ABC Denver & Miami

12.30.21

5-7pm

73 total segments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:55 PM | Denver | KMGH |

TO BE SOMEBODY’S LIVELIHOOD AND WE’RE WATCHING AS THEY’RE TURNING INTO EMBERS. THAT’S WHAT WE’LL BE SEEING OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL HOURS AND INTO TOMORROW IS THESE HOMES THAT ARE JUST PIECES, THEY’RE JUST RUBBLE ON THE GROUND. THIS IS THE NORTH END OF THE ROCK CREEK SUBDIVISION. WE’VE SEEN MAYBE A MILE OF HOMES JUST GOING UP IN FLAMES. FORTUNATELY THE WINDS HAVE DIED DOWN SO HOPEFULLY THAT MEANS THAT **fire** CREWS CAN GET IN AND MAYBE START TO CREATE SOME KIND OF BARRIER FOR THE FLAMES BUT DEFINITELY TURNING INTO A REALISTIC SITUATION, PEOPLE ARE GRASPING THE REALITY OF WHAT THIS MEANS NOW THAT ALL OF THOSE HOMES ARE SMOLDERING. >> THANK YOU FOR THAT REPORT AND ALL YOUR REPORTING. WE APPRECIATE IT. WE’RE JOINED BY MAJOR WITH THE SALVATION ARMY. THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME. THE SALVATION ARMY IS RIGHT

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:54 PM | Denver | KMGH |

>> ALSO, THIS IS A CHUCK E. CHEESE. IT’S KIDS. THAT’S TERRIFYING. KIDS ARE IN THERE, NOBODY BUT KIDS WITH THEIR PARENTS IN THERE. YOU SEE THE MASKED KIDS RUNNING OUT IN A PANIC. HOW VERY, VERY SAD. DENVER 7’S SLOAN DICKEY HAS DONE A WONDERFUL JOB REPORTING. I BELIEVE YOU’RE IN SUPERIOR. WHAT’S THE LATEST THERE? LOOKS LIKE YOUR HAIR IS MOVING LESS. I’LL TAKE THAT AS GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE WIND. >> THERE’S A FEW PIECES OF GOOD NEWS. THE WINDS HAVE DIED DOWN A BIT. THE OTHER PIECE OF GOOD NEWS, YOU CAN’T REALLY SEE FROM WHERE WE ARE, BUT WE HAVE SEEN **fire** ENGINES GO INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND START TO PUT OUT SOME OF THOSE **fire**S. IT’S JUST A LITTLE NUGGET OF GOOD NEWS FOR A TRAGIC EVENING. THE FLAMES HAVE DIED DOWN AND THE POLICE ARE TELLING US WE NEED TO LEAVE THIS AREA SOON. WE WILL HAVE TO GET MOVING. BUT THOSE FLAMES THAT YOU SEE IN THE DISTANCE, THOSE USED TO BE HOMES. THOSE EACH INDIVIDUAL ONE USED

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:53 PM | Denver | KMGH |

SECONDS. YOU CAN’T OUTRUN THERE. OUR WONDERFUL, BRAVE FIRST RESPONDERS PUTTING THEMSELVES RIGHT THERE BETWEEN US AND DANGER TO MAKE SURE THAT WE’RE OKAY, THAT WE SURVIVE ANOTHER DAY. IT APPEARS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE INCREDIBLE WORK THEY DO. I HOPE THEY KNOW HOW APPRECIATIVE WE ALL ARE. IT’S ONLY IN TIMES LIKE THESE WE TAKE THE TIME TO GO THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK. WE’VE HAD WAY, WAY TOO MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SEE THEM AT WORK. THIS IS PROBABLY THE TARGET. >> THIS IS THE CHUCK E. CHEESE IN BOULDER THAT HAD TO BE EVACUATED AS THE FLAMES AND SMOKE STARTED GOING INTO THE BUILDING. YOU CAN SEE THE WIND GUSTS THAT ARE PUSHING PEOPLE BACK. IT GIVES YOU AN IDEA HOW INTENSE THE SITUATION WAS. THERE’S ASH COVERING THE VEHICLE. THAT’S WHAT PEOPLE WERE DEALING WITH AS THIS **fire** JUST STARTED TO RAGE OUT OF CONTROL.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:52 PM | Denver | KMGH |

PROPERTY. SO THIS SITUATION IS SORT OF CHANGING FROM AN EVACUATION SITUATION TO, YOU KNOW, A **fire**FIGHTING SITUATION AGAIN. I HOPE WE CAN GET AN UPDATE AT SOME POINT TONIGHT FROM THEM ON WHERE THEY’RE AT AND WHAT THE CONDITIONS LIKE ARE OUT THERE. IT SEEMS THAT THE WINDS HAVE DIED DOWN QUITE A BIT OVER THE NEXT HALF HOUR. >> I THINK ALSO IN THE DAYS OR WEEKS, WE’LL HEAR AMAZING STORIES. I DON’T KNOW IF YOU NOTICE WHEN THE SHERIFF FROM BOULDER COUNTY WAS TALKING, HE GOT CHOKED UP WHEN HE ALLUDED TO SOME OF THE HEROISM SOME OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT DID TODAY. WE KNOW THERE ARE GOING TO BE INDIVIDUAL STORIES OF HEROISM FROM THESE PEOPLE WHO WENT RIGHT UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS TO MAKE SURE EVERYBODY GOT OUT IN TIME AS THE WINDS WERE MOVING THE **fire** SO FAST. THEY SAID IT WAS GOING THE LENGTH OF A FOOTBALL FIELD IN

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:51 PM | Denver | KMGH |

PROPERTY. SO THIS SITUATION IS SORT OF CHANGING FROM AN EVACUATION SITUATION TO, YOU KNOW, A **fire**FIGHTING SITUATION AGAIN. I HOPE WE CAN GET AN UPDATE AT SOME POINT TONIGHT FROM THEM ON WHERE THEY’RE AT AND WHAT THE CONDITIONS LIKE ARE OUT THERE. IT SEEMS THAT THE WINDS HAVE DIED DOWN QUITE A BIT OVER THE NEXT HALF HOUR. >> I THINK ALSO IN THE DAYS OR WEEKS, WE’LL HEAR AMAZING STORIES. I DON’T KNOW IF YOU NOTICE WHEN THE SHERIFF FROM BOULDER COUNTY WAS TALKING, HE GOT CHOKED UP WHEN HE ALLUDED TO SOME OF THE HEROISM SOME OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT DID TODAY. WE KNOW THERE ARE GOING TO BE INDIVIDUAL STORIES OF HEROISM FROM THESE PEOPLE WHO WENT RIGHT UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS TO MAKE SURE EVERYBODY GOT OUT IN TIME AS THE WINDS WERE MOVING THE **fire** SO FAST. THEY SAID IT WAS GOING THE LENGTH OF A FOOTBALL FIELD IN

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:50 PM | Denver | KMGH |

SEEMS THERE HAS UNFORTUNATELY BEEN SOME IGNITION THERE IN LOUISVILLE. WE HAVE NOT GOT ANY SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON WHERE THE WORST OF THE DAMAGE IS THERE IN LOUISVILLE. WE SAW A LITTLE FROM RUSSELL RIGHT AROUND THE REC CENTER, THE POLICE STATION, THE SKATE PARK, IT LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE HAVING A TOUGH GO THERE. BUT THERE’S NOT GOING TO BE A LOT OF SPECIFIC INFORMATION PROBABLY UNTIL THIS **fire** IS KNOCKED DOWN A LOT AND PERHAPS UNTIL THE SUN RISES TOMORROW. ONE OF OUR EMPLOYEES, JAMES, IS AMONG THE SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO WORK HERE AT DENVER 7 WHO HAD TO EVACUATE AND WE WERE ALL HOPING THAT HIS HOME IS OKAY. I’M HAPPY TO SAY HE AND HIS WIFE AND THEIR DOG GOT OUT OKAY. THAT’S JUST THE PEOPLE WE WORK WITH HERE. YOU MULTIPLY THAT BY THOUSANDS,

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:41 PM | Denver | KMGH |

BROOMFIELD AT 22. BECAUSE OF ALL OF THAT HEAT WITH THIS MASSIVE **fire**, THERE’S A LOT OF TURBULENCE IN THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE AREA AND THE SWIRLING WINDS WILL CONTINUE TO COME IN, LIGHTER AT SOME POINTS AND GETTING GOING AGAIN FAST FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF HOURS. THIS IS A THREE-HOUR MAP OF WHAT WE’RE EXPECTING WIND GUSTS TO DO. IT DOES GET LIGHTER ALONG HIGHWAY 36 AND I-25. THE STRONGER WINDS DROPPING BACK INTO THE FOOTHILLS AND THE MOUNTAINS. THEY’RE ELEVATIONS OF 8,000 FEET TO THE WEST OF US. CONDITIONS WILL IMPROVE. WE CAN CLEARLY SEE THE PLUME OF SMOKE BLASTING OFF OF THIS **fire** FROM NORTHWESTERN SECTIONS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, SOUTHEASTERN BOULDER COUNTY AND ALL THE WAY IN THE EASTERN PLAINS. IT GOES FARTHER. I HAVE A PICTURE FROM A VIEWER IN SEDGWICK IN THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE STATE SHOWING THE SMOKE. WHAT HAPPENS IS THE SMOKE PLUME IS 15 TO 20,000 FEET. THE RADAR BEAM SHOOTS UP HIGHER THAN THAT FARTHER TO THE EAST.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:37 PM | Denver | KMGH |

THAT’S BEING ORGANIZED RIGHT NOW. IF THAT WAS YOUR HESITATION NOT TO GO TO THE CENTERS, DON’T LET THAT BE. THERE WILL BE FOOD, NOT JUST SHELTER. THERE WILL BE A TIME TO SLEEP AND FACILITIES. THE FIRST BANK CENTER IN BROOMFIELD IS BEING ORGANIZED AS AN EVACUATION CENTER. ALSO, AUTHORITIES WOULD LIKE YOU TO PLEASE USE THESE EVACUATION STREET CENTERS AS UNIFICATION SITES AS WELL. IF YOU NEED TO TOUCH BASE WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY AND LOVED ONES, DO THAT AS WELL. GO BACK TO THE PHONE NUMBER. USE THIS AS AN ALL ENCOMPASSING NUMBER FOR EVERYTHING REGARDING THE **fire**. CALL 303-413-7730. YOU CAN GET THE STATUS OF SHELTERS, OF YOUR HOME IF THAT INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE. OR JUST GO TO BOULDER OEM.COM.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:35 PM | Denver | KMGH |

ANOTHER NEIGHBORHOOD ON **fire**. AND THERE’S A LOT OF EMERGENCY PERSONNEL. I DON’T KNOW IF YOU CAN SEE THAT IN THE DISTANCE. THERE’S AT LEAST ONE **fire** ENGINE THERE. THERE’S A **fire** ENGINE -- I’M COUNTING ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR IN THE DISTANCE. THEY’RE WORKING. THEY’RE TRYING. THEY’RE TRYING TO MANAGE THIS THING. THEY’RE TRYING TO GET IT UNDER CONTROL. BUT THEY’RE UP AGAINST JUST AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF DESTRUCTION AND A **fire** THAT’S BURNING OUT OF CONTROL. >> UNBELIEVABLE. >> I THINK WHERE YOU ARE IT’S THE REC CENTER, A SKATE PARK THERE, THE MUNICIPAL COURTS, THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, ALL RIGHT IN THERE TO GIVE PEOPLE AN IDEA OF WHERE WE’RE LOOKING AT. IT’S BECOMING NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO FIGURE OUT WHERE ANY OF THESE SHOTS ARE. THEY’RE ALL AND DEVASTATING AND LARGE AND SO DESTRUCTIVE. >> I HAVE A FEELING IT WON’T BE UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING WHEN IT’S SUNLIGHT AND THE **fire**S ARE OUT

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:35 PM | Miami-Ft. Lauderdale | WPLG |

WHIT? >> UNTIL THEN, STILL SO MUCH CONCERN. WILL, THANK YOU. >>> LET’S GET RIGHT TO ABC’S SENIOR METEOROLOGIST ROB MARCIANO, AND ROB, YOU’RE TRACKING THOSE DANGEROUS **fire** CONDITIONS IN COLORADO. WHEN ARE THE WINDS EXPECTED TO FINALLY LET UP? > Reporter: WE EXPECT THE STRONGEST WINDS, WHIT, TO RETREAT INTO THE FOOTHILLS OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF HOURS, BUT THIS HAS TURNED OUT TO BE A HISTORIC WHAT WE CALL A MOUNTAIN WAVE EVENT AND IT’S GOING TO FLIP THE SWITCH TO SNOW AS WILL MENTIONED. WE HAVE ADVISORIES THAT ARE UP IN THE COLORADO AREA AND NOW WINTER STORM WATCHES THAT ARE POSTED FOR KANSAS CITY AND CHICAGO, AS THIS LOW THAT WAS IN CALIFORNIA EMERGES INTO THE PLAINS. IT WILL BRING A SEVERE WEATHER THREAT AGAIN TO THE MID SOUTH TOMORROW. BUT ICING CONDITIONS IN KANSAS CITY BY SATURDAY MORNING. LINCOLN WILL SEE SOME ZMOESNOW. THAT PRESSES INTO CHICAGO AND DETROIT BY SATURDAY. THEY HAVED THE TORNADOES TWO WEE AGO. AND THE EXPANDED SEVERE WEATHER THREAT WHERE TORNADOES WILL BE POSSIBLE IN BIG CITIES LIKE SHREVEPORT, BIRMINGHAM, ATLANTA AND NASHVILLE. THIS IS A HISTORIC HOLIDAY HIGH IMPACT EVENT.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:34 PM | Miami-Ft. Lauderdale | WPLG |

>> I HAVE A PARTY NEAR THE ELEMENT HOTEL THAT’S GOING TO BE TRYING TO EVACUATE ON FOOT TOWARDS YOU. THEY ARE ACTIVELY RUNNING FROM **fire** BEHIND THEM. >> Reporter: ACROSS THE AREA, AT LEAST SIX PEOPLE TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL. THE FLAMES AND SMOKE KNOCKING OUT POWER AND FORCING SEVERAL MAJOR HIGHWAYS TO SHUT DOWN. MILLIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY FACING DANGEROUS WEATHER CONDITIONS. IN CALIFORNIA, A SLOW MOVING STORM DUMPING TORRENTIAL RAIN. FLOODWATERS INUNDATING THIS COMPGROUND IN MALIBU BEFORE DAWN. >> EVERYONE OKAY? >> Reporter: FIRST RESPOND EARNS RACING TO RESCUE FAMILIES AND THEIR PETS. SOME 50 PEOPLE IN ALL BROUGHT TO SAFETY. IN THE SOUTH, A TREE CRASHING DOWN ONTO THE PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY, BRINGING UTILITY LINES WITH IT, SHUTTING DOWN THE ROADWAY. WHILE IT’S RAINING HERE IN CALIFORNIA, IT’S BEEN A RECORD-SETTING DRY SEASON IN COLORADO. ADD IN THOSE WINDS, UP TO 100 MILES PER HOUR, AND YOU’RE LOOKING AT PERFECT WILD**fire** CONDITIONS. IT IS SUPPOSED TO START SNOWING IN THE MORNING IN COLORADO, BUT AT THAT POINT, THE DAMAGE WILL HAVE BEEN DONE.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:32 PM | Denver | KMGH |

>> THERE’S THE **fire** IN THE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:32 PM | Miami-Ft. Lauderdale | WPLG |

SEARCH FOR A 14-YEAR-OLD BOY. THE PRIME SUSPECT IN A TRIPLE MURDER IN TEXAS. THE TEENAGER CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS. >>> AND AMERICA STRONG TONIGHT. A GRADUATION STORY TO REMEMBER. >>> GOOD EVENING. THANKS FOR JOINING US ON A BUSY THURSDAY NIGHT. I’M WHIT JOHNSON, IN FOR DAVID. AND WE BEGIN TONIGHT WITH THAT BREAKING NEWS. LIFE-THREATENING **fire**S BREAKING OUT IN BOULDER COUNTY, COLORADO, AT THIS HOUR. THE GOVERNOR DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY JUST A SHORT TIME AGO. RESIDENTS FORCED TO EVACUATE WITH ALMOST NO NOTICE. THE IMAGES JUST COMING IN. DRIVERS BLINDED BY THICK SMOKE BLOWING ACROSS THE ROADS. POWERFUL WINDS DOWNING POWER LINES, IGNITING FAST-MOVING GRASS **fire**S. HOMES AND STRUCTURES GOING UP IN FLAMES. THE **fire** SPREADING IN JUST A MATTER OF HOURS. REPORTS OF BURN VICTIMS RUSHED TO THE HOSPITAL. CUSTOMERS IN STORES SUDDENLY TOLD TO HELD FOR THE EXITS.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:30 PM | Miami-Ft. Lauderdale | WPLG |

>>> TONIGHT, BREAKING NEWS AS WE COME ON THE AIR. LIFE-THREATENING WILD**fire**S SWEEPING THROUGH PARTS OF COLORADO. LATE TODAY, THE GOVERNOR DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY. REPORTS OF MULTIPLE INJURIES, BURN VICTIMS RUSHED TO THE HOSPITALS. HIGH WINDS FUELING THE FLAMES. TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN THE DENVER SUBURBS TOLD TO GET OUT RIGHT NOW. EVACUATIONS UNDER WAY THROUGHOUT BOULDER COUNTY. POWERFUL GUSTS DOWNING POWER LINES. TRANSFORMERS EXPLODING. STORE CUSTOMERS RUSHING FOR THE EXITS. THE AREA EXPECTING SNOW TOMORROW, BUT IT MAY NOT COME SOON ENOUGH. ROB MARCIANO STANDING BY WITH THE **fire** CONDITIONS AND SEVERE WEATHER THREATS AHEAD OF THE NEW YEAR. >>> ALSO TONIGHT, THE HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS OMICRON VARIANT SURGING ACROSS AMERICA. THE NATIONAL CASE AVERAGE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:28 PM | Denver | KMGH |

SAID -- HE WASN’T EXPECTING TO EVACUATE IN A RESIDENTIAL AREA. THE LAST THING HE WAS EXPECTING TONIGHT. >> HE SAID IT SO WELL. WHAT SO MANY OF US ARE THINKING. YOU GET YOUR SHOT, YOUR SHOT, YOUR SECOND SHOT, YOUR SECOND SHOT, A BOOSTER, A WILD**fire**, A SHOOTING, ANOTHER SHOOTING AND WE ALL FEEL A LITTLE OVERWHELMED RIGHT NOW. BUT THE ONLY THING I CAN SAY IS WE’RE ALL FEELING IT. DO REACH OUT AND FEEL THAT NONE OF US IS ALONE IN ALL OF THIS AND WE’RE ALL GOING THROUGH THIS TOGETHER. TONIGHT WE HAVE A NEW CHAPTER TO ADD ON TO THIS. YOU’RE SEEING A LIVE LOOK ON THE LEFT SIDE OF YOUR SCREEN A **fire** BURNING LIVE IN SUPERIOR. IT’S NOT A WILD**fire**. IT’S NEIGHBORHOODS. HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF HOMES HAVE BURNED IN BOULDER COUNTY THIS EVENING. WE’RE PRAYING THAT THE WINDS DIE DOWN SO THIS EVENING

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:23 PM | Denver | KMGH |

GENTLEMAN NAMED JOHN DAWSON, A LOUISVILLE RESIDENT. HE HAS GRACIOUSLY AGREED TO SPEAK WITH US. ANYBODY WHO TALKS WITH US WHEN THEY’RE GOING THROUGH ONE OF THE HARDEST MOMENTS OF THEIR LIFE WE’RE SO GRATEFUL FOR. WE WERE TALKING EARLIER. YOU TOLD ME YOU ARE A LOUISVILLE RESIDENT. HOW LONG HAVE YOU CALLED THAT AREA HOME? >> 20 YEARS. >> AND WHAT WAS YOUR REACTION TODAY WHEN YOU HEARD WHAT WAS GOING ON, THE DEVASTATION THAT WAS -- THAT COULD HAVE MADE ITS WAY TO YOUR AREA? >> I WAS DUMB FOUNDED. I DIDN’T REALIZE THAT THE WHOLE TOWN WAS BEING EVACUATED. I THOUGHT THE **fire** HAD JUST BURNED TO THE EAST AND WE WERE SAFE NOW. BUT THEN PEOPLE KEEP TELLING ME, NO, THEY’RE EVACUATING EVERYBODY. SO I FINALLY DECIDED, WELL, I BETTER GO, TOO. >> YOU SAID WHEN YOU WERE DRIVING OUT OF LOUISVILLE, YOU

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:21 PM | Denver | KMGH |

LARGE DEBRIS FLYING THROUGH THE AIR. TO THE NORTH, YOU COULD SEE WHAT LOOKED LIKE A MODERATELY INTERESTING **fire** THAT WAS GOING ON UP IN BOULDER COUNTY RIGHT NOW. AND IN THESE HOURS, THE WAY THIS HAS ACCELERATED IS SO INCREDIBLE AND YOU SEE WHY. WE’VE HAD SO MANY EXAMPLES OF THE FEROCITY OF THE WIND, 100-MILE-AN-HOUR WINDS, CATEGORY 2, 3 HURRICANE LEVEL WINDS HERE IN OUR MOUNTAINS FUELLING THIS **fire**. AND ONCE THAT TOOK HOLD, THESE NEIGHBORHOODS DIDN’T STAND A CHANCE. YOU CAN’T FIGHT **fire** LIKE THIS. WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO GET ANY AIR SUPPORT, WHICH IS HOW YOU TAKE OUT THESE BIG, DAMAGING **fire**S IS THROUGH THE SLURRY DROPS AND THROUGH THE **fire** RETARDANT, THROUGH THE SPECIFIC TARGETED DROPS FROM HELICOPTERS WITH WATER. NONE OF THAT HAS BEEN ABLE TO HAPPEN. THE GOVERNOR DID SAY THERE IS AN AIRCRAFT THAT WILL BE ABLE TO FLY AT NIGHT, AT NIGHT, BUT NOT

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:14 PM | Denver | KMGH |

HE’S IN AND OUT. YOU KEEP DOING YOUR THING. WE’LL COME TO YOU AS YOU’RE REPORTING. WE’LL BRING YOU LIVE COVERAGE. THAT’S A LIVE PICTURE OF A **fire** STORM IN A COLD, COLD AND BLUSTERY NIGHT. THINGS WILL GO WRONG IN CONDITIONS LIKE THAT. IT’S NOT CLEAR IF THE SHERIFF’S COUNT OF HOMES DESTROYED INCLUDED THESE HOMES WE’RE SEEING NOW IN THIS PARTICULAR SUBDIVISION.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:13 PM | Denver | KMGH |

AIR OVER THE RANGE. BECAUSE THIS THING IS SWIRLING THE WINDS IN, WE CONTINUE TO KEEP THE WINDS GOING FOR LONGER THAN WE NORMALLY WOULD SEE WITHOUT THIS TYPE OF A BIG HEAT SOURCE ALONG THE FRONT RANGE. TRAGICALLY THIS OCCURRED IN AN YARP THAT’S HEALTH POPULATED. >> I KNOW YOU WOULD HAVE A PERFECT ANSWER FOR THAT. CHIEF METEOROLOGIST MIKE NELSON, WE SURE APPRECIATE YOU WITH US TONIGHT. ALSO WITH US TONIGHT, SLOAN. I BELIEVE HE’S AT THE ROCK CREEK SUBDIVISION IN SUPERIOR. ARE YOU STILL THERE? I ALMOST HATE TO ASK HOW IT’S GOING. >> IT’S GOING AS YOU WOULD EXPECT THIS **fire** TO GO. I WANT TO SHOW YOU THE MAGNITUDE OF -- >> SLOAN, WE’RE HAVING SOME PROBLEMS, UNDERSTANDABLE.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:12 PM | Denver | KMGH |

TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF HEAT SO THINK OF THE **fire** TRIANGLE, THE FOOD, OXYGEN, YOU NEED THE HEAT AND SO WITH THAT, YOU’RE CREATING AN UPGRAFT THAT GOES UP MUCH LIKE IT DID WITH A HOT AIR BALLOON OR A BIG THUNDERSTORM. THE AIR SWIRLS IN FROM ALL DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS. LET ME GO BACK TO THE GRAPHIC I WAS WORKING ON AND I GOT THIS PULLED TOGETHER MOMENTS AGO. IF YOU LOOK KIND OF CAREFULLY HERE, THIS IS THE AREA OF THE **fire** BUT LOOK AT THE WIN DIRECTION COMING STRONG IN FROM THE WEST HERE BLOWING IN FROM THE SOUTH FROM THE DENVER AREA AND THEN SWIRLING IN LIKE A GREAT BIG CIRCULATION AND THAT’S WHY IT’S SO ERRATIC IS BECAUSE THERE’S SO MUCH HEAT WITH THIS, THE WIND ARE STILL FEEDING SPEW THIS WHERE NORMALLY, WE WOULD HAVE THE GROUND COOL HERE WITH THE DARKNESS SETTLING IN. LOWER PART OF THE ATMOSPHERE, YOU GET CALMER WIND THE FIRST COUPLE OF HUNDRED FEET OF THE ATMOSPHERE. THE STRONG WINDS WOULD STILL BE COMING IN FROM THE FOOTHILLS BUT BLOWING OVER THE COOLER, STABLE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:11 PM | Denver | KMGH |

GUSTY BUT WE’RE TALKING GUSTY OF 15 TO 25 MILES AN HOUR FROM THE NORTHEAST WHICH WOULD MEAN THAT IT WOULD ACTUALLY TEND TO BLOW A LOT OF ANYTHING THAT’S BURNED BACK OVER AREAS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN BURNED. THIS WAS JUST UNPRECEDENTED WITH EXTREMELY STRONG WINDS IN AN AREA THAT IS PRONE TO GET THE STRONGEST WINDS ALONG THE FRONT RANGE. THE ROCKY FLATS, HIGHWAY 93 BLOWING ACROSS LEWISVILLE AND SUPERIOR. DECEMBER HAS BEEN EXTREMELY WARM. WE’VE HAD A DOZEN DAYS OF 60 DEGREES OR WARMER AND VERY LITTLE MOISTURE. THAT PART OF THE FRONT RANGE HAS HAD LESS THAN AN INCH AND A HALF OF RAIN SINCE THE FIRST OF JUNE. >> SO MR. WIZARD, I KNOW A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE HAD QUESTIONS ON THIS. A SIDE LESSON THAT I WOULD PERSONALLY APPRECIATE, WHEN YOU SAY ALL THE **fire** CREATES ITS OWN WEATHER SYSTEM, WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? >> WELL, YOU GET A **fire** THAT HAS GROWN TO BE THAT BIG, YOU HAVE A

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:10 PM | Denver | KMGH |

THE **fire**. MOUNTAINS WILL SEE ONE TO TWO FEET OF SNOW. IN THE SHORT-TERM, IT’S STILL VERY, VERY ACTIVE UP THERE. WINDS WILL BEGIN TO EASE AND THAT SHOULD BE HAPPENING IN THE NEXT HOUR OR TWO. THEY HAVE EASED OFF A LITTLE BIT ALREADY BECAUSE-- BUT BECAUSE TH IS SO HOT, IT’S CREATED ITS OWN WEATHER. THREE TO FIVE INCHES OF SNOW DOES NOT ARRIVE UNTIL TOMORROW AFTERNOON AND TOMORROW NIGHT. BY THE TIME WE GET TO SATURDAY MORNING, LOWS WILL DROP TO NEAR ZERO DEGREES. >> MIKE, IF I COULD KEEP YOU ON HERE FOR ANOTHER COUPLE OF MINUTES, I HAD A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS. THIS SNOWSTORM THAT’S COMING IN, THANK GOODNESS, WILL IT -- I KNOW SOMETIMES WHEN STORMS COME IN, FRONTS COME IN, THEY BRING WITH THEM A NEW WIND, HIGHER WINDS. ARE WE GOING TO SEE THAT WITH THIS STORM? >> NOTHING IS GOING TO BE TOO EXTREME. TOMORROW IS THE COLD FRONT COMES IN FROM THE NORTH. WINDS WILL SHIFT AND BECOME

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:09 PM | Denver | KMGH |

AND PINK, THAT’S THE STRONGEST WINDS. WE DO EXPECT THEM TO GRADUALLY EASE BACK INTO THE MOUNTAINS AND FOOTHILLS OF WESTERN BOULDER COUNTY AND JEFFERSON COUNTY AND THE MUCH LIGHTER ALONG HIGHWAY 36, THE I-20. YOU CAN STILL SEE THE SMOKE PLUME. THIS IS ALL SMOKE PARTICLES POURING OFF OF THAT LARGE **fire** AND THAT CONTINUES TO BE BLOWING MOSTLY IN A WEST TO EAST FASHION, NOT SEEING A LOT OF CHANGE IN THE DIRECTION ON THAT YET AND IT EXTENDS ALL THE WAY OUT TO NEAR AKRON, COLORADO, ABOUT 75 MILES AN HOUR TO THE EAST. YOU CAN STILL SEE THE SMOKE PLUME INDICATED ON RADAR ALL THE WAY OUT TO THE EAST OF US. THERE IS COLDER WEATHER ON THE WAY. IT’S COMING IN MOSTLY FOR TOMORROW AND TOMORROW NIGHT. WINTER WEATHER ADVISORIES COVERING MOST OF THE EASTERN PLAINS IN NORTHEAST COLORADO AND WE’LL SEE THREE TO FIVE INCHES OF SNOW COMING UP AS THIS SYSTEM COMES THROUGH OR THE AREA AROUND

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:08 PM | Denver | KMGH |

**fire** STORMS WE’VE BEEN SEEING. WE’VE BEEN HOPING THAT THE ATMOSPHERE WOULD START TO SETTLE OUT BUT WE ARE SEEING SOMETHING SIMILAR TO A **fire** STORM THAT YOU WOULD HAVE SEEN FROM BOMBING MISSIONS IN WORLD WAR II. THIS HAS BECOME A LARGE CONCENTRATION HERE AND I JUST GOT THE GRAPHIC UP AND I HAVEN’T WORKED WITH IT TOO MUCH. THE AREAS IN THE PINK IS THE **fire**. THESE ARE THE WIND VEKTCTORS IN THE ENTIRE **fire** STORM. THAT’S WHY IT’S CONTINUED TO BE ERRATIC BECAUSE OF THE HEAT AND THE SIZE OF THIS **fire**. IT’S GOING TO TAKE SEVERAL MORE HOURS FOR THE WINDS TO REALLY START TO SETTLE DOWN. THIS IS TO THE WEST OF THE BOULDER, 39 MILES AN HOUR RIGHT NOW. BRAM BROOMFIELD AT 22. OVER THE NEXT FEW HOURS, THIS AREA THAT YOU SEE IN THE ORANGE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 6:07 PM | Denver | KMGH |

WINDS ARE DYING DOWN A LITTLE BIT. LET’S CHECK IN WITH METEOROLOGIST MIKE NELSON. COAL CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ELDORADO CANYON AND ALL PLACES AND IT’S JUST TERRIBLE. IT’S JUST AN AWFUL THING. I WANT TO START OUT FIRST OF ALL WITH THE WINDS THAT BEGAN ALL OF THIS. WINDS OVER 100 MILES PER HOUR EARLIER TODAY. WE’RE STILL GETTING GUSTS IN THE 50 TO 60-MILE-PER-HOUR RANGE. THIS IS WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE IN TIME LAPSE LOOKING AT THIS. THESE ARE THE SMOKE PLUMES CRASHING ALONG. ATMOSPHERIC WAVES COMING IN ALOFT AND IT’S THE WATER CRASHING ONTO A BEACH, FEEDING OXYGEN, STRONG WINDS INTO THE **fire** AND CREATING THESE INTENSE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:58 PM | Denver | KMGH |

SUPERIOR STILL UNDER MANDATORY EVACUATION FOR OBVIOUS REASONS. CITY OF LEWISVILLE AS WELL EXCEPT FOR THE OLD TOWN PART. PARTS OF BROOMFIELD UNDER EVACUATION AS WELL. PRE-EVACUATION NOW FOR PARTS OF ARVADA AND OTHER PARTS OF BROOMFIELD. >> ALSO LAFAYETTE, ALSO RECOMMENDING RESIDENTS BE ON STANDBY AND BE ON ALERT IN CASE THEY HAVE TO EVACUATE AS WELL. JUST NAMING ALL OF THAT AREA, THAT GIVES YOU AN IDEA OF JUST, YOU KNOW, HOW MANY COMMUNITIES ARE IMPACTED BY THIS AND ALSO THE STEPS THAT EMERGENCY OFFICIALS ARE TAKING TO PROTECT THOSE IN THE PATH OF THIS **fire**. THOSE WHO ARE EVACUATING HAVE BEEN TOLD TO GO NORTH AND EAST, NOT GO SOUTH. THAT’S WHERE THE **fire** HAS BEEN BURNING AT ITS WORST. THERE ARE MULTIPLE EVACUATION CENTERS AVAILABLE IN DIFFERENT AREAS FOR YOU AND OF COURSE, IF YOU SEE FLAMES, DO NOT HESITATE TO LEAVE. IN FACT, YOU SHOULD BE LEAVING RIGHT AWAY IF YOU SEE FLAMES.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:56 PM | Denver | KMGH |

EVACUEES FROM THE AREA AND WE HAVE SEEN LOTS AND LOTS OF PEOPLE LEAVE THIS AREA BEFORE THE FLAMES CAME THROUGH SO THAT’S A GOOD PIECE OF NEWS. THE FLAMES YOU CAN SEE FROM THE SCREEN RIGHT NOW JUST ABSOLUTELY CONTINUING TO DEVASTATE THIS NEIGHBORHOOD ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE ROCK CREEK SUBDIVISION. >> JUST DEVASTATING AND ALSO SHOCKING TO SEE HOW INTENSE THE **fire** IS NOW BURNING IN THE SUBDIVISION. YOU CAN SEE THAT THE WIND IS CONTINUING TO FUEL IT. IT’S CONTINUING TO FAN THE FLAMES AND PUSH IT THROUGHOUT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR REPORT AND WE HOPE YOU STAY SAFE AND PLEASE DON’T GET TOO CLOSE. WE’LL CHECK BACK IN, IN A FEW MOMENTS. >> I WANT TO ADD THAT OUR BOSS HERE HAS BEEN VERY CLEAR WHILE OUR CREWS ARE INCREDIBLY CLOSE TO BRING YOU WHAT’S HAPPENING THERE, ALL HAVE ESCAPE ROUTES, ALL ARE ON THE CORRECT SIDE OF THIS **fire** SO I KNOW IT’S CONCERNING TO SEE SLOAN STANDING THERE WITH THIS INFERNO

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:55 PM | Denver | KMGH |

STREET FROM WHERE THE **fire** LINE HAS TAKEN SEVERAL HOMES. I WANT TO SHOW YOU NOW SOME REALITY IS SETTING IN FOR SOME OF THESE AREAS. IF YOU LOOK UP WIND, TO THE WEST OF US, THOSE HOMES WHERE THE FLAMES ARE NOW ON THE GROUND, THOSE USED TO BE HOMES. THAT IS NOW FLAT AND WE’RE WATCHING AS WINDS PICKING UP CONTINUE TO TAKE HOMES TO THE GROUND. THEN WE’RE ALSO WATCHING JUST TO THE EAST OF US, WE CAN JUST PAN OVER IN THAT DIRECTION AS WELL, WE’RE SEEING THIS WIND TAKE THE FLAMES. IT’S A LITTLE HARDER TO SEE BECAUSE OF THE SMOKE ON THAT SIDE BUT WE SAW FLAMES REALLY TAKE THEIR OWN LINES DOWN EAST TOWARDS MORE HOMES AND SO WE WITNESSED THIS **fire** START, THIS PARTICULAR **fire** START WITH JUST ONE HOME THAT SHOWS THE DEVASTATING POWER OF THE FLAMES BUT AS MENTIONED, THERE ARE MANY

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:54 PM | Denver | KMGH |

I WANT A QUICK NOTE HERE. WE’VE GOT A REQUEST FROM THE YMCA IN LAFAYETTE, ONE OF THE EVACUATION CENTERS, THEY NEED OXYGEN, OK? OXYGEN TANKS FOR EVACUEES FROM THE HOSPITAL. SO I DON’T KNOW WHO THIS APPLIES TO BUT THEY JUST SENT OUT AN ALL CALL. IF YOU HAVE ANY OXYGEN TANKS TO SPARE, PLEASE TAKE THEM TO THE Y THERE IN LAFAYETTE. WHAT A STRANGE REQUEST WE’RE MAKING ON TELEVISION. DROP OFF OXYGEN TANKS AT THE Y FOR EVACUEES FROM THE HOSPITAL. WHAT A NIGHT THIS HAS BEEN. I JUST WANT TO CLARIFY, THE ENTIRE TOWN OF SUPERIOR IS NOT ON **fire**. PARTS OF IT ARE AND IT’S AWFUL BUT I DON’T WANT YOU TO THINK THAT. I KNOW WE’RE TALKING A LOT NON STOP BUT I WANT TO CLARIFY THAT. THAT IS NOT THE CASE RIGHT NOW. SLOAN IS ALSO AT THAT **fire** JUST A LITTLE CLOSER TO THE GROUND. >> WE’RE ACTUALLY ACROSS THE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:53 PM | Denver | KMGH |

PARAMEDICS 20 MINUTES AGO DRIVE TO MC CASLIN BOULEVARD NORTH. THAT’S THE ACCESS TO THE ROCK CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD OVER THERE AND THEN WE SAW ABOUT FIVE OR TEN OF THEM COME BACK OUT. SO OBVIOUSLY OFFICIALS DID EVERYTHING THEY CAN TO EVACUATE THIS COMMUNITY A COUPLE OF HOURS AGO. THEY’RE NOT LETTING UP. YOU KNOW, LAW ENFORCEMENT STILL GOING TO SEVERAL DIFFERENT AREAS JUST TO MAKE SURE, HEY, IF WE MISSED SOMEBODY, WE WANT TO MAKE DARN SURE NOBODY, NOT A SINGLE RESIDENT, IS STUCK HERE. THIS ENTIRE TOWN IS ON **fire**. I SHOULD SAY SEVERAL SECTIONS OF IT. JUST UNBELIEVABLE, THOUGH. AS YOU GUYS WERE REPORTING, NO CASUALTIES. IF THERE’S ANY GOOD NEWS HERE, IT’S THAT BUT WHAT WE MAY FIND ONCE THIS IS ALL SAID AND DONE, WE’RE GOING TO HAVE TO FIND OUT. >> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:52 PM | Denver | KMGH |

YOU CAN KIND OF SEE THE SMOKE BLOWING TOWARDS THE -- I GUESS IT’S TO YOUR RIGHT SIDE. IT’S IN THE EAST DIRECTION INDICATING THERE’S STILL SOME PRETTY STRONG GUSTS DOWN THERE. THAT’S PROBABLY ABOUT 3/4 OF A MILE FROM WHERE WE’RE STANDING. IT’S A LITTLE DARK NOW. WE LOST SOME LIGHT BUT THERE’S HUNDREDS OF HOMES IN THE COMMUNITY AND WE SAW HOW ONE SPOT **fire**, THE EMBERS ARE BLOWN TO COMPLETE OTHER AREAS, STARTING **fire**S THERE, TOO. AND ALSO THE GUSTS HAVE CHANGED DIRECTION HERE SIMULTANEOUSLY WITHIN THE LAST 15 MINUTES. IF WE JUST ZOOM OUT FOR A SECOND, ZOOMING OUT OF THIS SHOT LOOKING UP TO THE TOP OF YOUR SCREEN NOW AND TO THE LEFT OF IT, WE SAW MORE SPOT **fire**S KIND OF SPARK UP SO IT’S INCREDIBLY UNPREDICTABLE WHAT’S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT. AND JUST IN TERMS OF THE OFFICIAL RESPONSE HERE, WE SAW, I WOULD SAY, ABOUT 15 TO 20

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:47 PM | Denver | KMGH |

>> YOU’RE CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT YOU’RE LOOKING AT NOW THAT IT’S DARK. THAT’S THE NEIGHBORHOOD. THE NEIGHBORHOOD IS ON **fire**. THOSE ARE HOMES THAT ARE LOST. THAT’S ROCK CREEK IN SUPERIOR. HAPPY TO SAY RIGHT NOW THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF ANYBODY KILLED IN ALL OF THIS. UNFORTUNATELY, THAT ALSO COULD CHANGE BECAUSE OF A POPULATION, DENSELY POPULATION THAT THE **fire** IS MOVING THROUGH RIGHT NOW. ONLY ONE INJURY REPORTED, THAT WAS A RESPONDING OFFICER WHO HAD SOMETHING GO INTO HIS EYE WHEN HE WAS RESPONDING. >> THIS SPEAKS TO THE EVACUATION NOTICES AND HOW GOOD WE’VE GOTTEN AS REVERSE 911 11 CALLS, CETERA, LETTING YOU KNOW WHEN TO GET OUT OF HERE. IT LOOKS LIKE THAT WAS HEEDED. THE WHOLE TOWN OF SUPERIOR, THE WHOLE TOWN OF LEWISVILLE HAVE BEEN EVACUATED RIGHT NOW AND THAT’S INCREDIBLE. THAT’S 30,000 PLUS PEOPLE ARE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:46 PM | Denver | KMGH |

DESTROYED SO FAR AND THE **fire** IS CONTINUING TO BURN. TO PUT THIS IN PERSPECTIVE, IT’S POSSIBLY THE MOST DEADLY WILD**fire** IN COLORADO HISTORY. LAST YEAR THERE WERE 469 STRUCTURES LOST, 224 HOMES. TROUBLE SOME **fire**, 350 STRUCTURES LOST. PINE GULCH, IT WAS THE SIZE OF THE **fire**. THIS **fire**S IS 1600 ACRES ONLY SO FAR AND IT IS DEVASTATING ACROSS THE COMMUNITY OF SUPERIOR. WE HAVEN’T HEARD ANYTHING YET ABOUT STRUCTURES LOST IN THE CITY OF LEWISVILLE BUT WE KNOW THEY ARE UNDER A MANDATORY EVACUATION AS WELL. >> CITY OF BOULDER AS WELL. WE’VE NOT HEARD ANY PROBLEMS IN THE CITY OF BOULDER PROPER. YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW, THERE WERE TWO **fire**S THAT STARTED THIS WHOLE THING. ONE TO THE NORTH OF BOULDER, MIDDLE FORK, THAT NOW IS REALLY A NON ISSUE. ONLY ONE WE’RE DEALING WITH IS SOUTH OF BOULDER, THE MARSHALL **fire**. I CAN’T GET OVER THESE IMAGES WE’RE SEEING RIGHT NOW.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:45 PM | Denver | KMGH |

MY PREFERENCE IS THIS TELEVISION STATION. I THINK WE’RE DOING A GOOD JOB. BUT ALSO DO MAKE USE OF OUR WEBSITE, thedenverchannel.com AND OUR DENVER 7 PLUS APP. I THINK YOU’LL FIND IT TERRIBLY USEFUL BECAUSE CONDITIONS ARE CHANGING SO, SO QUICKLY RIGHT NOW. ALSO THE BOULDER OEM.COM FOR THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION OR IF YOU PREFER TO CALL THEM WITH YOUR QUESTIONS, DO NOT CALL 911, PLEASE. 303-413-7730 FOR ALL OF YOUR -- ANYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS **fire**. EVACUATION ROUTES, WHEN YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO GO HOME, HOW YOUR HOME IS DOING AND THE STATUS OF EVERYTHING THAT THEY’LL HAVE FOR YOU ON THAT TELEPHONE NUMBER. >> IF YOU’RE CURIOUS TO THE SCALE OF THE **fire** AND POSSIBLY WHY WE’VE BEEN CUTTING INTO YOUR PROGRAMMING FOR SO LONG, THE SHERIFF’S OFFICE HAS CONFIRMED THERE ARE AT LEAST 600 HOMES

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:44 PM | Denver | KMGH |

THEY’RE SIGNIFICANTLY DELAYED AND ROUTE 228 SERVICE IS SUSPENDED. THE U.S. 36 MC CASLIN STATION IS CLOSED AND THAT’S THE AREA WHERE WE’VE BEEN SHOWING HOMES ON **fire**. WE ALSO KNOW THAT VISTA ADVENTIST HOSPITAL IN LEWISVILLE HAS BEEN EVACUATED FOR STAFF AND PATIENTS BECAUSE THE **fire** IS GETTING WAY TOO CLOSE AND ALSO SMOKE WAS COMING INTO THE BUILDING SO THEY WERE DEALING WITH THAT. AND AGAIN, IF YOU’RE IN BOULDER COUNTY ANYWHERE NEAR THESE AREAS, PLEASE KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. REGISTER FOR THEIR ALERTS BECAUSE THINGS ARE CHANGING RAPIDLY AND AS MIKE JUST SAID, WE WERE EXPECTING WINDS TO DIE DOWN A LOT EARLIER BUT THE **fire** IS CREATING ITS OWN WEATHER SYSTEM AT THIS POINT AND ESSENTIALLY FUELLING ITSELF. >> SO FOR THE VERY LATEST INFORMATION, OF COURSE, LEAVE THE TV ON, OF COURSE.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:42 PM | Denver | KMGH |

ARE UNDER WIND AND STORM WARNINGS. UNFORTUNATELY THE SNOW DOESN’T COME IN UNTIL TOMORROW AFTERNOON AS A SHARP COLD FRONT DROPS IN FROM THE NORTHWEST. IT’S GOING TO BE OUR MOST SIGNIFICANT SNOWFALL WE’VE HAD ALL SEASON AND THE MOST SIGNIFICANT MOISTURE WE’VE HAD ALL OUT OF THE SKY SINCE LAST SUMMER, ABOUT THREE TO FIVE INCHES OF SNOW. THE WINDS WILL BEGIN TO EASE. I WISH THEY HAD ABOUT AN HOUR AGO BECAUSE OF THIS **fire** STORM, IT’S TAKING LONGER FOR THE ATMOSPHERE TO START TO SETTLE DOWN. THERE’S COLDER WEATHER ON THE WAY AND SOME SNOW COMING BUT THAT DOESN’T ARRIVE UNTIL TOMORROW AFTERNOON. CONDITIONS WILL GET BETTER BUT IT REMAINS EXTREMELY ACTIVE AND UNPREDICTABLE SITUATION RIGHT NOW DUE TO THE SIZE AND THE HEAT FROM THIS **fire**. >> THANK YOU FOR THE INFORMATION. NOT FOR THE CONTENT OF THE THAT’S BAD, BAD NEWS BUT THANK YOU SO MUCH. GLAD YOU’RE WITH US TONIGHT ON THIS TURNING OUT TO BE HISTORIC EVENING HERE IN COLORADO. A COUPLE OF UPDATES.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:41 PM | Denver | KMGH |

AREA THAT DOES SHOW SIGNS OF EASING BACKWARD BUT BECAUSE THIS **fire** IS SO BIG AND SO HOT NOW, IT’S PULLING IN AIR FROM ALL AROUND TO FEED IT. THE OXYGEN FROM THE **fire**. THAT’S WHY WE’RE CONTINUING TO SEE STRONG AND ERRATIC WINDS THAT MAY LAST LONGER THAN UNFORTUNATELY WE HAD HOPED. THIS IS WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE ON RADAR. THAT IS NOT PRECIPITATION. THAT IS SMOKE AND IT IS VERY, VERY THICK RIGHT THROUGH THE NORTHERN PART OF THE DENVER AREA, SOUTHWESTERN BOULDER COUNTY ALONG BROOMFIELD AND EXTENDING OUT 75 MILES TO THE EAST OF US, OUT ACROSS THE FAR EASTERN PLAINS, OUT TO AKRON. THAT’S HOW FAR TO THE EAST THE SMOKE IS GOING AT THE PRESENT TIME. THERE’S NOT MUCH TO SEE ON RADAR AS FAR AS PRECIPITATION BUT THERE IS A LITTLE BIT OF HOPE COMING OUR WAY. THIS WILL FILL IN SLOWLY BECAUSE THERE’S SO MANY ADVISORIES. WE HAVE EXTREME **fire** CONDITIONS RIGHT NOW BUT WE’RE ALSO UNDER A WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY IN THE SAME AREA WHILE THE MOUNTAINS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:40 PM | Denver | KMGH |

IS A CATEGORY TWO, EF2 TORNADO. WHAT WE’VE DEVELOPED IS REALLY A **fire** STORM. I’M LOOKING AT THIS AND THINKING ABOUT SEEING PICTURES FROM WORLD WAR II, SOME BOMBINGS THAT OCCURRED THERE. THIS **fire** HAS GOTTEN SO BIG, IT’S NOW CREATING ITS OWN WEATHER AND THAT’S PART OF THE REASON WHY WE’RE NOT SEEING THESE WINDS DIE DOWN. IN THIS TIME LAPSE, YOU CAN SEE THE SMOKE IS JUST ROLLING OFF THE FOOTHILLS. WHAT HAPPENS, RAEMEALLY, WAVES O STRONG WINDS COME IN. WHAT WE HOPED IS AFTER SUNSET, THIS WOULD ALL START TO CALM DOWN A LITTLE BIT. BUT THIS **fire** IS SO BIG AND SO HOT NOW, IT’S CREATING ITS OWN WEATHER FOR AT LEAST A COUPLE OF HOURS. GUSTS HAVE DROPPED A LITTLE. 46 NOW AT BOULDER BUT WE HOPED THEY WOULD DROP OFF BY AT LEAST HALF THAT AGAIN BY THIS TIME. THEY HAVEN’T YET BUT HERE IS A MAP OVER THE NEXT THREE HOURS OF THE WIND GUSTS, THE STRONGEST IN THE PURPLE AND RED SHOWING UP JUST TO THE WEST OF THE **fire**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:39 PM | Denver | KMGH |

MY UNDERSTANDING IS THIS IS A DIFFERENT VANTAGE POINT OF THE FLAMES THAT YOU CAN SEE OFF IN THE DISTANCE. I THINK SLOAN IS JUST A LITTLE BIT CLOSER TO THAT SUBDIVISION AND AGAIN, DON’T LOSE SIGHT, THIS IS NOT JUST A CLUMP OF A **fire** OR **fire** EVENT. THOSE ARE A LOT OF INDIVIDUAL HOMES BURNING RIGHT THERE IN SUPERIOR AT THIS HOUR. >> WE HEARD FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT AS WELL AS DIFFERENT MAYORS AND THEY SAY THAT **fire** RIGHT NOW IS ALL DEPENDENT AND FIGHTING IT IS ALL DEPENDENT ON THE WIND. LET’S GO TO OUR CHIEF METEOROLOGIST MIKE NELSON. WHAT CAN YOU GIVE US IN TERMS OF AN UPDATE IN THE WIND GUSTS? >> NOT A LOT OF GREAT NEWS. THIS IS SOME OF THE HISTORIC GUSTS WE’VE HAD SINCE NOON TODAY. 115 MILES PER HOUR IN ROCKY FLATS, REALLY ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF WHERE THE **fire** STARTED. WHITE RANCH OPEN SPACE, 103 MILES AN HOUR AND THEN YOU CAN SEE THE HURRICANE FORCE WINDS IN THE BOULDER AREA. KEEP IN MIND 115 MILES AN HOUR

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:36 PM | Denver | KMGH |

POSSIBLY THREATEN THIS AREA. NOW LET’S FAST FORWARD. THIS IS EXACTLY WHY. THEY’RE NEVER PREPARED FOR, NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD HAPPEN HERE. I SPOKE TO A RESIDENT WHO LIVED HERE FOR 30 YEARS AND HE SAID NOTHING HAS EVER COME THIS CLOSE. NO EVACUATIONS OF THIS MAGNITUDE, NO THREAT BY A **fire** STORM OF THIS MAGNITUDE AND REALLY, WE’RE WATCHING A HISTORICAL MOMENT HERE, ONE THAT EVERYBODY WISHES WE COULD AVOID. ABSOLUTELY HEARTBREAKING. I’VE BEEN TALKING TO SOME RESIDENTS AND HEARTBREAKING HAVING TO REPORT ON THIS, LOOKING AT THE IMAGES. I MEAN, COME ON. THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE. UNBELIEVABLE, GUYS. >> REALLY IS ABSOLUTELY GUT WRENCHING TO WATCH AND I’M SURE, YOU KNOW, NOT ONLY THE HOMEOWNERS BUT **fire** OFFICIALS PROBABLY FEEL SO HOPELESS KNOWING THERE’S NOT MUCH THEY CAN DO ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:35 PM | Denver | KMGH |

WOULD PRESUME POSSIBLY HUNDREDS OF MORE ONCE THAT SMOKE CLEARS. WE’VE BEEN MONITORING THE TRAFFIC HERE AS WELL BECAUSE THIS **fire**, YOU KNOW, HAS BEEN MOVING CLOSER TO US. REALLY THE STOP AND GO ABOUT AN HOUR AGO. IT’S GOTTEN A LITTLE BETTER NOW BUT EVERYBODY CAN’T HELP BUT TO PULL OVER ALONG THE 128 HERE WHERE WE ARE LOOKING AT THE ROCK CREEK COMMUNITY BECAUSE HOW COULD YOU NOT? IT’S ABSOLUTE DEVASTATION. IT’S THE KIND OF WRATH THAT I DON’T THINK I’VE EVER SEEN AND I’VE COVERED A LOT OF WILD**fire**S COMING FROM CALIFORNIA. I’VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS. AND YOU KNOW, WHEN WE TALK ABOUT THE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES WITH SOME OF THE OTHER **fire**S WE’VE SEEN, THOSE FOLKS KNOW, HEY, WE CAN BE EVACUATED. THESE SUPERIOR RESIDENTS THAT WE’VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT, THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON. THEY JUST KNOW THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT CAME TO THEIR HOME, PACK YOUR BAGS. THERE MAY BE A WILD**fire** THAT CAN

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:34 PM | Denver | KMGH |

THERE. JUST ABSOLUTELY DEVASTATING. 30 MINUTES AGO WE WERE TALKING ABOUT SOME EMBERS AND SOME OF THE SPOT **fire**S WE WERE SEEING. NOW THERE ARE ENTIRE COMMUNITIES COMPLETELY ENGULFED BY THIS HELLISH INFERNO. WE SAW ONE HOME CATCH ON **fire** AND THEN A TREE CATCH ON **fire** AND THEN WITH THE RELENTLESS GUSTS, CONTINUOUS FOR HOURS, WE HAVE BASICALLY SEEN THIS ENTIRE COMMUNITY BECOME THE VICTIM OF THIS **fire** AND IT’S NOT STOPPING ANY TIME SOON. IF WE JUST PAN TO THE RIGHT, EVEN MORE HOMES OFF TO THE RIGHT EAST OF THE ROCK CREEK COMMUNITY ARE CATCHING ON **fire** AND ALL NIGHT LONG, WE HAVE RESIDENTS UP HERE ABSOLUTELY DEVASTATED, IN TEARS WONDERING WHETHER ONE OF THEIR HOMES HAS FALLEN VICTIM TO THIS INFERNO. THE GOVERNOR SAID HUNDREDS OF HOMES ABSOLUTELY DESTROYED AND I

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:32 PM | Denver | KMGH |

KNOW, METRO AREA THAT’S ON **fire** THIS EVENING THAT WE’RE REPORTING ON. AND, YOU KNOW, YOU JUST HOPE THAT MOTHER NATURE WILL GIVE THESE FIRST RESPONDERS A BREAK EVENTUALLY. >> THIS WILILILILILD**fire** SMALL I COMPARISON TO LAST YEAR BUT BECAUSE OF WHERE IT IS AT, BECAUSE IT IS THE AREA OF SUBURBIA, IT’S JUST IMPACTING SO MANY FAMILIES RIGHT NOW WHERE IT’S POTENTIALLY THOUSANDS. >> THERE’S HELP COMING TONIGHT. NATIONAL GUARD. RUSSELL, THANK YOU. TAKE A BREAK. HEAVEN KNOWS YOU DESERVE IT. WE’LL CHECK IN WITH YOU THROUGHOUT THE EVENING. NICE WORK TO ALL THE CREWS TODAY. THERE IS HELP ARRIVING THIS EVENING. NATIONAL GUARD HAS BEEN ACTIVATED AND HAS BEEN DEPLOYED AND THEY’RE GOING TO COME FOR THE NIGHT SHIFT TO HELP WITH TRAFFIC, WITH ANYTHING EXTRA THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE THAT WILL TAKE IT OFF THE PLATE OF LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS. >> **fire** CREWS FROM AROUND THE STATE AS WELL HAVE BEEN JOINING IN THE EFFORT AS WELL AS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FROM AROUND

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:30 PM | Denver | KMGH |

WHO ARE WATCHING RIGHT NOW, WATCHING THEIR HOMES, YOU KNOW, BECOME VICTIMS OF THIS DEVASTATING AND CATASTROPHIC WILD**fire** THAT WE’VE SEEN HERE IN BOULDER COUNTY. IT’S JUST DEVASTATING AND IT CONTINUES HERE INTO THE EVENING HOURS SINCE WE’RE NOT GETTING, AT THE MOMENT, NO RELIEF FROM THE WIND. >> WHAT’S A WHOLE BALLGAME RIGHT NOW. THE SHERIFF SAID IT, GOVERNOR SAID IT, EVERYBODY SAID IT. WE’RE WAITING FOR THE WIND HERE. THERE’S NOT MUCH THEY CAN DO UNTIL THE WIND DIES DOWN. WHAT STRIKES ME, JESSICA AS WELL, IS THAT EARLY IN OUR COVERAGE, WE SAW A PHOTO OF A HOME ON **fire**. AND OUR BREATH WAS TAKEN AWAY BECAUSE THIS POOR FAMILY JUST LOST THEIR HOME. WE’RE SEEING HUNDREDS AS WE COME ROUTINE NOW THROUGHOUT THE EVEN TO GO SEE CLUSTERS OF HOMES AND NEIGHBORHOODS GO UP IN FLAMES. IT’S LIKE 600 OR SO KNOWN HOMES RIGHT NOW ARE GONE BETWEEN LATE THIS MORNING AND RIGHT NOW.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:25 PM | Denver | KMGH |

ALL DEPENDENT ON THE WIND AND WHETHER OR NOT THEY’RE GOING TO DIE DOWN. WE’VE BEEN WAIT FOG ARE THAT TO HAPPEN. >> THERE’S PLENTY OF BAD NEWS. DON’T GET ME WRONG. LET’S FOCUS ON THE GOOD NEWS. NO REPORTS OF ANYBODY HURT OR KILLED. ONE POLICE OFFICER, DEBRIS FLEW INTO HIS EYE SO THAT IS THE ONLY CONFIRMED INJURY RIGHT NOW. THE SHERIFF DID SAY BECAUSE OF THE POPULATION CENTER WE’RE TALKING ABOUT, THE WAY THE **fire** WAS BURNING, IT’S NOT OUT OF QUESTION THAT WILL CHANGE. RIGHT NOW THERE’S NOBODY KNOWN DEAD IN ALL OF THIS, NOBODY KNOWN HURT. YET THERE’S SO MUCH LOSS. MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF LOSS AND UNTOLD AMOUNTS OF LOSS IN PERSONAL EFFECTS AND MEMORIES AND HARD WORK AND THAT IS AWFUL AND THERE’S NO GLOSSING OVER HOW BAD THAT IS. RIGHT NOW, NO LOSS OF LIFE RIGHT NOW. I WANT TO FOCUS ON THERE’S SO MANY PEOPLE EVACUATED RIGHT NOW. THERE’S 30,000 PLUS PEOPLE WHO CANNOT BE IN THEIR HOMES TONIGHT

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:24 PM | Denver | KMGH |

THIS MORNING. IT STARTED ABOUT 10:30 AND THAT MAY HAVE STARTED BOTH **fire**S IN THE AREA. NOW, THE MIDDLE FORK **fire**, THE FIRST **fire** THAT STARTED ABOUT 10:30 THIS MORNING, THAT’S THE ONE NORTH OF BOULDER, AND THEY SAID THAT ONE HAS BEEN CONTAINED AND NO LONGER REALLY AN ISSUE BUT IT IS THE **fire** THAT IS BURNING SOUTH OF BOULDER, THAT IS THE MARSHAL **fire** THAT’S ABOUT 1600 ACRES NOW AND THIS IS THE ONE THAT’S BEEN BURNING OUT OF CONTROL. THE MAYOR AS WELL AS THE SHERIFF SAID THERE ARE SOME AREAS THAT PRIOR FIGHTERS ARE SIMPLY NOT ABLE TO GET TO. SUBDIVISIONS AND NEIGHBORHOODS THEY’RE NOT ABLE TO GET TO RIGHT NOW AND THEY KNOW THERE ARE HOMES BURNING. THEY’RE FIGHTING THE **fire** THAT’S BEEN DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF HIGH WINDS. THEY CAN’T HAVE ANY AIR SUPPORT RIGHT NOW. THERE’S NO TANKERS TO DROP WATER ON THE AREAS AND TRY TO GET THIS UNDER CONTROL SO THEY’RE TRYING TO FIGHT IT HEAD ON AND THEY QUITE FRANKLY CANNOT DO SO. THEY SAID FIGHTING THE **fire** IS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:23 PM | Denver | KMGH |

WERE TALKING. PARTS OF ARVADA, ON THE PRE-EE PRE-EVACUATION AND ALSO EVACUATIONS BROOMFIELD -- NOW UNDER MANDATORY EVACUATION. SO THIS IS EVERYBODY SOUTH OF 36, OVER TO 112 AND WEST OF WADSWORTH. THAT INCLUDES INTERLOCHEN. >> LET’S GET AN UPDATE ON DETAILS WE GOT FROM THE GOVERNOR AS WELL AS THE BOULDER COUNTY SHERIFF. WE HAVE TO REPORT THAT THERE ARE ABOUT 580 CONFIRMED HOMES LOST IN THE TOWN OF SUPERIOR. 370 HOMES IN THE SAGAMORE SUBDIVISION. 210 HOMES IN THE OLD TOWN SUPERIOR AREA AND THEY BELIEVE EVEN MORE HOMES IN BETWEEN THAT MAY HAVE BEEN LOST. TARGET SHOPPING CENTER HAS BEEN LOST TO THIS **fire** AS WELL AS THE ELEMENT HOTEL AND NOW MORE EVACUATION ORDERS. THEY DIDN’T CONFIRM HOW THE **fire** STARTED BUT THEY BELIEVE HIGH WINDS CAUSED DOWNED POWER LINES

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:22 PM | Denver | KMGH |

DEPARTMENT AS I WAS LOOKING ACROSS OUR PARKING LOT, THERE’S AN OPEN STAYS AREA AND YOU CAN SEE FLAMES. EIGHT OR TEN FEET UP IN THE AIR. WINDS STILL BLOWING. WE HAVE SOME VEGETATION AROUND OUR BUILDING. JUMPED THROUGH THE PARKING LOT OR OVER THE PARKING LOT THROUGH THE VEGETATION NEXT TO THE WINDOW. AS WE’RE TRYING TO WIPE DOWN THE EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER AND FIGURE OUT WHERE TO GO TO NEXT, IN OUR CASE, IT WAS KING SUPER, THE NEXT BEST IDEA WE HAD, WE HAD TO LEAVE THE BUILDING BECAUSE NOT ONLY SMOKE AND **fire** AND THEN ALSO LOST POWER AT THE SAME TIME. >> THANK YOU ALL. WE’LL HAVE MORE INFORMATION TOMORROW. >> WE DON’T INTEND TO DO ANOTHER MEDIA BRIEFING. WE’LL DO EVERYTHING THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA. >> BEFORE WE GET INTO WHAT THEY DID SAY, A COUPLE OF QUICK BITS OF NEWS THAT HAPPENED WHILE THEY

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:20 PM | Denver | KMGH |

RESPONDERS MIGHT NOT KNOW WHETHER THEY HAVE A HOME TO RETURN TO BUT THEY’RE ON THE FRONT LINES DOING EVERYTHING THEY CAN. >> GOVERNOR, DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS ARE AROUND HERE AND WHAT THEIR MAIN ROLE IS? >> YES. THEY’RE NOT HERE YET. I ORDERED THEM TODAY. OUR DIRECTOR HELPED ME WITH THAT ORDER. I ORDERED A DOZEN, TWO-PERSON UNITS AND THEY’RE HOPEFULLY GOING TO BE HERE TONIGHT TO HELP WITH THE NIGHT SHIFT WORK OF ROAD CLOSURES AND EVACUATIONS AND THAT KIND OF THING. >> BOULDER AND LAFAYETTE, DO THEY KNOW WHAT THEY SHOULD DO? >> MY ADVICE BASED ON THE TRAJECTORY OF THE **fire**, IF YOU ARE NORTH OF THE EVACUATION ZONES, YOU’RE IN PRETTY GOOD SHAPE. WE’VE BEEN REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SPEED OF THE **fire** AND, YOU KNOW, ISSUING EVACUATION ORDERS AS FAST AS POSSIBLE TO

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:18 PM | Denver | KMGH |

EMPLOYEES, THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF **fire** PREVENTION AND CONTROL AND THE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT TEAM, THEY ALREADY VOLUNTEERED TO BE IN TOUCH WITH US AND TO ASSIST US STARTING TOMORROW. THE WEATHER TOMORROW LOOKS MUCH BETTER. IT LOOKS LIKE THE WINDS ARE GOING TO DIE DOWN AND POTENTIALLY WE’RE GOING TO RECEIVE SOME MOISTURE. WHEN THAT HAPPENS, THE GAME CHANGES. BUT -- SO 80, 100 MILE-PER-HOUR WINDS AND 40 FOOT FLAMES, NONE OF US HAVE A CHANCE. BUT TOMORROW I THINK WE’LL HAVE A CHANCE AND TOMORROW I THINK ALL OF THOSE PROCESSES WILL BEGIN. ACTUALLY, HOW MANY HOUSES DO WE HAVE LOSS OF HUMAN LIFE, ANIMALS, THAT KIND OF THING. WE’LL TRY TO FIGURE THAT OUT THE NEXT FEW DAYS. >> HOW TOUGH IS IT FOR YOUR TEAM -- [INAUDIBLE] >> OUR FOLKS, POLICE OFFICERS, DEPUTY SHERIFFS AND THE **fire**FIGHTERS POTENTIALLY JUST TRYING TO GET PEOPLE OUT OF THE WAY. THAT’S ALL YOU CAN DO.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:17 PM | Denver | KMGH |

[INAUDIBLE] >> DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY PATIENTS YOU HAD THERE? >> GOVERNOR, DO YOU KNOW IF THE WINDS DIED DOWN? WILL THE PLANES WILL BE ABLE TO FLY TONIGHT? ARE THEY ON STANDBY? >> WE DO HAVE AIRCRAFT THAT CAN HELP FLY AND THEY CAN FLY AT NIGHT TO HELP MAP THE **fire** AND LOOK FOR OTHER HOT SPOTS THAT MAY NOT BE KNOWN TO **fire**FIGHTERS AND WE’RE MONITORING THE WEATHER TO SEE IF THAT’S A POSSIBILITY. BUT WE HAVEN’T BEEN ABLE TO USE AIRCRAFT SO FAR. >> SO THE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT PROCESS WILL START AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO BOULDER COUNTY AS A TEAM, OUR ASSESSORS OFFICE, WE HAD DETECTIVES AND OTHER COUNTY

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:16 PM | Denver | KMGH |

WELL PRACTICED AT DISASTERS, UNFORTUNATELY. BUT WE HAD -- SO PRELIMINARILY, WE HAD DEPUTIES IN THE AREA TO CONFIRM. WE BELIEVE THAT IS WHAT CAUSED THE **fire**. THAT ASSESSMENT AND ACTUAL DETERMINATION OF THAT WILL BE MADE FOR REAL AND FOR FINAL, YOU KNOW, PROBABLY WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS. THAT’S BOTH **fire**S. >> HOW CLOSE ARE LIKE PHYSICALLY THE VISTA HOSPITAL? >> CHIEF HAYES, I DON’T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION. DO YOU? >> WITHIN A BLOCK OR TWO. THE REASON THE HOSPITAL CLOSED WAS BECAUSE OF SMOKE. THEY WERE GETTING SMOKE IN THE FACILITY AND IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR PATIENTS. >> THAT’S A PRETTY BIG PARKING LOT. THERE’S SHRUBBERY IN THE PARKING

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:15 PM | Denver | KMGH |

CRISIS TONIGHT. [INAUDIBLE] >> THE END WON’T COME UNTIL THE WIND SUBSIDES. THIS IS THE KIND OF **fire** WE CAN’T FIGHT. WHEN THAT SINGLE **fire** ENGINE AND POLICE OFFICER PULL INTO A SUBDIVISION AND 12 HOMES ARE BURNING, ALL THEY CAN TRY TO DO IS PROTECT THE NEXT. SO, YOU KNOW, WE HOPE THAT THE WORST IS OVER TONIGHT. WE HOPE THE WINDS SUBSIDE AND WE HOPE OUR BRAVE **fire**FIGHTERS ARE GOING TO GET A HEADWAY TONIGHT, PUT A STOP TO IT. >> ANY IDEA -- YOU SAID YOU -- [INAUDIBLE] >> THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST OFFICES IN THE STATE OF COLORADO AS FAR AS OFFICE GOES AND WE’RE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:13 PM | Denver | KMGH |

REBUILD YOUR LIVES IN THE STATE OF COLORADO. WITH THAT, WE’LL TAKE SOME QUESTIONS. >> SHERIFF, HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE UNACCOUNTED FOR? >> WE CURRENTLY DO NOT HAVE ANY REPORTS OF MISSING PERSONS. WE HAVE NO CASUALTY REPORTS. AS I SAID, GIVEN THE VEROCITY OF THIS **fire**, IT WOULDN’T SURPRISE US IF WE FIND A CASUALTY. >> THE **fire**FIGHTERS GET INTO THE AREAS THAT HAVE BURNED? >> SOME OF THEM YES AND SOME OF THEM NO. WHEN THIS IS ALL DEPENDENT ON WHAT HAPPENS. THAT’S GOING TO DETERMINE OUR ABILITY TO ACCESS POINTS. WE’VE ACTUALLY HAD, YOU KNOW, DEPUTY SHERIFF AND **fire**FIGHTERS IN AREAS THAT HAD TO PULL OUT BECAUSE IT WAS -- THEY JUST GOT OVERRUN. THERE WAS A LOT OF BRAVE STUFF GOING ON TODAY. >> DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MANY

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:12 PM | Denver | KMGH |

DECEMBER, WE THINK WE’RE FACING A MAJOR GRASSLAND **fire**. WE’VE BEEN UNABLE TO FLY THE AIRCRAFT ALL DAY BECAUSE OF THE WIND CONDITIONS. WE SET UP THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER EARLIER IN THE DAY. ANY ADDITIONAL RESOURCES THAT ARE NEEDED FROM THE COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD. BUT THIS **fire** IS NOT SO MUCH A QUESTION OF RESOURCES. WE HAVE A PROFOUND SENSE OF GRATITUDE FOR THE **fire**FIGHTERS, POLICE OFFICERS AND OTHERS, THOSE WORKING IN THE EVACUATION CENTERS BUT THIS **fire** IS FRANKLY A FORCE OF NATURE. WE HOPE THAT THE WIND DIE DOWN AND THE WEATHER CHANGES. FOR THOSE WHO DIRECTLY AFFECT KNOW YOU DON’T STAND ALONE. THE PEOPLE OF COLORADO STAND WITH YOU. FOR THOSE WHO DON’T KNOW, IF THEY HAVE A HOME TO RETURN TO, OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU FOR A SAFE RETURN. FOR THOSE WHO LOST EVERYTHING THAT THEY’VE HAD, KNOW THAT WE WILL BE THERE FOR YOU TO HELP

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:11 PM | Denver | KMGH |

DOWN FROM YOUR GRANDMOTHER, LOSING YOUR PHOTOS, OF LOSING YOUR COMPUTER FILES WHICH HUNDREDS OF COLORADO FAMILIES HAVE EXPERIENCED TODAY WITH NO WARNING. GUSTS OF 100, 110 MILES AN HOUR CAN AND HAVE MOVED THIS **fire** DOWN A FOOTBALL FIELD IN A MATTER OF SECONDS. VERY LITTLE TIME TO GET OUT, VERY LITTLE TIME TO EVEN GET THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTS OF YOUR LIFE AND YES, IT WILL BE A DIFFICULT PROCESS FOR COLORADO FAMILIES WHO HAVE DIRECTLY AFFECTED TO REBUILD THEIR LIVES. CONTACT THEM AND SEE IF THEY NEED ANYTHING, IF YOU HAVE SPARE BEDS IN YOUR HOME, THEY MIGHT VERY WELL NEED THEM. BUT IT ALSO SHOWS HOW CHALLENGING IT IS FOR SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS TO BE ABLE TO BATTLE THIS KIND OF **fire** HERE IN

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:10 PM | Denver | KMGH |

RECOGNIZE IS WHILE THERE WERE SOME STRUCTURES LOST, THOSE WERE LARGELY B.L.M., U.S. FOREST SERVICE LAND. THIS AREA FOR THOSE WHO DON’T KNOW THIS AREA OF BOULDER COUNTY, IT IS RIGHT IN AND AROUND SUBURBAN SUB DEVELOPMENTS, STORES, IT’S LIKE THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT YOU LIVE IN. IT’S LIKE THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT ANY OF US LIVE IN. 1600 ACRES NEAR POPULATION CENTER CAN BE AND IS IN THIS CASE ABSOLUTELY DEVASTATING. WE TEE CLAIRED A STATE OF EMERGENCY EARLIER TODAY. I JUST FOUND OUT WE’VE BEEN APPROVED FOR **fire** MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT THAT’S FEDERAL ASSISTANCE. WE’RE GOING TO, OF COURSE, BE STARTING DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE. MANY PEOPLE OF COURSE, ALSO HAVE THAT **fire** INSURANCE BUT THERE’S NO WAY TO QUANTIFY FINANCIALLY THE PRICE OF A LOSS. LOSING THE CHAIR THAT WAS HANDED

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:09 PM | Denver | KMGH |

ORDERLY AND QUICK MANNER. PLEASE STAY EVACUATED. WE WANT EVERYBODY TO STAY SAFE AND WE’RE GOING TO GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER. WE NEED EVERYBODY TO STICK TOGETHER AT THE DIFFERENT SHELTER IN PLACE SITES. GO TO THE PLACE IN LAFAYETTE, THE SENIOR CENTER IN LONGMANT AND MAKE SURE YOU’RE OUT OF LEWISVILLE AND SAFE. THANK YOU SO MUCH AND KEEP LOOKING ON THE EMERGENCY WEBSITE FOR UPDATED INFORMATION AS THE EMERGENCY IS CHANGING VERY RAPIDLY. >> WE’RE 1600 AT LEAST ACRE **fire** WHICH HAS DESTROYED HUNDREDS OF HOMES. JUST TO PUT THIS IN PERSPECTIVE, IN THE SUMMER OF 2020, COLORADO HAD THE THREE LARGEST WILD**fire**S IN THE HISTORY OF OUR STATE. EACH ONE OVER 200,000 ACRES. THAT’S A NUMBER, THOSE ARE HUGE NUMBERS BUT WHAT’S IMPORTANT TO

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:08 PM | Denver | KMGH |

TONIGHT, WE ASK THAT YOU DO SO. THE LEWISVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO PATROL THE STREETS OF LEWISVILLE AND WILL NOT TOLERATE LOOTING OR OTHER ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES. WE ASK THAT YOU STAY TUNED. JOE MENTIONED THERE WILL BE UPDATES FOR EVACUATIONS AND **fire** EFFORTS. OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE **fire**S TODAY. THE COMMUNITY OF LEWISVILLE IS RESILIENT AND TOGETHER, WE WILL FORGE THROUGH THIS TOGETHER. THANK YOU. I WANT TO THANK ALL THE FIRST RESPONDERS TO GET THE EMERGENCY UNDER CONTROL. THEY’VE DONE A GREAT EFFORT AND THEY’RE WORKING INTO THE NIGHT. THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE DIFFERENT POLICE OFFICERS, **fire**FIGHTERS AND OTHER FIRST RESPONDERS WHO HAVE BEEN HELPING OUR COMMUNITY. THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR EVACUATING IN AN

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:07 PM | Denver | KMGH |

THE SAFETY OF THEIR PATIENTS. THERE HAVE BEEN PATIENTS WHO HAVE BEEN EVACUATED TO OTHER FACILITIES AND I WOULD ASK THAT IF YOU NEED SOME INFORMATION ABOUT A PATIENT, CONTACT THE HOSPITAL DIRECTLY. LEWISVILLE POLICE AND **fire** DEPARTMENTS ARE CURRENTLY OPERATING OUR INDIVIDUAL COMMAND POSTS AND THE KINGS SUPERIOR PARKING LOT AT 1375 EAST SOUTH BOULDER ROAD. THERE WERE SOME COMMUNITY RUMORS THAT THE LEWISVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT WAS EVACUATED BECAUSE OF A **fire** AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. THIS WAS NOT THE CASE. RATHER, THE POLICE DEPARTMENT WAS EVACUATED DUE TO SPOT **fire**S IN THE AREA. I WAS IN THE BUILDING THIS AFTERNOON AS WE BEGAN TO SET UP OUR EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER. A SMALL ONE FOR THE CITY OF LEWISVILLE AND WE COULD SEE FLAMES OUTSIDE THE WINDOW. THE LEWISVILLE POLICE AND **fire** DEPARTMENTS WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE OUR CITY TONIGHT AND THROUGHOUT THIS TRAGEDY. WE ALSO ASK THAT THE PEOPLE OF LEWISVILLE CONTINUE TO ACT CALMLY AND APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL YOU’RE ABLE TO STAY IN A LOCATION OUTSIDE OF LEWISVILLE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:06 PM | Denver | KMGH |

TODAY IS FILLED WITH STORIES OF INCREDIBLE LOSS AND TRAGEDY BUT THERE ARE ALSO MANY STORIES OF THE PEOPLE OF LEWISVILLE COMING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT AND CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER. THANK YOU TO ALL THE PEOPLE OF LEWISVILLE FOR THE WAY YOU’VE HANDLED AND RESPONDED TO THE **fire**S TODAY. I ASK THAT IN THE MONTHS AHEAD YOU CONTINUE TO FIND WAYS TO ASSIST EACH OTHER AND HEALING FROM WHAT HAS HAPPENED TODAY. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SURROUND OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AS THE SHERIFF DID, THE **fire** AGENCIES THAT CAME TO SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS TODAY. THERE’S JUST SEVERAL THINGS TO MENTION, SPECIFICALLY TODAY BECAUSE THEY’RE HERE. LONGMONT, CITY OF BOULDER, LA I FEET, ERIE, BROOMFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE LIST GOES ON AND ON AND ON. THAT’S ALSO ON THE **fire** SIDE. MANY OF THESE FOLKS ARE CONTINUING TO WORK AND THEY’LL BE WORKING THROUGH THE NIGHT AND THROUGH -- I’M SURE THE WEEKS AHEAD. IT’S SO HARD TO PREVENT MORE DAMAGE FROM HAPPENING. MEDICAL AND TREATMENT FACILITIES IN THE CITY, VISTA HOSPITAL HAVE TAKEN GREAT ACTION IN ENSURING

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:04 PM | Denver | KMGH |

APPROXIMATELY 1600 ACRES. WE KNOW THAT APPROXIMATELY 370 HOMES IN THE SAGMORE SUBDIVISION WHICH IS JUST WEST OF SUPERIOR HAVE BEEN LOST. THERE’S A POTENTIAL OF 210 HOMES LOST IN SUPERIOR. TARGET, SHOPPING COMPLEX IN SUPERIOR IS UNDER **fire**. ELEMENT HOTEL IN SUPERIOR FULLY ENGULFED. WE HAD THE ONE OFFICER INJURED. FORTUNATELY, NO OTHER REPORTS OF EVACUATION OR DAMAGE. I WANT TO THANK THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES WHO JUMPED IN TO ASSIST US TODAY UNDER EXTREME SITUATION. GOLDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT, LONGMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT, LEWISVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT, LAFAYETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT, BOULDER POLICE DEPARTMENT, OUR SHERIFF’S OFFICE, STATE OF

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:01 PM | Denver | KMGH |

HOWEVER, I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT DUE TO THE MAGNITUDE OF THE **fire**, INTENSITY OF THIS **fire** AND ITS PRESENCE IN SUCH HEAVILY POPULATED AREA, WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THERE ARE INJURIES AND FATALITIES. THE CONDITIONS AROUND THE MARSHAL AREA ARE VOLUNTARILY FILE. WE WOULD ENCOURAGE ANYONE WHO HAS NOT EXITED TO DO SO. NEIGHBORHOOD MAY BE UNDER PREEVACUATION ORDERS. WE ENCOURAGE ALL RESIDENTS TO STAY ALERT FOR THE ORDERS FROM OFFICIALS. WE HAVE EVACUATION CENTERS OPEN AT SEVERAL LOCATIONS. NORTH BOULDER REC CENTER, LONGMONT SENIOR CENTER AND THE YMCA IN LAFAYETTE. THE YMCA IN LAFAYETTE IS TAKING PETS. FOR THE LATEST MAP OF THE **fire**, PLEASE GO TO [WWW.BOCO.ORG/OEM](http://WWW.BOCO.ORG/OEM)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2021-12-30 5:00 PM | Denver | KMGH |

THAT **fire** WAS ATTACKED PRETTY QUICKLY AND LAID DOWN LATER IN THE DAY IS CURRENTLY BEING MONITORED. THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF STRUSHGS LOST FOR THE MIDDLE FORK **fire**. THE SECOND **fire**, MARSHAL **fire** WAS REPORTED JUST AFTER 11:00 A.M. AT SOUTH FOOTHILLS COMMERCIAL ROAD. OVER THE COURSE OF THE DAY, THIS **fire** SPREAD RAPIDLY EAST. IT’S CURRENTLY BEING REPORTED TO BE AT ABOUT 1600 ACRES. IT’S SPREAD THROUGH SUPERIOR AND PARTS OF LEWISVILLE AND UNINCORPORATED BOULDER COUNTY, VISTA HOSPITAL AND MANY CARE FACILITIES IN THE AREA HAVE BEEN EVACUATED. LEWISVILLE POLICE CHIEF AND CITY MANAGER OR MAYOR, SORRY, ARE HERE TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION WHAT’S HAPPENING THERE AND THEY’LL TALK TO YOU IN A MINUTE. AT THIS POINT WE ONLY HAVE ONE REPORTED INJURY. MINOR INJURY TO AN OFFICER’S EYE FROM WIND BLOWN DEBRIS. IT’S TOO EARLY TO TELL IF WE HAVE **fire** RELATED CASUALTIES. WE HAVE NO **fire** RELATED CASUALTIES REPORTED CURRENTLY.