



**71W22KC - Okanagan Complex**

**FIRE SIZE:**

Thomas Creek (K51794): 6960 ha (estimate)  
Brenda Creek (K51924): 824 ha (estimate)  
White Rock Lake (K61884) 8703 (estimate)

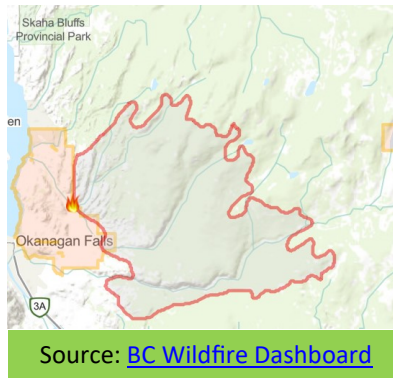
**FIRE STATUS:**  
Out of Control

**THOMAS CREEK WILDFIRE (K51794)**

This fire was first discovered on Sunday, July 11, 2021 and is approximately 5 kilometres northeast of Okanagan Falls.

**CONDITIONS:**

Fire behaviour was quiet again this morning, but is expected to increase this afternoon. Yesterday there was minimal fire growth. The most active part of the fire continues to be the north flank, in heavier timber. The fire has now burned into the area of the Christie Mountain Fire, which may result in decreased fire behavior in that area due to a reduction in available fuel. Temperatures will be warmer in the coming days which may result in increased fire activity. The forecasted high pressure system is tracking to the north, which is likely to cause a change in weather patterns. As a result, stronger winds may occur. This could challenge guard lines and crews.



Source: [BC Wildfire Dashboard](https://www.bcwildfire.ca/)

**RESOURCES:**

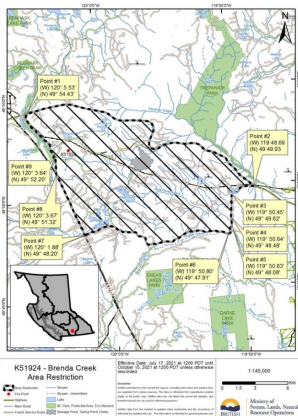
Firefighters – 45  
Heavy Equipment - 14  
Helicopters – 5 assigned

**EVACUATION ALERTS & ORDERS:**

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) has issued an Evacuation Alert for 704 properties in Electoral Area "D." More information is available here: <https://www.rdos.bc.ca/>

**OBJECTIVES:**

Crews and equipment will be working in the Christie Mountain area in the north to create guard lines using existing roads, old fire guards, and other natural features. Today crews are patrolling the guard line on the west flank and may begin to demobilize equipment in this area. Heavy equipment will be used to build contingency guard lines to the east of the fire. Crews have now secured the 201 road up to the 13 kilometre mark by assessing and removing danger trees that were in striking distance of the road. This ensures safe access for crews and equipment. Crews will gradually widen the safe areas along the road over the coming days.



The BC Wildfire Service and the Canadian Armed Forces are assessing this fire to determine if it is a suitable location for military personnel to assist in firefighting efforts.

This fire is being managed by a BC Wildfire Service Incident Management Team as part of the Okanagan Complex. Aircraft and other resources may be reallocated from day to day within the complex as priorities shift.

**AREA RESTRICTION:**

In the interest of public and responder safety, a new Area Restriction was implemented for the Thomas Creek Wildfire area on July 21, 2021 and further updated on July 24, 2021. More information is available at: [www.bcwildfire.ca](https://www.bcwildfire.ca/).



BCWS crewmember on the Thomas Wildfire (K51794) using a drip torch on a small, planned hand ignition to remove fuel between a guard and the fire.

**ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**71W22KC - Okanagan Complex Information Section**

Telephone: 250-230-3670 | Email: [BCWS.Okanagan.Complex.Info@gov.bc.ca](mailto:BCWS.Okanagan.Complex.Info@gov.bc.ca)





## BRENDA CREEK WILDFIRE (K51924)

This fire was first discovered on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 and is an interface fire.

### CONDITIONS:

Fire behaviour was relatively calm yesterday and this morning but may increase this afternoon. The most active portion of the fire was near the southwest flank (where rank 3 fire behaviour continues to threaten the transmission line). Overall fire growth was minimal. Work on guard lines in this area continues to progress. Temperatures will be warmer in the coming days which may result in increased fire activity. The forecasted high pressure system is tracking to the north which is likely to cause a change in weather patterns. As a result, stronger winds may occur. This could challenge guard lines and crews.

### OBJECTIVES:

Staff are working to identify and build contingency lines on active flanks of the fire. Protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure is the priority.

Crews continue to reinforce sections of guard line on the north west corner of the fire by burning off the fuel between the guard and the fire with small, hand ignition operations.

Helicopters will continue to bucket water on to hotspots today, drawing water from nearby lakes. This effort will continue today.

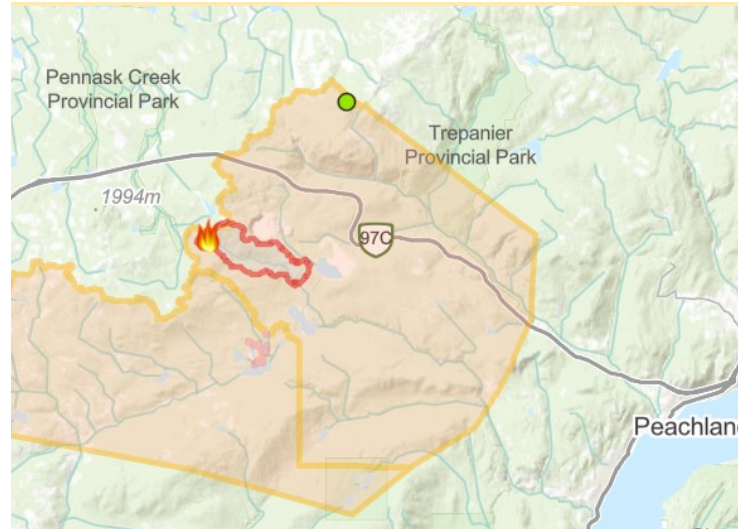
A high-volume water delivery system is now in place to protect the section of the transmission line within the fire perimeter. This delivery system consists of a 4-inch hose line that supplies a series of larger sprinklers. A specialized high-volume pump supplies water to the line, which can be turned on quickly if the threat to the transmission line increases due to increased fire activity.

This water line has been instrumental in the protection of the transmission line, which remains operational.

5 firefighters and 3 support staff remained on site last night to monitor the fire and protect high value features.

### STRUCTURAL PROTECTION:

Remains in place on high value resources with 1 task force leader, 2 high volume water delivery systems (3 crew) and 2 structure protection trailers are on site. They are supported by 17 firefighters from 6 different fire departments, who are making good progress on extinguishing fire along the power line.



The Brenda Creek Wildfire is approximately 40 kilometers west of West Kelowna, south of the Okanagan Connector.

Source: [BC Wildfire Dashboard](#)

### RESOURCES:

**Firefighters** – 46

**Heavy Equipment** - 19

**Helicopters** – 4 assigned

### EVACUATION ALERTS, ORDERS & AREA RESTRICTIONS:

The [Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen](#) (RDOS) has issued an Evacuation Order for 43 properties. An Evacuation Alert has also been issued for Eneas Lakes Provincial Park.

The [Thompson-Nicola Regional District](#) (TNRD) has issued an Evacuation Alert for three properties located in Electoral Area "M."

The Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) has issued an Evacuation Alert for properties, three recreational camping areas and Crown land within West Electoral Area, south of Highway 97C and northwest of Peachland. Please contact the [Regional District Central Okanagan](#) for more information.

An Area Restriction is in effect as of noon on July 17, 2021. More information is available, including a map at: [www.bc.wildfire.ca](http://www.bc.wildfire.ca)



Brenda Creek Fire (K51924): on the morning of July 25.

## WHITE ROCK LAKE WILDFIRE (K61884)

This fire was first discovered on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 and is an interface fire.

### CONDITIONS:

Fire behaviour increased in the Salmon Lake road area yesterday, but was quieter this morning. Airtankers were used in that area yesterday to lay down retardant in an effort to reduce fire activity. The fire continues to move down slope on the north and northeast flanks. Temperatures will be warmer in the coming days which may result in increased fire activity. The forecasted high pressure system is tracking to the north, which is likely to cause a change in weather patterns. As a result, stronger winds may occur. This could challenge guard lines and crews.

### OBJECTIVES:

BC Wildfire Service personnel continue to work with industry partners on site to establish and reinforce guard lines, and to protect critical infrastructure. A structural protection specialist is on site, assessing and prioritizing critical infrastructure and properties. Crews will be patrolling the fire tonight. Planning of contingency lines is underway.

Ground crews continue to reinforce machine guard lines by removing fuel between the guard and the fire.

Heavy equipment was used to construct large, cleared areas at regular intervals along the guard lines. These areas are known as "safe zones", and provide crews and equipment a safe place to take shelter in if the fire behaviour should suddenly increase.

Airtankers may be used today to apply retardant to the fire if conditions allow. This is done to help slow the spread of the fire and create time and space for equipment and crews to safely build guard lines ahead of the fire.

Yesterday, a ground-based retardant unit was used to reinforce guard lines. This unit is a large truck that can apply the same type of retardant used by airtankers (see photo below)..

4 helicopters were bucketing water on to the fire again yesterday. This tactic is used to cool and slow the spread of the fire so that ground crews can safely continue their suppression efforts..

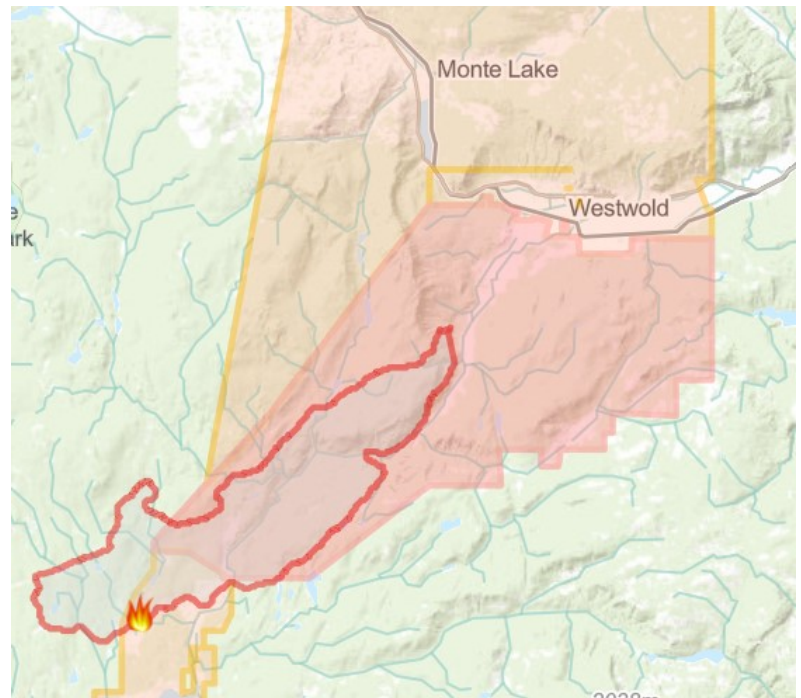
A fire camp is now set up at the Salmon Lake Resort. This will allow incoming firefighters and support staff to be closer to the fire, which will reduce travel time and maximize their working and resting hours.



Salmon Lake area of the White Rock Lake wildfire on the morning of July 25

100 firefighters and 12 support staff from Quebec will arrive at the Okanagan Complex today. They will be staying in the Camp that is now set up at the Salmon Lake Resort and will be assigned to this fire. They will be briefed and oriented today and should be working on the fire by Monday.

There have been smoke impacts to the hydro line in the area, with multiple outages occurring due to the smoke.



The White Rock Lake Wildfire is approximately 56 kilometers northeast of Merritt.

### RESOURCES:

**Fire Fighters** – 27 (partnering with fire departments and the RCMP )

**Heavy Equipment** - 38

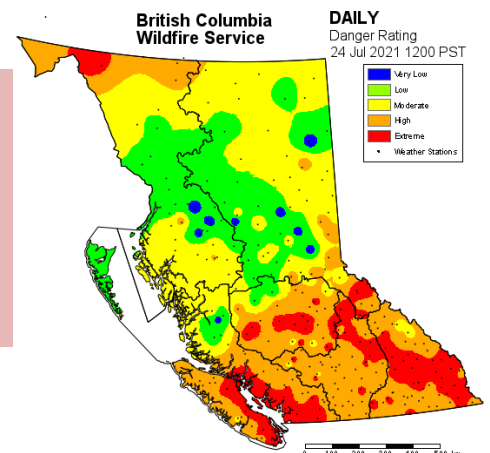
**Helicopters** – 6 assigned

**Structural Protection Units**—1

### EVACUATION ALERTS, ORDERS & AREA RESTRICTIONS:

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) has implemented multiple Evacuation Orders and Evacuation Alerts for properties in the area. Please contact the Thompson-Nicola Regional District for more information: <https://www.tnrd.ca/>

## FIRE DANGER RATING



**Spot a wildfire, smoke or illegal fire activity? Call 1 800 663-5555 or \*5555 on your cellphone.**