



Overnight bridge work to close I-25 and US 34 interchange

INSIDE, 2A

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Cameron Peak Fire becoming more active

Smoke from the Cameron Peak Fire, the largest wildfire in Colorado history, fills the air in a valley near Masonville on Saturday.

PHOTOS BY BETHANY BAKER/ THE COLORADOAN

Air resources drop water and retardant on southern edge

Sarah Kyle Fort Collins Coloradoan
USA TODAY NETWORK

After Sunday's brief reprieve thanks to cool, cloudy conditions, Cameron Peak Fire activity increased again Monday afternoon.

The fire's incident command team said that as of 1:30 p.m., firefighters were "actively engaged" and air resources were dropping water and retardant on the southern edge of the fire near Glen Haven, The Retreat and Storm Mountain.

Earlier Monday, operations section chief Paul Delmerico had said that area is "where are our firefighters" as crews work to protect as many structures as possible and prevent the fire from spreading farther south.

How much Monday's activity pushes the fire and threatens current containment goals likely won't be known until Tuesday.

The fire was measured at 203,604 acres with 62% containment as of 10 p.m. Sunday, growing just 351 acres from measurements taken Saturday night. There were 1,464 personnel working on the fire Monday.

Here are the latest updates from Monday, as of the Coloradoan's 4 p.m. print deadline:

Cameron Peak Fire: Crews 'actively engaged' as fire activity increases

Cameron Peak Fire officials announced Monday afternoon that fire activity had increased and "firefighters are actively engaged."

"Air resources are supporting the firefighters with both water and retardant drops on the southern perimeter of the fire near Glen Haven, The Retreat, and Storm Mountain," they wrote on the Cameron Peak Fire Facebook page.

Earlier Monday, the incident command team had warned that dry, windy conditions would likely increase fire activity.

According to a 2 p.m. update from the incident command team, conditions in the southern portion of the fire were approaching red flag conditions.

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Glow from the Cameron Peak Fire illuminates a ridge outside Loveland on Saturday.

The fire was measured at 203,604 acres with 62% containment as of 10 p.m. Sunday, growing just 351 acres from measurements taken Saturday night.

Inside

Joe Biden: Cameron Peak, CalWood fires are 'deadly signs' of climate change. **3A**

At least 26 homes destroyed by CalWood Fire that has scorched nearly 14 square miles. **3A**

COVID-19 cases surging among firefighters

Erin Udell Fort Collins Coloradoan
USA TODAY NETWORK

The fight is on against the Cameron Peak Fire, but the Colorado wildfire — the largest in state history — is not the only battle its firefighters are facing.

COVID-19 cases among Cameron Peak firefighters and support personnel nearly doubled last week, going from 23 confirmed cases on Oct. 7 to 43 on Wednesday. It is the second-largest active COVID-19 outbreak in Larimer County, according to outbreak data posted by the county health department. Cases connected to Colorado State University, which have been combined into one outbreak in outbreak data, make up the largest outbreak in the county.

The surge in cases related to the wildfire marked the largest increase in COVID-19 cases among fire personnel since the first

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ELECTIONS 2020
DISTRICT 53

Arndt seeks fourth term representing Fort Collins

Kevin Duggan Fort Collins Coloradoan
USA TODAY NETWORK

The race for State House District 53 in the November election does not appear to be much of a contest.

Rep. Jeni Arndt, a Democrat, is seeking her fourth two-year term from the west Fort Collins district, which has voted solidly Democratic for many years.

She is opposed on the ballot by Libertarian candidate Adam Shuknecht, although Shuknecht does not appear to be conducting an election campaign.

He declined to participate in the Coloradoan's election coverage or in candidate forums sponsored by local organizations. He has filed campaign finance reports with the Colorado Secretary of State's Office showing \$0 in contributions and expenditures.

Arndt said if reelected, she plans to follow her tradition of focusing her first five bills based on requests from constituents.

"If I don't represent my district, who will?" she said.

While the bills are still in development, the basic concepts include making sure a person who donates a kidney is not financially liable for the procedure, encouraging water conservation, updating statutes related to reselling goods, allowing water authorities to bond for fire mitigation projects, and clarifying what constitutes a public meeting under the state's open meeting laws.

Arndt also plans to work on a measure regarding alternative voting systems, such as ranked voting. Other bills are likely to come up during the course of the legislative session.

During this year's election campaign, Arndt said many voters she's spoken with are anxious about the political landscape on the national and state levels.

The economic fallout from the pandemic is a major concern, especially in terms of the state budget, she said.

The outcome of measures on the state ballot, such as the proposed repeal of the Gallagher Amendment to the state constitution that sets the formula for property value assessments rates and a proposed reduction to the state's income tax will have budget impacts.

Budget cuts because of revenue loss will lead to reduced services, she said. Health care standards could decrease; there could be less pay for teachers; services to persons with disabilities could be decreased; roads could fall into worse repair.

"I think we will feel some real pain," Arndt said. "If the feds don't backfill, the state and local governments will be in a real bind."

Many areas in the state budget are not protected, she said, including higher education.

With all that's going on in the country and the state, including the COVID-19 pan-

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USA TODAY

Rallying the staff: President uses call to deride disease expert, slams polling data during weekend rallies. **4A**

History

Talented artist Nellie Killgore shared her craft with college and others. **2A**

Weather

High 70° | Low 36°
Clouds and sunshine.
Forecast, **8A**

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