

July 5, 2018 Daily Update

416 Fire Wildfire

News – 1:01 hrs. ago

416 Fire Morning Update

Thursday, July 05, 2018

Joe Reinarz, Incident Commander

You can get a downloadable pdf here <http://bit.ly/0705DailyUpdate>

Location: 13 Miles N. of Durango, CO

Size: 54,128 acres (growth of 869 acres)

Percent Contained: 45%

Start Date: June, 1, 2018.

Cause: Under Investigation

Cost to Date: \$28,900,000

Total Personnel: 432

Fire behavior and spread on the 416 Fire were very low Wednesday, resulting in only 869 acres in growth and the perimeter contained by fireline has increased to 45%. This decreased fire behavior is expected to continue today. This represents a 90% achievement of the overall containment objective. The suppression objective for this fire was to contain it where it could be safely engaged to protect values at risk including homes, roads and other developments.

Containing the western flank in wilderness and the north, was not possible due to the risks posed by steep terrain and danger to firefighters. Elevation and fuel conditions have almost stopped the fire's spread on most of the unlined perimeter. There is a segment of fireline near Olga Little Mountain on the southwest perimeter that still requires monitoring while it burns out. When it cools and no longer represents a risk of spread, fire officials will have reached 100% of containment objectives.

Retrieval and removal of pumps, hoses and portable tanks from the south end of the fire and from the defensive lines near Purgatory Ski Area, is complete. Retrieval of equipment east of Highway 550 near Electra Lake will be a focus of today's work. Incident Commander Joe Reinarz says he is sufficiently comfortable with the progress that has been made in building and holding line, coupled with the expected rain, that downsizing is the right thing to do. Firefighters, helicopters and other equipment are being released from the 416 fire to be re-mobilized to other higher priority fires in the region where life and property are more directly threatened.

Fire suppression repair will begin south of the fire today. Fire suppression repair is a series of immediate post-fire actions taken to repair impacts to the land and minimize the potential for soil erosion and other issues that might arise from fire line construction.

There is a chance of thunderstorms, dry lightning and wetting rains today. By Friday, it is forecast that a significant wetting rain will begin. The probability of rain increases through the weekend, with amounts ranging from .10 to .25 inches expected daily.

Smoke impacts to surrounding communities should diminish rapidly with very reduced fire spread.

The La Plata County Road 124 from the junction of County Road 124A remains closed. Accessing trails and roads that connect to the San Juan National Forest closure order area are being patrolled by law enforcement agencies. Although a restricted portion of Purgatory Ski Resort is opened, area closures and a fire ban remain in effect to ensure both public and firefighter safety.

Closures and Public Safety: For up to date road information visit www.cotrip.org.

Information Center: 970-403-5326 from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m daily.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/416Fire/>

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/5822>

Email: 2018_cosjf_416@firenet.gov