

Fire Information



Riggs Fire and Lonely Fire

Thursday September 13, 2018, 8:00 am

Current size:

Riggs Fire 450 acres

Lonely Fire 523 acres

Date Started: (both lightning caused)

Riggs Fire 8/25/2018

Lonely Fire 9/6/2018

Road Closures:

Bryce Canyon National Park:

- The park road is closed to traffic at Natural Bridge south to Rainbow Point.

Trail Closures:

Dixie National Forest:

- Grandview Trail (066) from the Willis Creek junction to Lower Podunk.

Bryce Canyon National Park:

- Riggs Spring Loop Trail, including the connector trail from Riggs Springs to the Grandview Trail.
- Under-the-Rim Trail (Closed from Agua Canyon to Rainbow Point).

Resources:

1 – Twenty (20) person crews

3 – Type 6 engines

1 – Water Tender

1 – Type 1 Helicopter (heavy)

1 – Type 3 Helicopter (light)

Cooperating Agencies:

Dixie National Forest

Bryce Canyon National Park

Kanab Field Office, BLM

Summary:

The Riggs Fire, burning on lands administered by the Dixie National Forest, Bryce Canyon National Park, and Kanab Field Office BLM, experienced increased fire growth on Wednesday. In addition to the Riggs Fire, fire managers are also in command of the Lonely Fire. This lightning caused fire is located approximately 1.5 miles north of the Riggs Fire.

The Wednesday fire activity increased due to dry hot winds aligned with topography and fuels, pushing the Lonely Fire into a stand of ponderosa pine. Fire activity on Thursday will be similar to that seen on Wednesday.

After determining it was safe to access the western flank of the Riggs Fire, the Pioneer Hotshots worked on the western edge to keep its progression from moving to the west towards Rainbow Point, utilizing helicopters for water drops. Firefighters will work the next several days on setting up sprinklers around the infrastructure in the Rainbow Point vicinity.

Decisions to manage or suppress fires are dependent on numerous factors including risk to firefighting resources, public safety, weather, fire behavior, availability of additional support, risk to valuable resources and private property.

The area that the Riggs Fire and Lonely Fire are burning has not been impacted by fire for many years resulting in an unnatural buildup of forest fuels. These fires will help to reduce these fuels and return the area to a more natural condition and in turn decrease the risks from unwanted fires. The option to allow some naturally ignited wildland fires to provide benefits to the resource instead of suppressing them will give Dixie National Forest and Bryce Canyon National Park fire management personnel another tool to use in their goals to restore and manage future fires.

Highway 63 and roads leading into Bryce Canyon National park are open. An area closure around the fire area is in effect. Trail closures are listed in the sidebar to the left.

All visitor facilities, services, and businesses in surrounding communities are not impacted by the fire and remain open.

Current Fire Information on InciWeb:

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6202/>



InciWeb