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News Release

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Bert Fire experiences largest day of growth

Williams, Ariz., June 21, 2016—For Immediate Release. As expected, the Bert Fire on the Williams Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest reached its largest day of growth yesterday with just over 700 acres of fire spread bringing the total burned area to 5445 acres.

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 5445 acres.

Incident Commander: Quentin Johnson ICT3 / Mike Uebel ICT3T

Resources: One 11-person fuels crew, one 20-person fuels crew, three type-3 engines, two water tenders one dozer, and one resource advisor. Total personnel assigned is 56.

Current Status: The Northern Arizona Type 3 incident management team assumed management on Tuesday morning after a predicted increase in fire activity. Crews were ready for the change in fire behavior as near record high temperatures combined with low relative humidity prompted the anticipated growth. Containment lines held while several land management objectives continued to be met with positive results including key improvements to grassland restoration.

Smoke: An increase in high lifting smoke was visible from far reaching areas surrounding the vicinity of the fire but overnight impacts remained minimal. Smoke may continue to be noticeable over the next several days until monsoonal precipitation eventually arrives.

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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