



EMBLETON MOUNTAIN

(K21644)

FIRE SIZE:

516 hectares (estimated)

FIRE STATUS:

Out of Control

RESOURCES:

Currently, 34 firefighters (21-person unit crew, two five-person contract crew, three-person Parks Canada crew), four structure protection crews (16 total personnel), two helicopters, and eight pieces of heavy equipment are on site. Crews are being assisted by the Barrier Fire Department and Sun Peaks Fire Rescue. Three personnel from the Sun Peaks Fire Rescue remained on-site overnight.

UPDATES:

The fire is burning in difficult and steep terrain. Unstable slopes and rockslides pose a risk to the safety of our crews. Inoperable areas are being monitored closely and the helicopter on-site is being utilized to bucket hot spots in problematic areas. Fire crews are working with the structure protection personnel to protect properties and fuel manage along the Heffley-Louis Creek Road and the Todd Mountain Road. Heavy equipment is working with line locators to complete machine guard from Whitecroft to the gravel pit on Todd Mountain Road. Machine guard is being constructed northeast of the fire and the McClure Forest Service Road (northeast of the fire) and the Mount Embleton trail (southwest of the fire) are being assessed for feasibility.



As intended, the fire is slowly backing down the slope towards established control lines. Structure protection units are set up and personnel are working to fuel manage along the Heffley-Louis Creek Road and Todd Mountain Road. This photo, taken on July 12, shows the Northeast flank of the fire as it backs down towards the McClure Forest Service Road.

EVACUATION ALERTS AND ORDERS:

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District has issued an Evacuation Order for 132 properties and an Alert for 170 properties in Electoral Area "P" (Rivers and the Peaks). Please contact the Thompson-Nicola Regional District for more information <https://www.tnrd.ca/>.

The Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality has issued an Evacuation Alert for all properties within the Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality. For more information, please visit <http://sunpeaksmunicipality.ca/>.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Embleton Mountain Information Section

778-364-1265 | BCWS.SparksLakeInfo@gov.bc.ca



www.bcwildfire.ca



[BC Forest Fire Info](#)



[@BCGovFireInfo](#)



www.firesmartbc.ca



FORECAST:

Issued: July 13, 2021 for July 14, 2021

Smoke will continue to linger in the area, but light winds will improve visibility over those seen Tuesday. As smoke clears, fire behaviour may increase earlier in the day.

TODAY: Sunny with widespread smoke. The general windflow will be from the west/southwest. Winds light west in the morning increasing to southwest 10 to 15 km/hr near noon and southwest 15-25 km/hr in the afternoon. Expect sunny skies and widespread smoke with temperatures near or above 30 C and relative humidity in the upper teens.

THURSDAY: Expect fair skies to continue through Thursday with a persistent southwest flow. Daytime high temperatures may cool slightly with a slight increase in relative humidity.

OUTLOOK: An upper low will set off west of B.C. This could bring more cloud cover than we have seen in the past few weeks. The southwest flow continues while remaining warm.

EMBLETON MOUNTAIN PERIMETER MAP:

Figure 1 shows the fire perimeter as of July 12, 2021 and figure 2 shows the fire perimeter as of July 13, 2021. As can be seen when comparing the two perimeters, the fire is slowly backing down the mountain (as intended). The most up-to-date perimeter map can be found on the Embleton Mountain Fire of Note webpage: <http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/OneFire.asp?ID=836>

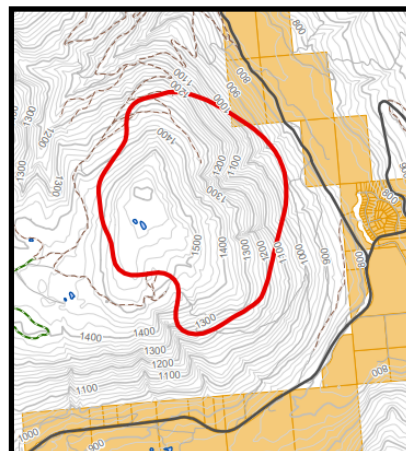


Figure 1. Fire perimeter map on July 12, 2021

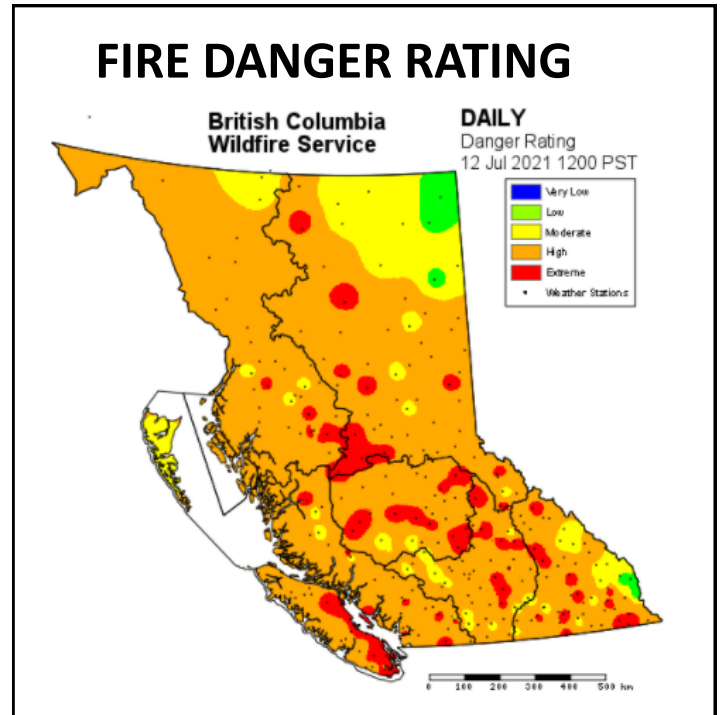


Figure 2. Fire perimeter map on July 13, 2021



Structure Protection Units:

When defending structures from a wildfire, an assessment of several factors (including risks to firefighters, fire behaviour, and the availability of resources) will dictate the strategies that will be used.

When the BC Wildfire Service determines that there is a need to defend structures from wildfire threats, firefighters will take appropriate, safe and reasonable tactical actions for which they are properly trained and equipped.

Structure protection specialists prioritize the deployment of structure protection units based on:

- assessing how “defensible” a property is (i.e. whether the SPU would be effective if it’s deployed there)
- determining where the need for SPUs is greatest (based on anticipated fire growth and activity)
- confirming whether SPU resources are available to be deployed in the area.

The safety of first responders and firefighters is a primary focus of the BC Wildfire Service. Other factors that are considered to determine whether a structure will be assessed for a possible SPU deployment include:

- the wildfire’s rate of spread,
- the property’s location,
- how easily firefighters can access the property;
- and the property’s proximity to the wildfire.



Response Priorities:

The BC Wildfire Service prioritizes its response to wildfires to help protect our most valuable assets.

Our top priority is the safety of our responders and life. Our second priority is property, our third priority is critical infrastructure, and fourth priority is resource values.