

Cameron Peak Fire Update

Friday, October 23, 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 on East Troublesome Fire: Yesterday, it was determined that the East Troublesome Fire has spotted across the Continental Divide, and about 1,200 acres of fire has become established in drainages within Rocky Mountain National Park, between the Divide and Estes Park. Information on the spot(s) is limited at this time, and fire managers will be working to gain more intelligence today. As a consequence of this fire growth within Rocky Mountain National Park, and the threat to Estes Park, much of Estes Park was placed into mandatory or voluntary evacuations yesterday. For logistical efficiency, fire officials have determined that the spot(s) from East Troublesome Fire that lie east of the Divide will be managed by the Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team that is managing the Cameron Peak Fire. These spot(s) will be known as the East Zone of the East Troublesome Fire. Today, fire supervisors will be working to assess the spot fires, develop suppression strategies, and if possible initiate aggressive suppression actions to curtail further growth. Progress will be updated on the Cameron Peak Fire Facebook and InciWeb pages. For information on the portion of the East Troublesome Fire lying west of the Continental Divide, refer to that Fire's Facebook and InciWeb pages or call their Information phone line at (970) 445-2910.

Current Situation on Cameron Peak Fire:

The Cameron Peak Fire experienced a weather shift with moist and cold air making its way across the fire last night. Firefighters were successful on Thursday adding more containment line in the eastern and southern portions of the fire. Crews and engines continue to construct, reinforce, and connect control lines along the southern fire boundary to secure that edge of the fire.

Firefighters prepare for colder weather, precipitation, and strong winds today. Colder temperatures and snow over the next few days should enhance firefighters' suppression efforts.

Structure protection and reinforcing firelines will continue to be a primary focus today. Crews will continue structure assessment and preparation in The Retreat, Storm Mountain, Cedar Park, 44H Buckhorn Road, CR43 and other communities near the fire perimeter. Firing operations will be used as needed where and when weather conditions are favorable. Excellent progress was made Thursday on containment of the fire that crossed to the south of the North Fork Trail; those efforts will continue to today. The North Fork Trail along the south perimeter is a key containment line and crews continue to focus on keeping the fire north of the trail.

Branch I is in patrol status. Crews is **Division D** continue to patrol the entire ridge on the west side and remove equipment that is no longer needed so it can be reallocated to other places on the fire. Power poles and lines along Highway 14 continue to be repaired. Firefighters will continue to monitor and mop-up hot spots.

Firefighters were successful in **Branch II** adding containment line and securing structures. **Division T** crews constructed line and tied the 407 Road into the 44H Buckhorn Road securing an important anchor point. Crews in **Division V** added containment line along CR27 and the southeast corner and expect that progress to continue over the next several days. **Division U** firefighters accomplished containment line around the majority of the Otter Road spot fire and have secured the line around the NW corner. Crews continue to reinforce line around the spot fire and protect values at risk.

Branch III took advantage of the weather and made good progress on securing the southern perimeter. Firefighters in **Division Y** have been successful with heavy equipment reinforcing line from CR27 west towards Cedar Park and now towards Storm Mountain. **Division X** crews are constructing line to connect with Division Y. Forces also monitor the fire's edge in The Retreat and the area around Storm Mountain. This area is steep with severe terrain where direct line is not possible, so firefighters have to use indirect tactics as the fire travels towards CR43. Crews have made good progress on containing the slopover in Division X and have tied that area back into the North Fork Trail. Day and night shift operations will continue work on the trail and take suppression actions as needed.

Division W and Z continue working directly with Rocky Mountain National Park to monitor fire activity and develop a coordinated plan for suppression within the National Park.

Engines remain at Pingree Park to monitor fire activity and continue to be successful protecting structures there against potential reburn. This area is in rough terrain with many unburned islands so a continued presence by the Structure Group remains a priority. The D43 Structure Group continues to focus on values at risk in Division X and Y to allow firefighting crews to concentrate on securing the fire's edge. Members of the Structure Group were sent to Estes Park yesterday to begin structure assessment related to the East Troublesome Fire.

Weather & Fuel Conditions: Cold and windy conditions dominate the area. Higher relative humidities on Friday will moderate fire activity during most of the day. Winds will begin to increase out of the west at higher elevations Friday afternoon with gusts to 40 mph. West winds with gusts from 50 to 60 mph are possible Friday evening. Due to the strong winds, critical fire conditions go into effect Friday evening until Saturday afternoon.

Evacuations and Closures: For updates, text the word LCEVAC to 888777 from your cell phone. 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 (TRF): A TFR is in place over the Cameron Peak 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>Cameron Peak Fire Statistics: Size: 206,977 acres Containment: 57% Total Personnel: 1,804 Location: 2 miles SW of Red Feather Lakes, CO Reported: August 13, 2020 Cause: Under investigation</p>	<p>For More Information: Fire Information Office: 970-541-1008 8 am to 8 pm Email: 2020.cameronpeak@firenet.gov InciWeb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6964 Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CameronPeakFire/ YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPNA6qSJC2UYKz68rp9etvA Larimer County Joint Info Center: (970) 980-2500</p>
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