



*Loveland Fire Rescue Authority  
Community Safety Division  
410 East Fifth St.  
Loveland, CO. 80537*

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Date:** Thursday, December 16, 2016, 11:16 a.m.  
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# **Bobcat Power Line Fire Update**

### **Summary:**

At approximately 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2016, Loveland Fire Rescue Authority (LFRA) crews responded to a report of a wildland fire northwest of the Bobcat Ridge Natural Area, northwest of Loveland. Crews from LFRA and several surrounding agencies are on scene at this time. Strong, erratic winds and remote access issues made the fire attack difficult last night, but conditions today have greatly improved. No structures have been threatened, and no injuries have been reported. The size of the fire has not yet been officially determined, but it is likely more than the initial estimate of 25 acres. The origin and cause of the fire is currently unknown. The fire has been named the Bobcat Power Line Fire.

### **Details:**

LFRA crews responded to a wildfire at approximately 4:00 p.m. yesterday northwest of the Bobcat Ridge Natural Area. The fire has been burning mostly in Fort Collins Open Space lands, and some National Forest area. So far, no structures have been threatened and no injuries have been reported. There have not been any needed evacuation notices, and none are anticipated unless conditions drastically change.

Fire behavior was significant last night, and crews we faced with rugged terrain, access issues, and strong, erratic winds, which eventually forced most of the firefighters away from the fire line. At that point, crews focused on monitoring the fire overnight and being prepared for any changes that might need additional tactics and/or resources.

Fresh crews headed into the fire area this morning to relieve those who stayed on the fire scene overnight. Multiple agencies have been working together on the fire, including LFRA, Larimer County Emergency Services, Larimer County Sheriff's Office (LCSO), US Forest Service, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, Fort Collins Open Space Rangers, Berthoud Fire Protection District, Estes Valley Fire Protection District, Glen Haven Fire Area Department, Poudre Fire Authority, Rist Canyon Fire Department, Wellington Fire Protection District, and Windsor-Severance Fire Rescue. The incident command structure is a "unified command" between LFRA and LCSO. LFRA will remain the lead for PIO.

Today, there are 63 firefighters assigned to the fire, including 9 Type-6 engines (wildland brush trucks) and 5 utility vehicles. Current fire conditions are fairly mild, and the cold weather and the forecast for incoming snow later tonight

should help with fire control. There is no official containment of the fire at this time, but the fire is currently not moving or growing aggressively.

We still don't have an accurate measurement of the entire fire area, but we suspect that the actual size is larger than the initial estimate of 20- to 25-acres. We also do not yet have a fire origin and cause determination.

The fire has been named the Bobcat Power Line Fire, due to its proximity to the power line and adjacent access road located in the fire area.

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