Markleeville fire grows, smoke fills valley

While the Washington Fire continues to grow, the town of Markleeville has not been hit.

The fire burning south of the Alpine County enclave is at 16,544 acres.

It was first spotted the night of June 19. Lightning ignited the blaze and horrendous winds have fanned it.

There are 11 helicopters and eight air tankers working to contain the fire. This is in addition to the personnel on the ground. The fire is burning out of control – with zero percent containment.

Highways 4 and 89 in the Monitor Pass area are closed. Turtle Rock and Indian Creek campgrounds are closed.

One firefighter has been treated for a heat-related injury.

Smoke is a factor for the Carson Valley and Carson City areas.

- Lake Tahoe News staff report