

Great Basin National Incident Management Team 1

Junkins Fire

October 25, 2016, Update

A Community fire information meeting will be held at the Wetmore Volunteer Fire Department on Trinity Ranch Road at 7:00pm on Tuesday Oct. 25

Crews are bolstering the dozer and hand line for the fire break on the ridgeline north of Middle Hardscrabble Creek. When conditions permit, a burn out operation is planned for the next several days which will increase smoke in the area south of Wetmore.

Engines are patrolling around homes and subdivisions. Crews continue mop-up operations to ensure that there are no concealed hot spots that might reignite and threaten those structures. Firefighters continue patrol at night to provide additional protection monitor the fire at night.

Fire danger remains high, and the public is asked to use extreme caution with fire and equipment that could ignite dry fuels.

Custer County is currently in Stage 2 Fire Restrictions. No open burning or campfires are allowed on private or public lands in Custer County. Gas and propane stoves are allowed.

Evacuation orders remain in effect for County Road 387.

Highway 165 is now open for public travel, however spur roads in the fire area remain closed. Custer County Road 358 is also open to public travel.

The weather forecast calls for mostly cloudy skies with isolated showers. Temperatures will be cooler than previous days with highs in the mid to upper 50s, with minimum relative humidity levels around 30%. Winds will switch to west-northwest 5-10 mph with occasional afternoon gusts to 15 mph.

Drivers are advised to take extra care while driving during periods of reduced visibility. Fire suppression activities attract the attention of drivers. Watch out for vehicles slowing unexpectedly or stopping along the road to watch helicopters and other fire apparatus.



Fire Size: 18,132 acres

Containment: 60%

<u>Resources:</u> 28 Hand Crews, 2 Single Engine Air Tankers, 2 air attack platforms, 2 Helicopters, 32 Engines, 10 Water Tenders

Total Personnel: 918

<u>Location:</u> 11 miles east of Westcliffe, Colorado

<u>Started:</u> 10/17/2016 0356 MDT

<u>Cause:</u> Downed power line as a result of a wind event

<u>Management:</u> Great Basin National Incident Management Team 1

For more information:

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See our InciWeb post: http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incid ent/5071/#

Call the Information Line: 719-283-1710