



TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

We:sij T-we:m

ALL OF US TOGETHER

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CHAIRMAN

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sunday, July 19, 2009

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SUNDAY MORNING UPDATE ON SAN JUAN FIRE ON THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Sells, AZ --- Progress continues to be made in containing the San Juan Fire burning on the mountain range west of Kitt Peak on the Tohono O'odham Nation. It is now approximately 8,000 acres with 55% containment. Burn out operations contributed to the increase in acreage. No structures have been damaged; the fire is two miles away from the nearest Kitt Peak structure. Other areas of significance have been protected through aggressive firefighting operations.

Resources to combat the fire remain the same, with approximately 100 personnel assigned to the fire including five engines, a helicopter, and three hand crews. Authority to manage the fire continues to be delegated to a Type III Incident Management Organization. Fire crews will continue to conduct burn out operations on the north and west sides of the fire which may result in smoke in the area of State Route 86. Authorities ask that observers not slow down to look at the fire and proceed through the area with caution. Law enforcement officers will be patrolling the area throughout the day.

State Route 86 from Tucson to Ajo remains open. State Route 386 to Kitt Peak is still closed to non-essential personnel. Authorities have asked that media and others refrain from traveling to the fire due to the remoteness of the location.

For more information on the status of the San Juan fire, please contact Pete Delgado at (520) 383-2028.

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