

Fire Update

Cameron Peak Fire

East Troublesome Fire – Thompson Zone

Sunday, October 25, 2020 – 9:00 am



Rocky Mountain Type 1 Incident Management Team

Dan Dallas, Incident Commander

Information Office: 970-541-1008

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Email: 2020.cameronpeak@firenet.gov

Special Note: A Winter Storm Warning is in effect today into Monday morning. Heavy snow is expected across the fire, with temperatures in the teens decreasing to near 0 degrees Sunday night. Weather conditions, road conditions and safety of firefighters has delayed fire suppression actions today. Fire supervisors are scouting for safe work opportunities this morning, and firefighters will continue to work where and when it is safe to do so. Precipitation received over the fire today will significantly diminish fire behavior in the short term. Extended precipitation will be necessary to completely extinguish the fire. Fire activity may increase again as we move into another drying trend next week.

Cameron Peak Fire

Current Situation:

On Saturday, Red Flag Warning winds challenged firefighters along the southern perimeter again. Considerable fire activity occurred west of Pingree Park, near Comanche Reservoir, the North Fork Trail and west of Glen Haven. Structure protection and assessment continues to be a priority in The Retreat, Storm Mountain, 44H Buckhorn Road, CR43, and other communities near the fire perimeter. Firefighters continue to hold and improve containment lines with a focus on the CR43 road and North Fork Trail. Heavy helicopters assisted crews with water drops as weather conditions allowed. A swing shift was initiated to ensure continuity of firefighting resources during day/night shift changes.

Branch I north and east of Highway 14 is in patrol status, and crews continue to remove equipment that is no longer needed. Firefighters in **Division D** continue to patrol the entire containment line. Highway 14 was opened to the public yesterday, but National Forest System lands remain closed at this time.

Containment lines continue to pass the test of strong west winds in **Branch II**. **Division T** crews made progress again securing containment lines and structures along the 44H Buckhorn Road. Firefighters were successful completing a burnout operation near the 407 Road to close the gap in line containment in the western corner. Crews in **Division V** are patrolling the eastern containment line and will continue to monitor and reinforce the fireline to the southeast corner. As a result of the hard work of firefighters, additional containment line was achieved in **Division U** and containment line around the Otter Road spot fire is expected to be completed in one more operational shift. Crews will continue to reinforce the line and protect structures.

Branch III experienced some fire growth on Saturday, and securing containment line along the difficult southern fire boundary remains a focus. Firefighters in **Division Y** continue to strengthen the combination of hand and dozer line from Storm Mountain to the southeast corner. **Division X** had fire activity south and west of the North Fork Trail yesterday. Crews, along with support from aviation, were successful in keeping the fire north of CR43. Fire activity was two miles west of Glen Haven, and there are no imminent threats to structures. Firefighters continue to monitor and mop up hot spots along with structure mitigation.

The fire was active in the unburned islands around Pingree Park on Saturday, reinforcing the priority of continued presence by the Structure Group. Engines will continue to monitor fire activity and protect structures against potential reburn. The D43 Structure Group was reallocated to assist in structure preparation and mitigation around Estes Park.

East Troublesome Fire – Thompson Zone

Current Situation:

As winds increased early Saturday morning, fire activity intensified, and the Thompson Zone of East Troublesome Fire made a significant run to the east resulting in additional mandatory evacuations for Estes Park. The fire split into two

fingers with one moving northeast along the Big Thompson River and one east along Mill Creek. Additional crews, including resources from the Calwood Fire in Boulder County, were assigned to assist in structure protection and mitigation on the west side of Estes Park.

Due to the high winds and robust fire behavior Saturday morning, firefighters were in a defensive mode focusing on structure preparation and strengthening the indirect lines near the border of Rocky Mountain National Park and Estes Park. During the day as opportunities rose, forces took advantage of previous fuel treatments conducted by the National Park and were able to aggressively execute direct attack on the fire front. In the Upper Beaver Meadows area, crews took aggressive action including conducting firing operations off of existing roads, using fuel type changes such as wetlands, and other natural features to piece together three miles of fireline to deflect the fire from progressing further east. Due to these efforts, the fire is continuing to hold west of Bear Lake Road. Saturday evening, swing shift and night operations continued to patrol and implement structure protection as needed.

With the snow that fell across the fire on Saturday night, no active spread is anticipated today. Fire activity may increase again in the coming week as a drying trend resumes.

Weather & Fuel Conditions: A winter storm warning started last night and will continue through Sunday night. A foot or more of snow accumulation is likely at the higher elevations across the fire and 5-8 inches at the lowest elevations. Very cold temperatures will prevail Sunday through Monday, with lows near or slightly below zero. The snow will end Monday morning, with mainly clear but cold conditions the rest of the day. Very cold conditions will continue Monday night, but a warmup will begin Tuesday afternoon, with highs in the mid to upper 30s.

Evacuations and Closures: For updates, text the word LCEVAC to 888777 from your cell phone for the Cameron Peak Fire and TFIRE to 888777 for the Thompson Zone of the East Troublesome Fire. Emergency information will be forwarded as needed. This is the best way to get information about the situation in your area. Call the Red Cross at 800-417-0495. Press #1 if you have been evacuated and need shelter. You can also visit <http://cowyredcrossblog.org/cpf/> for updates.

Larimer County evacuations and road closures: <https://nocoalert.org>

Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests closures: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/arp/alerts-notice/?aid=60887>

Rocky Mountain National Park closures: <https://www.nps.gov/romo/learn/fireinformation-and-regulations.html>

Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR): A TFR is in place over the Cameron Peak and East Troublesome Fires.

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>.

<p>Cameron Peak Fire Statistics: Size: 208,663 acres Containment: 61% Total Personnel: 1,864 Location: 2 miles SW of Red Feather Lakes, CO Reported: August 13, 2020 Cause: Under investigation</p>	<p>E. Troublesome – Thompson Zone Statistics: Size: more than 4,346 acres Containment: 0% Location: Spotted in Spruce Creek 10 miles W of Estes Park Reported: October 22, 2020 Cause: Spot from main East Troublesome Fire</p>
<p>For More Information: Cameron Peak Fire Info: 970-541-1008 8 am-8 pm Email: 2020.cameronpeak@firenet.gov Larimer County Joint Info Center: 970-980-2500 East Troublesome - Grand Zone: 970-445-2910</p>	<p>Links: InciWeb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6964 Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CameronPeakFire/ YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCPNA6qSJC2UYKz68rp9etvA</p>