

UPPER COLORADO RIVER

FIRE AND AVIATION MANAGEMENT UNIT

BLM - Northwest District

BLM - Southwest District

USFS - WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST



SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

MEDIA CONTACT: Kate Jerman, 970-945-3271 or Rick Truex, 303-910-0975 Indian Pass Fire grows overnight; suppression operations underway

Fire: Indian Pass Fire Containment: 0%

Acres: 3 Start Date: Sept. 19, 2019

Cause: Under investigation Location: remote, southeast Flat Tops

Wilderness, south of Fawn Creek, southwest of Indian Lake and a mile north of Indian Camp Pass

Trailhead

Total Personnel: 40 **Fuels/Topography:** heavy

timber/lodgepole pine

DOTSERO, Colo. - The Indian Pass fire, reported on Sept. 19, 2018, is actively burning in heavy timber located in a remote area of the Flat Tops Wilderness on the Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District in Garfield County. The fire is currently burning south of Fawn Creek and southwest of Indian Lake, about a mile north of the Indian Camp Pass Trailhead, and northwest of FS Road 600.

Suppression operations began immediately on Sept. 19 by a Helitak crew who worked to establish hand line around the fire until dark. Crews resumed direct suppression operations early yesterday morning, on Sept. 20, and continued work on establishing hand and saw line around the main fire and the multiple spot fires in the area. A Type 1 helicopter assisted suppression operations throughout the day yesterday, conducting multiple water bucket drops to cool hot spots.

Last night, dry fuel conditions and gusting winds contributed to fire growth; single tree-torching and short-range spotting was occurring. Currently, the Indian Pass Fire is approximately 3 acres with multiple spot fires around the vicinity of the main fire. Today, a Hotshot crew, Smokejumpers and additional firefighters will continue direct suppression operations by seeking out spot fires to contain, establishing fire line and utilizing air resources to cool hot spots and suppress the fire.

Smoke: Smoke may be visible from parts of Eagle County, particularly the Colorado River Road.

No Fly Zone: Aerial operations are ongoing. Please refrain from flying drones in the area. Remember, if you fly, we can't.

Closures: There are no closures or evacuations in place at this time. However, the public is encouraged to stay off roads and trails in the area.

Fire Information:

Facebook: U.S. Forest Service -White River National Forest

Twitter: @WhiteRiverNews

Website: https://www.fs.usda.gov/news/whiteriver/news-events

Phone: Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District 970-827-5715

Photo Caption: Photo taken from a reconnaissance flight on the afternoon of Sept. 19

when the Indian Pass Fire was first reported. (credit: US Forest Service)



