

OFFICIAL



Oak Ridge Fire Update

Tuesday, July 2, 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: 690

Additional resources continue to arrive to support the next phases of the strategic plan. Firefighters continue to evaluate conditions to ensure strategic firing operations will; burn with low intensity to reduce the ground fuels, protect the integrity of the Middle Creek watershed and other key values at risk, and ensure the fire is within effective containment lines. These actions will continually be reevaluated depending on weather and fuel conditions.

Current Situation

In Division A, firefighters have all the primary indirect lines prepped and ready east of the fire. Crews will complete constructing indirect line to the north up to the Junkins Fire burn scar.

In Division K, firefighters completed work on the contingency (secondary) line from the fire down to the southeast above Squirrel Creek. They completed constructing the access line southwest of the filtration plant to the Second Mace Trail.

In Division U, firefighters completed constructing the indirect line along the Second Mace Trail to the dozer line east of the town of Fairview. Crews will work to complete the dozer line from the Silver Circle Trail up to the Junkins Fire burn scar.

The Contingency group will continue constructing contingency lines on the southeast below the filtration plant and south into Pueblo Mountain Park.

All structure protection infrastructure in place will be monitored periodically in the Middle Creek area. Crews will finish structure protection measures in North Creek and Squirrel Creek today. Their primary efforts will shift to the Fairview area and along the Hwy 165 corridor. That work should be done within the next couple of days.

Weather & Smoke Information: Today's weather will be mild with light winds from the east between 3-8 mph. There's a chance of an isolated thunderstorm over the higher terrain.

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: The Pueblo County Sheriff's office announced the mandatory evacuation imposed on the Middle Creek Canyon Road residents will be lifted, effective Noon today, July 2. Those residents will now be on pre-evacuation status. Those areas placed on pre-evacuation status will remain on that status at this time. This includes Vine Mesa, Cascade Avenue, Pine Avenue 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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