



Quartz Ridge Fire

August 24, 2023

Fire start date: August 5, 2023

Cause: Lightning

Location: 13 miles Northeast of

Pagosa Springs, Colorado

Incident Commander:

Jay Kurth

Management Team:

NIMO Team 1

Management: Suppression

Fire size today: 1,799 acres

Containment: 0%

Completion: 70%

Personnel: 160

Evacuation Information:

There are no current evacuations. Local residents should follow incident information for updates.

Closures:

- Quartz Meadows Rd (NFSR#685)
- Quartz Ridge Trail (NFST#570)
- Quartz Creek Trail (NFST#571)
- https://tinyurl.com/roads-andtrails

INCIDENT OBJECTIVES:

- Firefighter and Public safety are the highest priority.
- Protect private lands within East Fork San Juan River drainage, natural resources, cultural and historic sites, recreation assets, and critical infrastructure including powerlines and gas utility lines.

The Quartz Ridge Fire was relatively quiet throughout the day. "Bonfires" of burning and smoking dead, downed wood scattered across the fire continued. The pocket of fire within the rocky area on the east side of Quartz Creek is constrained by natural features and is not likely to grow during upcoming wetter weather.

The wildfire is burning in steep terrain in the South San Juan Wilderness. A combination of indirect and direct control lines is being utilized to accomplish multiple objectives of full suppression on accessible parts of the fire and confinement on parts that are remote and/or present high safety risks to firefighters. Overall, 70% of these objectives have been completed.

YESTERDAY'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Continued to evaluate terrain and potential areas for containment outside of wilderness boundaries and scouted for strategic areas for control.
- Assessed the burned area on the east side of Quartz Creek for control features and strategies.
- Completed structure preparation along the East Fork Road at the McCormick Cabin.
- Completed four of the seven miles of grading on the East Fork Road to improve access for fire personnel and the public.

TODAY'S PLAN:

- Assess the burned area on the east side of Quartz Creek and the northern edge for control features and strategies.
- Continue road grading operations along the East Fork Road.
- Work with the incoming crews to orient them to the details of the fire.

WEATHER:

Increased cloud cover in the morning is likely. There is an 80% chance of wetting rain tomorrow afternoon and tomorrow night. Approximately 0.2 - 0.6 inches of precipitation is forecasted across the entire area.

Incident Information: https://tinyurl.com/mr37bhnr

Facebook: https://tinyurl.com/y87cycm4

Email: 2023.quartzridge@firenet.gov Information Line: 970-426-5370

