

Manti-La Sal National Forest Sanpete Ranger District

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: August 6, 2016

Contact: Phil Sneed, Fire Information Officer, 660-973-2714

Wildfire Update – Porcupine Fire

Location: Porcupine Ridge, Approximately 7 miles southeast of Mayfield, UT

Elevation: 9,500 feet

Cause: Lightning

Start Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016

Jurisdiction: Sanpete Ranger District, Manti La Sal National Forest

Fire Size: Approximately 278 acres (Note: one acre is equivalent to one football field)

Fire Summary: The Porcupine fire had minimal growth again yesterday and remains at 278 acres. The fire received precipitation as a widespread system moved through the area. It continues to creep and smolder through patchy fuels. Crews improved the area around the Whitlock cabin, clearing dead and down wood and installing a sprinkler system. Control lines are in place to check fire spread to the north. Tactics are designed to minimize risk to firefighters and achieve resource objectives. A primary goal is to reduce fuels while conditions are ideal to create a more resilient landscape that will prevent larger, more extreme fires in the future. Other objectives are to clean up old dead and down wood and reduce conifer encroachment in aspen. Fuels are a mix of grass, litter, subalpine fir and other conifers mixed with aspen. Saturday is a transition day for the weather with a return to drier conditions. Lower humidity is forecasted for Sunday.

Public Meeting: There will be a public meeting in Salina to update the community on the progress and management of the Porcupine fire on Wednesday, August 10 beginning at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Salina Fire Department.

Closures:

Road and trail closures are in place to ensure public and firefighter safety during fire operations. Roads and trails affected by the Porcupine Fire closure area include:

- (Unnamed Forest Service Road) (FSR # 1272)
- (Unnamed Forest Service Road) (FSR # 1212)
- Victim Ridge Trail (Forest Service Trail) (FST # 127)

These roads are restricted to vehicles under 2500 lbs GVW and will have a 10 mph speed limit:

- Beaver Creek Road (FSR #0290)
- Clear Creek Flat Road to Woods Lake (FSR #0159)

These closures will be in effect from the date signed until August 31, unless rescinded.

Structures: No structures threatened.

Percent Contained: 0%

Fire Crews/Resources: Crews include Tushar Mountain Fire Use Module and the Skyline Handcrew.

For more information on fires in Utah visit www.utahfireinfo.gov.

For more information on fires across the country, visit www.inciweb.org

