

June 21, 2018 - 416 Fire Evening Update

416 Fire Wildfire
News – 11 hrs. ago

June 21, 2018 (8 p.m.)

Special notes: Today at 3 p.m., most San Juan National Forest and Durango-area BLM-managed lands reopened (fire areas are still closed). Stage 2 fire restrictions remain in effect. All open space and trails in the City of Durango reopened for use at 3 p.m., with exception of Lake Nighthorse and the surrounding shoreline, which will reopen at 7 a.m. Friday, June 22nd.

The Portland National Incident Management Organization (NIMO) team transitioned today with the Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team. This process ensures that the NIMO team is fully prepared to take over management of the 416 Fire at 6 a.m. tomorrow morning. As the Rocky Mountain team prepares to return home, we would like to thank the citizens, local agencies, and businesses of the area for your overwhelming support during this incident. We have never received better support, and you can all be proud of your community's efforts.

Weather: Winds remained mild today and there was no significant increase in fire behavior. Fuels continue to dry out with relative humidity levels reaching single digits in some areas today. Friday will be the hottest and driest day of the week, and a Red Flag Warning has been issued. Saturday and Sunday are now predicted to be critical fire weather days.

Current Situation: *Residents should be aware that smoke will be visible as fuels smolder in already burned areas, and some fuels could kindle with visible flame. Smoke coming from the interior of the fire is generally not a threat.*

As temperatures cool at night and relative humidity recovers, fire activity remains mostly dormant at night. Operations will continue during the day, and crews will be prepared to respond at night should any situations arise.

Branch I (Divisions A, D, E, F, G, and H): Today a short squad of hotshots worked on the southwest flank in Division D to ensure yesterday's hotspots were contained. The fire was monitored by air for other hotspots.

In the coming days, crews will be performing more chipping operations in Division A, continuing to clean up areas that were mitigated during former structure protection operations. They will then move into Division E to process logs in that area.

Branch III (Divisions X, Y and Z): In the coming days, crews in Division Z will be rehabilitating previously cut dozer and handline.

The Burro Fire is producing a separate update: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5834/>

The Burro Fire command has transferred to a Type 3 team under jurisdiction of the San Juan National Forest.

Closures and Public Safety: U.S. Highway 550 is open without an escort. For up to date information visit www.cotrip.org. La Plata County's 416 Fire Interactive Map is at <https://bit.ly/416fire>.

There are still countless recreational opportunities available and southwestern Colorado is open for business. Please see these websites for tourism and recreational opportunities:

La Plata County: <http://co.laplata.co.us/>

Official Durango Tourism site: <https://www.durango.org/>

Durango Business Improvement District <http://downtowndurango.org/>

Silverton, CO Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.silvertoncolorado.com/> **and other area chambers of commerce**

Fire Statistics:

Location: 13 miles north of Durango, CO **Start Date:** June 1, 2018

Size: 34,184 acres **Percent Contained:** 37

Total Personnel: 548 **Cause:** Under Investigation

Resources Include: 6 Type 1 hand crews, 4 Type 2 hand crews, 15 engines, 6 dozers, 1 water tenders

Helicopters: One Type 1, one Type 2, and one Type 3, (as well as two fixed wing aircraft)