



Forest Service News Release

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Spring Creek Fire Update

Montrose, Colorado, Sept. 12, 2023

Name: Spring Creek Fire

Location: East of Divide road, North of Spring Creek Canyon. The fire is approximately 15 miles southwest of Montrose, Colorado.

Size: Approximately 16 acres

Behavior: Creeping and smoldering with some isolated tree torching

Cause: Unknown—under Investigation

Jurisdiction: USFS

Containment: 20%

Threatened Structures: 0

Closures: National Forest System Roads (NFSR) #535 – Paradox road, NFSR #402.9A – Spring Creek Trailhead road, National Forest System Trail (NFST) #116 – Spring Creek Trail (from Dented Door to Paradox), NFST #126 – Paradox Trail and NFST #114.1B – East Fork of Dry Creek Trail

The Spring Creek Fire showed no new growth yesterday and is now 20% contained. No structures are threatened. Fire behavior for yesterday's operational period included isolated tree torching with short-distance spotting in spruce, fir and aspen with heavy dead and down timber. The fire module crews worked on catching spot fires and cutting down hazard trees. Dozers worked steadily to put a containment line around the fire. Today's expected fire behavior includes creeping and smoldering with some isolated tree torching.

Forest Service road and trail closures were implemented yesterday. The following closures are in effect, National Forest System Road (NFSR) #535 – Paradox road, NFSR #402.9A – Spring Creek Trailhead road, National Forest System Trail (NFST) #116 – Spring Creek Trail (from Dented Door to Paradox), NFST #126 – Paradox Trail and NFST #114.1B – East Fork of Dry Creek Trail.

Resources on scene include one Type 2 Helicopter, two dozers, one Type 4 and two Type 6 engines, three fire modules and one 20 person hand crew. Firefighter and public safety are the priorities for this incident. In the interest of public safety, fire officials ask visitors to be aware of fire traffic and avoid the area.

Weather & Fuel Conditions: Over the next several days, the fire area will continue to see a potential for increased moisture, primarily in the afternoon and later into the evening. Winds will remain low at 10 mph, with nighttime temperatures in the mid-40s. Smoke may be visible in the Montrose, Ridgway and Delta communities. For more information on how wildfire smoke may affect your health, please visit <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wood-smoke-and-health>.

For additional information:

GMUG National Forests Fire Information hotline: **(970) 874-6602**

Spring Creek Fire Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/cogmf-spring-creek>

West Slope Fire Information website: www.WestSlopeFireInfo.com

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

Twitter: https://twitter.com/GMUG_NF

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The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison (GMUG) 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.

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