

# 416 Fire Update



National Incident Management Organization - Joe Reinartz, Incident Commander  
Information Center: 970-403-5326  
Hours of operation: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Website for 416 Fire: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5822>  
Email: [2018\\_cosjf\\_416@firenet.gov](mailto:2018_cosjf_416@firenet.gov)

**June 23, 2018 (8 p.m.)**

**Weather:** Sunday will be mostly sunny, hot and dry, and there is once again a RED FLAG WARNING. Highs will be in the mid-70s to low-80s and relative humidity 10-15%. Winds will be from the west at 10-15 mph with gusts nearing 25 mph and occasionally reaching up to 35 mph. Warm temperatures will persist into the week, approaching 90 degrees by Wednesday. Thursday and Friday will likely be critical weather days.

**Current Situation:** Continued drying of fuels has led to increased fire behavior. Today's fire behavior presented as mostly smoldering and creeping, with more significant burning in pockets of unburned fuel. Increased activity is likely again tomorrow, and certain areas of the fire could see anywhere from 5 to 100 acres of growth. Fire will be most active on the west side, and multiple areas of visible smoke are probable.

Today in *Division H*, four hotshot crews (Flagstaff, San Juan, Crane Valley, and Vail) were stationed near the indirect line on the southwest perimeter of the fire to monitor some increase in fire activity. Tomorrow, helicopters will perform multiple water and gel drops in this area where the direct and indirect lines meet.

The most active part of the fire today was near Clear Creek, just northwest of the indirect line. Aerial observation estimated 20-30 acres of spread. Fire managers continue to closely monitor the west side as fire behavior evolves.

*Division Y* also showed some activity, with fire increasing on the north perimeter on the ridges above US 550. There was significant smoke visible here today. Helicopters dropped water, crews worked the area with hand tools, and fire behavior was successfully reduced. This area does not pose any immediate threat.

*As was evident today, smoke and flame will continue to be visible within the fire's interior and on the southern edge, and fuels will continue to ignite as conditions grow warmer and dryer. Interior fire activity is generally not a threat, and firefighters will check on concerning hotspots or new areas of spread.*

Firefighters have been cleaning up around residences where they formerly performed mitigation operations. It is once again evident that the time and effort many residents put into mitigating their own properties has paid off significantly. Crews and fire management wish to encourage all residents to continue their excellent efforts at creating Firewise communities and building defensible spaces around their homes.

On Monday, a Burned Area Emergency Response team (BAER) assigned to the 416 Fire will hold its initial meeting to begin preparing for action. The BAER assessment will begin before the fire has been fully contained. The BAER team's assessments and subsequent implementations will be coordinated with the state, county and city.

**Closures and Public Safety:** For up to date information visit [www.cotrip.org](http://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

**Size:** 34,278 acres

**Total Personnel:** 466

**Resources Include:** 5 Type 1 hand crews, 5 Type 2 hand crews, 17 engines, 5 dozers, 1 water tenders

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

**Start Date:** June 1, 2018

**Percent Contained:** 37

**Cause:** Under Investigation