416 Fire and Burro Fire Update
Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team- Todd Pechota, Incident Commander
Information Center: 970-403-5326
Hours of operation: 8:00 am – 8:00 pm
Website for 416 Fire: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5822
Website for Burro Fire: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5834/
Email: 2018_cosif_416@firenet.gov

June 13, 2018 (8:00 a.m.)

Special notes: The evacuation order for portions of the 550 corridor in SAN JUAN COUNTY will lift at 8 a.m. today (June 13). Residents will need to present Rapid Tag resident credentials to return. The residences in San Juan County will remain on pre-evacuation notice. A stage 3 fire restriction went into place yesterday, June 12, at 12:01 a.m. for the entire San Juan National Forest. This means that all public access to the Forest, including trails and roads, is prohibited. Note that Ophir Pass is open. https://www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan. There are air quality advisories in place. Significant ash is blowing from the fire eastward. Residents and guests should take care to protect their respiratory health. http://sjbpublichealth.org/416-fire-updates/.

Weather: There will be isolated afternoon thunderstorms north and east of the 416 Fire; storms may produce dangerous cloud to ground lightening and gusty outflow winds up to 40 mph. A Red Flag Warning is in place for Thursday. Wetting rain will be possible Friday and Saturday. Today, temperatures will be 78-86 at the 416 Fire and 68-82 at the Burro Fire, with wind gusts up to 25 mph. Minimum humidity remains at 6%. Both areas remain in exceptional drought conditions and Fire Weather Potential is at “High”.

Current Situation:
Branch I of the 416 Fire includes Divisions H, D, and A, and now E, F, and G: There was northwest fire growth in Division H yesterday. This growth is expected to continue today as the fire encounters heavier fuels. Monitoring continues from the air, and crews will improve dozer line going from Division D into Division H.
Division D will have active fire spread and heat build-up. Short-range spotting is likely. The fire is moving toward the Junction Creek Rd (171) and is now established in the Falls Creek drainage. Yesterday, as predicted, fire progressed south/southwest high on a ridge west of High Meadow Ranch Rd, and fire crews kept pace with the fire, performing burnout operations on a ridge east of and parallel to the fire. Today, crews continue performing burn out operations inside indirect line in the Falls Creek subdivision, removing fuels and establishing black/burned area inside the line. Aircraft and ground crews will be active.

There have been three divisions added in Branch I: E, F, and G (see map). Crews will scout these divisions for potential new fire line along the ridge line between Junction Creek and Falls Creek on the Animas side. These divisions were added to create additional levels of protection, given the planned operations in Divisions D and H. Residents should be aware that, in the coming days, there will be significant planned burn out operations in the area bordered by Junction Creek Rd (171) on the west and Falls Creek Rd (CR 205) on the east. These operations will be conducted to remove fuel between the fire’s edge and planned containment areas. Smoke and flames will be seen from Durango. We will update as info is available.

In Division A on the east/southeast, crews continue mopping up.

Branch III of the 416 Fire includes Divisions Z, Y, and X: Crews will patrol fire line in Division Z on the east. In Division Y, aircraft drop water on the northernmost part of the fire to slow its spread. Limited activity is expected in Divisions Z and Y today. There are no impacts expected in Division X today, and crews are working the line from the 578 road north into the rocks.

Branch II is the Burro Fire: In Divisions J and N, firefighters will construct direct and indirect fire line using existing roads and fuel breaks along the south and southwest side of the fire above Bear Creek drainage. In Division R on the north, crews are locating values at risk along the Dolores River.

Closures and Public Safety: In order to allow re-entry, US 550 is closed today from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. It will reopen to escorted traffic at noon until 6 p.m. from mile marker to 32 to 49.5. For up to date information on road closures visit www.cotrip.org. Evacuations are in place for several areas in the fire vicinity. For up to date information on the status of evacuations, please contact the La Plata County Emergency Operations Center at 970-385-8700 or visit www.co.laplata.co.us.


Fire Statistics:
Location: 13 miles north of Durango, CO (416 Fire), 14 miles south of Rico (Burro)  Start Date: June 1, 2018 (416 Fire), June 8, 2018 (Burro)
Size: 416 Fire: 27,420 acres, Burro: 2829 (Burro)  Percent Contained: 15 (416 Fire), 0 (Burro)
Total Personnel: 1029 (416 Fire), 203 (Burro)  Cause: Under Investigation (416 Fire and Burro Fire)
Resources Include: 9 Type 1 hand crews, 14 Type 2 hand crews, 55 engines, 3 dozers, 4 water tenders (416 Fire) 1 Type 1 hand crews, 3 Type 2 hand crews, 2 engines, 1 dozer, 1 water tender (Burro)
Helicopters: Four Type 1, two Type 2, and two Type 3 (416 Fire)