

# Daily Herald



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**BUCKLEY DRAW FIRE**

## Officials asking for better community cooperation as fire blazes on east ridge

**BY JACOB NIELSON**  
Daily Herald

The risk to neighborhoods on the south Provo bench have significantly decreased since the Buckley Draw Fire was deemed 21% contained Wednesday, with much of the containment coming along the western front.

However, fire officials are asking for better cooperation from the community

as the Buckley Draw Fire grew to an estimated 446 acres in the mountains above Provo.

A fifth drone incursion since the fire started forced yet another temporary grounding of aircraft Wednesday afternoon, while the U.S. Forest Service is struggling to keep people from traveling into restricted areas of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest.

Northern Utah Type 3 Incident Management Team spokesperson Sierra Hellstrom said the lack of compliance is not helpful to the firefighters who are dealing with treacherous terrain that will likely keep the fire burning longer than most wildfires along the Wasatch Front.



**JACOB NIELSON, DAILY HERALD**

The Slate Canyon trailhead is shown closed on Wednesday due to the Buckley Draw Fire.

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# ‘EVERYWHERE!!!’

Officials investigating why dead fish are floating along Jordan River



**CURTIS BOOKER, DAILY HERALD**

The Jordan River in Lehi near 2100 North is pictured Tuesday.

**BY CURTIS BOOKER**  
Daily Herald

In recent weeks, people who frequent a portion of the Jordan River Trail in Lehi have taken to community Facebook pages wondering why dead fish are floating along the river.

As of Wednesday, the Utah Division of Water Quality was still looking into the issue and had not publicly revealed an exact cause for the recent fish kill. However, the agency said in a press release last week that low oxygen levels in the river and harmful algal blooms in the water are likely factors.

The agency also cited warm temperatures in the water as another potential reason.

According to the release, a “private citizen” alerted the Utah Division of Water Quality about dead fish seen floating downstream in the river near 1500 North by Willow Park in Lehi.

“The Division of Water Quality observed approximately 50 dead fish and observed algae consistent with the appearance of harmful algal blooms,” the release reads.

Dead fish washed up along the banks of the river have been spotted under the 2100 North

overpass and near the Thanksgiving Point golf course.

One Lehi resident, who asked to only be identified by her first name, Natasha, said she first noticed the issue on Friday while she was at the golf course.

“I noticed a couple dead, huge fish floating in the water, and I thought that was just, you know, normal,” she said.

But on Sunday, when Natasha and her husband were out for a walk a little farther north

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**EAGLE MOUNTAIN**

## Residents set to vote on recreation, arts and parks tax measure

**BY CURTIS BOOKER**  
Daily Herald

Residents in Eagle Mountain will vote on a recreation, arts and parks, or RAP, tax measure in the November municipal election.

During its meeting Tuesday evening, the Eagle Mountain City Council formally voted in favor of placing the proposed tax option on the ballot for citizens to decide on.

If approved, the measure will implement a 0.1% local sales tax, equivalent to one cent for every \$10 spent within Eagle Mountain city limits. The funds will be used as a dedicated funding source for recreation, arts and parks-related programs and facilities, according to city officials.

Most cities in Utah County already have a similar tax in place, including neighboring Saratoga Springs, where residents there voted to enact it last November.

Tyler Maffitt, communications manager for Eagle Mountain, said the city worked with the Utah State Tax Commission earlier this year to perform an analysis to explore the benefits of implementing a RAP tax.

“What we learned through that process was that if Eagle Mountain had a RAP tax in place in calendar (year) 2024, around \$600,000 in revenue would have been generated,” Maffitt said during a presentation of the measure before the City Council on Tuesday.

If voters approve the measure in November, the RAP tax would go into effect in 2026 and will remain in place for 10 years, according to the city’s website.

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**UTAH COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**

## Panel delays decision on utility’s application for transmission line permit

**BY JACOB NIELSON**  
Daily Herald

Following a lengthy public meeting Tuesday, the Utah County Planning Commission voted 5-1 to withhold a decision on PacifiCorp’s application for a conditional use permit to build a 345-kilovolt, 45-mile transmission

line through unincorporated areas of the county.

After several residents said they never received notice of the plans to build the transmission line, the Planning Commission requested PacifiCorp, the parent company of Rocky Mountain Power, bring forth sufficient evidence that

all affected property owners received such notice.

The power entity is proposing to build the line from the Spanish Fork substation in Mapleton to the Mercer substation in Eagle Mountain. The project aims to provide additional capacity to support load growth in the state

and increase system reliability. The line would go through 12.9 miles of unincorporated Utah County.

“I still am concerned that perhaps statutory notice wasn’t given. And with that issue out there, I’m feeling like, from my perspective, I’d like to push this so that the

issue can be reviewed and to see if proper notice was in fact given,” Planning Commissioner Glen Roberts said.

Much of the five-hour meeting inside the commission chambers in Provo revolved around disagreements between Rocky Mountain Power and county residents

about whether proper notice had been given.

Rita Ruderman, a project manager for Power Engineers, representing Rocky Mountain Power, said the power company complied with state code by sending out notices to

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CLASSIFIEDS	B6	SPORTS	B1
COMICS	B4	TV SCHEDULE	B5
OPINION	A5	WEATHER	A2

