



Custer County Sheriff's Office

Date: October 21, 2016

Re-entry process begins for the Custer County Junkins Fire Evacuees

RE-ENTRY is authorized for SMITH CREEK SUBDIVISION by the Custer County Sheriff

- Re-Entry passes must be obtained at the Wetmore Volunteer Fire Station located at 200 County Road 290, Wetmore, CO 81253. Passes are available from 7:00am to 4:00pm today.
- The re-entry passes are authorized under the authority of the Custer County Sheriff's Office and authorize the person access to his or her property only. Proof of residence and identification are required for a re-entry pass.
- Re-entry to begin at 1:00pm on Friday, October 21, 2016.
- Custer County Sheriff's deputies will conduct preliminary inspections of all homes prior to re-entry.
- **Evacuation orders remain in effect for the following locations: County Road 387, County Road 358 from Engelman Rd. to Highway 165; and Highway 165 from McKenzie Junction to Ophir Creek Rd.**

Custer County has opened Disaster Assistance Center to provide information and assistance at the Wetmore Volunteer Fire Station located at 200 County Road 290, Wetmore, CO 81253. Hours of Operation: Friday, October 21, 2016, 7:00am to 4:00pm and Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

A community meeting will be held this evening at 7:00pm at the Florence High School which is located at 2006 Colorado Highway 67, Florence 81226.

Custer County Information Line (719) 283-1710 is available 7:00am to 10:00pm for additional information.



Great Basin National Incident Management Team 1

Junkins Fire

October 21, 2016, Update

Fire Size:
17,809 acres

Containment:
33%

Resources:
17 Hand Crews, 4 Single Engine Air Tankers, 3 Heavy Air Tankers, 6 Helicopters, 22 Engines, 5 Water Tenders

Total Personnel:
524

Location:
11 Miles East of Westcliffe, Colorado

Started:
10/17/2016 0356 MDT

Cause:
Downed Power Line as a result of a Wind Event

Management:
Great Basin National Incident Management Team

For more information:

Follow us on Twitter:
@JunkinsFire

On Facebook:
facebook.com/JunkinsFire/

See our InciWeb post:
<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5071/>

Call the Information Line:
719-283-1710

The Junkins Fire is now 33% contained and the outlook is favorable for continued improvement. Good weather and additional fire fighting resources have helped and more fire fighters will be on the lines today. A combination of retardant and water drops, fire fighters digging fire line, burn-out operations and terrain features, have all contributed to the increase in containment. And while rising temperatures and lower humidities over the next several days are a concern, fire managers are optimistic about further progress today and over the weekend.

Firefighters have concentrated on the southeastern and western most portions of the line to prevent any further spread towards Beulah or subdivisions in Custer County. Fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, including two Blackhawks from the Colorado National Guard, are being used to hit hot spots and reinforce fire lines. Burn-out operations around structures on the southeast side have also strengthened fire lines.

Success on the fire lines allowed for the re-opening of Highway 96 between Wetmore and McKenzie Junction and the lifting of some evacuations. Highway 165 remains closed from McKenzie Junction south to Ophir Creek Road. Additionally the national forest closure area has been reduced, with all areas west of Highway 165 now open. Complete closure and evacuation information is on Inciweb at: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5071/> and at the websites listed below. Remaining evacuation areas will be evaluated today and if the Custer County Sheriff makes any changes, we will post those on Inciweb, Facebook and Twitter.

A public meeting will be held **tonight** at 7:00 p.m. at Florence High School, 2006 Highway 67.

Links for additional information:

Custer County: <http://www.custercountygov.com/>

Pueblo County: <http://www.puebloemergency.info>

Fremont County: <http://www.fremontco.com/>

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