

Dead Dog and Hunter Fires Update

June 15, 2017 - 8:30 a.m.

Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team Black
Shane Greer, Incident Commander



Information Center: (970) 549-0723
Hours of Operation: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Current Situation: As of Wednesday evening, the Hunter Fire was 100 percent contained. The fire remained at 992 acres, 918 acres (92.5%) of which is on BLM managed lands and 74 acres (7.5%) on private lands in Rio Blanco County. The Dead Dog Fire is currently 60 percent contained and remains at 17,731 acres in size. 15,670 acres (88.4%) of the Dead Dog Fire is on BLM managed lands, 1,284 acres (7.2%) on private lands in Rio Blanco County, 208.5 acres (1.2%) on private lands in Moffat County, and 568.5 acres (3.2%) on State lands.

With the increased containment on both fires, resources from the Dead Dog and Hunter Fires will begin to be released from the incidents to be available for other incidents. Rocky Mountain Team Black continues to work closely with the all of the cooperating agencies in the management of both fires.

On Wednesday, crews made great progress on the Dead Dog Fire. Ground resources utilized aircraft to keep fire growth to a minimum and strengthen containment lines. Firefighters patrolled the fire during the night as a precaution, ensuring the fire stayed within established containment lines. On Thursday, firefighters will continue to protect values at risk and strengthen containment lines. As fire behavior decreases and containment increases, fire resources will be demobilized over the next several days. Rio Blanco County Road 1/Moffat County Road 134, on the west side of the fire, will be open today.

Firefighters on the Hunter Fire, with support of air resources, were able to achieve 100 percent containment by the end of the shift on Wednesday. The fire will be minimally staffed with ground resources, supported by aviation as needed, on Thursday. As a result, the Temporary Flight Restriction has been lifted on the Hunter Fire. Resources will continue to be demobilized, with minimal staffing on the fire continuing to patrol the fireline.

Weather: Today's weather will be much like yesterday, with a slight increase in temperature. Temperatures are expected to be between 83 to 88 degrees and winds will be out of the southwest, gusting to 30 mph after 2:00 p.m. Fire activity is expected to decrease in the evenings, however areas within the fire will continue to hold heat and could become active during the day. Temperatures are expected to increase throughout the remainder of the week. No precipitation is forecasted for the near future.

Safety: Wildfire behavior is largely contingent upon weather and fuel conditions. Although crews have made excellent progress on both the Dead Dog and Hunter Fires, the potential for fire activity remains high. The public is reminded to be cautious with all combustible materials to prevent unwanted, human-caused fires.

Closures: Rio Blanco County Road 65/Moffat County Road 61 and Rio Blanco County Road 96 remain closed at this time.

Dead Dog Fire

Start Date: 06/11/17	InciWeb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5242/
Location: 10 mi. N of Rangely, CO	Email: deaddogfireinfo@gmail.com
Size: 17,731 acres	Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/DeadDogFire/
Percent Contained: 60%	Twitter: #DeadDogFire
Cause: Human, Under Investigation	

Hunter Fire

Start Date: 06/10/17	InciWeb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5240/
Location: 20 mi. SW of Meeker, CO	Email: hunterfireinfo2017@gmail.com
Size: 992 acres	Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Hunter-Fire-715961815277943/
Percent Contained: 100%	Twitter: #HunterFire
Cause: Lightning	

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