

## June 22, 2018 - 416 Fire Update

416 Fire Wildfire

News – 1:29 hrs. ago

### 416 Fire Update

National Incident Management Organization - **Joe Reinarz, 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 22, 2018 (9 a.m.)

**Special notes:** The Portland National Incident Management Organization (NIMO) team assumed management of the 416 Fire at 6 a.m. this morning. The team will continue fire management strategies and tactics implemented by the previous Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team.

**Weather:** Critical fire weather is expected today with temperatures rising into the upper 80's and relative humidity moving to single digits. Dry conditions will continue moving in this afternoon, with increasing winds in the afternoon and evening. Gusts could consistently reach 25 mph and occasionally reach 35 mph. This combination has resulted in a RED FLAG WARNING from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. today. Critical fire weather will likely continue tomorrow.

**Current Situation:** Today's weather could support very active fire behavior where a source of ignition is present. Within the over 34,000 acres of burned area, there are multiple locations of smoldering dead/downed materials that serve as an ignition source. These may send up visible columns of smoke; flame could also be visible. *While it may appear alarming at first sight, smoke coming from the interior of the fire is generally not a threat, and firefighters are monitoring this activity and will respond to concerning hotspots.* Fire spread is predicted to the west and northwest, and this activity may intensify as fire weather behavior grows critical once again. Dispersed smoke or even large columns may be visible overhead, and residents may smell smoke. Fire activity on the west side will be monitored by air. This area is rugged, dangerous terrain that is not safe for ground crews, and there is no threat to life or structures in this area.

Planned structure protection, containment lines, and contingency lines for the 416 Fire are being completed. Daily operations are now focused on rehabilitation; however, there are hand crews, engines, dozers, and other resources prepared to immediately implement firefighting tactics should fire activity intensify. Fire managers will maintain a strong overhead team to manage the fire on a long-term basis until significant precipitation occurs. Future tactics will be determined based on fire behavior. This report will refer to specific divisions when applicable while providing an overall, big picture view.

*In Division D*, the Craig Hotshots continue to monitor hotspots that occurred on the south perimeter of the fire. Three hotshot crews spiked out last night near the Junction Creek Rd and are in the area to monitor the southwest perimeter. *Near the Division E and F break*, crews have constructed some water bars in the area of the Junction Creek drainage.

As mitigation and structure preparation took place over the past few weeks, materials such as logs and slash accumulated outside of constructed fuel breaks/fireline. Crews in all divisions will now process and/or remove these materials and continue to improve firelines. Equipment will be removed from areas where it is not needed; however, equipment will remain in areas of potential fire growth.

**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 **Start Date:** June 1, 2018

**Size:** 34,224 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)