



QUARTZ RIDGE & BEAR CREEK FIRES

August 26, 2023
Daily Update – 9:00 AM

Type 3 Team, Incident Commander: Nick Collard ICT3
Grif Cochran ICT3 (T)

Highlights: Critical fire weather conditions are not expected through Tuesday. Fire activity is expected to be minimal with smoldering, creeping, and backing where pockets of heat remain. Crews and air resources are available to respond quickly if conditions change. Winds will be generally light and less than 10 mph with gusts to 15-18 mph.

Quartz Ridge Fire: 1799 acres, no change in acreage | 70% of objectives achieved | 77 personnel assigned

The southeastern and eastern edges of the fire continue to have pockets of heat with minimal to moderate fire behavior with some backing and movement in steep terrain. The pocket of fire on the east side of Quartz Creek is within a rocky area and constrained by natural features. Direct control lines are being utilized to suppress accessible parts of the fire and indirect control lines are providing confinement on remote areas that present high safety risks to firefighters.

Bear Creek Fire: 415 acres, no change in acreage | 71% of objectives achieved | 21 personnel assigned

The Bear Creek Fire has continued to be inactive with some isolated spots of smoldering. The fire has received precipitation within the last few days and remains quiet with a few smokes visible. Hose lays and sprinklers kits were removed from structures due to reduced fire risk in the southern Weminuche Valley. The fire size has remained steady at 415 acres for several days, and no growth is expected over the next few days.

Weather: High temperatures will be from the mid 60s to mid 70s with afternoon minimum relative humidity of 40 to 50%. Light winds of less than 10 mph are forecast. Overnight humidity recovery will be good with relative humidity increasing to 80% or higher.

San Juan National Forest Temporary Area Closures: Closure orders are in effect and additional information can be found at [Closure Orders and Maps are available here](#). Roads and trails within area closures are Quartz Meadows Rd (NFSR#685), Mosca (Piedra) Road (NFS #631), Quartz Ridge Trail (NFST#570), Quartz Creek Trail (NFST#571), Weminuche Trail (NFS #592), Sand Creek Trail (NFS #593), NFS Trail #591, NFS Trail #524, NFS Trail #584; and NFS Trail # 673.

Restrictions: Stage 1 Fire Restrictions are in place for the San Juan National Forest and additional information is available [here](#).

Fire Information

Office Hours: 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Phone: 970-426-5370

<u>Quartz Ridge Fire</u>	<u>Bear Creek Fire</u>
Email: 2023.QuartzRidge@firenet.gov	Email: 2023.BearCreek@firenet.gov
InciWeb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/cosjf-quartz-ridge-fire	Inciweb https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/cosjf-bear-creek-fire
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