



## OKANAGAN COMPLEX

**Thomas Creek**  
(K51794)

**FIRE SIZE**  
8,214 hectares (estimate)

**FIRE STATUS**  
Out of Control

This fire was first discovered on Sunday, July 11, 2021 and is approximately 3 kilometres northeast of Okanagan Falls.

### CONDITIONS:

Smoky conditions are expected to persist today and will cause visibility issues. There will be a risk of subtropical moisture that may cause thunderstorms and dry lightning in the area. Maximum temperatures of 37 degrees are expected with winds 5-15 km/hr.

### OBJECTIVES:

Yesterday, crews completed a patrol along the west flank of the fire and actioned hot spots that were giving off residual heat. The west flank of the fire remains very quiet. Structure protection systems that were put in place as a precautionary measure have been removed. Crews will continue to patrol along this flank as required.

Volatile fire behaviour and growth was observed along the north flank by McLean Clan Lake. Crews are continuing to prepare for a potential planned ignition that will bring the fire down to the established guards north of this flank. Heavy equipment has completed machine guard north and northeast of the fire perimeter in preparation for the planned ignition and today will begin work on machine guard to the northwest. Given the terrain and fire behaviour along the north flank, planned ignitions are the most effective tactic to aid containment in this area. The objective of the planned ignitions is to bring the fire perimeter down to workable ground where crews can effectively apply water directly to the fire's edge.

Yesterday, crews made good progress along the south guard and will continue to look for opportunities to complete additional small hand ignitions along these guards. This technique is frequently used to remove unburnt fuels along control lines to help further secure the fire perimeter. Heavy machinery is working to establish containment lines in the southeast corner of the fire to support crew progress along the south flank.

### AREA RESTRICTION:

In the interest of public and responder safety, the Area Restriction Order in the vicinity of the Thomas Creek wildfire was updated on July 27, 2021. The size of the Area Restriction Order reflects the need to protect the public in areas where there are ongoing suppression activities. For more information, please review the [Thomas Creek Area Restriction Order](#) information bulletin and [map](#).

### RESOURCES:

**Firefighters** – 23 and 33 military personnel

**Support Staff** – eight

**Danger tree assessors/fallers** – 14

**Heavy Equipment** – 20

**Helicopters** – five assigned

**Incident Management Team**

### EVACUATION ALERTS & ORDERS:

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) has issued an Evacuation Alert for 724 properties in Electoral Area "D," as well as an Evacuation Order for 8 properties in Electoral Area "D." More information is available here: <https://www.rdos.bc.ca/>

## ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

**71W22KC - Okanagan Complex Information Section**

**Telephone:** 778-694-8325 | **Email:** [BCWS.Okanagan.Complex.Info@gov.bc.ca](mailto:BCWS.Okanagan.Complex.Info@gov.bc.ca)





## OKANAGAN COMPLEX

**Brenda Creek**  
(K51924)

**FIRE SIZE**  
824 hectares (estimate)

**FIRE STATUS**  
Out of Control

This fire was first discovered on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 and is located south of the Okanagan Connector (Highway 97C), approximately 40 kilometres west of West Kelowna.

### CONDITIONS:

There is a slight risk of subtropical moisture in the area today which may cause thunderstorms with dry lightning. Light south to southwest winds will prevail. Saturday will see similar winds. Temperatures will peak near 32 degrees today and 33 degrees on Saturday. Minimum relative humidity will be 14 percent tomorrow and near 16 percent Saturday. Temperatures are expected to cool into the twenties on Sunday and Monday with light south winds.

### OBJECTIVES:

Structural protection remains in place on high value resources, including on the cabins in the Headwater Creek area. Crews will continue to patrol and extinguish hot spots along the powerlines.

A full infrared scan has been completed on the fire which has helped to identify hot spots along the fire perimeter. Crews will be working on mop up along the east flank of the fire in areas where danger tree assessors/fallers have ensured it is safe to do so. Northeast of the fire perimeter crews are working on 100% mop up on a small excursion outside of the guard. Crews are patrolling along the guard south of the fire perimeter and utilizing a skidder to extinguish hot spots.

Crews will continue to look for opportunities to complete additional small ignition operations along established guards. This technique is frequently used to remove unburnt fuels along control lines to help further secure the fire perimeter.

### STRUCTURE PROTECTION:

One task force leader and 19 structural firefighters from six different fire departments. Structure protection personnel remain on-site through the night to ensure structure protection continuity.

### AREA RESTRICTION:

The BC Wildfire Service implemented an Area Restriction Order in the vicinity of the Brenda Creek wildfire on July 17, 2021. This Area Restriction Order will remain in place until noon, October 15, 2021 or until it is rescinded. The size of the Area Restriction Order reflects the need to protect the public in areas where there are ongoing fire suppression activities. For more information, please review the [Brenda Creek Area Restriction Order](#) information bulletin and [map](#).

### RESOURCES:

**Firefighters** – 34

**Heavy Equipment** – 20

**Support staff** – four

**Danger tree assessors/fallers** – two

**Helicopters** – three assigned

**Incident Management Team**

### EVACUATION ALERTS & ORDERS:

The Evacuation Order issued by the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen remains in place. An Evacuation Alert has also been issued for Eneas Lakes, Pennask Lake, Trepanier, and Pennask Creek provincial parks. Please contact the [Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen](#) for more information.

The Regional District of Central Okanagan has issued an Evacuation Alert for 18 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.

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



## OKANAGAN COMPLEX

**White Rock Lake**  
(K61884)

**FIRE SIZE**  
20,891 hectares (estimate)

**FIRE STATUS**  
Out of Control

This fire was first discovered on Sunday, July 13, 2021 and is approximately 56 kilometres northeast of Merritt.

### CONDITIONS:

Conditions on site are extremely smoky, which is hampering the ability for aircraft to fly and challenging suppression efforts. Heavy smoke in the area is also impacting hydro lines. As a result, power outages have occurred and may continue to do so.

Given the amount of fuel loading and forecast weather conditions, elevated fire behaviour is expected to continue. Fire growth is expected to the east and northeast. To protect the safety of the public and first responders, the BC wildfire Service will continue to evaluate the need for further evacuation order and alert recommendations.

Today and Saturday, subtropical moisture may bring thunderstorms, strong winds and dry lightning to the region. Initial attack success continues to be the priority in the Kamloops Fire Centre. Resources and aircraft from the Okanagan Complex will support this priority, as required, should dry lightning bring additional fire starts to the region.

### EVACUATION ALERTS & ORDERS:

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) has implemented an Evacuation Order for 85 properties and has issued an Evacuation Alert for an additional 576 properties. For more information, please contact: [Thompson-Nicola Regional District](#) / 250-377-7188.

The Columbia-Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) has implemented an Evacuation Order for 10 properties, and further expanded the Evacuation Alert area to include the communities of Falkland and Sweetsbridge, and all properties along Chase-Falkland Road to Joyce Lake. For more information, please contact: [Columbia-Shuswap Regional District](#) / 250-833-3350.

The Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) has implemented an Evacuation Order for approximately 20 properties, including seasonal dwellings, as well as issued an Evacuation Alert for additional properties within the vicinity of the White Rock Lake wildfire. Please contact [Regional District of North Okanagan](#) /250-550-3700 for more information.

On July 27, the Okanagan Indian Band (OKIB) issued an Evacuation Alert for the southern most boundary of OKIB IR#1 Reserve up to Newport Beach including but not limited to Newport Beach, Old Mill site, Komasket Part Area, 6 Mile, Parkers Cove, and Whiteman's Creek. Please contact the [Okanagan Indian Band](#) for more information.

### RESOURCES:

**Firefighters** – 117 (including 100 firefighters from Quebec)

**Support Staff** – 12

**Heavy Equipment** – 39

**Danger tree assessors/fallers** – eight

**Helicopters** – eight assigned

**Incident Management Team**

### STRUCTURE PROTECTION:

**Personnel** – 46 (including 40 structural firefighters from 11 fire departments)

Six personnel are remaining on site through the night to provide structure protection continuity. Structural protection personnel will continue to assess and prioritize critical infrastructure and properties, working from Monte Lake towards the Falkland Corridor via Highway 97.

### AREA RESTRICTION ORDER:

The BC Wildfire Service has implemented an Area Restriction Order in the vicinity of the White Rock Lake wildfire. The size of the Area Restriction Order reflects the need to protect the public in areas where there are ongoing fire suppression activities. For more information, please review the [White Rock Lake Area Restriction Order](#) information bulletin and [map](#).

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



## OKANAGAN COMPLEX

**White Rock Lake**  
(K61884)

**FIRE SIZE**  
20,891 hectares (estimate)

**FIRE STATUS**  
Out of Control

### OBJECTIVES:

The BC Wildfire Service continues to work with industry partners to establish and reinforce control lines, and to protect critical infrastructure. Local industry knowledge is invaluable to operational success.

On the northwest flank of the fire, crews will be patrolling the machine guard that was built next to the powerline and working on extinguishing any spots that may have crossed the guard. Progress is being made on constructing a machine guard to connect into the Monte-Pratt Road. Crews will support the construction of this guard with hose lay and a water tender.

Crews will continue to work eastward on the southwest flank to secure the perimeter and construct machine guard. Patrolling and mop up of any hot spots along the guard will occur. Mop up around the Cress Creek area on the south flank of the fire will be ongoing over the weekend.

If conditions remain favourable over the coming days, additional planned ignitions will occur along the southeast flank to fully bring the fire down to the Salmon River FSR. Planned ignitions along this flank are being carried out using Plastic Sphere Dispensers (PSD). PSDs accurately deploy golf-ball sized plastic spheres onto the landscape. Through a chemical reaction, the spheres ignite shortly after they reach the forest floor. This technique allows personnel to ignite manageable amounts of fuel in a timely and accurate manner. Air support will continue to be utilized for the duration of planned ignition operations, as required.

Northeast of the fire perimeter, crews are working along a stretch of machine guard to contain fire that comes down the ridge line. To help secure the control line, crews will be using low intensity hand ignitions to remove any remaining combustible fuels between the control lines and the existing fire perimeter. This technique is frequently used to extend the amount of non-combustible fuels ahead of the main fire, helping to further secure the control line. A ground-based retardant unit continues to reinforce control lines east of the fire perimeter. This unit is a large truck that can apply the same type of retardant used by airtankers to help slow the spread of the fire, allowing equipment and crews time and space to safely work along pre-constructed control lines. To ensure personnel safety, crews are being supported by danger tree assessors/fallers.

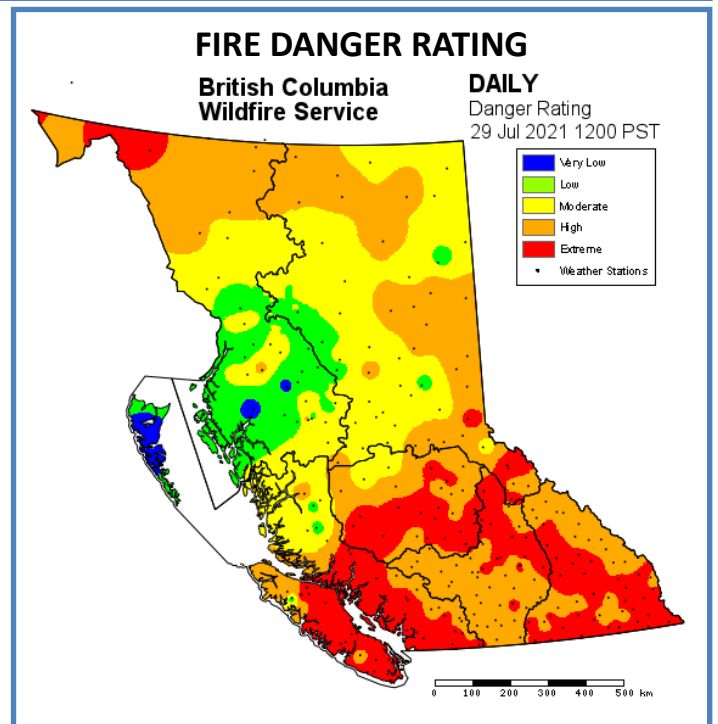
Eight helicopters are assigned to the White Rock Lake wildfire and will be delivering water to problematic areas of the fire to support ground suppression efforts.



A ground-based retardant unit has been used on the White Rock Lake wildfire to support crews and reinforce containment lines.



Crews have been working under extremely adverse conditions and continue to work hard to meet daily operational objectives. Successful fire suppression requires ongoing cooperation between ground crews, heavy equipment, pilots, danger tree assessors/fallers, structure protection personnel, and support staff. Public and first responder safety remains BC Wildfire Service's top priority.



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