

# Tamarack Fire Update

Friday, July 23, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.

## Rocky Mountain Type 1 Incident Management Team

Dan Dallas, Incident Commander

**Information Phones:** 775-434-8629 (public), 775-434-8110 (media only)

**Email:** 2021.tamarack@firenet.gov

**Information Staffing Hours:** 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.



**Special Note:** A virtual public fire information briefing will be held tonight at 6:00 p.m. It may be viewed on our Facebook site, [www.facebook.com/tamarackfireinfo](http://www.facebook.com/tamarackfireinfo) or on Youtube, <https://bit.ly/TamarackVideo> and will be shown at the evacuation centers.

### **Current Situation:**

Portions of Tamarack Fire showed extreme fire behavior yesterday. The fire spotted to the east side of Hwy 395 near Holbrook Junction. By 4 p.m., air resources estimated the spot had grown to 2,500 acres. It is now well established on the ridge NW of Topaz Ranch Estates. Firefighters on the ground and aircraft continue to battle the fire under exceptionally difficult weather and fuel conditions. An additional 1,369 people were evacuated primarily from the Hwy 395 corridor, bringing the total number of those evacuated to 2,439.

The fire grew about 7,000 acres yesterday to 58,417 acres. The fire is still 4% contained overall, though containment along the Carson River Road Corridor and portions of Diamond Valley Road increased. There are 1,353 personnel working on the fire and more resources are on order. Firefighting operations continue around the clock, with additional crews added to the night shift. Night operations include structure protection and firing operations when conditions are right.

Firefighters have continued to keep the fire south of the Hwy 88. Hwy 88 & 89 remain closed in the fire area to all traffic except incident personnel. A portion of Hwy 395 remains closed for firefighter and public safety.

**Branch I: Division K**, the northern portion of the fire didn't move much yesterday. Hotshot crews were inserted at the two spots fires north of the East Fork Carson River and were able to accomplish some good work to contain the spots. Crews continued to make good progress along Hwy 89 and increased the length of containment line in the Carson River Road corridor and Diamond Valley Road. Today, crews will continue to secure line and complete prep on dozer lines south of China Springs Youth Camp. Crews will continue construction of indirect line between Leviathan Road and Carson River. Structure protection work continues for the Washoe Indian Colony and the Diamond Valley Road areas with patrol and mop up along the edge of the fire.

**Division O** remains a high priority and faces significant fire behavior with wind driven runs. Yesterday, the fire made a hard push and jumped east of Hwy 395 near Holbrook Junction where by 4 p.m. it had grown to 2,500 acres. Last night, crews improved firelines around Holbrook Estates and air operations dropped retardant in the Topaz Estates area. Structure protection forces remain present in the Spring Valley area. Today, firefighters will identify contingency lines east of the highway and scout potential direct fireline options to tie into the old Washington Fire. Crews will continue to map structure locations and conduct firing operations along Hwy 395 as conditions allow. Night crews will continue point protection throughout the area and will continue mop-up and patrol around structures.

**Division Q** is unstaffed due to limited resources and higher priority in Div O. It will continue to be monitored from the air. This area continues to show limited fire growth.

**Branch II:** On the south end, there was little movement of the fire. **Divisions T and Z** were lightly staffed due to higher priorities. Personnel continued to scout the area and identify options for direct and indirect fireline construction. Monitoring from the air continues.

**Branch III: Division A**, the SW portion of the fire, will continue to be monitored from the air. The fire is creeping but has had very little movement. As need dictates and additional resources arrive, crews will begin to construct fireline in the area.

In **Division F**, fire continued to back and flank towards Hwy 88, with minimal growth. Today, crews will continue burnout from Monroe Ranch Road to Crystal Springs and mop up fireline from Davis Ranch to Monroe Ranch Road. Crews will work to hold the fireline from Davis Ranch to Crystal Springs. Crews will continue to strengthen established firelines and hold the fire south of Hwy 88 while continuing to scout for contingency lines, including natural barriers and roads. The structure protection group will continue to provide point protection in Sierra Pines, Woodfords, Mesa Vista, Markleeville and Grover Hot Springs, along with other structures in the division

**Weather & Fuel Conditions:**

Weather continues to be hot, dry, and unstable. Today will be sunny with smoke and haze. Temperatures will range between 78-88 and minimum humidity will be 15-20%. SW winds of 10-15 mph with gusts to 40 mph are predicted for this afternoon and evening along ridgetops. In the valleys, upslope winds will be 4-8 mph for most of the day, becoming SW 8-13 mph with gusts up to 25 mph late in the afternoon. Terrain driven winds are expected for most of the day, except for increasing NW winds late in the afternoon and evening. Winds will calm down overnight for most areas. There is a chance of thunderstorms returning for the weekend and likely into early next week.

**Evacuations, Closures, and Fire Restrictions:**

For **evacuation notice specifics** in Alpine and Douglas Counties visit:

<https://www.alpinecountycalifornia.gov/AlertCenter.aspx?AID=EVACUATION-INFORMATION-53> and [https://www.douglascountynv.gov/government/departments/emergency\\_management/current\\_emergencies/tamarack\\_fire\\_markleeville\\_ca](https://www.douglascountynv.gov/government/departments/emergency_management/current_emergencies/tamarack_fire_markleeville_ca)

For **road closure specifics** visit <https://roads.dot.ca.gov/> and <https://nvroads.com/>.

For closures and fire restrictions on National Forest lands, visit

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/htnf/alerts-1069notices/?cid=fseprd573309>

**Temporary Flight Restriction (TRF):** A new, expanded TFR is in place over the Tamarack Fire. **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><b>Tamarack Fire Statistics:</b> Size: 58,417 acres based on infrared Containment: 4% Total Personnel: 1,353 Location: Markleeville, CA Reported: July 4, 2021 Cause: Lightning</p>	<p><b>For More Information:</b> Public Information Phone: 775-434-8629 Public email: <a href="mailto:2021.tamarack@firenet.gov">2021.tamarack@firenet.gov</a> Media Phone: 775-434-8110 Media email: <a href="mailto:mediatamarack@gmail.com">mediatamarack@gmail.com</a> InciWeb: <a href="https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7674/">https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7674/</a> Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/tamarackfireinfo">www.facebook.com/tamarackfireinfo</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/tamarack_fire">https://twitter.com/tamarack_fire</a> Youtube: <a href="https://bit.ly/TamarackVideo">https://bit.ly/TamarackVideo</a></p>
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