

416 Fire Morning Update 6/6/18

416 Fire Wildfire
News – 10 hrs. ago

416 Fire

6/6/2018, 10:00 am

Road Closures & Evacuations:

Visit the La Plata County Facebook page or call 970-385-8700 for current information on road closures and evacuations.

San Juan National Forest Alerts & Closures:

Call 970-247-4874 or visit

www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/sanjuan/alerts-notice

Fire Size Today:

4,015 acres

Containment:

10%

Firefighters:

598 as of 6/5/2018

Location:

10 miles North of Durango, Colorado

Started:

6/1/2018

Management:

Rocky Mountain Type 2 Blue Team

Emergency Notifications:

Go to La Plata County's website to sign up for CodeRED emergency alerts. <https://tinyurl.com/y74yzwt8>

Media:

Call the number below to schedule a tour. Tours will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis and space is limited.

Summary:

As predicted, yesterday proved to be an active day on the 416 Fire. The fire grew over 1,000 acres, assisted by gusty south winds, slightly higher temperatures and lower

relative humidity levels. Although aerial ignitions were planned on the south flank of the fire, officials determined that conditions on the ground didn't warrant this action.

The persistent spread of the fire to the south prompted La Plata County officials to issue a new pre-evacuation order for an area east of the community of Hermosa. Fire personnel were also busy helping residents remove flammable materials from around their homes and will assist in creating defensible space around residences where necessary ahead of the fire's movement to the south.

As the fire continues to grow, air quality may become more of an issue. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recommended that unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors because of decreasing air quality in the area.

Today's fire behavior will be very similar to yesterday's activity. Persistent high pressure will reside across the region. High clouds will provide some shading, warm dry conditions will continue today and fire behavior will increase every day this week. Severe fire weather is forecasted for Thursday.

Today, firefighters will continue with the projects they have been working on for the last several days. These efforts include patrolling and monitoring along the Highway 550 corridor and building defensible spaces around structures in and around Hermosa. Firefighters will continue to scout ahead of the fire to identify locations to engage the fire where safe to do so.

Six helicopters remain available and are being used as conditions warrant. "Aircraft need to be used at the right place and at the right time to be effective," explained Chris Zoller, Operations Sections Chief Trainee for the Rocky Mountain Blue Team. Zoller went on to explain that firefighters are continually looking for tactical opportunities to use aircraft.

Community meetings were held yesterday evening in Hermosa and Durango to answer residents' questions about the fire. There will also be a community meeting tonight in the Silverton town hall starting at 6:00 pm. Please visit our Facebook page or call our information line for more details.

Incident Information: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5822/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/416fire/>

Fire Information – Phone: (970) 403-5326 Email: 416fire2018@gmail.com

Call Center Hours of Operation: 8 am – 8 pm