



BAER Tracks - Wallow Fire

Monday, August 09, 2011

Hazard tree removal along main forest roads on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests is nearly complete. Crews have removed hazard trees from nearly approximately 275 miles of road. Work is being accomplished by local contractors using “feller-buncher” machinery and saw crews. In addition, contract crews are installing grade dips, repairing ditches, and cleaning debris from channels to help the roads drain better during flood events. These efforts will minimize roadside dangers, improving public safety when the roads are reopened.



Mulching and seeding of burned areas is intended to keep as much soil on the mountain as possible. The mulch, applied to the moderately and severely burned areas, acts as a sponge layer to help absorb water, and the roots of the new vegetation will help hold the soil in place. So far, mulch has been applied to approximately 26,000 acres, and seeding has treated over 80,000 acres within the Wallow Fire perimeter. Both treatments are applied aerially. This round of aerial mulching and seeding efforts include approximately 36,000 acres to be mulched and 81,000 acres to be seeded; some of these treatments overlap each other. Large trucks hauling straw from as far away as Nebraska have been supplying the crews in various staging areas located near Alpine, Nutrioso and Eagar.



Travelers should be aware of hazards such as mudflows, rockslides and falling trees are still occurring. Each forest user is responsible for his or her safety. Visitors are advised to *Look Up, Look Down, and Look All Around.*

View a public service announcement about entering burned areas of the forest here

<http://flic.kr/p/aacZ5v>



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