



Trail Springs and Mill Creek 2 Fires

Update: November 12, 2023

Type 4, Incident Commander Shane McCracken, 21 Personnel

The fire danger level is currently HIGH. It is important that forest users completely drown campfires to prevent unintended escape. Use the “drown, stir, feel” method to be sure it's dead out.

Trail Springs Fire | Size: 1303 Acres | Containment: 43% | Cause: Lightning

The fire is located 12 miles northwest of Pagosa Springs on Forest land to the east of West Devil Creek. A helicopter reconnaissance flight on Saturday showed minimal fire activity. The fire continues to burn through ground fuels and dead and down wood, within defined management boundaries. There has not been significant growth in recent days and the fire has not crossed to the other side of West Devil Creek. With containment line established to protect values to the east, firefighters will continue to closely watch fire activity and take more fire control measures, if necessary. They also remain ready to respond should any new fires start in the Pagosa Ranger District.

Mill Creek 2 Fire | Size: 146 Acres | Containment: 0% | Cause: Human

This fire is located in rugged, remote terrain near the border of the South San Juan Wilderness Area northeast of Pagosa Springs. Aerial observations on Saturday showed increased activity, as the fire continues to creep through pockets of fuel. No homes, ranches or other significant values are at risk. Fire managers expect that smoke will continue to be visible until the area gets a significant precipitation event, and may get heavy again if windy conditions return.

Weather: A high pressure system over the fire areas means continued dry conditions with little cloud cover for the early part of the week. High temperatures will be in the mid 50's Sunday and Monday with light winds out of the north in the morning, shifting to southerly in the afternoon. Overnight lows temps will be in the upper 20's. There is an increased chance of precipitation later in the week.

San Juan NF Temporary Closures: An area closure is in place involving roads and trails in or near the Trail Springs Fire area (Middle Mountain area). Details of the closure are on the Trail Springs Fire InciWeb page (QR code below) and on the “Alerts and Notices” page of the forest website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/sanjuan/alerts-notice>

Fire Information: 970-426-5370 (8 a.m. to 8 p.m.) | **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/sanjuannationalforest>

Trail Springs Fire



InciWeb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/cosjf-trail-springs-fire>

Mill Creek 2 Fire



InciWeb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/cosjf-mill-creek-2-fire>