



Cameron Peak Fire Update

Wednesday, September 16, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.

Southwest Area Incident Management Team 3

Dave Gesser, Southwest Area Team 3 Incident Commander

Containment Increases

Current Situation: Yesterday, firefighters established containment in the section of fire just south of Highway 14 from east of Glen Echo and west of the Pingree Park Road. Containment efforts are ongoing along Highway 14, Pingree Park Road, Long Draw Road and the Buckhorn Road to Comanche Reservoir. The fire flared up in the Green Ridge area along Highway 14 (“the thumb”) under the increased winds. Five heavy helicopters worked to moderate fire activity so crews could continue to make progress on multiple sections of line. Firefighters used heavy equipment and crews to continue contingency line construction and structure protection efforts in the Crystal Lakes, Red Feather, and Glacier View subdivisions.

Today and over the next several days, fire activity is expected to increase due to drying fuels, warm temperatures, and low humidity. Firefighters will continue working in and around communities in proximity to the fire’s perimeter doing structure protection and indirect line construction. Direct line construction along Buckhorn Road to Comanche Reservoir, Pingree Park Road, Long Draw Road, and Highway 14 will be ongoing. More firefighters will be shifted to “the thumb” and other areas of the perimeter to build direct and indirect fire line. Secured lines will be monitored to ensure the perimeter remains uncompromised.

Closures and Evacuations: The voluntary evacuation for Glacier View was lifted yesterday. For a full list of evacuations and road closures, please visit <https://nocoalert.org> for more information. The Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests has implemented a closure around the fire; a map of the closure area can be found at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/map6964>. Rocky Mountain National Park has implemented a variety of closures on trails, cross country zones and wilderness campsites in the northern part of Rocky Mountain National Park. Trail Ridge Road (Hwy 34) has reopened and is now open across the park. For more specific information on these closures and a map, visit <https://www.nps.gov/romo/learn/fire-information-and-regulations.htm>

Weather & Fuel Conditions: A high pressure system will continue in place until Saturday. The temperatures for the next few days will drop to the 60s with humidity remaining in the teens. Winds will shift to the southeast for tomorrow and to the southwest for the rest of the week. By the weekend a storm system will move in from the south and possibly bring thunderstorms to the area.

Fire Restrictions: The Canyon Lakes Ranger District is under Stage 2 fire restrictions. Please visit https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd801392.pdf for more information. Rocky Mountain National Park has implemented a complete fire ban and an area closure. For information please see <https://www.nps.gov/romo/learn/fire-information-and-regulations.htm>. Larimer County also has a fire ban in place through September 18, 2020. More information is available at <https://tinyurl.com/y332jsoy>. A statewide open fire ban is also in effect for the State of Colorado through October 7.

Temporary Flight Restrictions: It is illegal to operate a drone in the fire area. Wildfires are a No Drone Zone. If you fly, we can’t. Whenever a drone is spotted near the fire all aircraft are grounded until we can be sure the drone is clear of the area. For more information, visit <http://knowbeforeyoufly.org>.

Cameron Peak Fire Statistics:

Size: 102,596 acres

Containment: 8%

Total Personnel: 1032

Location: 25 mi E of Walden; 15 mi SW of Red Feather Lakes, CO

Reported: August 13

Cause: Under investigation

For More Information:

Information Office: (970) 541-1008, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Media Inquiries: 970-541-0563

Email: 2020.cameronpeak@firenet.gov

InciWeb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6964/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CameronPeakFire>

Interactive StoryMap: <https://arcg.is/1ayXeD0>

Smoke Update: <https://tinyurl.com/y2dua06r>