416 Fire Update

Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team - Todd Pechota, Incident Commander
Information Center: 970-403-5326
Hours of operation: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Website for 416 Fire: https://www.inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5822
Email: 2018_cosjf_416@firenet.gov

June 17, 2018 (8:00 p.m.)

Special notes: Today at 12 p.m. evacuated residents and businesses in the Hermosa area were able to return to their homes and businesses.

Weather: Tonight will be cool and clear with a light breeze. Monday will be mostly clear and sunny. Temperature highs for Monday are 65-75, and lows are 45-55. Minimum relative humidity is 18 to 24%. Winds will be from the southwest at 6-12 mph with gusts nearing 25 mph. Dry weather is expected for much of the week, with above normal temperatures and low afternoon humidity. Thursday may bring isolated afternoon and evening thunderstorms.

Current Situation: Decreased fire behavior and increased containment has allowed for reduced overnight staffing. Tonight, there will be five engines, a task force leader and a division supervisor patrolling and monitoring the fire perimeter.

Branch I (Divisions H, D, A, E, F, and G):
Various areas of the fire received between 0.65 and 0.90 inches of rain today. Cloud cover remained heavy throughout most of the day. Due to the clouds and wet, muddy road conditions, crews were largely unable to access Division D today. One hotshot crew was able to begin work on indirect line construction on the west side, north of Tripp Gulch, beginning at Junction Creek Rd. The plan for a direct attack to secure the fire on Falls Creek Ridge continues, and once they are able, more crews will be in Division D constructing direct and indirect fireline. With some clearing of cloud cover early evening today, helicopters were able to fly and scout for safe places to deliver crews tomorrow.

Tomorrow, crews in Divisions E and F will continue to improve alternate, indirect fireline toward Junction Creek.

Branch III (Divisions X, Y and Z): All areas of Divisions X, Y, and Z have now been re-populated, and fire behavior here is minimal or non-existent. Crews will continue backhaul and patrol in these areas.

Division II: The Burro Fire is producing a separate update. See: *https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5834/*

Closures and Public Safety: U.S. Highway 550 opened without an escort as of 8 a.m. today. For up to date information visit www.cotrip.org. For up to date information on evacuation statuses, please contact the La Plata County Emergency Operations Center at 970-385-8700 or visit www.co.laplata.co.us. La Plata County's 416 Fire Interactive Map can be found at https://bit.ly/416fire . Here, you can pinpoint whether you are in an evacuation or pre-evacuation zone, as well as your proximity to the fire's perimeter.

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: 34,161 acres
Total Personnel: 1,087
Start Date: June 1, 2018
Percent Contained: 30
Cause: Under Investigation
Resources Include: 11 Type 1 hand crews, 13 Type 2 hand crews, 53 engines, 13 dozers, 5 water tenders
Helicopters: Five Type 1, two Type 2, and two Type 3, (as well as two fixed wing aircraft)