

**EVENING UPDATE: Cow Creek Fire**  
**Tuesday, June 29, 2010, 5:00 p.m.**

Contact: Laura McConnell, Public Information Officer  
Phone: 303-775-9132  
Fire Information line: #970-577-9931  
cowcreekfire@gmail.com  
Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team B  
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



**Estes Park, Colo.** – Air and ground operations continues on the Cow Creek Fire burning in remote wilderness of Rocky Mountain National Park. Four Type I crews continue to construct, improve and secure existing fire lines to prevent fire spread in West, Fox and Grouse Creeks. The Cow Creek Fire has burned 903 acres since being spotted on June 25, 2010.

Rocky Mountain National Park is **open** along with most park trails. McGraw Ranch Road, Cow Creek Trail, North Boundary Trail and the Dunraven/North Fork Trail remain closed to the public due to continued fire traffic.

Volunteer evacuations are no longer in place in communities east of the Cow Creek Fire. Residents are welcomed to go back to their homes and businesses but residents are urged to be vigilant and prepared that an evacuation may be necessary in the future.

At 2:15 p.m., crews working on the Cow Creek Fire held operations to observe five minutes of silence in remembrance of the six firefighters who lost their lives in the Dude Fire. June 26, 2010 is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Dude Fire's deadly day when a wildfire blowup in the Mogollan Rim country northeast of Payson, Arizona took their lives. Many of the lessons learned from this fatality fire are embodied in the current-day Lookouts, Communication, Escape Routes, Safety Zones (LCES) and 'Look-up, Look-down, Look-around' curriculums. Both programs are widely used to help emergency response personnel identify environmental and situational factors and indicators of hazardous incident conditions.

“Interagency and community cooperation are types of group efforts that the management team and firefighters on the line attribute to the success of incidents such as this,” said Incident Commander Todd Pechota. “It is important that during incidents such as the Cow Creek fire which is a long term incident planning event, that communities and agencies come together in planning and preparing.”

Further information about this fire will be posted on [www.inciweb.org](http://www.inciweb.org).

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Media Notes:

- Media in the area are requested to stop in at Incident Command Post (ICP), located at Estes Park Middle School, 1500 Manford Avenue, Estes Park, CO 80517 or call Laura McConnell at 303-775-9132.