



News from the Forest Service

Edited on: August 15, 2008

As we all know we live in here because of the remote- of the remoteness of the formation to local residents. the challenge of getting in-



ner. It is very important for us at the forest service to keep everyone up here informed on new projects, events, forest fires, prescribed burning, etc. I am currently in the process of developing an email list so we can reach all of you that would like to be kept informed and up to date. If you are interested in being on this mailing list please email me directly with your email address. My email address is jgilbertson@fs.fed.us. To those of you that do not have email capability, I still plan to post flyers, news releases, etc. on subdivision bulletin boards. We want to make sure that we are reaching as many people as possible. Then of course, there is always the telephone, if you have any questions please feel free to call us at 928-477-2255. Thank you for your interest and support! Jeannie Gilbertson

one of the nicest areas around. We choose to be ness of the area and the pristine beauty. Because area comes the task of trying to disseminate in- As a Public Information Officer I am faced with formation out to our community in a timely man-



Temporary Closure in Fossil Creek

For the past two years, Arizona Public Service (APS) has been in the process of removing facilities associated with the Childs-Irving Hydroelectric Project in Fossil Creek. During these decommissioning activities, the Tonto and Coconino National Forest will close the described area for the protection of public health and safety, and for the protection of property.

The closure area boundaries include: Fossil Springs trailhead north to Fossil Springs, west to the Irving Power Plant, and south along the east side of Forest Road (FR) 708 (Fossil Spring Road). Exemptions to the order will include security personnel and law enforcement in the performance of their duties.

This temporary closure was requested by Arizona Public Service and will remain in effect from Monday, August 18, 2008 through Saturday, February 28, 2009 (unless terminated sooner).

Summer of 2008



It is hard to believe that summer is almost over! We were all wondering just how busy we would be with the cost of gas soaring. Our campgrounds filled up almost every weekend, we had numerous special use/large group campouts in the woods, we had no large forest fires, we took 3,670 telephone calls and greeted approximately 1,790 visitors. All in all I guess the price of gas did effect peoples vacation plans! We are all looking forward to a little quiet time, maybe!

Good News . . . Christmas Trees!



The Mogollon Rim Ranger District will be offering U-Pick, U-Cut Christmas trees again this year! The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that had been done, expired last year, therefore we needed to conduct surveys and follow-ups within the cutting area. The NEPA that was done this year will expire after the 2012 tree cutting season.

The tags will be offered over-the-counter and sold only at Blue Ridge Ranger Station on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are 500 tags and the price per tag is \$15. They are white fir and douglas fir and you may cut a tree up to 10 feet tall. The cutting area is located on Dane Ridge, forest road 321, just look for the signs! You will receive a map with your tag. Just to let you know in advance there will be no refunds, so be sure to plan accordingly! Tags go on sale Monday, November 24th.

Merry Christmas in September!!

Prescribed Burning



It is already the time of year for us to start our prescribed burning program. I don't know where the summer went! Sometime in mid September we are going to conduct a broadcast burn in the vicinity of Lockwood Draw, along forest road 96. This burn should consist of approximately 1500 acres. Then in the beginning of October we will start back with the Blue Ridge Urban Interface broadcast burns, this will consist of approximately 1500 acres also.

We have other burn areas scheduled and will continue to inform you as the time approaches. We post scheduled prescribed burns on our web page; <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino>. I can also send you an email if you decide that you would like to be on my email list as mentioned on the first page of this newsletter. Thanks everyone, for your understanding!



Go Green . . . COMPOSTE!

Composting occurs when plant waste begins to break down from its plant form into its smaller components like, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, the same nutrients we get in a fertilizer bag! Compost needs 4 main ingredients to work: green waste, brown-dry waste, such as lawn clippings, over-ripe fruit or veggies, green leaves or peeling to 1 part dry waste like dried leaves. Once you've started layering in the waste, add water to the compost and mix it all together. Another way to jump start a compost pile is to add a very small amount of fertilizer. The nitrogen found in fertilizer and green waste is what helps the compost get started. Compost needs heat to work. A compost pile can get higher than 150 degrees Fahrenheit. Microorganisms that release heat as they break down waste create the high temperatures. The best way to use compost is to spread it around plants that are already growing or you can work compost into the ground before you plant. Expect to see a much healthier plant, producing more flowers or vegetables. Good luck, it is easy, I compost and can really see the difference!

Until next month, Jean Gilbertson, Editor

