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## Saguaro National Park News Release

*For Immediate Release*

June 26, 2010

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### MICA MOUNTAIN PRESCRIBED BURN – UPDATE #2

Tucson, AZ – After successfully burning one of four units within the Mica Mountain Prescribed Burn yesterday, fire officials have terminated further burning due to unfavorable weather and environmental conditions. This morning fuel moistures at the 8,000 foot site atop the Rincon Mountains were determined to be too low, putting the burn outside of its prescription parameters. In addition, the 3 to 5 day forecast indicated generally dry weather with only moderate relative humidity recovery at night.

Most resources on the burn will be demobilized tomorrow. A 7-person wildland fire use module from Zion National Park will remain on-site for the week to monitor the burned area.

Park Superintendent Darla Sidles commented that she was pleased the park was able to complete a 110 acre portion of the Mica Mountain Prescribed Burn, but added, “when the margin of error becomes slight, we will always err on the side of caution.”

Most of Saguaro National Park remains OPEN, with the exception of the following temporary backcountry closures in the Rincon Mountain District. Trail closures include Italian Spring (south of Park boundary), Cowhead Saddle, North Slope, Fire Loop, Spud Rock, Switchback, Mica Mountain, Mica Meadow, Bonita, Devils Bathtub, East Slope, Deerhead Spring, Turkey Creek (west of Park boundary), Heartbreak Ridge (north of Happy Valley Lookout), and Manning Camp (east of Douglas Springs intersection). Campground closures include Manning Camp, Grass Shack and Spud Rock. All off-trail areas within Saguaro National Park east of Douglas Spring and Manning Camp Trails are also closed. ***These closures will be evaluated on a daily basis, and will be lifted as soon as conditions are safe for hikers, equestrians and campers to enter the area.***

For updated information please call the park’s Fire Information Hotline at (520) 733-5150, or visit the NPS Fire and Aviation Management website at [www.nps.gov/fire](http://www.nps.gov/fire).