Cottonwood Fire

Thursday, July 16, 2026

Contact Fire Information: 435.485.5456 / 2026.cottonwood@firenet.gov
https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/utfif-cottonwood-fire
Facebook: www.facebook.com/USFSFishlakeNF / www.facebook.com/utahfireinfo

Fire Statistics:

Start Date: 6/22/2026
Cause: Under Investigation
Size: 97,458 acres
Containment: 87 %
Location: Fishlake National Forest, Beaver, UT

Resources Assigned:

Total Personnel: 758
Crews: 14
Helicopters: 10
Other Aviation Assets: 2
Engines: 27

Current Situation:

Yesterday, strong storms developed across the lower elevations of the fire, creating challenging conditions for the firefighters. To adjust to the changing weather, several crews shortened operational periods to work in the morning then be off Hwy 153 and other interior areas of the fire early in the afternoon to prioritize safety. Minimal smoke was observed near Pine Creek and may continue to be visible as the fire consumes vegetation in previously unburned areas of the fire's interior. Containment percentage increased in the Eagle Point area due to firefighters' hard work completing suppression actions. They will now begin repair along handlines.

Today, crews continue repairing dozer line using chippers and excavators to pulverize the removed trees and brush. The benefit of chipping is that crews have the ability to spread the materials over a large area which decreases the vegetation load and helps stabilize the surrounding area. Firefighters will also continue to monitor the unburned vegetation burning in the fire's interior and are prepared to take suppression action if fire intensity picks up again.

Firefighter and public safety remain the first priority on the Cottonwood Fire. With this in mind, Beaver County Sheriff's Office continues to restrict access for property owners or other public access until further notice.

Weather and Fire Behavior:

Showers and scattered thunderstorms can be expected through the evening with a slight chance of showers overnight. Today and tomorrow have the highest predicted rainfall totals for the week. Utah Division of Emergency Management has two live cameras on Hwy 153 at mile markers 5 (https://www.youtube.com/live/p2UfNORluS8) and 8.5 (https://www.youtube.com/live/Jr45ysSRIOQ).

Evacuations and Closures:

The Fishlake National Forest has a large area closure in effect which includes roads and trails within the boundaries; see the closure order at https://www.fs.usda.gov/r04/fishlake/alerts. All BLM-managed lands located west of Highway 89 between Bullion Canyon Road, Marysvale, UT, and the southern Piute County border are closed; see the closure order at https://www.blm.gov/utah/fire.

Evacuations remain in effect for Hi-Lo Estates, Upper Kents Lake, Merchant Valley, Eagle Point area, Arrowhead Summer homes and surrounding areas. Find current evacuation information for Piute County at https://www.facebook.com/PiuteCountySO and for Beaver County at https://www.facebook.com/bcsoutah. State Highway 153 from Beaver to Junction is closed between mileposts 3 and 35.

Stage 2 Fire Restrictions are in effect: https://utah-fire-info-utahdnr.hub.arcgis.com/pages/active-fire-restrictions.