



Beaver Creek Fire

July 26, 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:

26,067 acres

Containment:

12%

268 Firefighters:

4 crews, 24 engines, 2 dozers and 3 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

Hot, dry, and unstable weather continue to be a factor this week on the Beaver Creek Fire. Relative humidity continued to drop to 10-12% in the fire area; the lowest levels in quite some time. Temperatures should remain in the 80's today. Afternoon thunderstorms and gusty winds resulted in active fire behavior yesterday. As a result, daily peak burning periods are longer with interior heat, smoke, and both single tree and group tree torching. Meteorologist Tim Mathewson advised the crews that northwest winds will continue to impact the fire.

Yesterday, firefighters began direct fireline construction in the southeast portion of the fire. In the afternoon, a combination of wind events and mechanical issues with the Type 1 helicopter dictated a change in operations. For safety reasons, the incident management team directed crews to disengage from direct attack and move back to a contingency line that had been constructed earlier in the week. They implemented a burnout operation that had been planned as an alternate strategy, setting fire inside a control line to consume fuel between the control line and the edge of the wildfire. This tactic slows the advance of the wildfire as the fuel the fire would need is eliminated. Crews will continue their work in this area today. The emphasis in this area of the fire is needed as fire modeling indicates this is a location for potential fire growth toward structures.

Structure protection will again continue along Road 600, along with mechanical fireline construction on the northeast side of the fire.

More smoke was visible in the area yesterday during the burnout operation. Caution signs have been installed on CO Highway 125 and WY Highway 230 north of Cowdrey to warn travelers of possible increased smoke in the area. Smoke may be visible each afternoon as the dry weather remains in place.

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



