

ASPEN FIRE SUMMARY

Coronado National Forest (AZ), Santa Catalina Ranger District

Compiled June 14, 2004

FIRE FACTS

Fire Started: June 17, 2003
Fire Contained: July 15, 2003
Fire Cause: Human
Fire Origin: Pusch Ridge Wilderness
(Aspen Loop Trail)
Total suppression cost: \$16.3 million
Fire acres by ownership:
Coronado National Forest 82,050 acres
Private land.....2,383 acres
State land.....317 acres
TOTAL fire acreage: 84,750 acres
Within Pima County.....67,304 acres
Within Pinal County.....17,446 acres
National Forest area with moderate or severe
intensity burn: 80%
Most area burned in one day: 8440 acres on
June 23, 2003
Number of structures burned: 333 total.
(322 homes/cabins; 7 businesses;
4 barns/garages)
Number of structures saved: Over 100
Number of consecutive "red flag warning" wind
days: 7 (beginning June 19, 2003)

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Fire Reported: June 17, 2003, at about 3 pm
by Lemmon Rock Lookout
Mt. Lemmon Evacuated (all persons above MP
20): June 17, 2004 (same evening)
Type I Team (Larry Humphrey, IC): Ordered
June 17; took command June 18
Summerhaven burned: June 19, 2003
Type II Team (Rich Kvale, IC): Took
command July 1, 2003
Type I Team (Dan Oltrogge): Took
command July 4, 2003
Federal Disaster Declaration Signed:
July 14, 2003 by President GHW Bush
Fire Contained: July 15, 2003
Mt. Lemmon residents allowed re-entry:
July 17, 2003
Presidential Visit (George Bush): Aug. 11, 2003
Mt. Lemmon reopened to public: Aug. 21, 2003

FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES

Air tankers: 6
Helicopters: 8
Type I Incident Mgt Teams: 2
Type II Incident Mgt Teams: 1
Engines: 45
Dozers: 4
Water tenders: 48
Most personnel at one time: 1269 on
June 27, 2003
Safety Record: Excellent

EMERGENCY REHABILITATION

Rehab. work started: June 28, 2003
(continued thru Spring 2004)
Area aerially mulched: 800 acres
Fixed-wing Seeded: 17,050 acres
Helicopter Seeded: 120 acres
Other Rehab Work: Repair road drainages,
channel clearing, culvert protection, hazard tree
removal from NF recreation residences and
adjacent to private lands.
Rehabilitation Work Personnel: 75
Costs by agencies
Forest Service:.....\$2,228,900
Natural Resources Conservation Service:
.....\$199,050
Pima County:.....\$324,250
Est. long-term recovery costs:
.....\$9 million over five years

ASPEN FIRE INVESTIGATION

Investigation Team: Forest Service, Pima
County Sheriff's Dept, and FBI.
Charged: Kenzo Butler (for making false
statements regarding smoking in fire
origin area). Butler was sentenced to
six mos. probation and 200 hrs.
community service.

ADDITIONAL FIRE FACTS

Helens 2 Fire Started: June 17, 2003
(Rincon Mts.)
Helens 2 Fire Cause: Lightning