

## 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:** 08/21/2020 1000 MST

**INCIDENT NAME:** Cameron Peak Wildfire CO-ARF-636

**INCIDENT TYPE:** Wildfire

**INCIDENT START DATE/TIME:** 08/13/2020 1430 MST

**INCIDENT LOCATION:** Cameron Peak, near Chambers Lake, Larimer County

#### **LARIMER OEM OR EOC POC NAME/CONTACT INFO:**

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### **CURRENT SITUATION:**

Larimer County is currently under a fire ban that went into effect at 1200 hours 8/18/2020 and will be in effect for a period of 30 days, until 9/18/2020. <https://www.larimer.org/spotlights/2020/08/18/larimer-county-open-fire-ban-effect>

Governor Polis has issued a 30-day open fire ban for the State of Colorado, starting 8/20/2020. Fire restrictions for each county can be found at: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dfpc/fire-restriction-information>

The USFS expanded closures for the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest yesterday. Updated closures can be found at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/arp/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD787358>

#### **DESCRIPTION:**

At approximately 1445 on 8/13/2020, Larimer OEM received notification that an active wildfire was growing on USFS property near Chambers Lake and Blue Lake on W. Hwy 14. The EOC remains activated virtually at a Level 2.



The Rocky Mountain Blue Type 2 Team is in command for this fire. Per the T2 Team Operations Section Chief, the latest confirmed acreage is estimated to be 16,461 acres, 0% containment. The fire did not grow much yesterday, due to higher humidity and some precipitation. Good protective measures have been implemented along CR 103 to the Laramie River Rd. Crews and heavy equipment are being used to prepare road systems, control brush, and prepare for clearing operations in multiple divisions. Crews have worked to clear brush in Rustic and the Highway 14 corridor, near Glen Echo. Operations is coordinating with CSU and Sky Ranch Bible Camp regarding their needs. SAR and Law Enforcement are continually working to identify all people and vehicles at trailheads in the fire area to ensure all people are accounted for. Fire is close to Cameron Pass and this portion has been the most active of the fire. Operations has a good long-term plan for structure protection and containment lines for the communities of Crystal Lakes and Red Feather Lakes. The airstrip out of Granby is continuing to be utilized for air operations.

Multiple fire resources (air and ground) have been deployed. There are currently 646 personnel on this fire. There are 43 additional personnel working as part of the Larimer EOC, along with 27 partner agencies.

**For fire information, the public can call the USFS PIO Line at (970-541-1008**  
**For Shelter assistance or if people cannot self evacuate, they can call (970) 498-7120**  
**For all other questions, please contact the LCSO Public Information Office at (970) 980-2501**

Larimer EOC objectives for today's operational period:

1. Ensure safety and well-being of all EOC staff through staff support, safety messaging and regular check-ins.
2. Coordinate with the Rocky Mountain Blue T2 Team, USFS & LSCO Emergency Services to support wildfire operations, logistics and planning for the Cameron Peak Wildfire.
3. Provide logistical and planning support to the LCSO for mass evacuations, traffic control and credentialing of community members in affected areas, as appropriate.
4. Ensure support to all community members through sheltering, feeding, information dissemination, preparedness, and communications.
5. Continue to identify and communicate critical infrastructure within and around the fire area and work with LCSO Emergency Services to establish priorities for mitigation.
6. Provide accurate and timely information and situational awareness to all EOC staff and agency partners.

EOC staff has been working for nine days on this event, so the Planning Section is working on a Staffing Plan to ensure the health and safety of all our personnel. The Larimer EOC received word yesterday, 8/20/2020, from the CO Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) that the National Guard assets we requested will be arriving tomorrow, 8/22/2020, at noon. We will have personnel and equipment for seven (7) Traffic Control Points around the fire area. EOC Logistics is working with the Law Branch on additional needs to support this effort. EOC logistics organized another credentialing event for today for people who were unable to pick up their credential yesterday. This is being done at the Larimer County Courthouse (200 W. Oak Street) in Fort Collins from 0800 - 1600 hours. It is important to note that the credential is for post-fire access to areas impacted by fire activity. They are not for day-to-day access to properties before evacuations are ordered. For specific information and updates on date, time, location, and required documentation, as well as future credentialing opportunities visit <https://www.larimer.org/cameron-peak-fire>.

The Larimer EOC has worked with the RM Type 2 Team to ensure all community members have access to information. The RM Blue Team has begun including closed captioning for all virtual briefings for people that are deaf or hard of hearing, and the Larimer EOC continues to work on getting written documents translated into Spanish. The Larimer Emergency Telephone Authority (LETA) is working with EOC Ops and the Blue Team to determine public messaging and notifications ahead of any power supply being cut to an area in the event phones are lost at the same time. Spanish translations have been completed for all messaging.

The EOC is also working with behavioral health resources to provide support to community members as concerns increase and more calls are received. Summitstone Connections (970) 494-4200 and the CO Crisis Support Line 1-844-493-TALK (8255) are both available and PIOs are working on messaging to release to target areas near the fire.

**DAMAGE ASSESSMENT:** No structures damaged or destroyed to date. LC EOC Damage Assessment team is currently on stand-by should the need occur to implement them. The Damage Assessment Tool has been updated for this fire so that damages can be collected immediately upon notification as needed. Larimer County Engineering and Road and Bridge continue to collect information regarding road and bridge infrastructure in the area of the fire.

**ROAD CLOSURES:** New road closure put into effect yesterday, 8/20/2020, for Highway 14 to Kelly Flats. Continued closures for: CR63 (Pingree Park Road) closed Hwy 14 - CR44H, CR44H (Buckhorn Rd) closed FS 352 to CSU Mountain Campus. Highway 14 is closed from Rustic to Gould. Additional road closures include CR 103 (Laramie River Valley Rd) between Hwy 14 and Deadman Rd (Four Corners), Deadman Rd between CR 103 and CR 73C (Red Feather SW), Manhattan Rd between Rustic and Boy Scout Ranch Rd, and Pingree Park south and west of Crown point. Significant growth potential continues to exist due to conditions.

**EVACUATIONS:** Currently about 175 people have been evacuated from the area. Voluntary and Mandatory Evacuation orders are still in place. Evacuation areas are available at <https://nocoalert.org>.

**Ongoing/Planned Evacuations:**

Mandatory Evacuation ordered as of 1630 on 8/13/2020, for the area from the intersection of Highway 14 and County Road 103 north to Four Corners, as well as the areas around Chambers Lake.

As of 1600 on 8/14/2020: Residents and business occupants south of County Road 86 (Deadman Road) from County Road 103 east to County Road 73C and south to Highway 14 are under a mandatory evacuation. County Road 103 is closed south of County Road 86, so if you use County Road 103, you must go north to Wyoming. Traveling east, you may use County Road 74E from 86. Those on Highway 14 must travel east.

As of 1915 on 8/14/2020 the areas of Long Draw Road and Long Draw Reservoir are now under a mandatory evacuation order. It was previously voluntary.

**Voluntary Evacuations:**

As of 1845 on 8/13/2020 Larimer County Sheriff's Office ordered voluntary evacuations from Crown Point east to the Pingree Park Road and south to just past County Road 44H (Buckhorn Road).

**Evacuation Center/Shelter Location(s):**

Non-congregate sheltering is being utilized for evacuations due to the current COVID-19 environment. The EOC Mass Care Branch has identified five hotels for sheltering operations. All five allow pets. These include one (1) in Loveland, one (1) in Laramie WY, and three (3) in Fort Collins. If shelter is needed, people can contact the OEM On-Call line at (970) 498-7120 to coordinate. This is not the phone line for community questions overall, that would be the PIO line at (970) 980-2501.

A Red Cross evacuee staging location has been established. This is not a shelter and is not operational at this time. If we have large scale evacuations, this will serve as a "command post" for the American Red Cross to provide information to those residents who have been displaced from their homes. Depending on need, our Volunteer partners will also coordinate mass feeding operations for people needing sheltering. Three families have sought assistance to date for sheltering needs, and the Red Cross has coordinated a response.

**Small and Large Animal Shelter(s):**

Small and Large animal evacuation partners, including the Larimer Sheriff's Posse, the Larimer Humane Society, and the Horseman's Association all have facilities in place for sheltering and officers/volunteers on standby should the need arise for animal evacuation support.

Teams Activated. Currently, no requests for assistance.

- Larimer Humane Society is lead for small animals: Judith Calhoun 303-241-4721
- Sheriff's Posse is lead for large animals: Troy Badberg 970-443-3231
- Horseman's Association can assist with large animals through the Posse.

PUBLIC INFORMATION: Incident Command holds virtual community meetings each night at 1730 via the Cameron Peak Fire Facebook page. These will continue to be offered throughout the duration of the incident. Information for this fire can be found by following @CameronPeakFire on Facebook.

Please continue to check <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6964/> for the latest updates and an updated map of the fire. There is an area closure impacting access and recreation in the area. Additionally, evacuation boundaries and emergency alerting information is being providing on <http://www.nocoalert.org/>

Restoration / Recovery Efforts - The EOC is working with Fireshed, water utilities and providers, and community partners to begin coordination around post-fire recovery of the fire area. The Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed is leading the facilitation of a post-fire restoration group made up of Fireshed, community partners, and State and Federal partners. The purpose of the kickoff meeting is to provide an overview of post-fire programs, coordination and structure development of the recovery group, and establishing initial roles and responsibilities.

**CURRENT WEATHER:**

Current: Mostly sunny, high temperature between 70-80F, reach the high around 4pm. Humidity between 10-15%. NW winds at 5-15 mph, gusts up to 20 mph in the afternoon.

Tonight's Forecast: Clear skies, low of 55F. Northwest winds 2-6 mph, moving southwest after midnight.

Feel free to call NWS operations line at 303-494-4479 if you need more information.

Temp: 74 F    Prec. 0 %    Humidity: 26 %    Wind: NW 5-10 mph

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**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** None at this time.

**END OF REPORT.**