



## Forest Service News Release

Public Affairs Officer: Kimberlee Phillips

(970) 874-6717

[kimberlee.phillips@usda.gov](mailto:kimberlee.phillips@usda.gov)

[www.fs.usda.gov/gmug](http://www.fs.usda.gov/gmug)



Media Contacts:

Public Information Officer, Niki Carpenter

(970) 765-7123

[2023.lowline@firenet.gov](mailto:2023.lowline@firenet.gov)

Public Affairs Specialist: Brittany Perrin

(970) 783-8054

[brittany.perrin@usda.gov](mailto:brittany.perrin@usda.gov)

### Lowline Fire Update

**Gunnison, Colorado, July 27, 2023**

**9 a.m.**

Name: Lowline Fire

Location: 14 miles north northwest of Gunnison, Colorado, 11 miles southwest of Crested Butte, Colorado. Located on a ridge at 9400 ft. elevation between Squirrel and Mill Creeks, 3.5 miles west of County road #730, Ohio Pass road.

\*Please note that yesterday's release described the location of the Lowline Fire as north northeast of Gunnison in error. The correct fire location is north northwest of Gunnison.

Size: Approximately 681 acres

Cause: Lightning

Jurisdiction: USFS

Containment: 0%

Threatened Structures: 10

At approximately 8 a.m. Wednesday, July 26, the Lowline Fire was reported on the north aspect of a ridge between Squirrel and Mill Creeks in Gunnison County.

As of 10 p.m. last night, the fire was estimated at 681 acres in size by a Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control Multimission Aircraft infrared flight. Fire behavior is expected to be similar to yesterday's with individual tree torching and creeping in spruce and aspen forest with heavy dead and down timber in the morning and fire activity picking up in the afternoon. Resources currently on scene include three engines, a helitack crew, smoke jumpers and three hand crews. Additional resources are ordered and en route. One Type 2 helicopter and two Type 1 helicopters are assigned to the fire. A Complex Incident Management Team (IMT) will assume command at 6 p.m. this evening.

No containment has been achieved, at this time. The primary objective for responders and managers today is structure protection, integrating additional resources into the response effort, and transitioning to the Complex IMT.

Ten structures are threatened in the Mill Creek and Squirrel drainages, which are under mandatory evacuations. The National Forest System Trail #438-Lowline trail is closed. Forest closure updates will be posted on the GMUG Fire Information Facebook page. County roads #818 (Wiley Lane) and #730 (Ohio Pass road) are barricaded. In the interest of public safety, fire officials ask visitors to be aware of fire traffic and avoid the area. Firefighter and public safety are the priorities for this incident.

Fire Information Links:

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests Fire Information: **(970) 874-6602**

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/cogmf-lowline-fire>

GMUG Fire Info Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GMUGFireInfo>

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests website: [www.fs.usda.gov/gmug](http://www.fs.usda.gov/gmug)

West Slope Fire Information: [www.WestSlopeFireInfo.com](http://www.WestSlopeFireInfo.com)

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/GMUG\\_NF](https://twitter.com/GMUG_NF)

For information about evacuations:

Gunnison County Emergency Management: [www.gunnisoncounty.org](http://www.gunnisoncounty.org)

For air quality information:

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment:

[https://www.colorado.gov/airquality/colo\\_advisory.aspx?county=gunnison](https://www.colorado.gov/airquality/colo_advisory.aspx?county=gunnison)

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*The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forests manage approximately 3 million acres of land in Southwest Colorado within Delta, Garfield, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Mesa, Montrose, Ouray, Saguache, San Juan and San Miguel counties.*