters continued burning on the east end of Burnt Corral Ridge within the planning area, assessing the need for additional burn-out operations, and monitoring fire behavior and weather.

“Burn-out operations enable fire managers to manage risk by fortifying established perimeter boundaries and therefore reduce the overall complexity of the main fire,” said North Zone Fire Management Officer Ed Hiatt.

Management strategy continues to be to allow fire to play its natural role and improve the overall health of this portion of the forest. Management of naturally-caused fire enables forest and fire managers to manipulate the low-intensity fire to reduce excess fuels on the forest floor to lessen the future risk of more high-intensity wildfires, recycle nutrients back into the soil, and enhance wildlife habitat.

Fire Name/Date Started: Burnt Complex; the Burnt Fire was discovered on July 5, and the Corral Fire on July 9.

Cause: Lightning

Planning Area Boundary: The established 3,915 planning area is bound by Forest Service Road (FSR) 228 on the north, FSR 274 on the south and west, and FSR 22 on the east.

Fuel Types: Pine, down woody debris, duff and litter (material on the forest floor consisting of decomposing needles and other natural materials).

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

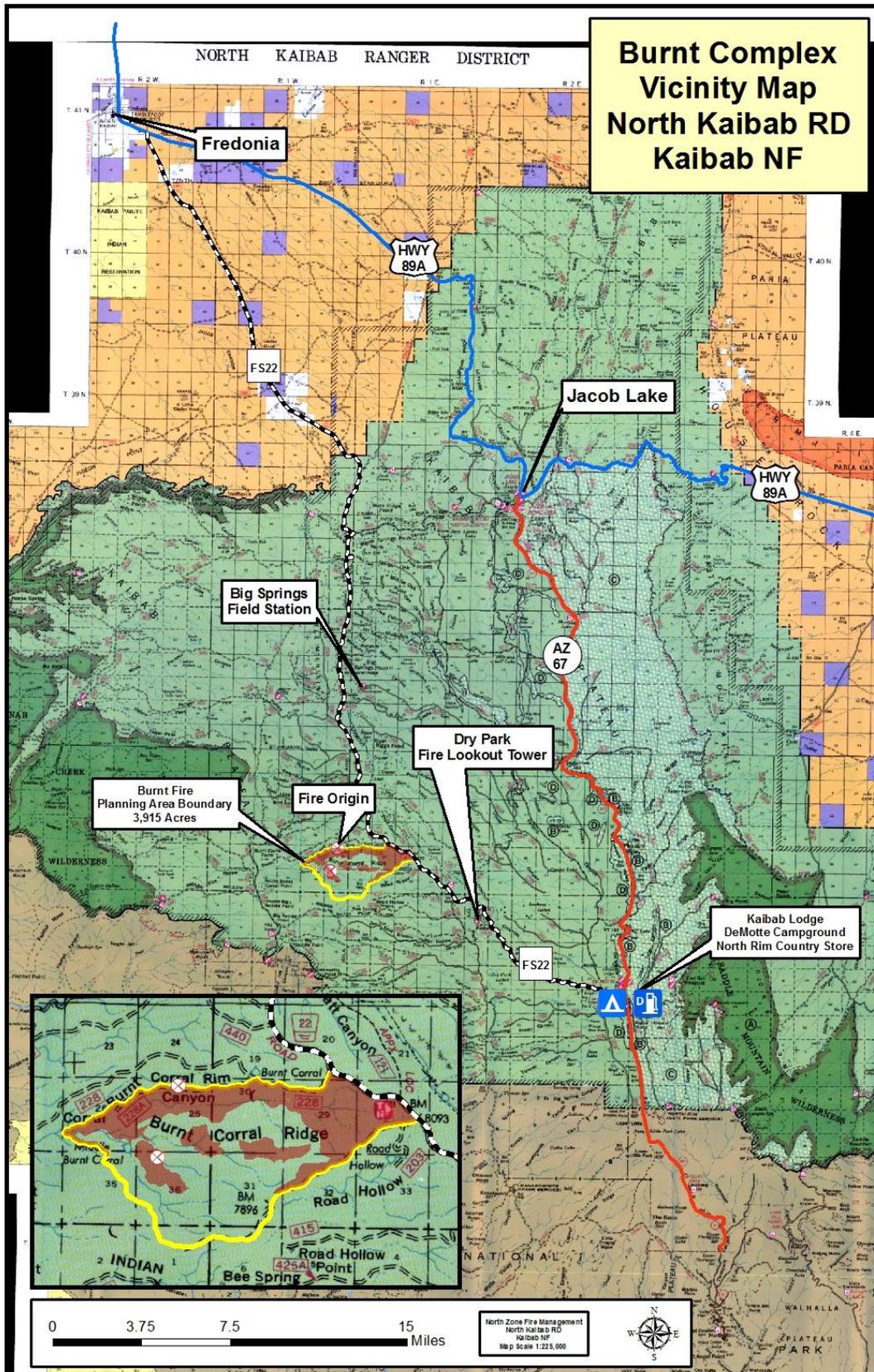
Get fire activity updates and maps 24 hours-a-day:

Fire Information Line: 928-635-8311

InciWeb: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4381/

Text Message: text ‘follow kaibabnf’ to 40404

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Less than 30 days after fire managers wrapped up management operations on the lightning-caused Locust Fire, new vegetation starts to respond post wildfire. Pictured above is new Aspen growth in the burn area. Credit the USFS, Southwestern Region, Kaibab National Forest. Photo by Ed Hiatt.