



Bear Creek Fire

August 9, 2023

<p><u>Fire start date:</u> August 1, 2023</p> <p><u>Fire size today:</u> 283 acres</p> <p><u>Containment:</u> 0%</p> <p><u>Location:</u> 23 miles Northwest of Pagosa Springs, Colorado</p> <p><u>Personnel:</u> 47</p> <p><u>Cause:</u> Lightning</p> <p><u>Management:</u> Suppression</p> <p><u>Evacuation Information:</u> There are NO pre-evac/evacuation orders at this time. Local residents should follow incident information and updates.</p> <p><u>Closures:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Sand Trail (NFST#591) from Mosca Road • Shaw Creek Trail (NFST#584) • Falls Creek Trail (NFST#673) <p><u>Latest Smoke Outlook:</u> outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/933fc4e4</p>	<p>INCIDENT OBJECTIVES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firefighter and Public safety will be the highest priority throughout all phases of the incident. • To protect private lands within the Weminuche Creek drainages, critical infrastructure including powerlines and gas utility lines, as well as natural resources, cultural and historic sites, and recreation assets. <p>Fire managers continue to develop plans for when the fire reaches terrain more favorable for engagement. Firefighters have been unable to directly engage due the dangerous loading of dead timber both standing and down. Firefighters are prepared for when the fire backs down to the Weminuche Valley, providing an anchor point for them to begin suppression operations. Structure protection operations are underway and will continue today. Crews will monitor the fire overnight. A National Incident Management Organization Team has been ordered to assume command of the incident August 12th at 0600, providing additional capacity and oversight.</p>	
	<p>YESTERDAY’S ACCOMPLISHMENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firefighting crews in the Weminuche Valley area assessed risk level to private land/structures and developed and began implementing structure protection plans. • Local ground fire resources continued to directly monitor fire growth and directional spread. These observations are critical to assessing the probability of success of the current incident strategy being achieved. • San Juan Type 3 incident Management Team (IMT) assumed fire command. 	
	<p>TODAY’S PLAN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure protection groups will continue risk assessments and will set up structure protection equipment. • Operational overhead will continue scouting indirect control opportunities to the south along the Mosca Road, tying that east into the Weminuche Valley. • Incoming firefighting resources will be briefed and assigned operational assignments. Significant national competition for resources on higher-priority fires has led to difficulty in obtaining the number/types of resources needed. • Continue to collaboratively develop Management Action Points (MAP) with cooperators and stakeholders. MAPs are clearly specified incident conditions that, when reached, prompt a predefined fire management action or trigger the implementation of new strategies/tactics. • Communicate with landowners, affected utilities, and county stakeholders. 	
	<p>WEATHER:</p> <p>Elevated fire weather conditions and gusty winds will be present. The weather trend includes increasing daily chances of rain showers through the end of the week.</p>	
	<p>Incident Information: https://tinyurl.com/mrx4pp27</p> <p>Facebook: https://tinyurl.com/mr2tpj69</p> <p>Email : 2023.bearcreek@firenet.gov Information Line : 970-426-5370</p>	
		