

Emerald Fire acreage reduced; now 90% contained



Crews on Oct. 14 make an assault on the Emerald Fire.
Photo/Taylor Flynn/Tahoe Mountain News

Updated 8:52pm:

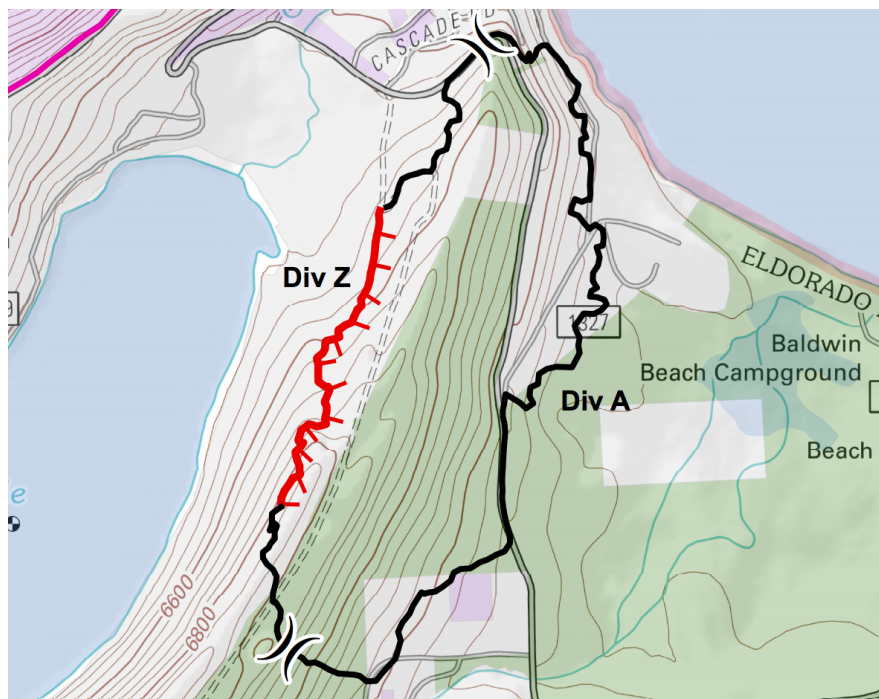
The Emerald Fire burning near Cascade Lake has increased to 90 percent containment, with the acreage burned reduced to 176 acres.

“Debris continues to impact the roadway due to the high winds and torrential rains. Fire suppression repair continues on the fire where safe. Liberty Utilities is working to restore power to the area,” CalFire said.

The National Weather Service in Reno has issued a flash flood

warning Saturday night for burn scar. Rock slides and debris flows are possible.

A high wind warning today from 11am-11pm and a high wind advisory from 11pm Oct. 15 to 8pm Oct. 16 could hamper firefighting efforts, as well as create spot fires. The National Weather Service in Reno is calling for winds this afternoon and evening to be 25-35 mph, with gusts of 70 mph.



The black line represents the completed fire line, while the red is the controlled fire line. Source/USFS

The fire started in the early morning of Oct. 14.

Two hundred structures remain threatened. Evacuations are still mandatory for Spring Creek, Cathedral, west shore of Fallen Leaf Lake, Cascade Properties and Cascade Lake.

Highway 89 remains closed from Fallen Leaf Lake Road to Bayview Trailhead. Until the hazardous trees are removed, it will remain closed. This could be through the weekend. Caltrans plans to re-evaluate the situation at noon Sunday.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*