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## **Rattlesnake Fire Sunday Update 4:00 pm**

**Location:** Southeast of  
Whiteriver, AZ

**Cause:** Human Caused-  
under investigation

**Percent containment:** 3%

**Start date:** Wednesday, April  
11, 2018

**Size:** 2,644 acres

**Vegetation:** Ponderosa pine  
and grass understory

**Resources:** Approximately  
200 personnel

**Location:** The Rattlesnake Fire is burning southeast of Whiteriver, Arizona, and covers three jurisdictions; Fort Apache Indian Reservation, San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation and Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. Jeff Andrews Type 2 Incident Management Team will assume command of the fire at 6:00 pm, Sunday, April 15, 2018.

In the past 24 hours, the fire backed slowly down towards the Black River and Bear Wallow Creek. Other areas of the fire saw minimal growth. No new growth was observed on the Fort Apache Reservation. Today, fire crews are conducting burnout operations along Forest Road 25I towards Forest Road 25 just east of the Black River. Aerial water bucket drops will continue if needed to support firefighting efforts. Additional fire resources are expected over the next several days.

**Closures:** 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 on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation 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.

**Restrictions:** 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 how the Rattlesnake Fire started is asked to 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/>)