

The meeting was largely a pep rally for support of the various authorities that are working to get this fire under control and allow us to get back to our homes. We did get a fair amount of technical info on firefighting strategies, wildfire behavior and what the people on the ground and in the air are doing to fight this one. What we didn't get was definitive information on when we can expect to return to normal., at least not during the meeting itself which lasted about 90 minutes. Afterwards we (Eric, Jack Flautt and I) were with Dan Noonan (retired Durango Fire Chief) and he pressed two or three of the presenters on that subject. What we heard then was that resources are being concentrated on the southern and south western flanks of the fire in order to prevent it from getting down lower into the Hemosa Creek drainage near 550 where there are several homes and businesses. We heard that if it does that, it could easily loop back around to the east and north and cause evacuations and highway closures down in that area. If that happens we could be in for a long time waiting to get back to Tamarron. The next couple of days are critical according to the people we talked to.

There was a flare up across 550 from Highpoint yesterday afternoon that we understand was the result of controlled backburning that got a bit out of control due to winds. This was acknowledged by the people we talked to after the meeting. Dave Dunn was up in Highpoint when that occurred and stood watch for any cinders that might cross the road. None did.

Beyond that you probably have seen the latest on social media and the internet as we have. I drove up to Hermosa early afternoon today after the winds had shifted back to the north and cleared out the sky down here and as far north as the fire itself (thankfully). The fire on the west side of the Hermosa Creek drainage looked like it had come down towards the creek some but had not begun to do what I described above yet. Hopefully it will not.