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News Release

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Bert Fire Update:

Williams, Ariz., June 17, 2016—For Immediate Release. As warmer temperatures prevail over the next several days, fire activity is expected to increase on the Bert Fire on the Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest.

BERT FIRE OVERVIEW

Start Date: May 28, 2016.

Cause: Lightning.

Location: Ten miles southeast of Valle on highway 180 near Ebert Mountain.

Current Size: Approximately 3500 acres.

Incident Commander: Tyler Knight ICT4 / Zach Boness ICT4T

Resources: Crew 71-11 person Fuels crew, 1-Type 6 engine, and 1- resource advisor. Total personnel assigned is 20.

Smoke: Managers anticipate an increase in smoke volume that will be noticeable from Highways 180 and 64 and from the community of Valle over the next week. Amounts may vary depending on weather and fire activity. Predominant southwest winds are expected to transport smoke away from residential areas however some smoke may periodically drift into Valle and Flagstaff overnight with light to moderate impacts.

Current Status: Active fire is steadily moving toward the southwest through the pinyon juniper woodlands consuming fuels and meeting the desired objectives. The fire has moved away from highway 180 and burning towards the Hobbles Mountain's southeast of Valle. Crews are on scene daily monitoring fire behavior and movement.

To view recent spherical panoramas and photos of the Bert Fire and the area in which it is burning, visit <http://bit.ly/BertFire2016>. Additional fire information for the Kaibab National Forest can be obtained through the following sources: InciWeb <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4751/>; Kaibab National Forest Fire Information Phone Line (928) 635-8311; Text Message – text 'follow kaibabnf' to 40404.

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