

**City of Flagstaff, Coconino County, Flagstaff Fire Department,
Flagstaff Police Department, Coconino County Sheriff's Office
United States Forest Service**

MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release Contact: EOC Fire Information (928) 679-4159
Date: June 20, 2010, 9:00 pm**

Schultz Fire Update

Flagstaff, AZ – The Schultz Fire started at approximately 11:09 am on Sunday and is located west of north Highway 89, east of Flagstaff, and north of Mount Elden. The fire is currently more than 5,000 acres and growing with 0 percent containment. No structures have been lost. Currently no neighborhoods are experiencing loss of power.

Multiple resources have responded including the U.S. Forest Service and surrounding fire departments. Approximately 300 fire fighters, 8 air tankers, 4 heavy and one type 2 helicopter, and Air Attack (small fixed wing spotter plane) are assisting with this fire fighting effort. Due to high winds the air tankers ceased to fly at about 1:30 p.m. and went back into the air around 7:00 pm. Entities assisting with the effort include the United States Forest Service, the Coconino County Sheriff's office, the Flagstaff Fire Department, Northern Arizona University and the State of Arizona. A Type One Incident Management Team has been ordered for the Schultz fire and will arrive on Sunday evening.

The Coconino County Sheriff's office has evacuated 748 parcels in the Timberline neighborhood, the Wupatki Trails neighborhood and the Second Chance Animal Center. Animals from Second Chance Center have been relocated to Fort Tuthill County Park. The Sunset Crater and Wupatki National Monuments are closed and have been evacuated.

Fernwood residents have been asked to be prepared to evacuate in the event that becomes necessary and **has not been evacuated as was originally reported**. The Sherriff's office is recommending that evacuation kits include prescription medications, important paperwork, pet care products, a change of clothing and water.

The Arizona Department of Transportation has closed Highway 89 northbound at Silver Saddle and southbound at mile post 433. ADOT is allowing local traffic through the northbound closure at Silver Saddle.

DPS is suggesting alternative routes of State Route 64 through the East Entrance to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon National Park (no commercial vehicles are permitted in the park) or State Route 160 through Tuba City to State Route 264 to State Route 87 onto Interstate 40. National Park Personnel will not charge motorists who advise they are on a detour route. Travelers who choose not to take one of these alternative routes may stay at the Red Cross Shelter at Mount Elden Middle School located at the northwest corner of Linda Vista and Fourth Street in Flagstaff.

Residents can expect smoke from both the Schultz and the Hardy fires to settle into neighborhoods overnight, including areas outside the immediate evacuation areas. Anyone who can see, taste or smell smoke should curtail outdoor activity. People with heart disease, lung disease or asthma should avoid outdoors entirely, as should children and the elderly. If you are in the areas with heavy smoke and have not been instructed to evacuate, you are advised to remain indoors or to leave the area if you experience breathing difficulties. Please consult the Coconino County Health Department website at <http://www.coconino.az.gov/health.aspx?id=6564> regarding potential hazards dealing with smoke inhalation.

The Red Cross has set up a shelter at Mt. Elden Middle School at 3233 North Fourth Street, Flagstaff. Evacuees are encouraged to register at Mt Elden Middle School to ensure information can be relayed.

The Salvation Army is reporting that no material donations are needed at this time. However, if individuals are interested in volunteering or financial donations, please call United Way of Northern Arizona at (928) 773-9813.

Additional information on the Schultz fire can be obtained at 1-888-679-8393.

###