BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

July 26, 2021

Tremont Creek	FIRE SIZE:	FIRE STATUS:
(K21849)	12,061 hectares (estimate)	Out of Control

RESOURCES:

60 personnel are responding during the day and 8 personnel are continuing to work overnight in conjunction with heavy equipment and the Ashcroft Fire Department. During the day, crews are assisted by seven helicopters, 34 pieces of heavy equipment, an Incident Management Team and fifty eight Structure Protection personnel. Structure protection equipment is established and being monitored in areas of the fire with structures present. Resources are shared within the Sparks Lake Complex.

UPDATES:

July 26: There continues to be significant fire behaviour, driven by high winds and high temperatures on the southern flank of the fire. Crews have been forced to pull back to safety zones and will continue to work on containment when safe to do so. Due to smoky conditions over the fire, getting an updated perimeter continues to be a challenge. Where possible, crews supported by helicopters and heavy equipment continue to build guard around the growth on the south flank and in the Barnes Lake area. Crews are conducting planned ignitions between the machine guard and the fire perimeter. This has proven highly successful in creating containment lines on this fire and will continue to be a tactic utilized by crews and equipment.

July 25: A two-hectare spot fire started across Highway 97C last night on the southwest of the fire, and was contained by 1:30am this morning. The main fire has not crossed the highway and the spot fire will be mopped up today. There continues to be active fire on the south flank of the fire, driven by winds. Heavy equipment and crews are working today to connect machine guard around this growth and connect it to the existing guard. The north flank of the fire, from Barnes Lake to Walhachin is exhibiting no fire behaviour and is being monitored for any hotspots. Crews are securing machine guard from Barnes Lake south around the perimeter to the east flank by using small scale hand ignitions to remove fuel between the fire and the machine guard. This tactic reduces fire growth and limits the possibility of spotting over machine guard.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Tremont Creek Information Team| Hours: 0800-2200

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

www.bcwildfire.ca BC Forest Fire Info @BCGovFireInfo www.firesmartbc.ca

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WILDFIRE UPDATE

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Tremont Creek on July 21, burning northeast of Barnes Lake

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

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EVACUATION ORDERS AND ALERTS:

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District has issued Evacuation Orders and Alerts for Electoral Area "I" (Blue Sky Country) and Evacuation Alerts for Electoral area "J" (Copper Desert Country). The Oregon Jack Creek Indian Band have issued an Evacuation Order. The communities of Ashcroft and Cache Creek, as well as the Ashcroft Band remain on evacuation alert. To see the full list of affected properties, please contact:

TNRD Emergency Operations Centre
Phone: (250) 377-7188
Toll Free: 1-866-377-7188
emergency@tnrd.ca

Ashcroft Indian Band
Phone: (250) 453-9154
Email: info@ashcroftband.ca
ashcroftband.ca

AREA RESTRICTION:

An area restriction is in place as of July 18, 2021 for an area over the Tremont Creek Wildfire area. This is NOT an evacuation alert or order. Under this order and Section 11(2) of the Wildfire Act, a person must not remain in or enter the restricted area without the prior written authorization of an official designated for the purposes of the Wildfire Act, unless the person enters the area only in the course of:

(a) Travelling as a person acting in an official capacity.

(b) Travelling for the purpose of supporting wildfire suppression activities.

(c) Travelling as a person working for Highland Valley Copper Mine to and from the mine site for the purposes of maintaining critical infrastructure at the site.

(d) Travelling to or from his or her principle residence, that is not under an evacuation order.

(e) Travelling to or from private or leased property for the purposes of accessing a secondary residence or recreational property, that is not under an evacuation order.

(f) Engaging and/or participating in agricultural activities pertaining to livestock or agriculture management on private or leased property.

(g) Using a highway as defined in the Highway Act (e.g. use of travelling along Hwy 97C).

The area restriction in place currently has an expiry date of October 15, 2021. However, once the area is considered safe for entry, the BC Wildfire Service will rescind the order.

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REGISTER FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS:

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District has chosen Voyent Alert! to serve the region to provide residents with critical emergency information. Voyent Alert! is a multi-purpose communication service used to send alerts to residents, businesses, and visitors during critical events like fires or floods as well as for relevant day-to-day communications. Registration is FREE, simple and totally anonymous. For mobile app alerts, download and install the *Voyent Alert!* app from the Apple or Google Play stores For email, text message, or voice call alerts: https://register.voyent-alert.com

Personalized Communications: Voyent Alert! provides informative communications. Critical information such as the distance and direction from an incident, time of intercept and preferred evacuation routes from your tracked locations.

Track Multiple Locations: Voyent Alert! allows you to create and track multiple locations such as “Kids School” or “Mom’s House”. Any event or communication related to your tracked locations will be forwarded to you along your preferred communication channel.

No Message Fatigue: Voyent Alert’s smart alerting capabilities ensure that you will only get notified when a communication is relevant to you or one of the locations you are tracking.

Communications Your Way: Receive alerts over a wide variety of communication channels including mobile apps, text/SMS alerting, email or voice calling You can register for all or one of them.

Privacy is Paramount: Registration is anonymous, and no information volunteered or derived is shared or used for marketing or data harvesting purposes. Locational information from your tracked locations is only used to determine its proximity to an alert event and to provide critical context within the communications (such as distance and direction).

Leaving is Easy: Both mobile applications and web-based accounts provide access to an unsubscribe feature accessed via the menu icon on the top right of the screen/page. If the service isn’t working out simply click on “Unsubscribe” button.

See the full release at: www.tnrd.ca

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Tremont Creek Information Team| Hours: 0800-2200

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

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RESOURCES FOR BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY WILDFIRES:

The BC Economic Development Association (BCEDA) has launched a special webpage dedicated to Wildfires 2021— https://www.bceda.ca/wildfires.php — which contains a live document where information will be added for business and communities, plus manuals and toolkits dedicated to disaster preparation.

As the Province and others start to roll out support programs, BCEDA will update the live document so that businesses can easily find this information.

Have the BC Wildfires impacted your Business? Is so, a short survey has been created . The responses will help distinguish businesses' and communities' short and long-term needs. The BCEDA has pledged to do everything it can to help.

The BCEDA collects this information to share in an aggregate format with provincial, Indigenous, Local and Regional Governments. No confidential information will be shared unless a follow-up call is requested by the business. All information is stored in Canada by Softlanding.

Here is the URL for the survey:
https://www.executivepulse.ca/bcwildfire2021

MORE BCEDA RESOURCES:

Resources for Wildfire Impacted Individuals & Businesses 2021 (Live Document) - A document of resources that is constantly being updated as new information and resources are released. Check back in on this document regularly for up-to-date information regarding the wildfires.
Top 10 Steps to Prepare Your Business for Evacuation - A document that can be made available to businesses in your community to aid in, and encourage, preparation for an evacuation scenario. It highlights the 10 steps necessary to prepare a business for an evacuation.
Province of BC: Disaster Financial Assistance—Following a disaster, the provincial government may declare the event eligible for Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA). Once declared, the DFA program may compensate individuals for essential uninsurable losses and/or reimburse local governments for damaged infrastructure.
Local Economic Recovery & Restart Toolkit - This toolkit provides a collection of resources developed to assist local councils, organizations and individuals involved in community economic recovery following an emergency such as the COVID-19 pandemic, wildfires and floods .

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

BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

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WILDFIRE UPDATE

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES			
BC Wildfire Service	**Emergency Management BC**	**Local municipalities and regional districts**	**First Nations**
- BCWS's jurisdiction covers all BC Parks, Crown and private lands, but does not include the boundaries of local governments that have forest fire prevention bylaws and are serviced by a fire department. - BCWS speaks directly about **wildfires** (i.e. fire status, operations, etc.) and is responsible for disseminating wildfire updates to local governments, stakeholders, First Nations and the public. - BCWS does <u>not</u> announce Strategic Evacuation Orders or Alerts. - BCWS <u>does</u> announce Tactical Evacuations. - In the event of an imminent threat to public safety, BCWS can authorize an immediate **Tactical Evacuation** of the affected area.	- EMBC coordinates communication across all agencies and stakeholders to support communities. - EMBC provides advice to evacuees and support to communities regarding Emergency Operations Centres and Emergency Support Services.	- Local Municipalities and Regional Districts speak directly about **Strategic Evacuation Orders and Alerts in** their respective jurisdictions. - Local Municipalities and Regional Districts <u>do not</u> speak about the status of a wildfire unless the fire occurs within their jurisdiction. For example, if a wildfire <u>starts</u> within the boundaries of a local government, BCWS will often assist the local fire department with suppression efforts. If the fire spreads into Crown land to become a wildfire, BCWS will often assume control.	- On IR lands, Evacuation Orders and Alerts are implemented by a Band Council Resolution or other. - A designated person (s) from the respective First Nations community will speak to Evacuation Orders and Alerts on IR lands.

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