

News

fire information

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Mt. Emma Fire Update for Sunday, June 28, 2015

St. George, Utah —Fire staff from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Arizona Strip District is continuing firefighting efforts on the Mt. Emma Fire Sunday. The lightning-caused fire located 75 miles southeast of St. George, Utah is approximately 3,849 acres in size as of 10 a.m. June 28, 2015.

Through Saturday night the fire saw minimal activity. Daytime weather often dictates fire activity however. “During the day, that’s when the Relative Humidity (RH) goes down and temperatures go up—that’s when the fire becomes active,” Chris Henry, Incident Commander for the Mt. Emma Fire said Sunday from the Incident Command Post on Mt. Trumbull.

The fire began June 24, 2015 at 4:40 p.m. on the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument and burned into Grand Canyon National Park Thursday, June 25, 2015.

Sunday’s fire activity includes creeping with some isolated torching. While few structures exist in the remote region, the fire is currently 2 miles from a summer cabin. Fire managers have a plan in place to protect the structure and continue to communicate closely with the family who are aware of the fire and watching its’ progress closely.

Due to increased traffic of fire staff and operation services traveling to and from the area, fire managers request the public’s help in ensuring safety on backcountry roadways in the vicinity of the fire. “We’d like to ask for the public’s help in ensuring firefighter safety and request that all traffic near the area slow down and remain cautious and mindful of increased traffic on the roads en route to the Mt. Emma fire,” said BLM Arizona Strip District Public Affairs Officer Rachel Carnahan

The fire is being managed by a Type 3 Incident Management Team. Resources on the fire Sunday include 1 Type 4 Engine, 1 Type 3 Engine, 1 Hot Shot crew, 1 Type 2 Initial Attack crew, an air tanker and air attack.

The fire is burning in open Ponderosa pine, pinyon and juniper. The Cedar City Air Center and Mesquite Tanker Base are providing aerial support.

Due to the rough, remote terrain the fire is burning in, fire managers will continue to use direct and indirect suppression tactics throughout the length of this fire in order to maintain safety for fire personnel. Direct and indirect tactics include fire personnel fighting fire on the edge of the fire or removed from the fire in an area which allows them to fall back to road or natural barriers for safety. “Initial attack personnel continue assessments to determine the best possible suppression tactics,” said Carnahan.

The Mt. Emma fire is burning in and out of the footprint of the 1999 Emma Fire which burned 1,286 acres. It is also located northwest of the 2005 Tuweep fire which burned 1,866 acres.

The Wolf Hole Fire located 10 miles south of St. George, Utah near Hodgets Canyon that burned 7 acres was called out.

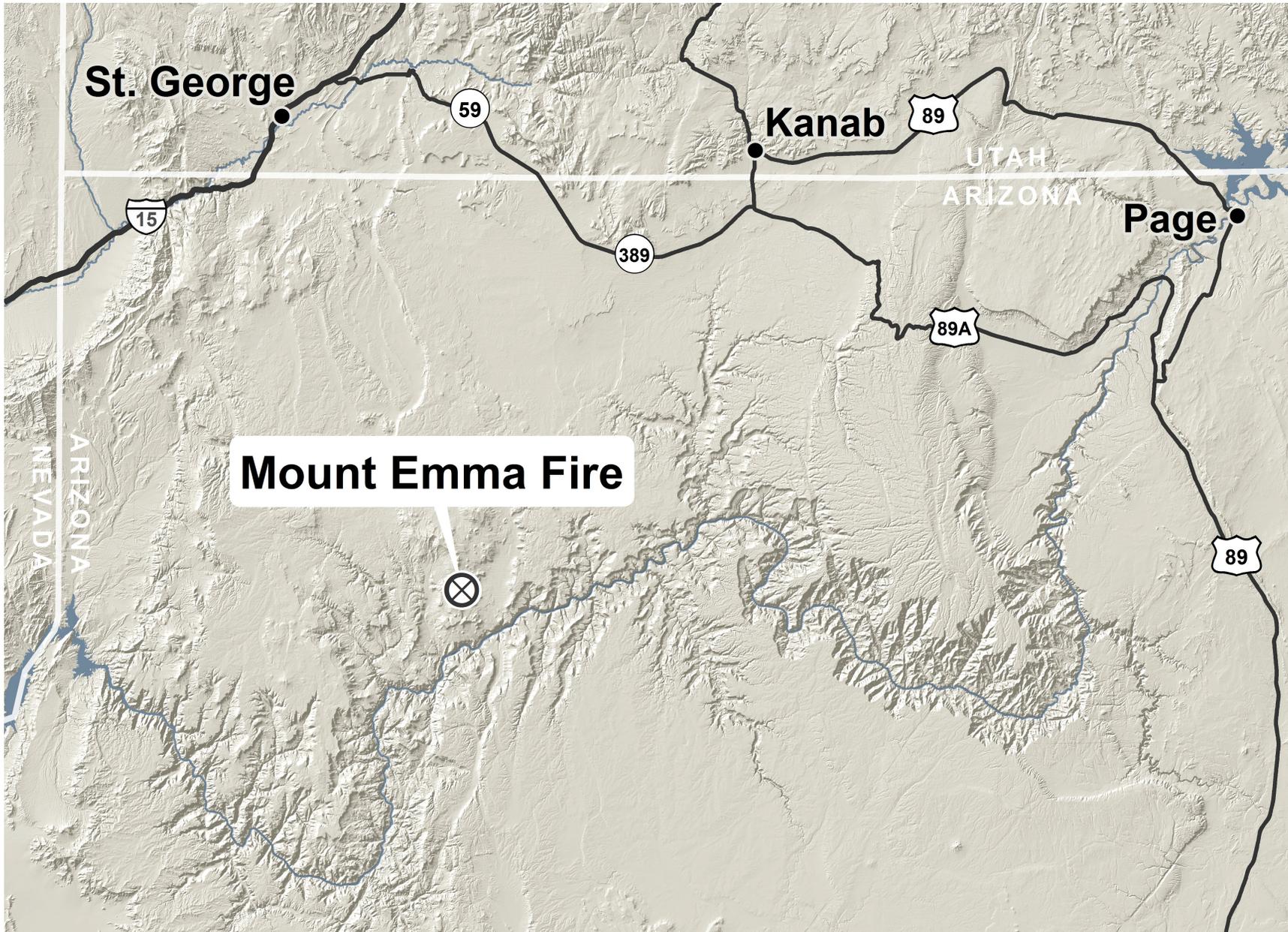
The 57 acre Sand Cove Fire located 30 miles southwest of St. George, Utah on the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument is not actively burning and is under monitor status.

There are no road or trail closures anticipated at this time. Smoke may be visible from St. George and Kanab, Utah; Fredonia and the North and South Rims in Arizona.

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Mount Emma Fire

Bureau of Land Management - Arizona Strip District



Mount Emma Fire

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Map produced by BLM - Arizona Strip District GIS Program

