



Salt Incident Decision

Published
08/20/20 22:12

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1. Decision

1.1. Decision Summary

Decision Information

NAME	VALUE
Published	08/20/2020 22:12 CDT
Estimated Cost	\$6,000,000
Incident Owner(s)	Mary Lata, Barry Johnson, Robb Beery
Editor(s)	Kelly Jardine
Reviewer(s)	Adam Bromley
Approver(s)	Kelly Jardine
Natl Preparedness Level	5

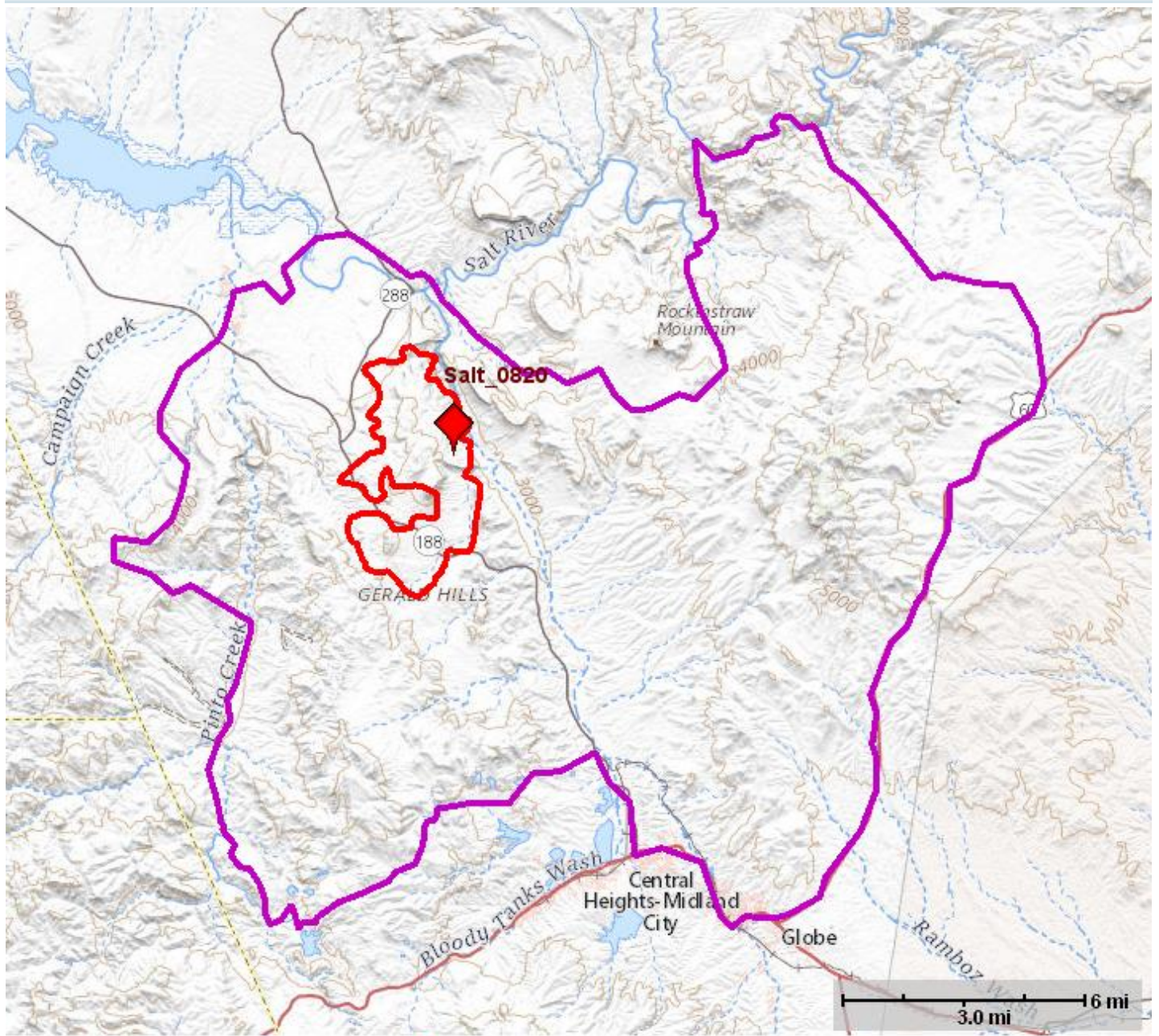
Decision History

Editor Name	Action	Date (CDT)	Comment
Jardine, Kelly	Published	08/20/2020 22:12	
Jardine, Kelly	Approved	08/20/2020 22:12	
Beery, Robb	Review Requested	08/20/2020 18:48	
Beery, Robb	Review Requested	08/20/2020 18:48	
Lata, Mary	Created	08/19/2020 20:17	

1.2. Incident Information

Incident Information

NAME	VALUE
Incident Name	Salt
Unique Fire Identifier	2020-AZTNF-002511
Responsible Unit Name	Tonto National Forest
FireCode	NF3Q
P-Code	P3NF3Q
Point of Origin	33.55994N / 110.9042 W
Incident Size	8,000acres
Latest WFDSS Perimeter Size	7,576acres
Incident Cause	Natural
Incident Type	Wildfire
Incident Discovery	08/17/2020 18:22
Contained	
Controlled	
Out	
Jurisdictional Unit	AZTNF - Tonto National Forest
Jurisdictional Agency(s)	BLM, USFS
Geographic Area (prep level)	Southwest (4)
Owner Name(s)	Mary Lata, Barry Johnson, Robb Beery



— Fire Perimeters — Planning Areas ◆ Point of Origin

1.3. Weather

Fire Weather Zone Forecast

000
FNUS55 KPSR 202037
FWFPSR
Fire Weather Planning Forecast for Southwest and South-Central
Arizona and Southeast California
National Weather Service Phoenix AZ
137 PM MST Thu Aug 20 2020
.DISCUSSION...
The immediate concern for any fire operations will be the impacts from thunderstorms. Storms are favored to develop every afternoon over the higher terrain north and east of Phoenix. These storms will likely send outflow winds with strong gusts at speeds of 30-50 mph through the elevated areas of Gila County and northeastern Maricopa County. If reinforced by new storms, outflows could reach lower desert areas like Phoenix and places much farther west. In all, outflows could impact nearly everywhere at some point during the next few afternoons and evenings. New storms can also develop over any outflows as they move. Storms that do develop will create strong downburst winds, generate new outflows, and produce lightning that is dangerous for any outdoor operations and potentially spark new fires. Storms are not likely to produce much in the terms of wetting rains today or tomorrow. However, chances for wetting rains may improve Saturday and beyond if more moisture moves into the region.
...Thunderstorms imply gusty winds...
Note...Additional Fire Weather Forecast information can be found in the Area Forecast Discussion. See product PHXAFDPSR.
AZZ133-210845-
Southern Gila County/Tonto National Forest Foothills-
Southern Tonto NF/West San Carlos BIA/South Portion Ft Apache BIA/
CAZ-
137 PM MST Thu Aug 20 2020
.TONIGHT...
* Sky/weather.....Partly cloudy. Haze in the evening. Slight chance of thunderstorms in the evening. slight chance of showers .
* Min Temperature.....65-82.
* 24 hr trend.....Little change.
* Max Humidity.....46-68 pct.
* 24 hr trend.....13 pct wetter.
* Winds - 20 foot...Slope/Valley..West 5 to 15 mph.
* Winds...10000 FT MSL.....North 15 to 25 mph.
* Chance of Precip.....20 to 30 percent.
* LAL.....2 in the evening becoming 1 after midnight.
.FRIDAY...
* Sky/weather.....Mostly sunny. Slight chance of showers in the afternoon.
* Max Temperature.....90-104.
* 24 hr trend.....5 degrees cooler.
* Min Humidity.....22-33 pct.
* 24 hr trend.....7 pct wetter.
* Winds - 20 foot...Slope/Valley..West 5 to 15 mph.
* Winds...10000 FT MSL.....Northeast 15 to 25 mph.
* Chance of Precip.....0 percent in the morning becoming 10 percent in the afternoon.
* LAL.....2 in the afternoon.
* Haines High Level Index.....5 moderate potential for large plume dominated fire growth.
.FRIDAY NIGHT...
* Sky/weather.....Mostly clear.
* Min Temperature.....63-81.
* 24 hr trend.....Little change.
* Max Humidity.....51-78 pct.
* 24 hr trend.....8 pct wetter.
* Winds - 20 foot...Slope/Valley..West 5 to 15 mph.
* Winds...10000 FT MSL.....North 5 to 15 mph in the evening becoming 15 to 25 mph after midnight.
* Chance of Precip.....10 percent.
* LAL.....1 in the morning becoming 2 in the afternoon.
.SATURDAY...
* Sky/weather.....Mostly sunny. Slight chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon.
* Max Temperature.....91-104.
* 24 hr trend.....Little change.
* Min Humidity.....24-35 pct.
* 24 hr trend.....Little RH change.
* Winds - 20 foot...Slope/Valley..West 5 to 15 mph.
* Winds...10000 FT MSL.....Northeast 15 to 25 mph in the morning becoming east 5 to 15 mph in the afternoon.

Fire Weather Zone Forecast

* Chance of Precip.....0 percent in the morning becoming
20 percent in the afternoon.
* LAL.....1 in the morning becoming 2 in
the afternoon.
* Haines High Level Index.....6 high potential for large plume
dominated fire growth.
.EXTENDED...
.SUNDAY...Partly cloudy with slight chance of showers and
thunderstorms. Lows 65-84. Highs 92-106. Southwest winds 5 to
15 mph.
.MONDAY...Partly cloudy with slight chance of showers and
thunderstorms. Lows 65-84. Highs 93-109. East winds 5 to 15 mph.
.TUESDAY...Partly cloudy with slight chance of showers and
thunderstorms. Lows 64-84. Highs 92-108. East winds 5 to 15 mph.
.WEDNESDAY...Partly cloudy with slight chance of showers. Lows
64-83. Highs 91-107.
.THURSDAY...Mostly clear. Lows 65-83. Highs 93-108.
\$\$
.8 TO 10 DAY OUTLOOK...Friday August 28th through Sunday August
29th: Above normal temperatures and below median precipitation.

1.4. Modeling

Near Term (NTFB_0820_Perim_Globe_3D - Started on 08/20/20 12:00 ended on 08/22/20 20:00)

Near Term Fire Behavior Analysis Information

NAME	VALUE
Analysis Name	NTFB_0820_Perim_Globe_3D

Burn Periods

Date	Start Hour	End Hour	Acres
08/20/2020	12	20	7,302.2
08/21/2020	12	20	15,377.5
08/22/2020	12	20	18,242.3

Image is not currently available.

1.5. Risk

Relative Risk

NAME	VALUE
Relative Risk High	
Duration	Moderate
Saved By	Lata, Mary
Completed	08/19/2020 18:06 CDT

Relative Risk Notes

Notes: The fire is currently active, and has moved quickly where there has been alignment. Thunderstorms in the proximity of the fire could put it out, or severely curtail spread within the next week. However, they can also produce outflow winds that increase fire behavior, and make the direction of spread unpredictable - that happened last night, causing the fire to jump a four lane highway. Fire behavior potential is well above average for this time of year because of invasive grasses combined with exceptionally dry and hot conditions.

POTENTIAL DURATION

The fire will likely last more than a few days, but not for a month. Most of the fuels in the planning area are grass and shrub, and there is a chance of some precipitation in the next few days. However, monsoon has been spotty and sparse this year, making it difficult to predict duration. The duration of this fire depends largely on the weather over the fire - if there are outflow winds, it could move the fire around into heavier fuels, resulting in a longer duration fire.

Values Notes

NATURAL/CULTURAL RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE VALUES

The planning area includes the following Values:

- ¿ Designated Critical habitat for and observations of the Willow Flycatcher, all along the Salt River
- ¿ Proposed habitat from the 288 bridge over the Salt River for Narrowheaded garter snake and Razerback suckers.
- ¿ Proposed Critical Habitat for Yellowbilled Cuckoo from the bridge to the lake, and also along Pinal Creek including the private land
- ¿ Multiple cultural sites and resources (details are not available at this time)
- ¿ Salt River Wilderness
- ¿ Range infrastructure and forage for wildlife and livestock
- ¿ Ranches: Hollis, Bell, LF, and Dagger
- ¿ Communities of Wheatfields, Roosevelt, Roosevelt Estates,
- ¿ Hwys: 188, 288
- ¿ KV powerlines: one is APS one is SRP - those two are in the same corridor. Both are major 500 KV lines that serve The Valley. The powerlines are also a concern because of the potential for thousands of people in the Valley to lose power when temperatures are over 110° each day
- ¿ There is a separate corridor that is a 115KV line (SRP) - this one has some wood poles. Important Birding Area (IMP) Salt and Verde Ecosystem
- ¿ Several mining claim areas
- ¿ Pringle pump is a well site that is infrastructure for the Freeport Mine.
- ¿ Grazing allotments

PROXIMITY & THREAT OF FIRE TO VALUES

- ¿ Powerlines, mainly KV, are within or around the current fire perimeter as of 1400 on 8/19. As of now, the fire has burned under portions of 500KV and 115KV transmission lines. The 115KV provide power for the mines.
- ¿ Guardrails burned and continue to burn along Highway 188.
- ¿ Though we have no inventory yet, range infrastructure has already been impacted, and will as these fires continue to burn.
- ¿ Sonoran Desert does is not adapted to fire, and is threatened on most sides of the fire, particularly at the lower elevations in Tonto Basin.
- ¿ On the evening of August 18th, outflow winds produced short-range spotting into grass and caused the Salt Fire to jump highway 188. The unnaturally dense and contiguous grass fuels across most of the fire area provide the means for the fires to spread quickly. When this is combined with the unpredictability of outflow winds, it means that any resources in close proximity to the fire could be impacted if there are outflow winds.

SOCIAL/ECONOMIC CONCERNS

Highway 188 is currently closed, and Highway 288 is available only for locals and permittees. This could have significant impacts on local communities who have experienced multiple large fires over the last two years, including evacuations, closures, and air quality impacts. This will decrease tourist visitation for businesses that were already hard hit by closures and evacuations in 2018 and earlier this year.

Air quality impacts have occurred in Globe and Roosevelt and other communities near the fire. There are many retirement communities in the Tonto Basin whose residents may be especially vulnerable to air quality impacts. These are likely to continue sporadically, with the location and intensity depending mostly on local winds.

Range infrastructure and loss of forage could may have significant impacts on permittees.

Mine operations may be disrupted as fire management activities and fire behavior result in closures or increased threat of fire to mine infrastructure.

Hazards Notes

FUEL CONDITION

- ¿ Currently, fuel moisture in manzanita is 52%, and in oak is 70%. Consistent with past years, fuel moistures are currently trending down as per the season.
- ¿ A wet fall/winter/spring produced a bumper crop of invasive grasses that has provided a surface load of fine fuels that is more contiguous and heavier than is typical. Record low precipitation and high temperatures mean the fine fuel load is now completely available, and providing means for fire to spread faster and further than is typical.
- ¿ There is no record of significant fire history in the planning area since the 1970s, just a few smaller fires in the interior in the 1970s, and some really small ones near Highway 188. Shrubs are mostly decadent and ready to burn, as per the first bullet (above).
- ¿ Where there are shrubs in the planning area, they are mostly about 40 years old, and have sufficient volume and dead/down material to burn.

FIRE BEHAVIOR

Fuels in the fire area are primarily grasses and shrubs. As per the fuel condition discussion above, surface fine fuel loading is allowing fire to move faster and further than is typical. These fuels, combined with steep topography and hot, dry conditions provide the needed ingredients for extreme fire behavior - in this case, high flame lengths in grass and shrubs, and high rates of spread. The higher RH values associated with nearby storms and some RH recovery overnight could slow or stop the fire in places, but overnight on the 18/19th, the fire was active most of the night. The lines of fire were less continuous in the morning, but there were still active areas. The fire has exhibited some extreme behavior, and spotty thunderstorms are in the forecast for the next few days, so it is possible there would be additional outflow winds from scattered T-storms. If the fire moves into higher elevations, it will move into areas of chaparral and heavier fuels.

The outlook for the next 10 days is for continued hot and dry, with RH in the single digits, and temperatures averaging 10°F above normal.

The fire was first reported at 1833 overnight, and grew to almost 200 acres by this morning. As of about 1430 on the 18th, it was about 700 acres, and by the afternoon of the 19th it was estimated at about 8,000 acres, though there is no perimeter data available at present.

POTENTIAL FIRE GROWTH

The uncertainty of additional fires, lightning, outflow winds, or other weather related variables this time of year increases the variability of potential fire outcomes. Typical winds this time of year would move the fire to the north/northeast/east, and forecasted winds align with that. However, as mentioned above, thunderstorms are expected in the vicinity of the fires over the next few days. As occurred overnight on the 17/18th, and the 18th/19th these can push the fire in unexpected directions with increased fire intensity and rates of spread. So there is potential for this fire to become large quickly.

Probability Notes

TIME OF SEASON

Typically, the fire season is slowing down at this point, because of monsoonal rains. However, this year the peak of the burning activity may not have occurred yet, and there may still be about 2 ½ months of the fire season left.

BARRIERS TO FIRE SPREAD

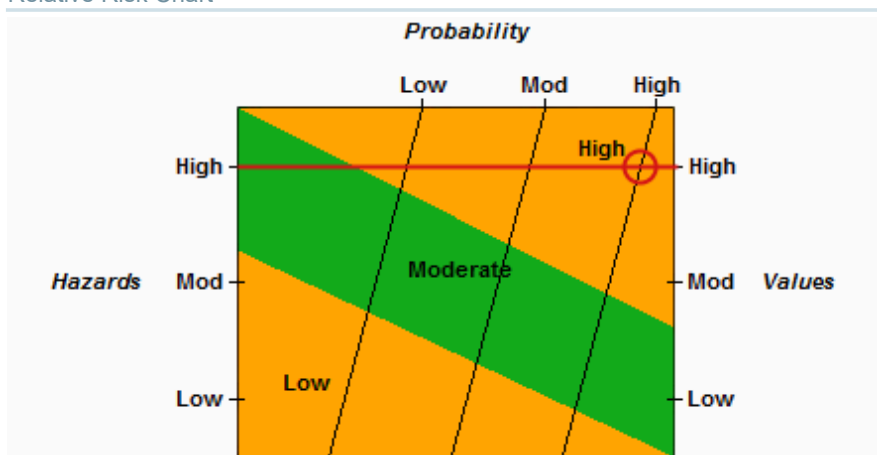
The most dependable barriers around the current fire location were thought to be Highway 288 to the west, and Highway 188 to the south, Pinal Creek to the east, and the Salt River to the north. Overnight last night, the fire jumped Highway 188 and, with current fuel conditions and the potential for outflow winds, there are few barriers that could be depended on.

SEASONAL SEVERITY

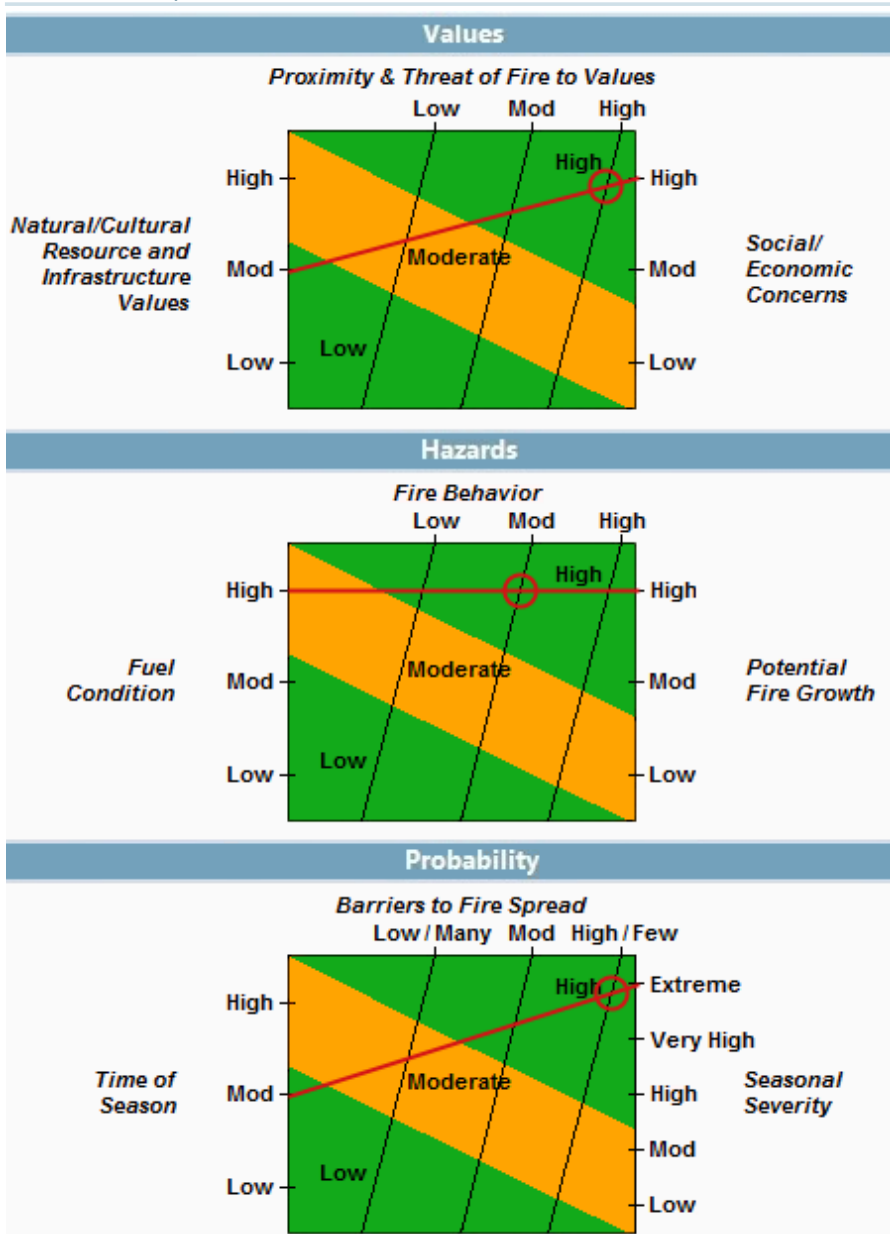
Current ERCs are at the 95th percentile in the Brush FDRA, and 96th in the Sonoran FDRA. Fuel moisture conditions are described above in 'Fuel Conditions', but are currently low and trending down. Temperatures have been, and will continue to be, about 10° above normal. Precipitation has been much spottier than usual, and currently this is one of the driest Augusts on record.

The longer term forecast is for La Nina conditions which, in the southwest, means a dry fall and winter.

Relative Risk Chart



Relative Risk Inputs



Organization Assessment

NAME	VALUE
Unit Recommended Org Type 2	
Saved By	Lata, Mary
Completed	08/19/2020 20:20 CDT

Organization Assessment Notes

Values at risk, though critical, at this point they are limited in scope with a large percentage of the fire area in remote, rugged country and limited values at risk. A lack of resources will limit issues with span of control.

Relative Risk Notes

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Implementation Difficulty Notes

POTENTIAL FIRE DURATION

Covered above.

INCIDENT STRATEGIES (COURSE OF ACTION)

The relative risk assessment for this fire is high.

Current actions include point protection of values at risk, indirect and direct actions, and monitoring / confinement of areas that are inaccessible by ground resources, or with few values at risk.

Aircraft will be used if and when they are available.

FUNCTIONAL CONCERNS

The forest has had multiple large fires this year, and there are increasing numbers of active large fires across the country; resources are already difficult to obtain. Aircraft, in particular, are in demand across the west, and will be difficult to obtain, though in the extreme terrain in the vicinity of the Salt Fire, it would be the only option in some areas.

If the fire crosses Pinal Creek on the east side of the fire, it will increase the threat to Wheatfield. To the east of the creek, there are fewer topographic features that would slow the fire. The fire has crossed Highway 188, and is threatening private ranches and mining operations.

Because resources are limited at this time (nationally, we're at PL5), the needed organization will be reduced, and span of control will be less than in a more typical year.

Currently, the Salt Fire is one of three fires being managed as a Group of Incidents as the Tonto Central Group. This complicates the management of resources and the fires. There continue to be multiple incidents and high levels of initial attack on the forest and adjacent area.

Ground personnel working in the vicinity of the 500KV lines is a concern if there is smoke in the area.

Socio/Political Concerns Notes

OBJECTIVE CONCERNS

Until and unless fire behavior changes, objectives are clear and straightforward. The primary objective of this fire is to minimize exposure for firefighters while suppressing the fire in areas where there is a high probability of success. Management actions will utilize direct and indirect and point protection tactics and strategies as needed.

EXTERNAL INFLUENCES

The Tonto Basin area and the associated communities have experienced major fires and related incidents this year and last year, affecting the public, state, and county. Currently (1630 8/19) there are rolling brownouts in Phoenix caused by the impingement of the Salt Fire on two 500 KV lines that run through the fire area. This has the attention of the governor and of the USFS Washington Office. While this could make it easier to get requested resources, it is likely to create additional work for public affairs on the forest and the incoming management team.

Additionally, there are ongoing concerns from previous fires about flooding, debris flows, infrastructure damage, and the associated evacuations should there be a heavy rain event.

OWNERSHIP CONCERNS

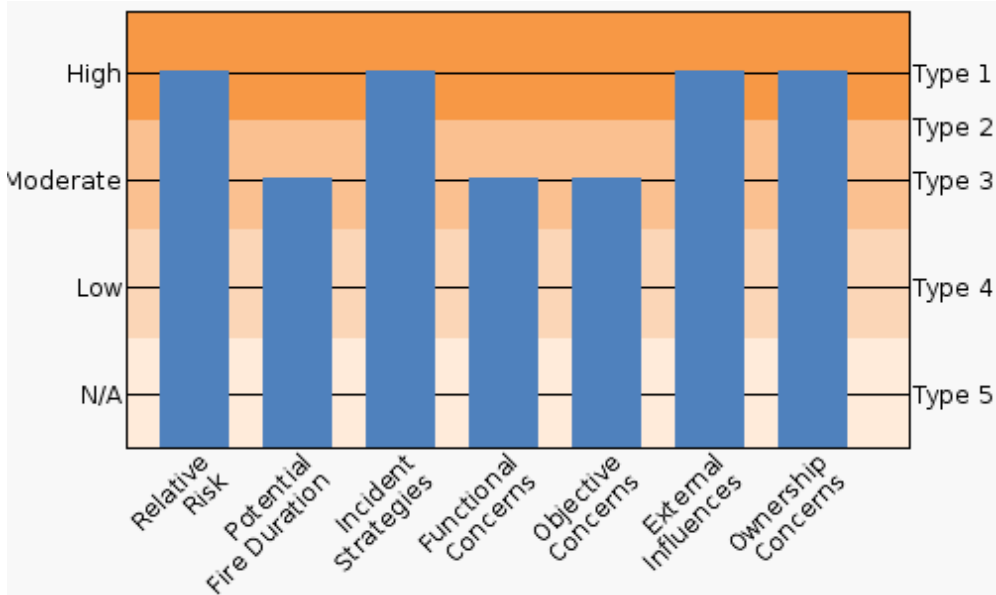
A significant portion of the community of Wheatfield, which is under the jurisdiction of the state, is within the Planning Area.

Additionally, Freeport-McMoran and BHP own mines within the area are also under the jurisdiction of the State.

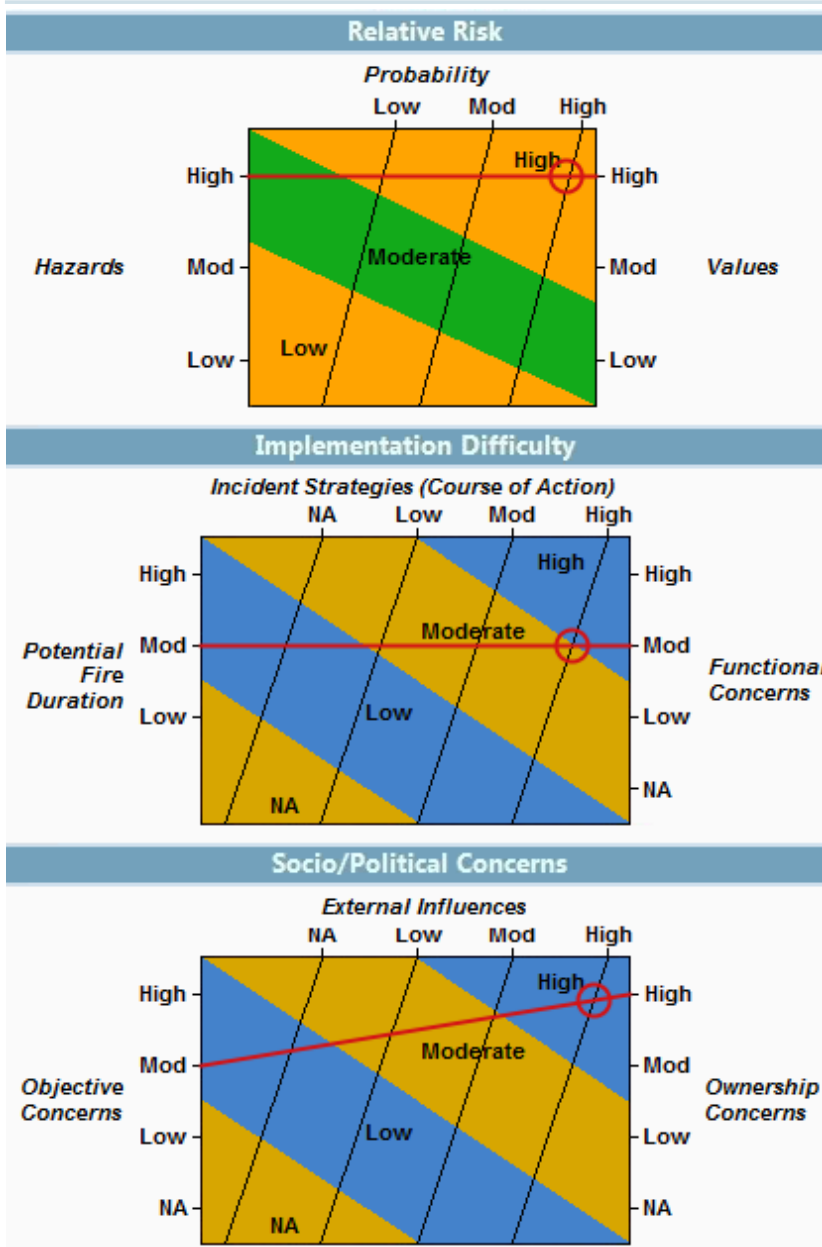
The following will need to be notified and kept informed of ongoing developments so they can be responsive to, and prepared for, expected effects:

- ¿ Gila County Emergency Services
- ¿ ADOT
- ¿ Grazing permittees
- ¿ SRP
- ¿ APS
- ¿ Gila County SO
- ¿ DPS
- ¿ City of Globe/Claypool
- ¿ City of Miami

Organization Assessment Chart



Unit Recommended Org:Type 2



Planning Area Values Inventory Generated at 08/19/2020 16:16

NAME	VALUE
Planning Area Name	08/20/2020 22:12
Incident Name	Salt
Planning Area Size	168,428 acres

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
AZTNF - Plants / AZ Hedgehog	8 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_100_Restore	7,706 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_112_Protect	4,399 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_121_Restore	95 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_122_Protect	28,998 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_123_Protect	32 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_124_Restore	13 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_125_Restore	9,337 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_126_Protect	7,796 acres	AZTNF		Unit

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_127_Protect	9,199 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_131_Protect	100 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_132_Protect	7,116 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_135_Exclude	1,975 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_136_Exclude	341 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_138_Protect	4 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_83_Restore	272 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_85_Restore	47 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_88_Restore	156 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_89_Exclude	7,386 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_91_Restore	5 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_93_Protect	6,938 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_94_Restore	458 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_95_Exclude	458 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_96_Restore	35,660 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_97_Restore	9 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_98_Protect	11,488 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Strategic Response / POD_99_Protect	28,980 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Wildlife / Bald Eagles	8	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Wildlife / Golden Eagle	31 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Wildlife / Razorback Sucker CH	101 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Wildlife / SWFL	106 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Wildlife / SWFL CH	1,183 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Wildlife / THRU	3 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Wildlife / YBCU	141 acres	AZTNF		Unit
AZTNF - Wildlife / YBCU CH	1,931 acres	AZTNF		Unit
BLM Range Allotments	9,587 acres	BLM	03/11/2019	National
Building Clusters: Gila, AZ	2,978	Various	Various	Available counties
Communication Towers	92	HIFLD	02/20/2020	National
County: Gila, AZ	168,426 acres	USFWS ECOS	2/10/2020	National
Electric Sub Stations	1	Homeland Security Open Data	10/7/2019	National
Electric Transmission Lines	67.3 miles	Homeland Security Open Data	9/24/2019	National
Est Ground Evac Time: 1-2 Hrs	50,667 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Est Ground Evac Time: 2-4 Hrs	36,059 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Est Ground Evac Time: 4-6 Hrs	2,005 acres	National Park Service NIFC	11/01/2012	CONUS
Estimated Population	5,123	LandScan USA	2018	CONUS, AK, HI
Habitat: Narrow-Headed Gartersnake	782 acres	US Fish and Wildlife Service	02/01/2020	National
Habitat: Razorback Sucker	101 acres	US Fish and Wildlife Service	02/01/2020	National
Habitat: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	1,184 acres	US Fish and Wildlife Service	02/01/2020	National
Habitat: Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	1,932 acres	US Fish and Wildlife Service	02/01/2020	National
Landowner Category: BLM	2,816 acres	PAD-US 2.0, AICC, BIA/WFDSS, Census	03/12/2020	National
Landowner Category: Private	21,649 acres	PAD-US 2.0, AICC, BIA/WFDSS, Census	03/12/2020	National

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Landowner Category: USFS	143,961 acres	PAD-US 2.0, AICC, BIA/WFDSS, Census	03/12/2020	National
Mines	2	HSIP	04/2017	National
Natl Scenic Byways	6.5 miles	NPS	2/28/2019	National
Other Areas: Summit Watersheds Research Area, Plo 3263	320 acres	USGS PADUS 1.4	03/13/2019	National
Roads	33.1 miles	NAVTEQ	11/2012	National
USFS Buildings	8	USFS	2020	National
Wilderness: Salt River Canyon Wilderness	8,700 acres	Wilderness.net	01/31/19	National

Coverage of Values Queried that Produced No Results

BLM Buildings (BLM Lands), BLM Horse and Burro (National), BLM Oil / Gas Leases (National), Campgrounds (National (BLM and USFS only)), Class 1 Airsheds (National), Electric Power Plants (National), IRA (National), NPS Buildings (National), NRA (National), Natl Historic Trails (National), Natl Recreation Trails (National), Natl Scenic Trails (National), Natl Wild Scenic Rivers (National), Oil and Gas Pipelines (National), Ozone Non-Attainment (National), Particulates Non-Attainment (National), Protecting Unit (AK, CA, ID, MT, NM, MN), Sage Grouse Habitat (National), TNC Lands (National), USFWS Trails (National), WSA (National)

1.6. Benefits

1.7. Objectives

Incident FMU/Strategic Objective Code List

Unit	FMU/Strat Obj Code	Acres
AZA4S	Private	9,566
AZPHD	AZ_PHD_001 - PDO Desert South of I-10	2,819
AZTNF	2B - Globe RD Salt River Canyon Wilderness	5,704
AZTNF	2F - Globe RD General Management Area	121,917
AZTNF	6F - Tonto Basin RD Roosevelt and Apache Lakes Recreation Area	1,777
AZTNF	6G - Tonto Basin RD Salt River Canyon Wilderness	2,998
AZTNF	6J - Tonto Basin RD General Management Area	23,457

Spatial Fire Planning Inventory

Category	Value	Data Source	Currency	Coverage
Aqua Retardant Avoidance	9,060 acres	National - FS Land Only	April 2020	National (USFS Units only)
Mgmt Req: Recreation Sites	1 acres	AZTNF	Current	Unit Level
Mgmt Req: Sonoran Desert	27,645 acres	AZTNF	Current	Unit Level
Retardant Avoidance	2,029 acres	USDA FS Enterprise Data Warehouse	04/2020	National (USFS Units only)

Incident Objective List

Activated	Incident Objective
08/20/2020	<p>general</p> <p>Protect the identified values at risk of communities, critical infrastructure, private property, and air quality affecting communities by attempting to keep fire within the Planning Area.</p> <p>Cultural</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>Avoid or minimize any impacts to known cultural sites. Information on specific cultural resources is not available, but will be added to this objective when it becomes available.</p> <p>Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whenever possible, consult with resource advisors prior to implementing ground-disturbing activities to identify cultural locations to be avoided 2. Assign a PARA or ARPA with all heavy equipment 3. Avoid any ground disturbing activities in archeological sites 4. If a site is damaged, report to the Resource Advisor <p>Endstate:</p> <p>There is no significant disturbance to any cultural sites within the planning area from management actions.</p> <p>Range</p> <p>There are currently eight allotments within the planning area for the Salt, Gin, and Griffin Fires.</p> <p>Objective #1:</p> <p>Minimize adverse effects from fire and suppression activities to range improvement infrastructure</p> <p>Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work closely with District Range Specialists and permittee to identify locations of above-ground structures 2. When possible/feasible, use tactics to protect above-ground structures (fence, pipeline, storage tanks, etc.) <p>Objective #2:</p> <p>Prevent livestock loss of life</p>

Activated	Incident Objective
08/20/2020	<p>Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with District Range Specialists and permittee to identify cattle locations 2. Coordinate with fire personnel in the event that cattle need to be moved immediately 3. Stay in contact with fire personnel and permittees about the potential spread of fire and the trigger for moving cattle to other pastures <p>Wildlife</p> <p>Golden and bald Eagles</p> <p>There are eight known Golden Eagle nests within the planning area; five are along the Salt River; three are along Highway 60 (77).</p> <p>There are seven known Bald Eagle nests within the planning area, all are at the section of the Salt River where it flows into Roosevelt Lake or where Pinal Creek flows into the Salt River.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>Minimize disturbance from suppression activities to known eagle nest locations.</p> <p>Task:</p> <p>If safe to do so and can be implemented while meeting the direction for full suppression, avoid dipping near known nest sites and maintain a 300 foot retardant avoidance buffer at known nest locations.</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <p>To protect known nest locations from being destroyed or damaged by suppression actions.</p> <p>Endstate:</p> <p>Disturbance to adult and fledgling eagles and their nest structure was reduced or eliminated.</p> <p>Proposed or Designated Critical Habitat</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>Minimize negative habitat and disturbance effects from fire and suppression activities to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southwestern willow flycatcher and Razorback sucker (designated critical habitat) • Narrow-headed garter snake and Yellowbilled Cuckoo (proposed critical habitat) <p>Habitat primarily occurs on the Salt River, and the northern part of Pinal Creek where it flows into the Salt River. Additionally, there are habitat for Lowland Leopard Frog and Arizona Chub in these same areas. Both are Sensitive species, and will benefit from actions taken to protect the other species described above.</p> <p>Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adhere to mapped aerial retardant avoidance areas. 2. Unless necessary to ensure public or firefighter safety, maintain a 300 foot buffer from the Salt River and Pinal Creek. The area where the Salt River enters Roosevelt Lake and where Pinal Creek enters the Salt River is a particularly important habitat area for the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. There is a stretch of Pinto Creek right on the boarder of Tonto Basin and Globe Ranger Districts, and another on the southwestern part of the planning area near the large mining operation that is particularly important for the Yellowbilled Cuckoo. Avoid back burning or mechanical activities within a 300 foot buffer to protect and retain riparian critical habitat for species described above. 3. Utilize low impact suppression techniques in riparian areas as well as slopes leading to riparian areas. 4. When utilizing natural lakes, ponds, or earthen stock tanks as helicopter dip sites, avoid changing dip site locations without applying contamination mitigation measures, including sanitization of buckets, hoses, etc. to avoid the spread of invasive aquatic species. <p>Purpose:</p> <p>To protect or retain primary habitat components that make up proposed or designated critical habitat for southwestern willow flycatcher, Yellowbilled Cuckoo, narrow-headed garter snake, and razorback sucker.</p> <p>Endstate:</p> <p>Key habitat components for federally listed species were maintained or enhanced.</p>
08/20/2020	

Activated	Incident Objective
	<p>Gila Topminnow</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>Minimize adverse habitat and disturbance effects from fire and suppression activities to individual Gila topminnow and their habitats (Sycamore Spring and Grapevine Spring).</p> <p>Task</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unless necessary to ensure public or firefighter safety, maintain a 300 foot buffer from Sycamore and Grapevine Springs by avoiding burnouts to protect and retain upland riparian critical habitat for Gila topminnow. 2. When possible, utilize suppression techniques that maintain low to moderate fire severity on slopes adjacent to Sycamore and Grapevine Springs to minimize erosion and sedimentation post fire that may ultimately result in decreased dissolved oxygen levels that may kill fish. 3. Utilize low impact suppression techniques in riparian areas. 4. Keep retardant drops out of waterways including a 300ft buffer. 5. When utilizing natural lakes, ponds, or earthen stock tanks as helicopter dipsites, avoid changing dipsite locations without applying contamination mitigation measures, including sanitization of buckets, hoses, etc. to avoid the spread of invasive aquatic species. <p>Purpose:</p> <p>To protect aquatic habitat used by Gila topminnow and retain upland vegetation for slope and bank stabilization needed to reduce sedimentation and erosion post fire.</p> <p>Endstate:</p> <p>Gila Topminnow individuals were protected and key habitat components within their habitats were maintained or enhanced at Sycamore and Grapevine Springs</p> <p>Recreation</p> <p>General recreation values</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>Task:</p> <p>Endstate:</p> <p>Special Management Areas (SMAs)</p> <p>For all of the objectives below, the following objectives should be applied to SMAs when it does not compromise the safety of firefighters or the public, or the success of suppressing the fire.</p> <p>Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers:</p> <p>The Salt River above the Highway 288 bridge is the only EWS within the planning area.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>Avoid or minimize impacts to the Salt River if possible.</p> <p>Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the Salt River is needed as a dip site above the 288 bridge, it will be in consultation with a Resource Advisor 2. Avoid ground disturbing activities, including the use of heavy equipment in the riparian area <p>End state:</p> <p>After management actions on the Salt Fire have been completed, the Salt River will be in as good, or better condition than prior to the fire.</p> <p>Important Birding Areas (IBA):</p> <p>There is one IBA within the planning area: the Salt and Verde Riparian Ecosystem IBA.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>Minimize negative habitat and disturbance effects from fire and suppression activities to Important Birding Areas</p> <p>Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement tactics that keep fire severity low to moderate 2. Minimize disturbance, including excessive noise, in or near IBAs

Activated	Incident Objective
	<p>Purpose:</p> <p>Avoid adverse impacts to habitat and birds within the IBAs that could result from management activities or fire effects resulting from the Salt Fire.</p> <p>Endstate:</p> <p>Prefire conditions of the IBA will be maintained or enhanced by the fire and actions taken to manage it.</p>
08/20/2020	<p>salt river Wilderness</p> <p>Objective:</p> <p>To protect the preservation of wilderness character:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unimpaired for future use and enjoyment 2. Untrammelled by man 3. Undeveloped land retaining primeval character without permanent improvement or human habitation 4. Affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of human's work substantially unnoticeable, 5. Has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation <p>Ground Operation Tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid fire management actions (spike camps, helispots, sling site, dip sites, etc.) in Designated Wilderness. If these fire management actions cannot be avoided: • Keep them outside of meadows, and at least 200 feet from lakes, streams, trails, or other sensitive areas if possible. • Use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) • Select latrine sites a minimum of 200 feet from water sources with natural screening. • Use "leave no trace" camping techniques. • During fireline construction, limb vegetation adjacent to fireline as needed and ensure shrub or tree cuts are flush with the ground. • Align saw cuts to minimize visual impacts from more heavily traveled corridors. Slope cut away from line of sight when possible. • If heavy equipment is authorize, use alternative mechanized equipment such as excavators, rubber tired skidders, etc. rather than tracked vehicles when possible. <p>Aerial Operation Tasks:</p> <p>Avoid fire management actions (spike camps, helispots, sling site, dip sites, etc.) in Designated Wilderness. If these fire management actions cannot be avoided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep them outside of meadows, and at least 200 feet from lakes, streams, trails, or other sensitive areas if possible. • Use Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) • Maximize back haul flights as much as possible. • Use long line remote hook in lieu of constructed helispots for delivery or retrieval of supplies and gear. • Use natural openings for helispots and paracargo landing zones as far as practical. If construction is necessary, avoid high visitor use areas. <p>Endstate:</p> <p>Wilderness character was protected or restored.</p> <p>Infrastructure and private property</p> <p>Minimize fire impacts to residences, commercial properties, and critical community infrastructure to reduce the potential for adverse health, social, financial, and economic hardships. These include (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hollis, Bell, LF, Upper Horrall, Spring Creek, and Dagger Ranches • Highways 188, 60/77, and 288 • KV powerlines (2 500 KV lines and a single 115KV) • Pinto Valley Mine • The communities of Roosevelt, Wheatfields, Rock House, Miami/Claypool, and Globe
08/20/2020	<p>COVID</p> <p>Use a risk-based approach to provide for firefighter and emergency responder safety on the Salt, Gin, and Griffin Fire while operating in a COVID-19 environment, being deliberate in committing resources only when there is a reasonable expectation of success in protecting life and critical property and infrastructure as we work towards containment of the fire. Assure that residual risk to first responders is acceptable as we meet the following incident objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closely coordinate with state and county emergency response cooperators and health services to reduce and mitigate risks to public safety from operational and environmental hazards associated with the Salt, Gin, and Griffin wildfire and the potential for COVID-19 exposure and transmission to and from the local communities.

Incident Objective List

Activated	Incident Objective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide mechanisms to actively monitor, address, and rapidly share lessons learned when varying COVID-19 implementation protocols interrupt effective and safe wildland fire suppression operations and/or cause conflicts among firefighters and crews. • Minimize to the extent feasible smoke exposure to firefighters, communities, and other affected areas to reduce susceptibility to and consequences from COVID-19 exposure. • Use a risk-based approach to provide for firefighter and emergency responder safety on the Salt, Gin, and Griffin Fire while operating in a COVID-19 environment, being deliberate in committing resources only when there is a reasonable expectation of success in protecting life and critical property and infrastructure as we work towards containment of the fire. Assure that residual risk to first responders is acceptable as we meet the following incident objectives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Closely coordinate with state and county emergency response cooperators and health services to reduce and mitigate risks to public safety from operational and environmental hazards associated with the Salt wildfire and the potential for COVID-19 exposure and transmission to and from the local communities. 2. Provide mechanisms to actively monitor, address, and rapidly share lessons learned when varying COVID-19 implementation protocols interrupt effective and safe wildland fire suppression operations and/or cause conflicts among firefighters and crews. 3. Minimize to the extent feasible smoke exposure to firefighters, communities, and other affected areas to reduce susceptibility to and consequences from COVID-19 exposure.

Incident Requirement List

Activated	Incident Requirement
08/20/2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commit resources only when there is a reasonable expectation of success in protecting life and critical property and infrastructure, encourage innovation and the use of doctrine for local adaptations. 2. Implement strategies and tactics that commit responders only to operations where and when they will have a reasonable probability of success and under conditions where important values at risk are protected with the least exposure necessary while maintaining relationships with the people we serve. 3. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic incident personnel are expected to be familiar with and implement to the best of their ability the guidance described within the "Wildland Fire Response Plan COVID-19 Pandemic" as provided by the Southwest Geographic Area. This guidance which includes a variety of Best Management Practices (BMPs) represents a framework of considerations for use by the IMT, assigned resources and other personnel committed to the incident.

Strategic Objective List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
AZA4S	<Unit>	05/24/2016	AZSF will utilize appropriate management strategies and tactics on all wildland fires with emphasis on firefighter and public safety, considering minimizing suppression costs, benefits, and values to be protected.
AZPHD	AZ_PHD_001	04/29/2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management response to unplanned ignitions will be full suppression for all lands within the LSFO Planning Area (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-45</i>). • Limit the extent of wildfires and the impact of fire suppression efforts on wildlife, plant communities, and natural and cultural features (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-46</i>). • Reduce the frequency of human-caused wildland fires and minimize the total number of acres burned within the Planning Area (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-46</i>). • For all fire management activities, a focus will be to maintain or improve habitat for federally threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-47</i>). • For all fire management activities, efforts will be made to reduce the impacts on natural and cultural resources (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-51</i>).
AZTNF	<Unit>	08/17/2013	On all Class E or bigger fires, an Interdisciplinary (ID) team will determine the need for fire rehabilitation and resource protection, including the option for assigning a Burned Area Rehabilitation Team (BAER Team).
AZTNF	2B	08/17/2013	<p>All reported wildland fires will receive a strategic fire size-up. Wildland fires meeting locally developed operating guidelines listed below may be managed for resource benefit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fire cause is from a natural ignition 2. Fire does not threaten life, property, public and firefighter safety. 3. Fire does not threaten fire sensitive cultural resources. 4. ADEQ, Air Quality Division procedures and guidelines for consultation and management of smoke will be implemented.

Strategic Objective List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Wildland Fire managed for resource benefit must meet Tonto, Regional, and National fire situation parameters. 6. No site specific resource objective is threatened.
AZTNF	2B	08/17/2013	Resource benefit optional - management of fire for resource benefits can be considered
AZTNF	2B	08/17/2013	For each wildland fire located in an FMU approved for wildland fire use and naturally ignited, a decision criteria checklist will be prepared to determine whether or not it should be declared a Wildland Fire use candidate.
AZTNF	2B	08/17/2013	Suppression of fires, or portions thereof, will be undertaken where they adversely affect forest resources, endanger public safety and/or have a potential to damage private lands.
AZTNF	2B	08/17/2013	All suppression efforts will emphasize minimum impact strategies. Use of mechanized equipment for fireline construction is discouraged. Where use is necessary, rehabilitation will be implemented.
AZTNF	2F	08/19/2013	Resource benefit optional - management of fire for resource benefits can be considered
AZTNF	2F	08/17/2013	<p>All reported wildland fires will receive a strategic fire size-up. Wildland fires meeting locally developed operating guidelines listed below may be managed for resource benefit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fire cause is from a natural ignition 2. Fire does not threaten life, property, public and firefighter safety. 3. Fire does not threaten fire sensitive cultural resources. 4. ADEQ, Air Quality Division procedures and guidelines for consultation and management of smoke will be implemented. 5. Wildland Fire managed for resource benefit must meet Tonto, Regional, and National fire situation parameters. 6. No site specific resource objective is threatened.
AZTNF	2F	08/17/2013	For each wildland fire located in an FMU approved for wildland fire use and naturally ignited, a decision criteria checklist will be prepared to determine whether or not it should be declared a Wildland Fire use candidate.
AZTNF	2F	08/17/2013	Suppression of fires, or portions thereof, will be undertaken where they adversely affect forest resources, endanger public safety and/or have a potential to damage private lands.
AZTNF	6F	09/05/2013	Resource benefit optional - management of fire for resource benefits can be considered
AZTNF	6F	09/05/2013	For each wildland fire located in an FMU approved for wildland fire use and naturally ignited, a decision criteria checklist will be prepared to determine whether or not it should be declared a Wildland Fire use candidate.
AZTNF	6F	09/05/2013	<p>All reported wildland fires will receive a strategic fire size-up. Wildland fires meeting locally developed operating guidelines listed below may be managed for resource benefit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fire cause is from a natural ignition 2. Fire does not threaten life, property, public and firefighter safety. 3. Fire does not threaten fire sensitive cultural resources. 4. ADEQ, Air Quality Division procedures and guidelines for consultation and management of smoke will be implemented. 5. Wildland Fire managed for resource benefit must meet Tonto, Regional, and National fire situation parameters. 6. No site specific resource objective is threatened.
AZTNF	6F	09/05/2013	Designated Wildland Fires managed for resource benefit will be monitored according to established guidelines.
AZTNF	6F	09/05/2013	Suppression of fires, or portions thereof, will be undertaken where they adversely affect forest resources, endanger public safety and/or have a potential to damage private lands
AZTNF	6J	09/05/2013	<p>All reported wildland fires will receive a strategic fire size-up. Wildland fires meeting locally developed operating guidelines listed below may be managed for resource benefit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fire cause is from a natural ignition 2. Fire does not threaten life, property, public and firefighter safety. 3. Fire does not threaten fire sensitive cultural resources. 4. ADEQ, Air Quality Division procedures and guidelines for consultation and management of smoke will be implemented.

Strategic Objective List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Strategic Objective
			<p>5. Wildland Fire managed for resource benefit must meet Tonto, Regional, and National fire situation parameters.</p> <p>6. No site specific resource objective is threatened.</p>
AZTNF	6J	09/05/2013	Designated Wildland Fires managed for resource benefit will be monitored according to established guidelines.
AZTNF	6J	09/05/2013	For each wildland fire located in an FMU approved for wildland fire use and naturally ignited, a decision criteria checklist will be prepared to determine whether or not it should be declared a Wildland Fire use candidate.
AZTNF	6J	09/05/2013	Suppression of fires, or portions thereof, will be undertaken where they adversely affect forest resources, endanger public safety and/or have a potential to damage private lands

Management Requirement List

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
	Aqua Retardant Avoidance	06/18/2013	<p>The aerial application of fire retardant is allowed for fighting fires. Aerially delivered fire retardant should not be applied to any mapped aquatic avoidance area, waterway or buffer. The only exception to using aerially applied fire retardant in avoidance areas is for the protection of human life or public safety. The Incident Commander is the decision maker.</p> <p>Information concerning the Record of Decision for the Aerial Application of Fire Retardant is available at https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html</p>
	Retardant Avoidance	05/31/2012	<p>The aerial application of fire retardant is allowed for fighting fires. Aerially delivered fire retardant should not be applied to any mapped terrestrial avoidance area, waterway or buffer. The only exception to using aerially applied fire retardant in avoidance areas is for the protection of human life or public safety. The Incident Commander is the decision maker.</p> <p>Information concerning the Record of Decision for the Aerial Application of Fire Retardant is available at https://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html</p>
AZPHD	<Unit>	04/29/2014	<p>Smoke Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the course of management of a wildland fire, fire managers will document potential smoke impacts on public health and safety as well as sensitive receptor sites. • Fire managers will coordinate appropriate and timely smoke monitoring and reporting with Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). Smoke monitoring may include: meteorological conditions; plume observations and documentation; smoke dispersal; and/or particulate monitoring. • Appropriate and applicable wildland fire management opportunities to reduce smoke impacts will be considered and documented (i.e. under "Courses of Action" in WFDSS). • Public information should be provided regarding potential smoke impacts on public health and safety as well as potential smoke impacts on sensitive receptors.
AZPHD	AZ_PHD_001	04/29/2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure firefighter and public safety is the highest priority in every fire or fuels management activity. Set priorities among protecting residences, community infrastructure, and other man-made property and improvements (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-45</i>). • Resource advisors from the BLM will be designated to coordinate natural resource concerns, including federally protected species. They will also serve as a field contact representative responsible for coordination with the USFWS. Duties will include identifying protective measures endorsed by the field office manager, and delivering these measures to the incident commander; surveying prospective campsites, aircraft landing, and fueling sites; and performing other duties necessary to ensure adverse effects on federally protected species and their habitats are minimized. On-the-ground monitors will be designated and used when fire suppression activities occur within identified occupied or suitable habitat for federally protected species (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-51</i>). • All personnel on the fire (firefighters and support personnel) will be briefed and educated by resource advisors or designated supervisors about listed species and the importance of minimizing impacts on individuals and their habitats. All personnel will be informed of the conservation measures designed to minimize or eliminate take of the species present. This information is best identified in the incident objectives (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-51</i>).

Unit	Shape/FMU	Activated	Management Requirement
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement general and species-specific conservation measures to the extent possible to minimize harm to federally listed, proposed, or candidate species within the action area (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. A-24</i>). • Fire suppression and rehabilitation in riparian corridors will be coordinated with the resource advisor or qualified biologist approved by the BLM (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-52</i>). • Conduct all fire management activities within ACECs and along the Anza NHT in a manner that will avoid or minimize degradation of these areas and values that have been identified in the respective legislative designations for these areas (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-51</i>). • Ensure fire management activities in wilderness areas are compatible with the applicable wilderness plan (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-51</i>). • Develop effective interagency and community interactions and cooperation to meet wildland-fire and fuel-management strategies and landscape-scale resource condition objectives across administrative boundaries (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. 2-54</i>). • Fire suppression will be carried out in a manner consistent with Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. A-23</i>).
AZPHD	AZ_PHD_001	04/29/2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect all known cultural resources from disturbance. Fire management activities will continue to avoid disturbing known archaeological sites or sites found during such activities. Fires will not be intentionally started at known sites. Archaeologists will serve as resource advisors for fire management and help develop and implement fire and fuels management plans, which would address effects on cultural resources. Fire crews will be educated about the need to protect cultural resources (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. A-23</i>). • Use suppression tactics that limit damage or disturbance to the habitat and landscape. Use no heavy equipment (such as dozers) unless approved (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. A-23</i>). • Use MIST, comply with the management plan to the maximum extent possible, and coordinate with resource advisors (<i>Lower Sonoran ROD & ARMP, September 2012, pg. A-24</i>). • Use of all fire chemicals will be accomplished in accordance with guidelines in the Interagency Policy for Aerial and Ground Delivery of Wildland Fire Chemicals near Waterways and Other Avoidance Areas (<i>Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations, 2014 and as updated</i>). • The Federal Land Manager or State Land Manager (F/SLM) in whose jurisdiction a wildfire occurs shall make available to ADEQ no later than the day after the activity all required information for wildfire incidents that burned more than 100 acres per day in timber or slash fuels or 300 acres per day in brush or grass fuels. For each day of a wildfire incident that exceeds the daily activity threshold, the F/SLM shall provide the location, an estimate of predominant fuel type and quantity consumed, and an estimate of the area blackened that day (<i>Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Environmental Quality, Chapter 2, Department of Environmental Quality-Air Pollution Control, Article 15, Forest and Range Management Burns 2004</i>).
AZTNF	<Unit>	08/17/2013	Management activities will be planned so that air quality will equal to or better than that required by applicable Federal, State, and local standards or regulations.
AZTNF	<Unit>	09/05/2013	Wildland Fires threatening the Wildland/Urban Interface will have high suppression priority
AZTNF	Recreation Sites	09/05/2013	Prevent Wildland Fire from destroying developed recreation improvements, including a five-chain wide buffer surrounding them.
AZTNF	Sonoran Desert	09/05/2013	Wildland Fire occurring within the Sonoran Desert and riparian communities will receive an appropriate management response. Suppression strategy is to minimize damage within this ecosystem.

1.8. Course of Action

Course of Action

Active	Inactive	Action Item
08/20/2020		Utilize direct and indirect tactics as appropriate to suppress the Salt, Gin, and Griffin Fires as safely and efficiently as possible.

1.9. Cost

Estimated Final Cost

NAME	VALUE
Estimated Final Cost	\$6,000,000
Method(s) Used	

1.10. Rationale

/Rationale for the Tonto Central Group 08/19/2020

Risk Assessment

1. What are the critical values at risk?

KV lines, highways (188, 288, 60/77), Pinto Valley Mine, communities of Roosevelt, Wheatfields, and Rock House, Globe/Miami/Claypool

2. What is the chance the critical values will be impacted, and if so what are the consequences?

KV lines and highways have already been impacted, as well as smoke impacts to the communities listed above. Roosevelt, Wheatfields and Rock House have been placed in 'set' status for evacuation. Impacted KV lines are already creating rolling brownouts in the Phoenix area. Current activities are focusing on completing control features and perimeter control.

3. What are the opportunities to manage the fire to meet land management plan objectives?

Where a management action, such as a burnout is planned, if it can be implemented in such a way that it produces beneficial fire effects, that would be desirable. However, such opportunities will not be sought.

4. What are the possible low probability/high consequence events?

High consequence events include damage to power lines, structure/infrastructure loss on federal, state and private lands, atypical fire behavior causing loss of T&E habitat.

5. Who are the stakeholders that should be consulted prior to making a decision?

¿ Gila County Emergency Services

¿ ADOT

¿ Grazing permittees

¿ SRP

¿ APS

¿ Gila County SO

¿ DPS

¿ City of Globe/Claypool

¿ City of Miami

Risk Decision

1. What alternatives (objectives, strategies and tactics) are being considered?

Where safe and feasible to do so, direct attack will be used. In light fuels and moderate terrain and light winds, one foot in the black is the safest method. Where terrain is extremely rugged and fuel loading is high, indirect tactics should be utilized. The intent is to minimize firefighter exposure by choosing where and when to engage the fire.

2. What is the exposure to responders for the alternatives being considered?

As discussed above, the objective is to limit exposure to firefighters by choosing when and where to engage the fire. Direct tactics will be utilized where terrain and fire behavior allows, providing good access to the black (safety zone) but more exposure to fire front. Where indirect tactics are being used, exposure issues will be unburned fuel between firefighters and fire and longer duration line prep time. Working along natural and man-made features (roads, trails, dry washes) will facilitate indirect options. Working in the vicinity of 500KV lines creates additional hazards for crews if there is heavy smoke in the area.

3. What is the relative probability of success associated with the alternatives being considered?

With high wind events, the probability of direct attack on the active flanks of the fire is low. Indirect options and point protection will have a higher probability of success until the wind event(s) decrease. Under more favorable conditions (decrease in wind) direct attack options in the light fuels and indirect options utilizing roads, natural barriers, etc. will have a higher rate of success.

4. What alternative provides for the best balance between the desired outcome and exposure to responders?

Based on current and expected conditions, a mix of direct and indirect attack would balance exposure of personnel while minimizing adverse impacts to values at risk.

5. What are the critical thresholds that will trigger reconsideration of the proposed alternative and how will they be monitored?

If the fire escapes the planning area or further threatens VARs, MAPs will be developed to identify trigger points for potential actions based on the VARs (see list in Information Section).

Rationale Summary

After meeting with all land agency administrators involved, the decision remains to suppress this fire and limit negative impacts to fire sensitive VARs and social/economic impacts to range permittees, mine operations, KV lines, communities (local and metropolitan), and other stakeholders who utilize the public lands involved or are otherwise affected. The Life First Commitment of making reasonable and prudent risk-based decisions to accomplish the agency mission while minimizing exposure to hazards for firefighters and the public remains the top priority.