



05/05/2011 Jarhead Fire Update

Southwest Area Incident Management Team

Incident Commander: Dugger Hughes

Public Information Officer: Jim Payne, 602-803-4270 (cell)

Public Affairs Officer/Landowner Contact: Bob DeGross, 239-695-1107, 239-293-3643 cell

Jarhead Fire Information: 239-695-0031

Fire Facts:

Location: **Center of Big Cypress National Preserve**

Size: approximately **21,645 acres (as of 1800 5/4/11)**

Percent Contained: **20%**

Cause: **lightning**

Number of Personnel: **297** Crews: **3 Type 1, 2 Type 2**

Date started: **04/26/2011**

Estimated Containment Date: **5/18/2011:**

Injuries to Date: **one (minor)**

Aircraft: **two Type 1 and two Type 3 helicopters**

Equipment: **four fire swamp buggies, 21 engines**

General Information/Announcements:

The National Park Service has established incident priorities that include firefighter and public safety, protecting private property, threatened and endangered species and their habitat, and natural and cultural resources. NPS resource advisors continue to work with crews to assess resource impacts and appropriate firefighting tactics.

No significant ground level smoke is anticipated today. Some smoke on U. S. 41 can be expected after dark, which will likely dissipate by 9 AM Friday.

Today's Activity:

Along the northeastern perimeter of the fire structure protection will continue. Burnout operations will proceed along Oasis Trail, keeping pace with the progression of aurally ignited interior fire. Structure protection will be implemented around Mutiny West Camp. Two tractor mounted hydraulic mulchers will be used to remove fuel on abandoned trails between Oasis Trail and Monroe Station, establishing a new southern containment line. Structure protection will be initiated around Monroe North Trail. Crews will be holding and improving the burnout north of Monument Trail/Buckskin Trail junction. A burnout will be conducted south along Monroe North road, keeping pace with, and ahead of the main fire. Along Monument Road between Stop Sign Camp and Monument Bypass the fireline will be held and improved. On the northwest flank fireline will be improved and extended. Burnout will proceed north to tie in with the existing cold burned out area.

Closures/Advisories:

The Preserve is closed west of Oasis Visitor Center to Turner River Road, south of I-75 and north of U.S. 41. This closure includes the Florida National Scenic Trail within the area and the Oasis ORV access.

Public Safety Message:

Please be aware of and observe area closures in effect due to aerial and firefighting operations. Drivers on U.S. 41 should exercise extreme caution due to smoke and fire vehicle traffic.

Partners/Cooperators

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Everglades National Park, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Ochopee Fire District, Everglades City Fire District, Florida Division of Forestry, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection, Collier County Sheriff's Department, Collier County Emergency Operations Center, Collier County Health Department.

The Southwest Area Incident Management Team took responsibility for fire suppression on 5/1/2011. The team is managing the fire under the direction of Big Cypress National Preserve, a unit of the National Park Service.

For More Information

<http://www.nps.gov/bicy/naturescience/2011-jarhead-fire.htm>

<http://www.nps.gov/fire/> , <http://www.inciweb.org>