



SOUTHWEST AREA
INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM 4
Jeff Andrews, Incident Commander

Juniper Fire Information, 928-462-4071 (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.)
Email: JuniperFireAZ@gmail.com
Website: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4745/>



Juniper Fire Update

June 11, 2016

Location: 10 miles south of Young AZ, Tonto National Forest
Size: Approximately 30,567
Percent Contained: 30%
Cause: Lightning
Resources Assigned: 477 personnel (9 crews, 3 Helicopters, 21 Engines, and 11 Water Tenders)

There was little fire activity on the Juniper Fire yesterday primarily due to lower temperatures and increased humidity throughout the fire area. Crews continued to work the perimeter of the fire, particularly in the southwestern portion where the fire slowly burned toward containment lines. Last night the fire area received approximately one-half inch of precipitation with up to one inch in some areas. This will result in lower than average daytime temperatures and higher humidities today. These conditions will further lower the fire activity. For the week ahead, the extended outlook shows warming and drying conditions.

The Juniper Fire has been an excellent opportunity to reintroduce fire into this area. The fire has predominately been low to moderate intensity, mimicking historical fire events. When this area opens to public access, visitors shouldn't be surprised to see areas with blackened vegetation and ash. During heavy rain events in the area some ash movement into streams and drainages can also be anticipated. However, the Juniper Fire has put the area on the trajectory toward a healthier, more fire resilient ecosystem.

Though fire activity has diminished, much work has yet to be done. Hotspots on the interior of this fire will continue to smolder and flare up for weeks to come as crews monitor activity. In some areas, crews are already rehabilitating containment lines and reducing the visual signs of suppression activities, enabling these areas to recover more quickly.

Highway 288, which has been closed south of the community of Young, reopened this morning at 8:00 a.m.. Visitors should be aware that heavy traffic from incident vehicles and fire personnel may be encountered along this portion of Highway 288. Drivers may experience mud and/or debris on the road and are encouraged to drive cautiously when in areas with fire suppression activities.

Forest Road 203 and the fire area remain closed and visitors are reminded that the Tonto National Forest is currently under fire restrictions. Details about closures along with other information about the Forest can be found at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/tonto/news-events?cid=FSEPRD504864>.

###