

Nuttall Fire Complex	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Fire  Update</h1>	Winchester's Incident Management Team
July 17, 2004 8:00 am	Fire Information Center: (928) 348-9425	
For Immediate Release	Web updates: <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire">http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire</a>	

## Fire Statistics

<b>Date Started:</b> Nuttall 6/26/04 Gibson 6/22/04 <b>Estimated Date of Containment:</b> 7/18/04	<b>Causes of Ignition:</b> Lightning	<b>Location:</b> Mt. Graham, approximately 15 miles southwest of Safford, Arizona
<b>Size:</b> 29,400	<b>Percent Containment:</b> 90%	<b>Estimated Cost to Date:</b> \$10,091,503
<b>Personnel:</b> 331	<b>Aircraft:</b> 2 helicopters	<b>Equipment/Crews:</b> 4 - Crews, 4- Engines, 1- Dozer, 4 - Tenders

## Majority of Rehabilitation Work Completed on Nuttall Complex

(Safford, AZ) July 17, 2004 – Fire crews completed most of the rehabilitation work on dozer lines, hand lines and safety zones around the Nuttall Fire Complex today. Most of the fire activity has been in the Ash Creek drainage, where the fire continues to creep on the ground.

“Basically, we are not able to safely put ground crews into the Ash Creek area,” said Safety Officer Darroll Abeyta. “The terrain is steep and rugged, with numerous areas where logs are smoldering or the fire is just creeping around on the ground. It will take a good rain to finally put that fire out.”

For the safety of firefighters and the public, State Highway 366 will be closed to the public until Monday, July 19, 2004 at 6:00 a.m. While developed campgrounds along Highway 366 will be reopened, trails and roads leading into the fire area will remain closed. Residents of Columbine will be allowed to return to their cabins.

### Today's Fire Plan:

Crews will finalize mop-up and rehabilitation on the fire's perimeter and patrol from both the ground and air. Weather forecasts call for the possibility of thunderstorms over the fire in the afternoon.

### **BAER Team Activity: \*\*\*\*Public Meeting Scheduled for Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup>\*\*\*\*\***

As the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Team continues the assessment of fire effects in the Pinaleno Mountains, potential treatments are being discussed. Individual watersheds are being studied, and potential downstream effects determined. Upon completion of analyses, recommendations will be made for actions to be taken in specific areas on public lands. Such treatments could include culvert cleaning, stream channel clearing, aerial seeding of herbaceous plants to protect soil and hold it in place, and installation of signs warning of hazards on trails or potential flooding. Storm patrols will be conducted to identify runoff-related problems along the Swift Trail.

The analysis will also be used to assist State and Federal agencies in developing recommendations for residents on private lands which may be at risk. Citizens are invited to the public meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, in the Sunset Room at the Manor House Convention Center, 415 E. Highway 70.

**For BAER Information, please call 928-428-7897**

**For more information, please call the Nuttall Fire Complex Information Office**  
(928) 348-9425 or (928) 348-0261 - Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Visit our website: [www.fs.fed.us/r3/nmimt](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/nmimt)**