



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Fort Apache Agency
P.O. Box 560
Whiteriver, Arizona 85941



Bureau of Indian Affairs, Wildland Fire Management News Release
Contact: Candy Lupe, Fire Prevention Specialist, (928) 205-5662
Email: candy.lupe@bia.gov

Rattlesnake Fire Update April 14, 2018 4:00 PM

Location: Southeast of Whiteriver
Cause: Human caused/Under investigation
Vegetation: Ponderosa pine and grass understory
Resources Assigned: Approximately 199 personnel

Start date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018
Size: 2,644 acres
Percent contained: 0%

The Rattlesnake fire covers three jurisdictions; Fort Apache Indian Reservation, San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation and Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. Jeff Andrew's Type 2 Incident Management Team will assume command of the fire on Sunday, April 15, 2018 at 0600 PM.

Most of the fire growth yesterday was on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, Alpine District and San Carlos Apache Reservation. No fire growth has occurred on the Fort Apache Reservation side. Fire crews are conducting burnout operations ahead of the fire on the north side. Today was the first day the fire received air support. The south perimeter of the fire has entered into the Bear Wallow Wilderness.

A closure order is now in effect for parts of the Alpine Ranger District on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests due to the Rattlesnake Fire. This order has been put in place for the protection of public health and safety.

Several roads within the boundary of the Rattlesnake Fire will be closed: The Y79 road at the Y40 Junction and the 25F road at the Y40 junction. The public is asked to drive carefully and turn on their headlights if traveling on the Y40 road.

Modified Stage 2 Fire Restrictions are in effect on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. Campfires will NOT be allowed during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and debris burning will be prohibited until further notice.

Anyone having information regarding the Rattlesnake Fire contact WE-TIP at 1-800-47ARSON (1-800-472-7766).

InciWeb page (<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5740>)
BIA Fort Apache Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/BIAFAAFireMgt/>)