



SKUNK FIRE UPDATE

June 3, 2014

Incident Commander: Dennis Logan (ICT4)

Contact: San Carlos Tribal Forest Resources Program, San Carlos Apache Reservation, Arizona

Fire Information: (928)475-2326 ext 306 from 8:00am to 5:30pm.

Start Date: April 19, 2014

Size: 59,614 acres, estimated including back burns

Cause: Lightening caused

Growth Potential: Fire is moderate growth potential on west side. (Haines Index 5)

Percent Contained: 77%

Summary: Managing the Skunk Fire for resource benefit has been a continuous objective. The flame lengths averaging 2-3 ft, with flare-ups and single torching of trees is improving wildlife habitat and forest health. Reintroducing fire to fire adapted ecosystem, reduce fuel loads and create ignition buffers.

Skunk Fire continues to travel north westerly and southwesterly directions along Nantac Rim. Currently the fire to the west and northwest is making short runs up the south slopes. Moderate fire behavior backing and flanking against predominant SW winds south in Kidde Canyon. Structures at DeHorn are prepped for protection.

Yesterday Division Alpha on the west side of the fire conducted a back burn flanking the fire. There are plans for a back burn today weather permitting to prevent the south side of the fire from traveling into Freeze out and Allen Trap. Accesses to these areas are closed. Turn to Warm Springs is closed on Route 8. On the top of the rim 1500 rd and 1504 junction to turnoff to Elwood tank is closed and beyond that turnoff. This includes roads leading to Chiricahua Butte from Hilltop are closed.

Fire Weather forecast is mostly sunny, max temps of 91-105 degrees, and minimum humidity 4-9 %. Winds are from the southwest 5-15 mph. Typical afternoon winds and gusts will stay below critical forecast threshold however; low humidities, very dry fuels and very warm conditions/moderate to high Haines will keep fire dangers elevated.

Fire is still emitting heavy smoke from the interior and the perimeter with some single tree torching. Evening and early morning inversions are causing smoke to linger in the valleys and drainages.

Official Fire Information is posted on <http://www.incweb.nwcg.gov> and face book under San Carlos Wildfires.