



The Wrangler

April 17, 2008

Fire Edition

It has been two very long days dealing with the wildfire that swept through our Ranch. We offer a special thanks to the firefighters, staff, contractors, and residents for their heroic efforts during the crisis. We await the outcome of the investigation as to the cause and origin of the fire. Attached are several articles from the local newspapers that provide some detail regarding the fire, so we won't try to duplicate those reports. We know that around noon on Tuesday a wildfire driven by high winds jumped across from the south side of the Roaring Fork River onto Ranch property between the "burn pile" and skeet range. Once established on the Ranch, the fire rapidly spread to adjacent areas. One visiting fisherman was overtaken by the advancing of flames, was burned on his hand and head, and is being treated in Glenwood Springs. We have not heard of any other injuries.

There was extensive fire damage to approximately 100-150 acres of Ranch fields and woodlots, particularly the west side. Several out buildings, fences, utility poles and one new bridge were damaged or lost in the fire. Notably, all the skeet range buildings were destroyed. We are still assessing the extent of the damage elsewhere on the Ranch. The wastewater treatment plant was spared. Fortunately no homes or condos were burned, although one homeowner's shed was damaged and the automatic gate was damaged. Thanks to the horse owner for protecting the herd during the fire.

You can read the newspapers articles on line at:

www.postindependant.com

www.aspentimes.com

We urge you to refrain from traveling the roads and trails due to the investigation process and dangers caused by trees or limbs falling that were damaged by the fire as well as equipment moving around the damaged areas.

Utilities are being reestablished and should you need assistance you can contact:

Holy Cross	1-970-945-5491	
Source Gas	1-800-563-0012	(to re-light furnaces & water heaters)
Qwest	1-800-573-1311	
Comcast	1-800-266-2278	

Please note that gas service was turned off and Source Gas will re-light the pilots on furnaces and water heaters. However, absent homeowners will need to make arrangements with Source Gas. Please contact Doc if you notice any neighbor's homes that appear unoccupied and may not have gas service reestablished.

We are cooperating with the Fire Inspector, Insurance companies and utilities. We are currently operating the Wastewater treatment plant by generator and hope to have power reestablished in that area soon.

Please note that there were considerable amounts of smoke and if you have health issues you may wish to have your home checked and deodorized.

We know you are concerned and we hope this gives you some of the information you desire. We are working to keep the Ranch safe and believe that soon much of the hazards will be addressed and new growth will quickly begin the healing process. The staff and Board are addressing the repair and rebuilding needs.

Already we have begun working with state and local agencies as well as experts to develop a Recovery Plan. Again, no homes were lost and we ask that you wait to enter the common areas until potential hazards are dealt with.