



SOUTHWEST AREA INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM #1



Alan Sinclair – Incident Commander

Bush Fire - June 19, 2020 Morning Update

Acres: 151,075 acres (based on infrared flight) **Percent Containment:** 7%
Start Date: Saturday, June 13, 2020 **Cause:** Human-caused
Origin Location: 22 miles NE of Mesa, AZ **Fuels:** Tall grass and brush
Resources: 855 total including 10 Type 1 Crews; 8 Type 2 Crews; 45 Engines; 5 bulldozers; 16 water tenders; 8 helicopters

Type 1 Incident Management Team Assumed Command; Bush Fire Community Meeting 6 pm Tonight

There will be an online Bush Fire community meeting tonight at 6 pm tonight on [Fb.com/bushfireinfo](https://www.facebook.com/bushfireinfo). An American Sign Language interpreter and captioning will be provided. A recording will be posted following the meeting. No account is required to view the video. If a pop-up box appears when you first navigate to the link, you can use the scroll bar on the right to scroll down to the view and/or click “not now” to minimize the login pop-up. We will monitor online Facebook questions during the meeting or you can e-mail us your questions at 2020.bush@firenet.gov.

Firefighters are using a range of tactics to fully suppresses the fire. Fire fighter and public safety remain the highest priority. Firefighters are working to protect values at risk including nearby communities, state highways, communication sites and power lines. Yesterday firefighters used a UAS (or drone) to conduct aerial ignition around the Mt. Ord communication site which helped firefighters protect values at risk as the fire moved through the area.

Today firefighters will continue to focus on holding the fire west of Highway 188. Firefighters will use burnout operations, supported by aerial resources as needed, where they can do so safely and effectively. They will continue to focus on putting out any fire caused by embers floating from the fire that may spot over the highway and protect structures as needed. Extreme fire behavior is expected again today. Fire behavior is expected to pick up mid-afternoon as the sun heats up the terrain and winds reach their strongest.

Brownsville, Jake's Corner, Slate Creek, Pioneer Pass, Tonto Basin, Punkin Center, Sunflower, and residents and visitors to Apache Lake remain under “Go” evacuation notices. Gisela, Rye, Deer Creek 76 Ranch and Bar T Bar Ranch (AKA BT Ranch) are in “Set” status. All residents in the area are encouraged to be prepared and stay alert to rapidly changing conditions. Evacuation details and information on how to sign up for emergency alerts can be found online: Maricopa County: <https://ready.maricopa.gov/> and Gila County: www.readygila.com/.

American Red Cross Evacuation Centers are located at Payson Police Department 303 N. Beeline Hwy, Payson, AZ and the Lee Kornegay Intermediate School at 4635 Railroad Ave, Miami, AZ 85539.

A smoke outlook is available at <https://fires.airfire.org/outlooks/CentralArizona>.

Visit <https://az511.com/> **or call 511 for current road closure information.** State Route 87 is closed from Payson (milepost 251) to Bush Highway (milepost 199). State Route 188 is closed between SR 87 (milepost 276) and Roosevelt Lake at milepost 243. In addition, State Route 88 is closed between Apache Lake (milepost 229) to State Route 188 (milepost 242). The long-term SR 88 closure from east of Tortilla Flat to Apache Lake also remains in effect.

The Tonto National Forest has an area closure surrounding the Bush Fire. Fire restrictions remain in place. Details are available at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/tonto/alerts-notices>.

Wildfires are a No Drone Zone. If you fly, we can't. Every time a drone is spotted near the fire all aircraft are grounded until we can be sure the drone is clear of this area. More info visit <http://knowbeforeyoufly.org>.

Fire Information: 928-351-7596 (public)
Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6773/>
Email: 2020.bush@firenet.gov

928-351-7723 (media)
Facebook: [Fb.com/bushfireinfo](https://www.facebook.com/bushfireinfo)
Twitter: twitter.com/TontoForest