



**UPPER COLORADO RIVER  
FIRE AND AVIATION MANAGEMENT UNIT**

BLM - NORTHWEST DISTRICT  
BLM - SOUTHWEST DISTRICT  
USFS - WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST



**OCTOBER 1, 2018**

**Media Contact:** Rick Truex, acting District Ranger, 303-910-0975

**Containment expected by this afternoon on the Two Elk Fire**

**Fire:** Two Elk Fire

**Containment:** 100% expected by this afternoon

**Acres:** 26.5

**Start Date:** Sept. 29, 2018

**Cause:** Human caused, under investigation

**Location:** east of Minturn Shooting Range, Forest Service Lands

**Total Personnel:** 25

**Fuels/Topography:** grass, mountain shrub and mixed conifer

**Final Update for Two Elk Fire:** The Two Elk Fire remains at 26.5 acres and has not grown in two days. Today, firefighters will finish mopping-up line by extinguishing any remaining hot spots along the perimeter of the fire. One helicopter is on standby and available if needed, and one engine continues to patrol the fire area and will remain in place through tomorrow morning.

Containment line is established and secured on the southern, northern and western flanks of the fire, crews utilized the rock outcropping on the eastern edge of the fire as a natural containment barrier. Some wisps of smoke may continue to smolder from the interior of the fire, particularly in the conifer located below the rock outcropping.

Although some heat remains, the likelihood of fire threatening containment lines is low. Cooler temperatures, cloud cover and potential moisture is forecasted for this afternoon and into the rest of the week and is anticipated to help cool smoldering hot spots.

“Thanks to swift response by local cooperators and interagency firefighters, the Two Elk Fire is expected to be at 100% containment by this afternoon,” said Rick Truex, acting District Ranger. “We would like to thank the local community and our partners for all of their support over the weekend.”

Special thanks to Eagle River Fire Protection District, Eagle County Sheriff, Vail Fire and Emergency Services, Red, White and Blue Fire Protection District, Gypsum Fire Protection District, Eagle County Paramedics, Aspen Fire Protection District, Basalt and Rural Fire Protection District, Carbondale and Rural Fire Protection District, Vail Resorts, Town of Minturn, and Town of Vail for support throughout the response.

**Closures:** The Forest Service area emergency closure remains in effect. The closure includes the Minturn Shooting Range/Two Elk Shooting Area, the Two Elk Trail, and the Cougar Ridge Trail (starting at the Game Creek Trail intersection). Game Creek Trail

and Mill Creek trail remain open up to the intersection with the Two Elk Trail. Bowman's Shortcut is open up until Two Elk Pass/intersection with Two Elk Trail.

**Fire Restrictions:** Effective at 12 p.m. on Sept. 21, 2018 the White River National Forest reinstated Stage 1 Fire Restrictions. For more information about fire restrictions in these areas go

to: [https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch\\_centers/r2gjc/fireinfo\\_restrictions/index.html](https://gacc.nifc.gov/rmcc/dispatch_centers/r2gjc/fireinfo_restrictions/index.html) .

**Fire Information:**

**Facebook:** [U.S. Forest Service -White River National Forest](#) or [Eagle River Fire Protection District](#)

**Twitter:** [@WhiteRiverNews](#)

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

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