



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

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Grand Canyon Fact Sheet

Release date: Immediate

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Date: June 28, 2008

Walla Valley Fire Update

Fire Started: June 21, 2008 as a prescribed burn project
June 25, 2008 converted to a wildfire

Location: North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. The Walla Valley Fire is located in the Walla Valley and Point Sublime area, approximately 9 miles west of the North Rim developed area.

Fuels: Gamble oak, ponderosa pine, mixed conifer, grass

Size: 275 acres

Percent Contained: 15%

Resources committed: 7 engines, 2 crews, 3 fire use modules, 3 helicopters, and 3 single engine airtankers

Total personnel = 114

Closures: Sections of the W4 and W1 roads remain closed at this time.

Summary: Last night, fire personnel effectively held the fire in its current position. Today's objectives are: hold the existing fire line and reinforce additional fire line to prevent the fire from getting established east of the W6 road. Firefighters will be working on fire line from the Kanabowitz Cabin to Galahad Point (a length of approximately 2 ½ miles). Air resources will be used to slow the fire's spread. Later, operations will include securing the containment line by igniting vegetation between the line and the leading edge of the fire creating a buffer to stop the fire's progress. These burnout operations are implemented in the evening when the potential for active fire behavior is lessened.

Air Quality: Relatively little smoke was observed this morning.

Fire Behavior: Active group tree torching with short range spotting. Fire is burning in dense, thick vegetation hampering suppression efforts.

Weather: The general weather forecast is mostly sunny, temperatures around 80, with light southwest winds 7 to 12 miles per hour, gusting to 20 miles per hour in the afternoon.

For the latest information on the Walla Valley Fire, visit the park's fire web site at http://www.nps.gov/grca/parkmgmt/fire_info.htm or call the Grand Canyon Public Affairs Office at (928)638-7958. For recorded information on the fire, you may call (928)638-7688.

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