



Warm Fire Update

Date: June 26, 2006, 7 a.m.

Warm Fire Contact Phone Numbers: 928-643-6804, 928-640-6103, 928-640-6104

Management of the Warm Fire transitioned from the Rocky Mountain Area Wildland Fire Use Team to the Northern Arizona Type 2 Incident Management Team at 6 a.m. today.

Website: www.nazteam.com

Fire Name: Warm Fire

Time/Date Started: June 8, 2006

Location: North Kaibab Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest; The Warm Fire is about 2 miles south and east of Jacob Lake.

Cause: Lightning; The Warm Fire was being managed as a wildland fire use fire. All wildland fire use fires must be started by a natural ignition source (lightning). The fire is no longer being managed as a wildland fire use fire.

Fuels: Ponderosa pine, mixed conifer, pinyon/juniper woodlands

Size: 25,000+ acres; new estimates will be available after the fire is flown and mapped this morning

% Contained: 0%

Resources Committed: 4 Type 2 hand crews, 5 helicopters (1 heavy, 2 medium, 2 light), 28 engines, 4 dozers, 9 water tenders. Total personnel = 394. Additional firefighting resources have been ordered.

Estimated Cost to Date: \$2.8 million

Predicted Weather: Temperatures are expected to be in the mid-80s with relative humidity levels in the teens. Winds are expected to be from the northeast at 6 mph. Gusty winds could accompany thunderstorm activity in the area.

Structures: No structures have been lost.

Closures: **Highway 67 is closed until further notice.** The closure will be evaluated on a daily basis. Highway 89A from Kanab, Utah, to Bitter Springs, Ariz., is currently open. However, this could change due to increased fire activity or smoke on the road. Future closures may include the use of pilot cars.

To protect public health and safety, portions of the North Kaibab Ranger District in close proximity to the Warm Fire are closed. The closure area consists of: the area immediately east of the junction of Highway 89A and Forest Road (FR) 225; north and east of the junction of FR 225 and FR 224; north of FR 224 to its junction with FR 282; east along the southern boundary of Township 38 North to the forest boundary; west of the forest boundary to the junction of the northern boundary of Township 39 North, south of the northern boundary of Township 39 North to where it crosses FR 249; then east of FR 249 to FR 257; east along FR 257 to the junction with 89A. **This closure area will be expanded later today.**

Summary: Until yesterday evening, the Warm Fire had been managed as a wildland fire use fire. The forest initially set boundaries where this naturally-ignited fire use fire would be allowed to burn. Yesterday, the fire extended beyond established boundaries, so forest and fire managers decided to take full suppression action. The fire was extremely active all day yesterday and overnight. Last night, the fire made significant runs to the south and southwest, reaching Telephone Hill and crossing Highway 67. The fire is now burning within lower Moquitch Canyon west of Highway 67. The Warm Fire is still outside of the boundaries of Grand Canyon National Park. **Additional updates will be provided as conditions change throughout the day.**