



UPPER COLORADO RIVER
FIRE MANAGEMENT UNIT
BLM-NORTHWEST DISTRICT
BLM-SOUTHWEST DISTRICT
USFS-WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST



SEPT. 13, 2018

Media Contact: Rick Truex, 970-827-5150 or 303-910-0975

1/3 Acre Homestake Fire burning in Holy Cross Wilderness

MINTURN, CO – A Type 1 tanked-chinook aircraft and a three-person engine crew are responding to the 1/3 acre Homestake Fire, burning 3 miles south-southwest of Red Cliff and 1.6 mile to the west of Highway 24 in the Holy Cross Wilderness of the White River National Forest, Eagle County. The fire was reported on Wednesday, September 12th at 2:30 pm and the first resources arrived on scene at 2:45 pm. The fire is located in remote terrain and is burning in a mixed conifer forest.

A Multi-mission aircraft (MMA) flight provided a more accurate fire size yesterday evening as a third of an acre. The cause of the fire is unknown. Resources on scene include a Type 1 aircraft and Forest Service Engine 606.

“We are currently using a confine/contain suppression strategy by dropping water to slow the fire growth in the Holy Cross wilderness area,” said Rick Truex, Acting District Ranger, Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District. “Providing for firefighter and public safety is our number one priority.”

Smoke may be visible from the surrounding area. There is no need to call 9-1-1 to report smoke as authorities are aware and on the scene.

No drones: Yesterday a drone was spotted in the area. The public is reminded never to fly drones, or “Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)” over or near wildfires. A Temporary Flight Restriction is in place around the fire to allow air operations to proceed safely. Drones pose a serious risk to firefighting and can cause aircraft to be grounded. The public is reminded that **“If you fly, we can’t!”**

Though fire restrictions were lifted it is a good reminder for the public to help prevent starting human caused wildfires that are known to be high risk, specifically smoking and campfires that can take additional fire personnel and resources.

For more information on the reduced Forest closure area please visit:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/whiteriver/alerts-notice> or call the Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger Station at 970-827-5160.