

# Between the Beans

FREE  
TAKE ONE

Volume 26 Issue 07.06

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A weekly publication for Dolores County as part of the Pinto Bean™

## JUNE ENDED UP IN SMOKE



Between the Ferris fire that began on Saturday June 27, to the 24 hours of the McCloud fire which started on Sunday the 28th and was being mopped up on Monday June 29 at 113 acres, to the Babylon fire burning now over 90,000 acres on the west side of the Abajos and south, the sense of danger in the air put a damper on the America 250 July 4th celebrations - to some extent.

The local fireworks were cancelled for Dove Creek, Rico and Blanding, but the festivities continued with the usual fun filled parades, games and food.

The air quality will continue to be a concern throughout this week as the fires on both sides, generate astounding amounts of smoke into the air. Be careful of working and recreating outdoors during this time if you have a respiratory issue.

## FERRIS FIRE FRENZIE

The Ferris fire was first reported on Saturday June 27, with actually three lightning strike starts that merged into one very large fire. As of 7/5 the acreage was being listed at 42,758 with over 500 personnel working the fire. San Juan Team 8 Type 3 Incident Management Team will transition fire management to a Complex Incident Management Team (CIMT) on Monday evening. This larger team will provide additional resources and logistical support.

The fire continues to burn on Bureau of Land Management property and into small sections of private land. No structures were impacted at this time. Several property owners have been evacuated in adjacent land, and others are in the "SET" stage on call to be notified to evacuate.

For the latest updates, follow our facebook page, we are continually updating from the official Ferris Information Page, the Dolores County Sheriff office, and Office of Emergency Management. We are all grateful for the long hours in terrible conditions that these workers are out there to contain the fire and see this one come to a safe end.

## Spilling the Beans...

By Kendra Cook

What a week with the local areas fires dominating the news and our lives. Hot dry windy and repeat until finally settling down by the weekend. There may be rains coming soon, but if they come with lightning, that's another issue.

The other BIG Dove Creek news of course was all of the families and friends returning to town for the 4th of July Pick n Hoe celebration. In the August issue the organizers will provide a full page summary and thank you - there's a bit of coverage on page 2 in this weekly paper.

Between the Beans is archived online on our website [www.PintoBean.CO](http://www.PintoBean.CO) check that out if you also are online. And @ThePintoBean on Facebook, is a location to share content, and follow us daily. We will be adding this weekly pdf to a Substack page, so you can subscribe for free and be emailed when it is uploaded to view. Thank you for your feedback, we are still waiting on quotes for printing and timing for a launch date.

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**School Supply Distribution** **FREE**  
July 29th @ The Community Center  
BBQ by Atmos  
Required school supplies provided to all Dolores County residents  
chfa. FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES  
July 29th  
**ROCK**  
Reaching Out To Community and Kids  
★ 10 YEARS AS OF 2023 ★

**BOOK CLUB**  
AT THE LIBRARY  
WE ARE STARTING A NEW **BOOK CLUB** FOR ANYONE THAT **LIKES TO READ**  
WE ARE STARTING **THURSDAY JULY 23RD** AT 1:00  
AT THE **DOVE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL**  
PLEASE COME AND **READ WITH US**  
**YOU JUST BRING YOURSELF AND LETS GET STARTED**

Dove Creek / Dolores County Library  
Public/School Library  
Mondays & Wednesdays 9am-5pm  
Children's Library  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am-4pm



Did you see the new pavilion at Weber Park? After years of the DCVFD setting up the large tents for pick n hoe, that have taken a beating from all the strong early July winds, this metal structure on top of a cement pad, allow for more year round shade and convenience off the gravel. The Dove Creek Dept of Recreation is responsible for pulling this project together in time for the annual big event!

**FREE Food Distribution**  
SECOND FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH | 3:00PM  
June 12th  
July 10th  
Aug 14th  
DRIVE THROUGH STYLE, FIRST COME FIRST SERVED, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.  
(FACEBOOK UPDATES IF PLANS CHANGE)  
BRING YOUR OWN BOX, OR SET YOUR EMPTY BOX WHERE YOU RECEIVE YOUR FULL BOX!!  
DOLORES COUNTY & EGNAR RESIDENTS WELCOMED  
128 E. HWY 491, DOVE CREEK, CO

DOVE CREEK MANAGEMENT

The Town of Dove Creek continues to struggle with the challenges facing the Mayor and the Board, with the majority of the focus remaining on the water sewer system switch over, and now many complaints about the billing system.

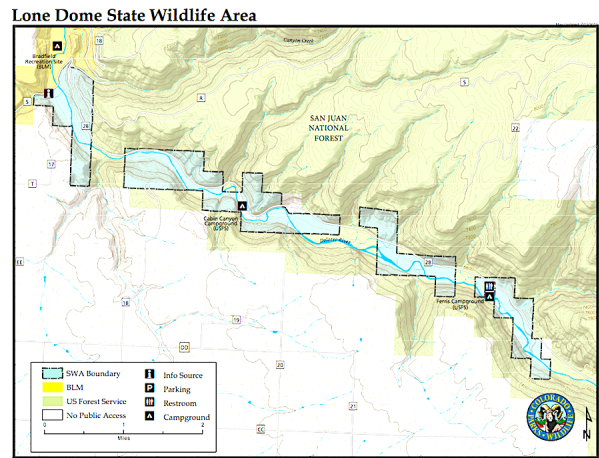
As of 7/2 the Town Hall doors remained locked, with access to personnel by appointment. Water sewer bills remained able to be paid online or using the drop off box at the southwest corner of the building. Problems residents have been experiencing, include having made payments, checks show they are cleared, and the automated invoice doesn't reflect the amount being paid.

As July 2 was the last day for the outgoing Town Manager, at a meeting June 30th, the board appointed an interim town manager Rich Landreth, who will take over management operations July 6, 2026.

The next meeting will be Tuesday July 14 2026, the Agenda will be posted on the front door of the Town Hall, at least the day before. We will post on our facebook page, that will also have the zoom information on the top of the page.

COUNTY ROAD CLOSURES

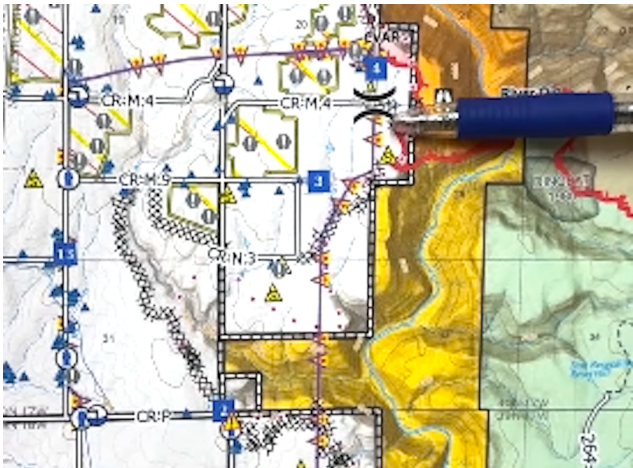
Check before you go into the back country, as there are many road closures and areas that are being shut off for safety sake due to the fires. Lone Dome is one of the areas restricted - check with CPW.



JULY PINTO BEAN IS OUT IN 7 COUNTIES - CHECK IN A LOCAL BUSINESS FOR YOUR PRINT COPY

Heat Domes set to move to the Western US, derailing natural cycles, ahead of the promised monsoons... now big concerns over the potential for more wildfires due to lightning within these mid/late month monsoons... IF they appear. Winds will be less than the previous week. Stay safe. (forecast from Accuweather predictions, Dove Creek CO 81324 )

FERRIS FIRE EVACUATIONS



The fire is mostly burning on BLM lands, the above screen shot from one of the daily Morning Operational Briefings shows the west edge of the Dolores River Canyon, where Division K shows the Section 8 area that has already been in evacuation mode. They will continue to burn ahead of the fire to slow the momentum and work towards containment.

DOLORES COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
409 N Main  
Dove Creek, Co 81324  
Telephone:970-677-2383  
Monday July 6, 2026

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.  
When: Jul 6, 2026 09:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7502460319>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

8:30  
Made

Agenda Workshop (No Zoom) No Decisions Will Be Made

9:00

BOCC Meeting  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Additions or Deletions to the Agenda  
Approval of Expenditures  
Approval of Minutes  
• N/A  
Public Comment (5 Minutes Per Speaker)

8:30

Agenda Workshop – No Decisions Will Be Made

9:00

Boundary Adjustment Preliminary Approval/Jean Hodges

9:30

Social Services Update/Malynda Evans

10:00

Public Hearing for Dolores County Open Burning and Local Fire Restriction Ordinance 2026-02 Replacing Dolores County Ordinance 2011-2

New Business Discussion and Possible Action:

• DC Sheriff's Office Jag Grant Application and Letter of Support

• Downstairs Copy Machine

• Funds Transfer Resolution 07-26-01 A Resolution Transferring Funds from the Lodging Tax Fund to the General Fund

• Public Lands Rule Comment Period

Old Business Discussion and Possible Action:

• Downstairs Carpet

Lunch

1:30

Workshop – No Decisions Will Be Made

A photograph of a large fire with thick, white smoke rising into the sky. The fire is burning in a field, and the smoke is billowing out from the horizon. The sky is blue with some clouds. The foreground shows a field of dry grass and some trees.

Dolores County remains in the STAGE 2 Fire Restrictions status - and last week, the Sheriff Office released a letter to the public to let everyone know the Dove Creek fireworks show was cancelled for the 4th due to the stress on the fire fighters working the area fires, and the concern on the dry fuels with high winds.

The 'meat pit' at the Pick n Hoe celebration traditional BBQ pit was also not allowed due to concerns over the potential for high flames with winds and stress already on the voluntary fire department personnel.

However the Pick N Hoe was able to work with the Wigglin' Pig in Cortez to smoke a large portion of the meat by Saturday morning in time for the event! The parade went well, followed by the all day games, with plenty of live music to entertain. And, the beer tent, which is the annual large fundraiser for the fire department, continued on while many fire fighters and other community members helped with the fire line once it jumped the canyon over the Dolores River and came up on the west rim.

There will be more in the August issue of the Pinto Bean.

DOLORES COUNTY  
SHERIFF /  
FIRE MARSHALL  
STAGE 2 FIRE BAN  
IN EFFECT  
As of June 19, 2026

| MONDAY<br>JULY 6                               | TUESDAY<br>JULY 7                                                 | WEDNESDAY<br>JULY 8                | THURSDAY<br>JULY 9                                              | FRIDAY<br>JULY 10             | SATURDAY<br>JULY 11                                      | SUNDAY<br>JULY 12                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                |                                                                   |                                    |                                                                 |                               |                                                          |                                                                                |
| Mostly sunny,<br>Smokey<br>with light winds sw | Mixed Sun and<br>Clouds<br>smoke remains<br>with light winds west | Very Hot, smokey<br>light winds sw | Mostly cloudy,<br>hot, smokey<br>lighter winds<br>from the west | Hot Sunny<br>light west winds | Very Hot,<br>mix with clouds<br>little to no wind<br>WNW | Mostly cloudy<br>Hot Afternoon<br>Showers<br>55% possible<br>south light winds |
| 92 / 62                                        | 91 / 59                                                           | 92 / 58                            | 91 / 57                                                         | 93 / 66                       | 96 / 66                                                  | 92 / 60                                                                        |

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