

OFFICIAL



Oak Ridge Fire Update

Sunday, June 30, 2024

Rocky Mountain Area Complex Incident Management Team 3

Casey Cheesbrough, Incident Commander

Location: Three miles northwest of Beulah, CO

Size: 1,190 acres

Date Reported: June 22, 2024

Containment: 0

Cause: Lightning

Total Personnel: 484

Rain that fell over the fire area last night measured at one to two tenths of an inch. This amount of precipitation was not enough to extinguish large, downed debris and heavy vegetation. This cooled the surface fuels and slow fire activity in the same manner when helicopters drop water over hot spots. This will allow firefighters to focus on their efforts implementing strategic tactics including constructing indirect fire lines to suppress the fire in areas where terrain, fuels, and conditions affecting safety of firefighters are more favorable.

Firefighters are making great progress on indirect fire lines and planning for future tactics. This will involve strategic burnout operations to bring the fire to indirect lines as conditions allow. This gives firefighters the ability to fight the fire strategically on our terms rather than try to fight the fire on its terms.

Current Situation

Firefighters will work on constructing indirect handline in Division Alpha starting at an access point west of Panther Creek and work their way south toward the east fire perimeter. Dozers will construct a line near the same point in Division Alpha and work their way north and northwest toward the Junkins Burn Scar.

Firefighters will focus on indirect fire lines on the Second Mace Trail. Other crews will work west of the filtration plant to Soldier Mountain. This will open access closer to the Second Mace Trail for transporting supplies and providing a quicker emergency response route.

Crews will begin working on indirect lines from Fairview Meadows pushing toward Division Kilo on the Second Mace Trail.

The structure group will complete their work in Beulah Highlands this morning. From there they will move on to the Squirrel Creek and North Creek areas to assess and triage structures.

Firefighters will focus on secondary lines beyond our indirect lines in Squirrel Creek by opening and prepping some of the roads in that area. This will lessen the future workload if the fire threatens to move beyond our indirect lines.

Weather & Smoke Information: Rain fell on the fire area overnight and will continue off and on this morning. There's a potential for afternoon thunderstorms with east to southeast winds and gusts up to 60 mph.

The U.S. Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program is now producing a daily smoke outlook report specific to south central Colorado and the Oak Ridge Fire. You can read and download the outlook by going to <https://outlooks.airfire.org/outlook/d9fa3c77>.

Closures: The Middle Creek Road is closed. The San Carlos Ranger District of the Pike and San Isabel National Forests issued an area, trail and road closure effective June 26, 2024. Go to www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/psicc/alerts-notice to read and download the entire order.

Evacuations: Homes along the Middle Creek Canyon Road are under a mandatory evacuation. The following are in a pre-evacuation status: Vine Mesa, Cascade Ave., Pine Ave., and Beulah Highlands Rd. Go to www.puebloemergency.info for all evacuation information.

Temporary Flight Restrictions: There is a 24-hour Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) over the fire area. If you FLY, we CAN'T. Do not fly or operate your own drones in this area, as it will impede firefighting efforts and ground our aircraft.

OAK RIDGE FIRE INFORMATION

Fire Information Phonenumber: 719-315-1536 **Time:** 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Facebook: @OakRidgeFire2024 **Email:** 2024.oakridge@firenet.gov

InciWeb: www.inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/copsf-oak-ridge-fire

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