



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

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## Grand Canyon News Release

Release date: Immediate  
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### **Cape Royal Road to remain closed to allow the Roosevelt Fire to burn** *All other North and South Rim roads and facilities remain open*

**Grand Canyon, AZ-** The Cape Royal Road on the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park will remain closed until further notice to allow the naturally ignited Roosevelt fire to burn resource benefit. The Roosevelt Fire, a Wildland Fire Use fire, is located seven miles east of the North Rim developed area on the Walhalla Plateau. The Cape Royal Road, the only closure, is closed at it's junction with the Point Imperial Road.

The Roosevelt Fire was ignited by a lightning strike and was first discovered on July 19, 2007. This fire met the criteria for a Wildland Fire Use fire and will be allowed to burn naturally while being monitored by fire professionals. This fire is burning in a fire dependant ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forest. As of Thursday afternoon, the fire had burned approximately 1200 acres.

Wildland Fire Use is a management strategy that allows some naturally ignited fires to burn when weather conditions are favorable. This natural fire occurrence benefits the ecosystem by providing diversity which benefits plant and wildlife and by reducing dead forest material to ash, releasing soil nutrients.

The Roosevelt fire can be expected to burn for several weeks or until sufficient precipitation occurs to extinguish it. Visible smoke and fire activity will vary from day to day depending on weather and fuel conditions. This fire is being monitored by a Type II Fire Use Manager supported by a nine person Fire Use Module from the Stanislaus National Forest and Grand Canyon National Park fire professionals. This team will monitor fire growth, weather, and smoke impacts to the surrounding area.

Although the Cape Royal Road is closed until further notice, **all other North Rim roads and facilities are open. All South rim roads and facilities also remain open.**

For further information about the Roosevelt fire, please call the Park's recorded information message at (928) 638-7819 or visit the Park's Web site at [www.nps.gov/grca](http://www.nps.gov/grca)

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