Glen Haven/The Retreat Fire Protection Plan Cameron Peak South Zone 09/08/2020

Objective: To provide a plan to safely and efficiently provide structure protection to assets in and around the communities of Glen Haven and The Retreat. This plan will outline area description, management action points and trigger points, evacuation plan, structure triage, map, resource and logistical needs, hazards and safety considerations, and priorities.

Priorities:

- Maintain LCES and follow the 10 standard firefighting orders.
- Evacuation Plan, safely evacuating residences would be priority over protecting structures or fighting fire.
- Structure Protection, resources may engage in active structure protection once it is safe to do so.

Description of Area: Glen Haven and The Retreat are located in a deep canyon area approximately seven miles north on county road 43 from Estes Park and eight miles south west of the community of Drake. The canyon is commonly known as Devil's Gulch. The area is surrounded by Forest Service lands and wilderness areas. Park boundary is approximately four miles west of the area. Private properties in the area are largely contained in one of the two Home Owners Associations, the Glen Haven Association (GHA) and the Retreat Landowners Association (RLA). Other properties are located in the Dennis Subdivision along the West Creek in the southern part of the area, along County Road 43 between Glen Haven and Drake, on Crosier Mountain's northern and western aspects and on the southern aspect of Storm Mountain. The area contains 5 creek drainages which all feed the North Fork of the Big Thompson River: West Creek, Fox Creek, North Fork, Miller's Fork and Black Creek.

Glen Haven – Glen Haven can be broken into three areas, Fox Creek, North Fork, and West Fork. The basic strategy in Glen Haven would consist mostly of creating a system of pumps and sprinklers that would be activated while resources pulled back to a safer location. There is opportunity to construct a line from the end of North Fork to the Dunraven trail head along an existing trail with the intent of being backfired.

Fox Creek has a creek that may provide adequate water supply for some portable pumps but would require some work building dams. There is a Girls Camp at the end of Fox Creek along with many homes all along Fox Creek rd. Fox Creek is a very narrow road and there is not much defensible space around many of the structures.

North Fork has a creek that has more than adequate water supply for many pumps and sprinklers. North Fork road travels north from Fox Creek and the homes in North Fork have better defensible space than Fox Creek.

West Creek connects to County Road 43 south of Fox Creek. There is a good water supply there and the same basic strategy and tactics used in Fox Creek and North Fork would apply in West Creek.

The Retreat – The Retreat is a larger area then Glen Haven but presents opportunities to build some lines and perform potential back firing operations as opposed to point protection around each individual home. There are limited water sources. There is a private pond at the County Road 43, Stream Side Dr intersection. There is another private pond at the County Road 43, Dunraven intersection. There is a good stream at the Boys camp west of the Dunraven trail head. Portable tanks and engines could be used in other areas of The Retreat.

Topography: The area lies in a canyon known as Devil's Gulch starting at it's southern end dropping approximately 700 ft from the northern end of the Estes Valley. Steep, rugged terrain coupled with numerous rock outcroppings and thick fuels may hamper firefighting efforts.

Fuels: The Glen Haven area is heavily forested with Lodgepole, Ponderosa and Spruce stands. The Scott-Burgan fuel types in the WUI are primarily Dry Climate/Low Moisture Grass (GR1 & GR2), 1-3 ft Grass -Shrub (GS2), high load conifer litter with shrub understory (TU5) in about equal amounts. There is also some dead and down woody fuel litter (TL-8) beneath the canopy and at higher elevations some Long needle pine litter (TL8) due to Lodgepole. The Wildfire Behavior Model provides a map of fuel types in the Glen Haven Area (see below). Fire rate of spread of up to 80 ft/min can be expected for some of the narrow drainages in the Glen Haven WUI. For perspective, a large wildfire could consume the length of Fisherman's Lane in an hour and North Fork Road in 3 hours.

Management Action Points (MAP):

MAP-19

- Description General line between Signal Mt. and Lookout Mt.
- Intent Protection of the community of Glen Haven and the adjacent private property.

Actions

- Consider mandatory evacuation of Glen Haven
- Make notifications
 - Larimer County Sheriff's Office Joe Shellhammer 970-567-4859
 - Larimer County Sheriff's Office Dispatch 970-498-5100
 - Larimer County Sheriff's Office Direct Line to Dispatch 970-4161-1985
 - Larimer County Emergency Management/Operations Center Lori Hodges 970-656-3214
 - Arapaho NF Supervisor Monte Williams 423-584-2378
 - Rocky Mountain National Park Superintendent Darla Sidles 520-300-0106
 - Rocky Mountain National Park FMO Mike Lewelling 970-232-5326
 - Colorado Division of Fire Protection/Control Chief Dan Battin 303-594-8844 303-279-8855
 - Colorado Department of Transportation Tom Aguilar 970-302-2045
 - Estes Park Power Director Rueben Bergstrom 970-214-3767
 - Glen Haven Fire Brian Berg 970-586-3947

Evacuation Plan: The evacuation of these areas will be conducted by county law enforcement along with the help of fire resources and local fire departments. MAPs will determine when communities will be put into voluntary or mandatory evacuation status. Evacuation routes for all residents will be out to county road 43 then north to Drake or south to Estes Park. It should be noted that county road 43 is a good paved road but many of the other roads through these communities provide poor ingress and egress. During evacuation operations, close coordination and communication between resources will be crucial.

Triage: The triage process will be conducted on all structures and captured in ArcGIS Collector and Survey 123. Each structure will be given a Red, Yellow or Green classification along with a justification. Notes will be added about supplies needed and time needed to complete prep work in Collector as well.

Green (not threatened) - A structure that is not threatened is either out of the path of
the fire front or its construction and clearance characteristics are such that there is
minimal threat, even if the fire front impacts the immediate area. These structures have
more than adequate flammable vegetation clearance and are constructed of fire-safe
materials. They will require minimal resource time commitment and prep work and
should be a high priority for structure defense. Homes whose owners have invested in

proper clearance and fire resistive materials should be a priority when allocating scarce fire suppression resources.

- Yellow (Threatened defensible) A threatened defensible structure has an adequate safety zone or temporary refuge area nearby, but there is a high probability that the structure will be damaged or destroyed without some intervention by suppression resources. Structures in this category typically have some degree of clearance, from surrounding fuels.
- Red (threatened non-defensible) A threatened non-defensible structure does not have an adequate escape route to a safety zone, or does not have a temporary refuge area on site, and based on current and forecasted fire behavior, the structure cannot be safely defended. Structures in this category typically have little or no clearance from surrounding fuels and exhibit limited or no fire-safe construction features.

Recommended Resource Needs: Initial resource needs will be based on the assumption that the evacuation has already occurred.

- DIVS
- Law enforcement to enforce area closure.
- One strike team of type six engines.
- One type 2 IA Crew.
- One Type 1 Crew.
- 3 Task Force Leaders.
- One Dozer with Heavy Equipment Boss
- One Water Tender

Logistical Needs: Initial logistical needs are general, exact amounts are yet to be determined.

- Mark 3 Pumps/kits
- Portable water tanks
- Hose
- Sprinklers

Hazards:

- Ingress Egress
- Private infrastructure
- Lack of defensible space
- Propane tanks
- Power lines















