

July 6, 2018 Daily Update

416 Fire Wildfire

News – 57 min. ago

416 Fire Morning Update

Friday, July 06, 2018

Joe Reinarz, Incident Commander



Location: 13 Miles N. of Durango, CO

Size: 54,129 acres

Percent Contained: 45%

Start Date: June, 1, 2018.

Cause: Under Investigation

Cost to Date: \$29,500,000

Total Personnel: 383

Continued cool, wet weather has reduced fire behavior to creeping and smoldering in heavy fuels that are sheltered by the tree canopy. As the amount of rain increases, it will penetrate the canopy, wetting fuels and making them less available to burn. Smoke impacts to surrounding communities should diminish rapidly as fuels become saturated.

The National Weather Service has issued a flash flood watch for the 416 fire area in effect from this afternoon through this evening. Meteorologists are forecasting heavy rainfall over the burn area, which may lead to flash flooding and debris flows. Residents near this wildfire and along the Highway 550 corridor near Hermosa should prepare for potential flooding impacts. Be sure to stay up to date with information from local authorities. The probability of rain increases through the weekend, with amounts ranging from .10 to .25 inches expected daily.

The suppression objective for this fire has been met - 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. All firelines have held and, at this time, with the expected rain, the fire should not spread further.

Retrieval and removal of pumps, hoses and portable tanks from the area east of Highway 550 near Electra Lake was completed today. 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 began yesterday. 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.

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.nwcg.gov/incident/5822>

Email: 2018_cosjf_416@firenet.gov