



BRINS FIRE UPDATE

*Great Basin Incident Management
Team 1
June 22, 2006
7:30 AM*

Current Status	<p>The fire has crossed Sterling Canyon and is expected to continue spreading in a northerly direction. This is an area of concern for firefighters. Today is a critical day in fire suppression efforts. Hot shot crews and helicopters will be working today to prevent further spread of the fire further north of Social Trail, which is in Sterling Canyon. Air tanker resources with fire retardant will be utilized today.</p> <p>There was little movement of the fire towards Highway 89A, however; numerous structures in Oak Creek Canyon continue to be threatened. Structural protection crews and engines are continuing work on defensible space measures around structures in the canyon.</p> <p>Residents and visitors in the Sedona area can expect to experience continued smoke in the area, especially during the evening and early morning hours due to downslope winds. These smoke inversions should lift around 9:00-to-10:00 this morning. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality is monitoring air quality on a daily basis. Residents with respiratory problems are advised to adjust their daily schedules due to the smoke. Evacuation centers managed by the Red Cross are available for people with respiratory problems.</p>
Estimated Acreage/expected containment	<p>3,256 acres. This is based on An Infrared plane flight late yesterday afternoon. Containment is estimated at 7%. A projected six miles of line needs to be built.</p>
Resources on the Fire/Costs	<p>Crews: <u>15</u> Helicopters: 8 Engines: <u>31</u> Water tenders: <u>12</u> Total Personnel: <u>695</u> Other resources continue to arrive. Costs to Date: \$ 1,800,000.</p>
Cooperators	<p>City of Sedona, Office of State Forestry, Yavapai County Sheriff's Office, Coconino County Sheriff's Office, Department of Public Safety, Arizona Department of Transportation, Sedona Fire District, Sedona Police Department, Grand Canyon Chapter of the American Red Cross, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service.</p>
Evacuations	<p>Yesterday, evacuation orders were lifted for the North end of Soldiers Pass Road (everything north of Casa Contenta) and upper part of Jordan Road (everything north of Navahopi), allowing area residents to return to their homes.</p> <p>The evacuation order for the following communities continues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Oak Creek Canyon from Midgely Bridge to the fish hatchery in Sterling Canyon (this includes homes, businesses and Forest Service campgrounds). ■ Residents are being escorted in and out by the Coconino Sheriff's Office on a limited basis to retrieve essential items such as personal medications. <p>Two evacuation centers are available: Big Park Community School (This location is for people evacuating south of Slide Rock) 25 W. Saddle Horn Road Village of Oak Creek Sedona, Ariz.</p> <p>NAU Field House Northern Arizona University Flagstaff, Ariz. Corner of Knoles Drive and McCreary, next to the University Union (This location is for people evacuating north of Slide Rock.)</p>
Closures and restrictions	<p>U.S. Highway 89A is closed through Oak Creek Canyon. The closure will be re-evaluated on a daily basis.</p> <p>The Coconino National Forest will close to public access and use Friday morning, June 23, at 8 a.m. due to the increasing fire danger across the Southwest.</p> <p>Effective Friday, the Coconino National Forest will close to public access. Conditions have warranted closure of the entire national forest. Closures in the past have proven to be an effective means of reducing the number of human-caused fires.</p>

<p>Closures and restrictions</p>	<p>Included in the Coconino NF closures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All campgrounds, day use picnic areas and cabins on the forest. • All trails on the Coconino National Forest. • All lakes, including Lake Mary, Ashurst Lake, Kinnikinick Lake, Blue Ridge Reservoir, Stoneman Lake. • Cinder Hills Off-Highway Vehicle Area north of Flagstaff. • St. Joseph's Youth Camp near Mormon Lake. • Arizona Snowbowl Skyride. • All National Forest System Roads will be closed, but all interstates, state and county roads through the Coconino National Forest will remain open. <p>Trail/Road Closures Related to Brins Fire (Some of these road closures are related to smoke impacts):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Forest Road 152 off of Dry Creek Road (access road into Vultee Arch) is closed. (The county road known as Dry Creek Road is open.) ■ All trails off of Forest Road 152 are closed. Those trails are: Brins Mesa, Devil's Bridge, and Secret Canyon. Also, the road to VanDeren Cabin is closed. ■ The North Urban Trails System is closed. That system includes Jordan Trailhead, Soldier Pass Trailhead, Sugarloaf Trailhead, Thunder Mountain Trailhead and all trails connecting from those trailheads. ■ Kelly Canyon Road west of I-17 ■ The south end of Woody Mountain Road (Forest Road 231) where it intersects with Forest Road 535 ■ Forest Road 237 at Kachina Village <p>Sedona and Flagstaff still offer many summer attractions and activities. Private campgrounds and the campground at Fort Tuthill County Park near Flagstaff will remain open with campfire and smoking restrictions. All Forest Service offices and visitor centers will be open. The closure will be lifted when sufficient precipitation is received to adequately reduce the risk of wildfire to a manageable level, and hot, dry weather conditions are not forecast to continue.</p>
<p>Incident plans for today</p>	<p>Today, the major focus will be getting a containment line around that part of the fire north of Social Trail in Sterling. Several Hotshot crews and helicopters will be involved. Crews and other resources will continue efforts to hold the fire west of Highway 89A, as well as provide structural protection measures for residences and other structures within Oak Creek Canyon.</p>
<p>Objectives for the day</p>	<p>Providing for the safety of fire fighting personnel and the public, keeping the fire west of Highway 89A, and continuing structural protection measures.</p>
<p>Fire weather</p>	<p>Hot and dry conditions will continue. Temperatures on the fire will range from 93-102, with humidities of 7-13% today. Winds will generally be out of the west-southwest at 5-9 mph. Winds on the northeast side of Wilson Mountain and Sterling Pass where the fire is most active will range from 12-17 mph with a few gusts to 20 mph.</p> <p>The extended forecast predicts a high pressure system remaining over the region bringing above normal temperatures around 100 in the lower slopes and valleys over the next few days. Relative humidities will remain in the single digits to low teens. The possibility exists for isolated late afternoon dry thunderstorms with gusty winds. Relative humidities will remain in the single digits to low teens. The possibility exists for isolated late afternoon dry thunderstorms with gusty outflow winds.</p>
<p>Other Fire Information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ For fire information and all media inquiries, please call the Brins Fire Information Center at 928-203-9648, 928-203-9650 or 928-203-7732. ■ For information related to the Coconino National Forest including fire restrictions/closures and for residential evacuee information, please call the Coconino National Forest Information Center at 928-226-4601. ■ For evacuation-related concerns, please call the Coconino County Sheriff's Office at 928-774-4523. ■ Arizonans can also dial 2-1-1 to hear updates on the fire. Arizonans unable to dial 2-1-1 can call 1-888-GoTo211 (888-468-6211). Or visit www.AZ211.gov.