

David Ferrell/WO/USDAFS 09/03/2009 03:31 PM To R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES

cc R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES, R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES, R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES, Bcc

Subject Re: Media release on fire

Please send me the talking points and we are not to talk with the media with LEI WO approval. Thanks dlf



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R3/USDAFS



R3/USDAFS 09/03/2009 03:21 PM

To David Ferrell/WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES,
R8/USDAFS@FSNOTES,
WO/USDAFS@FSNOTES
cc R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES,
R3/USDAFS@FSNOTES

Subject Media release on fire

The Waterwheel fire burned outside of Payson, AZ this last week. It burned approximately 500 acres. No structures were burned, however a number of residences were evacuated. A fire cause and origin investigation was done and the conclusion was that it was a holdover lightning fire. The local community is running wild with rumors of an arsonist, so as a consequence the forest has asked LEI if we can put out a press release telling people that the investigation is complete and that it was a lightning fire.

The acting captain, has contacted me in light of the recent media direction and advised she would work with the PIO on the forest to put out this local release.

Please let me know if this is acceptable or not.

USDA Forest Service
Law Enforcement and Investigations
office