



Beaver Creek Fire

July 24, 2016, 8:00 am

Closures & Advisories:

Closure orders have been issued for the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands and can be found at: inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4797

Evacuation orders remain in place as issued by the Jackson Co. Sheriff's Office

Fire Size Today:

25,491 acres

Containment:

5%

215 Firefighters:

3 crews, 15 engines, 1 dozer and 2 helicopters

Location:

24 miles north of Walden, Colorado

Fire is being managed on the Medicine Bow - Routt National Forests, BLM Kremmling Field Office, State of Colorado Lands, BLM Rawlins Field Office and Wyoming State Forestry Division

Started:

6/19/16; The cause of the fire is actively being investigated by U.S. Forest Service law enforcement.

Management: Warder's Type 3 Incident Management Team

Yesterday's weather brought a drying trend that increased fire behavior, including some interior heat, smoke, and both single tree and group tree torching. "The fire woke up a little bit today," Fire Behavior Analyst Phil Perkins reported in this morning's briefing.

Similar weather is expected today, with temperatures between 78-81 degrees and humidity ranging from 14-17%. Sunny skies will further increase the drying trend. "We'll see a longer duration of sun on the slopes because of the lack of cloud cover," according to Tim Matthewson, Incident Meteorologist.

On the southeast portion of the fire, helicopters dropped water to cool hot spots and prevent fire advances. Crews continue work on a mechanical line between 3 Mile Creek and Parson's Draw, including use of two feller bunchers which cut and grab trees. The feller bunchers are then followed by a skidder that moves the trees out of the area. Using this type of equipment, where the operator is enclosed within a cage, allows safer access into forested areas where many dead, standing trees remain. More personnel and equipment are being brought in to help with the line construction in preparation for a burnout operation expected early this week.

A plane capable of capturing infrared imagery flew over the fire early this morning to detect heat within the fire's perimeter. Cloud cover interfered with obtaining complete imagery, so the flight produced limited useful data. Another infrared flight is scheduled for tomorrow. Once the infrared information is interpreted, the incident management team will review the data and evaluate the fire's perimeter. The thermal imagery will help estimate additional containment in areas where crews have been unable to walk the fireline because of rugged terrain.

Incident Information: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4797/>

Twitter: @FS_MBRTB #BeaverCreekFire

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BeaverCreekFire/>

Fire Information 307-223-2291

Media Information Line 307-223-2220



