



Southwest Area Type II Incident Management Team KP Incident

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Tuesday May 25, 2004
10:00 p.m.

Firefighters completed about four miles of hand line on the south flank of the KP Fire today, which grew just over 1,100 acres to 10,511. Operations Section Chief Jim Copeland said "it was a very good day." Copeland said he was impressed with the work done by the crews on the ground.

Predicted Red Flag winds did not materialize over the KP Fire area today. Fire behavior was much less active due to overcast skies and cooler temperatures. Meteorologists assigned to the team say there is a chance the fire could be affected by isolated thunderstorms Wednesday afternoon. KP fire is 20 percent contained. Total number of personnel on the incident is 553.

Helicopter crews cooled some fire activity in the Raspberry Peak area today using bucket drops of water. Raspberry Peak is north of Raspberry Creek which is habitat for Gila Trout, a threatened and endangered species. Arizona Game and Fish officials have already evacuated some of the fish from that creek as a precautionary measure.

Campfire and smoking restrictions will take effect on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest beginning Wednesday, May 26. Campfires will be allowed only in developed and designated campgrounds except during "Red Flag" conditions when no campfires at all are allowed. Gas-powered stoves are authorized even outside developed campgrounds. Smoking will be allowed only inside buildings or vehicles (ash trays must be used) or inside developed campgrounds. The use of chainsaws and black-powder firearms will also be prohibited.

NOTE: U.S. Highway 191 will remain closed until further notice, to provide for firefighter and public safety. Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest administrators have closed Hannagan Meadow campground. Hannagan Meadow Lodge remains open to people who have prior arrangements to visit.

KP Incident Information Center
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