

OFFICIAL



Oak Ridge Fire Update

Monday, July 1, 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: 5%

Cause: Lightning

Total Personnel: 535

A community meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. tonight at the Grandpasture Barn located at 7970 CO-78 in Beulah. Fire managers, representatives from the U.S. Forest Service, and Pueblo County will be present to provide information on current and future fire activity and address community questions.

Fire managers are confident that the containment line will hold west of Beulah and noted that the fire is currently five percent contained. The containment percentage may decrease when strategic fire operations begin and increase the fire's acreage. Containment percentages are determined by the amount of contained fire line relative to the total acres of the fire. Strategic firing operations are implemented to remove fuels when conditions allow for low intensity.

Current Situation

Firefighters will complete construction of indirect dozer line to the north below North Creek in Division A early today.

Firefighters are prepping and improving fire lines along the Second Mace Trail as they progress to the west from the Soldier Park area toward Potato Mountain. This process is expected to take a few days to complete. Crews are working on the access trail southwest of the filtration plant to the Second Mace Trail. Emergency medical service personnel are assisting firefighters to scout and identify evacuation routes that would reduce transport times.

Firefighters will construct a checkline to tie in the dozer line off Silver Circle Trail to the northwest side of the fire perimeter in Division U. A checkline is a temporary line that functions like a retardant line to buy time while firefighters complete the primary fireline.

The structure protection crew finished work in Beulah Highlands, Middle Fork and North Creek. They will begin structure protection operations in the Fairview area and north along the Hwy 165 corridor west. Crews will continue monitoring where structure protection is in place.

Weather & Smoke Information: Scattered showers are possible during the morning with light west to northwest winds ranging 3-8 mph. Thunderstorms developing throughout the afternoon may produce brief heavy downpours and wind gusts up to 40 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-notices 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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