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# News Release

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## Bert Fire Update:

**Williams, Ariz., June 18, 2016—For Immediate Release.** The Bert Fire on the Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest is showing a substantial increase in activity and is expected to grow considerably while warmer weather continues over northern Arizona.

### 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 3852 acres.

**Incident Commander:** Tyler Knight ICT4 / Zach Boness ICT4T

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

**Current Status:** With the steady increase in temperatures and lower relative humidity over the area, fire officials are anticipating an increase in fire activity over the next few days. However, the current weather pattern is expected to be short term with a chance of moisture predicted to return by the middle of next week. Fire behavior and smoke impacts will likely diminish as cooler weather arrives.

**Smoke:** An increase in smoke production is expected and will be noticeable from interstate 40, Highways 180 and 64 and from several adjacent communities including Valle, Tusayan, Williams, Flagstaff, Parks, Spring Valley and Cameron. Smoke may impact these communities periodically depending on shifting wind direction and changing weather patterns. Predominant southwest winds are expected to transport smoke away from adjacent residential areas however some smoke may occasionally drift over the Coconino rim to the northeast.

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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