



News from the Forest Service

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Fire Restrictions Currently In Place

On Wednesday, May 24th, Stage I fire restrictions went into place on the Coconino and Kaibab National Forests. Decisions that warranted this decision included increased forest visitor use, abandoned campfires, high winds and rising temperatures. Stage I restrictions means that campfires are only allowed in the existing pits in developed campgrounds. Charcoal grills and stove fires are also not permitted. Pressurized liquid or gas stoves, lanterns and heaters meeting safety specifications are allowed. If no moisture is received the Coconino and Kaibab NF may be forced to tighten restrictions to Stage II. Stage II fire restrictions means that campfires are not permitted at all. The final stage of fire restrictions is Stage III which is forest CLOSURE. Of course we are all hoping that we will not get to that point and the summer monsoons will arrive! Forest closure means just that.....the forest is CLOSER TO ENTRY, this applies to everyone. If you own private property and have to drive a sizeable distance to get to it, you will be asked to stop by the ranger station for a vehicle inspection and permit.

I know that this makes it hard for folks to make plans for camping, but I am sure that most of you feel the way we do.....we need to do whatever it takes to protect our forest and our homes. Please we ask for your full cooperation during this severe fire season that we are experiencing this year. Thank you!

Area Closures Due to Severe Off Road Vehicle Damage



As many of you may know the meadow at Kinder Springs last year was closed to all motor vehicles due to resource damage. Every year we experience more and more Off Highway Vehicle abuse, unfortunately we have just recently had to close more areas. The more recent areas we have closed are: Corduroy Wash, a tributary to West Clear Creek, Tom's Creek which is also a tributary to West Clear Creek, Pivot Rock Springs, a tributary to West Clear Creek, Wildcat Springs, another tributary to West Clear Creek, Potato Lake Draw/Cienega Draw which is the headwaters of East Clear Creek, and Long Valley Draw, a tributary to West Clear Creek also. All of these areas are experiencing great vegetation loss, thus resulting in severe erosion. There are numerous other areas, but the ones listed are some of the most damaged areas, and involve threatened and endangered native fish species. We are attempting to rectify the problem of Off Highway Vehicle abuse, but it is a very long process.

Please remember to stay on existing roadways, and spread the word to your family and friends that the proper personal protective equipment must be used and the ATV must be licensed as a motorcycle. Thank you!



Forest Roads Scheduled for Maintenance—Be Aware!

SPRING

Forest Road	Miles	Termini
141	6.0	Hwy 87 to 300 Rd
95	6.5	Hwy 87 to East Clear Creek Bridge
96	4.6	95 Rd to 137 Rd
321	10.0	96 Rd to 300 Rd
142	0.4	Hwy 87 to MP 0.4
300	25.0	Hwy 87 to Forest Boundary
751	4.7	Hwy 87 to Blue Ridge Reservoir
138	1.0	Hwy 87 to Blue Ridge Camp Ground
81	3.6	FH-3 to 81E Rd
81E	3.7	81 Rd to MP 3.7
211	8.8	Hwy 87 to 137 Rd

FALL

95	6.5	Hwy 87 to East Clear Creek Bridge
96	4.6	95 Rd to 137 Rd
142	0.4	Hwy 87 to MP 0.4
300	25.0	Hwy 87 to Forest Boundary
751	4.7	Hwy 87 to Blue Ridge Reservoir
211	8.8	Hwy 87 to 136 Rd
82	10.8	211 Rd to Long Lake Spot Blade



Knoll Lake Campground

Knoll Lake Campground will be CLOSED for the summer of 2006. The campground will be renovated with new trailer/tent pads, barbecue grills, fire pits and toilets. The lake itself will still remain open and dispersed camping in the immediate area is permitted. Please be patient, when it is done, it will be great!

Thank you Bly Pit Volunteers!

Without these gracious people we would not be able to have Bly Pit open until the summer monsoons arrive. The loads of debris going into the pit over the weekend and weekday has been overwhelming. Thanks to all of you for allowing us to keep it open.

Till next month,

Jean Gilbertson, Editor