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News Release

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Cat Fire Update: Fire Behavior Uneventful Yesterday

Fredonia, Ariz., Sept. 30, 2018 — For Immediate Release. The Cat Fire was not as active yesterday as firefighters previously anticipated, with most fire activity occurring at the southwest end of the main fire in a drainage that crosses a portion of the southeastern boundary between the Kaibab National Forest and the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park.

Today, firefighters will continue to monitor that drainage and initiate firing operations as necessary in order to keep any runs that may occur in alignment with the main fire. This tactic helps reduce the effects of any high severity fire behavior that could occur.

As unsettled weather is forecast for the next few days, fire behavior is anticipated to moderate. If widespread wetting rains occur on the fire, forest officials will re-evaluate the current Cat Fire closures. Once it is determined safe to do so, the closure area could be reduced, or the closure order rescinded at the discretion of the Kaibab National Forest Supervisor.

Cat Fire Overview:

Date reported: August 6, 2018

Size: 4,620 acres

Location: The Cat Fire is about 25 miles southeast of Jacob Lake in the Saddle Mountain Wilderness on the North Kaibab Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest.

Fuel: Mixed conifer, ponderosa pine and pinyon-juniper/mountain mahogany.

Cause: Lightning

Personnel: 13

Weather: Moisture from Rosa is forecast to move northward into the state today with shower and thunderstorm chances increasing through the day. Monday through Wednesday, a southerly flow ahead of the trough of low pressure along the West Coast is anticipated to draw deep moisture into the region from Rosa, which could lead to widespread wetting rains, thunderstorms, and possible strong winds.

Area, road and trail closure: The Restricted Area includes the boundary roads and trails described as beginning at the junction of Forest Road (FR) 610 and the Arizona Trail #101, then north to the junction with the Arizona Trail #101 and North Canyon Trail #4, then proceeding east on the North Canyon Trail #4 to FR 631 continuing to FR 8910 Junction. Then south on the FR8910 to South Canyon #6/

Nankoweap Trail #57, then going west on the South Canyon #6/Nankoweap Trail #57 to FR610 continuing west on FR610 to the Junction of FR 610 and the Arizona Trail #101.

Trails. All trails described above and depicted on the map attached as Exhibit A and within the Restricted Area, and the Point Imperial Trail (NPS Trail) from the National Forest boundary to FR 610; along the North Canyon Trail #4; along the South Canyon Trail #6; and along the Nankoweap Trail #57.

Roads. All Forest Roads described above and depicted on the map attached as Exhibit A, which are identified as the area perimeter; the area within the perimeter boundary is closed.

Smoke: Smoke impacts have been minimal thus far, but motorists are asked to always use caution when driving near or around all fires. For more information on local air quality resources, please visit <https://www.airnow.gov/>.

For additional information the following sources are available:

InciWeb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6109/>

Website: www.fs.usda.gov/kaibab

Twitter: twitter.com/kaibabnf

Facebook: www.facebook.com/KaibabNF/

Kaibab National Forest Fire Information Phone Line (928) 635-8311.

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