



## Southwest Area Incident Management Team

For Immediate Release

July 9, 2004 9:30 a.m.

### Weather Assists Firefighters Battling Mt. Graham Wildfires

Cloudy skies and higher relative humidity prevented two wildland fires from growing significantly Thursday on Mt. Graham southwest of Safford. Deputy Incident Commander, Paul Summerfelt, stated at briefing late Thursday, "We are not out of danger but threats to summer homes and to the Mt. Graham International Observatory have been significantly abated." He said crews made good progress in holding and securing containment lines on Thursday. With weather predicted to be similar on Friday crews will continue burnout operations along unsecured portions of the fires' perimeters.

Light rain fell in the vicinity of the Observatory on Thursday but most weather-related benefit was from higher relative humidities and lower temperatures as a result of a monsoon-type flow that brought significant amounts of precipitation to many parts of southeastern Arizona.

Increase in acreage is attributed to fire intentionally set by firefighters in an attempt to secure containment lines that have been established by crews and bulldozers over the past two weeks.

Fire officials will escort a communication inspection group to assess any damages at Heliograph Peak today.

**Community Meeting Tonight** The Southwest Area Incident Management Team will host a community meeting tonight in the gymnasium of Ruth Powell School, located at 1041 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. Fire personnel will provide information and maps on the fire activity within the Nuttall Complex.

**For more information, call the Nuttall Fire Complex Information Office**  
(928) 348-9425, (928) 348-0261, or (928) 348-4683 - Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
**Visit our website: [www.fireteam-sw.com/oltrogge/incidents/nuttall](http://www.fireteam-sw.com/oltrogge/incidents/nuttall)**

#### TODAY'S FIRE FACTS

**Acreage:** Nuttall Fire - 9,950    Gibson Fire - 16,900    Complex Total - 25,734    35% Contained  
**Cost To Date:** \$6.6 million    **Total Personnel Assigned:** 913  
**Resources:** 18 - Type 1 Hotshot Crews, 4 - Type 2 Regular Crews  
11 Helicopters, 32 Engines, 5 Dozers, 26 Water Tenders

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