



U.S. Forest Service
Coconino National Forest
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News Release



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Final Tinder Fire update: Type III team winding down, winds moving ash

HAPPY JACK, Ariz., May 12, 2018, For Immediate Release – The Type III team managing the Tinder Fire will be winding down Saturday and releasing more resources as the incident will transition to a as a Type IV incident Sunday.

There is still some fire activity throughout the interior of the fire, but the smoke is starting to subside. The wind is blowing strong across the Mogollon Rim and is mixing cold ash from the fire with its dust creating a haze locally in the Blue Ridge Communities.

Southwest winds are moving what is left of the smoke, dust and ash to the northeast toward Winslow and if the wind subsides during evening hours the smoke may settle into the Blue Ridge Communities and lower level areas until temperatures from overnight warm up a bit.

The public will likely see residual smoke from this fire for several weeks, as tree stumps and other forest fuels continue to smolder until a significant amount of rainfall extinguishes them completely.

Coconino County has issued a “Set” stage for the southeastern-most division of Mogollon Ranch, and local residents are reminded to remain prepared for any “Ready, Set & Go” event which could be implemented by Coconino County in the case of an emergency evacuation.

This will be the last update for the Tinder Fire.

Tinder Fire Summary

Date/Time Reported: April 27, 2018 at 11:43 a.m. by Moqui Tower lookout.

Origin Location: Origin and Cause Investigators determined that the fire originated in the East Clear Creek drainage approximately 1 mile downstream from Forest Road 95. Forest Road 95 runs north-south and is located approximately 1.5 miles east of C.C. Cragin Reservoir: [34°33'26.8"N 111°09'41.4"W](#)

Current Size: 16,309 acres.

Topography & Fuels: Steep rocky canyons and cliffs, burning in grass and understory.

Cause: Abandoned Illegal Campfire.

Containment: 79 percent.

Current Resources: 70 personnel including two crews, one Type III helicopter, four engines, one dozers and other support personnel.

Resources En Route: None; Additional resources will be ordered if necessary.

Structures Lost: 33 primary residences, 54 minor structures.

Structures Threatened: None.

Evacuations: None.

Injuries: None.

Closures & Restrictions:

- A large area around the wildfire is currently under a **Closure Order**, which prohibits anyone from entering the area other than authorized personnel such as first responders and firefighting personnel. For details regarding this Closure Order, please see for the Coconino National Forest Orders website at <https://bit.ly/2KKx380>.
- **A Federal Aviation Administration temporary flight restriction** remains in place over the area which prohibits Drones and unmanned aircraft systems from entering the area.
- Additionally, **Stage II Fire Restrictions** are in effect across the entire Coconino National Forest, which prohibit a list of activities. Details of these prohibitions can be found online at <https://bit.ly/2rqSQJF>.

Smoke Impacts: Internal smoldering will continue to produce residual smoke. South/southwest winds will produce smoke impacts to Winslow and Blue Ridge communities during the day. In the evening hours smoke will likely impact Blue Ridge communities, drain into canyon areas, possibly impacting areas such as Strawberry, Payson and the Verde Valley.

Investigation Contacts: If anyone was in the area of Forest Road 95 or East Clear Creek near the origin of the Tinder Fire April 26 or 27 and has information that could help this investigation, please contact Coconino National Forest Law Enforcement at (928) 527-3511.

Tinder Fire Information Resources:

- **The U.S. Forest Service BAER program**, please visit <https://bit.ly/2rs80xr>.
- **Cococino National Forest, Mogollon Rim Ranger District**, (928) 477-2255
- **InciWeb:** <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5763/>.
- **Coconino County Recovery Info:** (928) 213-2990 or <https://www.coconino.az.gov/tinderfirerecovery>
- **Media members only:** (928) 224-8306.

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Flagstaff Ranger Station: (928) 526-0866
Mogollon Rim Ranger Station: (928) 477-2255
Red Rock Ranger Station: (928) 282-4119



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