

LARIMER COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER SITUATION REPORT

This report is intended to provide information and status in quickly evolving situations and is subject to change.
This report can be shared publicly.

INCIDENT INFORMATION:

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Lori R. Hodges, EOC Manager

REPORT DATE/TIME: 11/21/2020 1230 MST

EOC ACTIVATIONS:

Larimer County - Level III (OEM Staff Only)
(All personnel virtual due to COVID-19)

INCIDENT NAME:

Cameron Peak Wildfire
East Troublesome Wildfire (Thompson Zone)

DECLARATIONS/DELEGATIONS: Larimer County signed a local Disaster Declaration on August 18, 2020 for the Cameron Peak Fire which was extended on 10/20/2020 by the Board of Commissioners until November 30, 2020. Larimer County signed a local Disaster Declaration for the East Troublesome Fire on 10/24/2020. This was extended by the Board of County Commissioners on 10/27/2020 and will be in effect until 11/30/2020. As of 11/8 the Thompson Zone transitioned back to the East Troublesome Fire. Due to lack of fire activity, some resources were released. However, a local management team and resources continue to patrol the fire area. On Monday, November 16, 2020, Northwest Incident Management Team 10 and the State delegated command of the Cameron Peak Fire on state and private lands back to the Larimer County Sheriff's Office. The LCSO has also delegated the fire back to local fire districts as appropriate. The IMT will remain in place and continue their efforts on federal lands.

Larimer County is working with the CO Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and FEMA to obtain a Major Disaster Declaration for both the Cameron Peak and East Troublesome Fires in Larimer County.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COUNTY STATUS:

Larimer County is currently under a fire ban that went into effect at 1200 hours 8/18/2020. The fire ban has since been extended two times by the Board of Commissioners and is in place until November 30, 2020.

<https://www.larimer.org/spotlights/2020/08/18/larimer-county-open-fire-ban-effect>

The Larimer County Landfill has extended the deadline for fire debris disposal. The new deadline is June 30, 2021. More information can be found at

<https://www.larimer.org/solidwaste> (see Fire Debris Disposal alert at top of page).



CURRENT FIRE SITUATION:

SUMMARY:

The Cameron Peak fire ignited on August 13 on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests near Cameron Pass and Chambers Lake. The East Thompson Zone Fire started on October 22 when the East Troublesome Fire spotted across the Continental Divide and became established in Rocky Mountain National Park between the Divide and Estes Park.

Larimer County OEM received notification of the Cameron Peak Fire at approximately 1445 on 8/13/2020 and activated to support the incident. The East Troublesome Fire crossed into Larimer County early in the morning on 10/22/2020.

The Northwest Incident Management Team 10 will remain in command of the Cameron Peak Fire through part of Sunday, November 22. The Southern Area Gold Type 2 Incident Management Team, is mobilizing from the southeast United States and will assume command of the Cameron Peak Fire over the weekend.

CURRENT STATUS:

The Cameron Peak Fire remains at 208,913 acres with 92% containment.

The East Troublesome Fire remains at 193,812 acres with 72% containment. This includes the Thompson Zone spot fire.

Yesterday, winds over the Cameron Peak Fire were much calmer than previous days, gusting no more than 20 mph. These conditions permitted air resources to fly, and helicopters dropped just over 5000 gallons of water on hotspots in the Pingree Park area. Similar weather is predicted for tomorrow, and fire managers hope to utilize air resources once again. Fire suppression efforts in the Pingree Park area remain a priority.

Yesterday in Division D in the northwest, rehabilitation of the dozer lines off the 501 spur-road continued along with road grading in the area. Crews and equipment operators skidded and processed wood in the Sand Creek area. Fire staff will keep working on these projects today. Yesterday on the north side in Division L, crews worked on the equestrian trail and 509 to Molly Lake trail. They also began some repair work in the Bellaire Lake area and will continue this work tomorrow. On the east in Division T, U, and V on the east, Resource Advisors inspected and approved rehabilitation work on the 407. Crews completed the rehabilitation of handline in the CSU campus area. Dozer line rehab began in the Sky Ranch area. There was less visible smoke in the Pingree Park area yesterday, and water drops were effective in cooling those that were present. Today, crews will continue their work in Pingree Park and in the Sky Ranch area, and, weather permitting, helicopters will perform water drops again in this area. Yesterday in Divisions X/Y in the south, the repairs on Storm Mountain area were completed. Helicopters dropped water on a smoke that was seen south of Signal Mountain near "the bulge". Crews will patrol this area today and monitor for any more smokes.

A Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team is working on the Cameron Peak Fire. BAER teams are staffed by specially trained professionals: hydrologists, soil scientists, engineers, biologists, vegetation specialists, archeologists, and others who rapidly evaluate impacts of the fire across the burned area and prescribe emergency stabilization treatments on Federal Lands. To learn more about the BAER team's efforts, you can go to the dedicated InciWeb page: <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/7210/>

LARIMER COUNTY EOC OBJECTIVES:

1. Continue coordinating and assisting the Incident Management Teams and the LCSO through situational awareness, and operational and logistical support.
2. Continue to support mass care partners until all people and animals are able to return to their homes or are safely relocated.
3. Continue to build out the recovery infrastructure for short- and long-term recovery ensuring seamless coordination between governmental, non-governmental, volunteer and non-profit organizations.

Today marks the 100th day on the Cameron Peak Fire for the EOC. The Larimer EOC remains at a Level III with just emergency management staff activated to continue to support incident operations. Additionally, the Larimer EOC continues to support Larimer Health in response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

All evacuees and animals have been returned home and no shelters remain open at this time for any incidents in the county. The American Red Cross continues to provide support in the form of immediate recovery casework and will continue to provide support to evacuees until a long-term housing option is found. The Volunteer Agencies Active in Disaster (VOAD) has formed a Long-Term Recovery Group to look at essential needs for those individuals affected or impacted by the 2020 fires. They are coordinating requests for assistance between a number of volunteer, faith-based and non-governmental partners.

Suppression repair efforts continue on federal lands. NWT10 is maintaining suppression efforts on federal lands. For those private and state lands that have not had repairs completed, priorities will be made this winter and OEM will work with the LCSO IA Module and contractors to complete needed work as resources are available and time permits this spring. Questions regarding needed suppression repairs on state and private lands should be sent to oem@larimer.org.

At this point the EOC has transitioned most activities to the recovery infrastructure but continue to support response needs and the T2 Team as needed. The USFS Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Team completed assessments for Phase II of the burn area on Cameron Peak last week and is working on their final report. Larimer OEM is conducting a Risk Assessment of the full fire area to determine risks to people and infrastructure from the fire and for downstream communities to determine priorities for mitigation and treatments in the spring. Additionally, both the City of Greeley and Larimer County have signed sponsorship letters for the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program for exigent needs.

DEBRIS DISPOSAL: The Larimer County Landfill is accepting fire debris through June 30, 2021. There are special handling instructions for fire debris transport. Please visit the Landfill homepage at: larimer.org/solidwaste to see the Fire Debris Disposal alert banner, at the top of the page. Or call the business office at 970-498-5760 with questions. For updates on landfill closures and changes to restrictions, you can also text Fire Debris to 56525.

DONATIONS MANAGEMENT: The Donations Management Center is currently open for both collection and distribution. It is located at the Outlet Mall of Loveland, 5561 McWhinney Blvd, Loveland, CO 80538, Building address: #5657. The Donations Center is not accepting furniture at this time. They are accepting small appliances, personal care items, clothing, and food. The number to call with specific questions is 970-413-3109.

End Collection Date: December 1, 2020

Collection Time: Monday thru Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

End Distribution Center: December 18, 2020

Distribution Center: Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Holiday Hours:

November 25, 2020 Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

November 26, 2020 Thanksgiving Closed

November 27, 2020 Open

Cash donations are always preferred so that we can meet the specific needs of affected people. Cash donations can be sent to the United Way Larimer Fire Fund at uwaylc.org.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH:

The EOC is working with behavioral health resources to provide support to community members as concerns increase and more calls are received. Summitstone has deployed resources to the evacuation sites to support evacuees.

The below resources are available 24-hours a day for support:

- Countywide Connections Warm Line - (970) 221-5551
- Summitstone Health Partners Crisis Line - (970) 494-4200
- CO Crisis Support Line (844) 493-TALK (8255)

EVACUATIONS:

All voluntary and mandatory evacuation orders have been lifted for both the Cameron peak and East Troublesome Fires in Larimer County.

Evacuation area maps are available at <https://nocoalert.org>.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT:

All notifications have been made for community members with damages, except where no contact information is available. The total known structure damages to date are as follows:

Total Damaged or Destroyed: 481

Destroyed: 461

Damaged - Major: 3

Damaged - Minor: 5

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Residential Structures: 231

Outbuildings: 233

Shambhala: 17

Primary Residences: 42

Insured: 31

Uninsured: 11

It is assumed that the majority of structures are underinsured (In High Park Fire, the majority of homes were underinsured). Will not have access to this data until after claims are made.

Businesses: 3

Rentals: 1

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION:

The Cameron Peak Fire Joint Information Center (JIC) is now closed. The public has been directed to the information on the Cameron Peak website: <https://www.larimer.org/wildfire-resources>

Additional Larimer County public information on the Cameron Peak Fire can be found at: <https://www.larimer.org/cameron-peak-fire>

Information for the Cameron Peak Fire can be found by following @CameronPeakFire on Facebook. Larimer OEM is working with the USFS and additional partners to transition this page to a recovery page for future work on the Cameron Peak and East Troublesome Fire areas.

Information for the East Troublesome Fire can be found by following @EastTroublesomeFire on Facebook.

ROAD CLOSURES:

County Road Closures

Updated County Road Closures can be found by visiting: <https://www.larimer.org/roads/closures>

USFS Road Closures

Visit the following link for information on road closures issued by the Canyon Lakes Ranger District: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/arp/recreation/?cid=stelprdb5300963>

RMNP CLOSURES:

Some of Rocky Mountain National Park has opened. More information can be found here:

<https://www.nps.gov/romo/learn/fire-information-and-regulations.htm?fbclid=IwAR1pqQ8EdMGFeMYDEEBgM1Sqh0hcYC0upMd-TPRYCEyJTsxiw81opWN-ew>

Canyon Lakes Ranger District Closures:

The USFS made changes to current closures. More information can be found at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/arp/alerts-notice/?aid=57718>

RECOVERY WORK AREAS

Currently recovery efforts are focused in 9 key work areas. This structure is flexible and will evolve as recovery operations continue. Community recovery needs will be evaluated on an ongoing basis, and therefore these work areas are subject to change as new information becomes available.



1. WATER RECOVERY WORK GROUP

FACILITATOR: JEN KOVECSES, COALITION FOR THE POUUDRE RIVER WATERSHED

Science & Monitoring, Modeling & Analysis
Infrastructure, Damage Assessments, & Repair
Hillslope, Channel, & Forest Rehabilitation/Restoration Implementation
Watershed Grants & Fundraising



2. INFRASTRUCTURE RECOVERY WORK GROUP

FACILITATOR(S): KOHL PARROT, LARIMER OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT,
CHRIS DAHL US FOREST SERVICE

Utilities Assessments, Repair, & Restoration
Communications Assessments, Repair, & Restoration
Road & Bridge Infrastructure Assessments, Repair & Restoration
Community Lifelines & Critical Infrastructure
Infrastructure Grants & Fundraising



3. PUBLIC & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH/DEBRIS MANAGEMENT WORK GROUP

FACILITATOR(S): CHRIS MANLEY, LARIMER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT, STEVE HAREM, LARIMER COUNTY SOLID WASTE

Debris Modeling, Mitigation, & Management
Environmental Health Considerations
Public Health (COVID) Considerations



4. PLANNING & BUILDING WORK GROUP

FACILITATOR(S): ERIC FRIED, LARIMER COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT,
LESLI ELLIS, LARIMER COUNTY PLANNING

Private Property Permitting
Building Permits & Needs
Land Use Planning & Community Development



5. INDIVIDUAL NEEDS WORK GROUP

FACILITATOR: CARRIE OLENICK & CLAIRE BOUCHARD, LARIMER LONG-TERM RECOVERY GROUP

Housing Support Services
Donations Management
Volunteer Management
Construction Management
Emotional/Spiritual Care
Community Advocacy
Private Lands Unmet Needs



6. COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES WORK GROUP

FACILITATOR: LAURA WALKER, LARIMER HUMAN & ECONOMIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

Aging & Adult Services
Housing Stability & Homelessness
Early Learning & Childcare Services
Food & Essential Needs
Behavioral & Physical Health Services



7. MITIGATION & RESILIENCE WORK GROUP

FACILITATOR: SHAYLE SABO, LARIMER OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mitigation Project Implementation
Recovery Plan & Unmet Needs Study
Community Planning & Capacity Building
Resilience Framework Update & Implementation
Mitigation Project Funding



8. ECONOMIC HEALTH WORK GROUP

FACILITATOR: JACOB CASTILLO, LARIMER COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & WORKFORCE CENTER

Agriculture & Farming
Hospitality, Visitor Experience, & Outdoor Recreation
Workforce & Employment
Small Business Support
Economic Development
Re-Ignite the Economy Plan



DATA & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT WORK GROUP

FACILITATOR: TBD

Data & Modeling
GIS
Models
Assessments (BAER, Fire)
Organization & Sharing of Information
Tracking Data Modeling
Facilitating Data Sharing Requests

Recovery information will be shared regularly as the teams continue their work. This will be done through formal situation reports as well as on social media and the recovery website.

END OF REPORT