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Uinta-Wasatch-Cache

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News Release

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YELLOW LAKE FIRE UPDATE

10-7-24— The Yellow Lake Fire is currently at 10% containment and 16,053 acres. Firefighters had slightly better weather as the winds died down in the morning, giving crews more favorable conditions to engage the fire. The fire continues to be resistant to control and remains highly active and growing.

With decreased winds, an inversion has settled into the surrounding valleys. Smoke is present in Duchesne, Summit, and Wasatch counties. As temperatures rise through the day, the Wasatch Back should see improved air quality conditions. Light winds from the northwest will keep smoke in place most of the day around Duchesne.

Crews on the west side are conducting fire operations along Mill Hollow Road, when conditions are favorable. Their goal is to secure the fire perimeter to Highway 35 and begin working deeper into the interior to establish a solid western line. Firefighters are also working north in the Soapstone area, implementing constructed line and utilizing firing strategies where it is safe to do so.

On the eastern perimeter, the fire remains high on the ridge. Firefighters are actively working on structure protection along the North Fork and West Fork of the Duchesne River. Air attack is supporting crews by dropping retardant in lighter fuels. They may start to utilize dozers to create and enhance the fuel breaks the crews are working.

The southern edge was active, and crews were forced to disengage due to safety concerns. They are scouting for areas to create indirect line where they can safely access the fire. Successful firing operations were completed in the southwest corner near Heart Lake.

Evacuation orders remain the same: The North and West Forks of the Duchesne River are under a mandatory GO evacuation. All residents, hunters and recreationists must evacuate and stay out of the area. The Granddaddy Lakes area on the Ashley National Forest and Hanna was issued a READY order, which prompts residents to have bags packed and be ready to leave if an evacuation order is given. As a reminder, if you are asked to leave, please do. It has been determined that these areas present an immediate danger. Staying puts yourself, and first-responders who may have to assist you, at risk.

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