<b>Note Taking Sheet for Pass-Around Cards</b>	
#1 Subject:	Visual Representation
#2 Subject:	Visual Representation
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### A Tinder Box

**June, 2002:** Weather conditions in Arizona are hot, dry and windy. There has not been much spring rain. National Forests are closed, and plans are made to fight wildfires this summer. It would be surprising if there were no fires in these conditions.

**Interesting Fact:** It can take 40-50 years for a ponderosa pine to grow to its tallest height. The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest, where most of the fire happened, used to have a lot of very large, older ponderosa pine trees. Over the past century, logging had cut much of the old-growth trees. In June 2002, a large portion of the trees were young. Which do you think would burn more easily? An older tree with a very thick trunk and very deep roots, or a younger tree with a thinner trunk and more shallow roots? The younger tree would burn more easily. This is one reason that the Rodeo-Chediski fire burned so hot and devastated so much forest land.



Older Ponderosa stand--mature trees often survive wildfire https://goo.gl/frVm111



Younger trees, thinner and more likely to die in a fire http://www.afmllc.com/images/Thinning\_of 1





# What a Way to Make a Living!

# How did the Rodeo Fire begin?

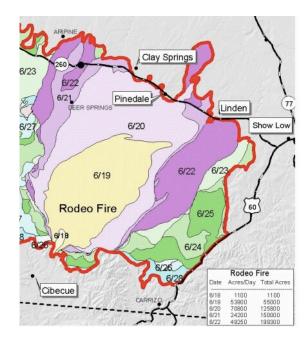
Most forest firefighters work part-time, because fires usually come during certain seasons. In Arizona, fire season is generally from late April until late July. Many of them work at other jobs for income throughout most of the year.

Leonard Gregg was a part-time professional firefighter, which means he could only get paid if there were fires to fight. He also hope to get a job with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (a federal agency) on their rapid-response team. On June 18, 2002, he decided to set a fire near Cibecue, hoping he would get work. This fire became known as the Rodeo fire.

It turns out that he had been a suspect in over 200 cases of arson near Cibecue, which is on the Fort Apache Reservation.

## SPOILER ALERT:

Gregg served nine years in jail, and owes \$27.9 million in restitution.





#### Approximate location of Cibecue

The Rodeo fire started near Cibecue. You can see Cibecue at the bottom of the map.





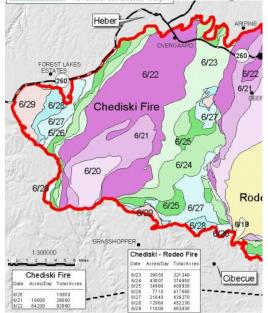
## Lost!

# How did the Chediski Fire begin?

June 20, 2002: Valinda Jo Elliot has been lost in the woods for two nights after her car ran out of gas. She is on Chediski peak, about 20 miles from the Rodeo Fire. She decides to set a signal fire hoping to be found and rescued. Her fire becomes the Chediski fire.

http://www.floa.org/rodeo\_chediski/rodeo629progress.jpg

You can see the Rodeo fire and Cibecue on the east and southeast side of the map.



http://www.floa.org/rodeo\_chediski/chediski1\_0620.jpg







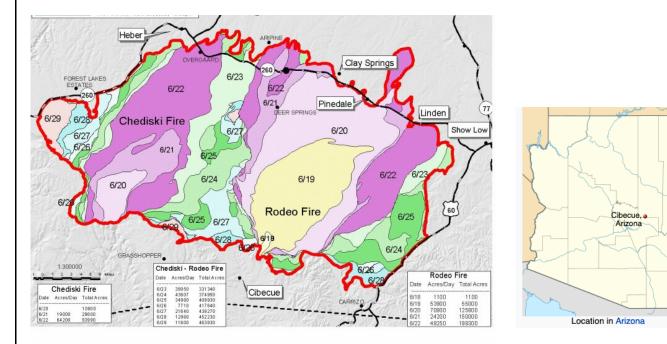
### **Two Fires Become One!**

# Why The Hyphenated Name Rodeo-Chediski?

On June 23, 2002, after days of gusty winds, Rodeo and Chedeski fires are so big that they merge into one fire. This fire is known as the Rodeo-Chediski fire and poses the biggest challenge Arizona firefighters have ever faced at that time.

How would you describe the area of the fire? What landmarks or towns would you refer to? (i.e. "north of Phoenix, west of Whiteriver")

Map of Rodeo-Chediski fire region



https://en.wikipedia.org/

http://www.floa.org/rodeo\_chediski/rodeo629progress.jpg





# Taking the Heat!

### Who Were the Firefighters?

Local fire departments, Bureau of Land Management (fire teams and aviation units), fire crews from the Fort Apache reservation, other governmental agencies' crews, and out of state firefighters fought the Rodeo-Chediski fire. As you may know, firefighters go through many classes and a lot of physical training to be able to be safe and effective in a wildfire. They have to communicate with each other and have great courage and caring for others.

Coordination of all the fire efforts is a very complex job. In years after the fire, and after other extreme natural events such as Hurricane Katrina; the United States created the National Interagency Incident Management System. This system helps all the groups who fight wildfires today to coordinate with one another and work together to effectively control the fire and avoid harm to people and the environment.

Photos from floa.org











### Wild at Heart

### What Wildlife Was At Risk During The Fire?

The Apache-Sitgreaves provides habitat for over 400 species of wildlife. The forest is home to most big game animals such as antelope, elk, deer, bighorn sheep, and turkey. It also is home to smaller animals such as songbirds, waterfowl, small mammals, fish, amphibians and reptiles. A lucky wildlife viewer may catch sight of a mountain lion, a black bear, or the newly re-introduced Mexican gray wolf.

The habitat is made up of ponderosa pine forests above the Mogollon Rim with some oak trees and aspen. Lower elevations feature juniper and pinyon-pine, oaks and chapparal.



Figure 1: Pine forest, meadow and stream, photo courtesy southwestforests.org



Figure 3 Pinyon-Juniper Woodland, courtesy Wikipedia.



Figure 2 Black Bear, Photo Photos courtesy of Thomas D. Mangelsen, Dirk Hobman, Brett Dickson, Jonny Armstrong, and Luke Zachmann, www.CSP-INK.org



Figure 4: Elk, photo courtesy gohunt.com



