



## 71W22KC - Okanagan Complex

### FIRE SIZE/STATUS:

|                                             |                |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Nk'Mip Creek (K52061) 17, 469 (estimate)    | Out of Control |
| Thomas Creek (K51794): 11,755 ha (estimate) | Out of Control |
| Brenda Creek (K51924): 871 ha (estimate)    | Being Held     |

### THOMAS CREEK WILDFIRE (K51794)

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

#### CONDITIONS:

A warm, drying trend has returned to the south Okanagan. Temperatures will increase and humidity will decrease over the coming days. Today, winds will continue to be from north to northwest with the potential of gusts in the afternoon. Fire behaviour is expected to increase on a daily basis.

#### OBJECTIVES:

Crews will continue to establish machine and contingency guards around the perimeter of the fire in a methodical manner. These guard lines will be reinforced using hand and aerial ignitions when conditions allow.

The fire remains active on the northwest flank in the Derenzy Lake area, and on the northeast flank by Allendale Lake. Continued use of planned ignitions is critical in reinforcing a guard lines to gain containment on the fire. This technique is used to remove unburnt fuels between the guard line and the fire to help further secure the fire perimeter. Crews will continue to mop up hotspots in the area where the planned ignition occurred.

The recent increase in Canadian Armed Forces personnel that are working on this fire is providing a greater overall compliment of valuable ground crews to support the efforts of aircraft and equipment. These personnel will continue to work on fire suppression in alignment with BC Wildfire Service staff.

A BC wildfire Service Incident Management Team is managing the Okanagan Complex, which includes the Thomas Creek (K51794), the Brenda Creek (K51924) and the Nk'Mip Creek (K52061) wildfires. Aircraft and other resources may be reallocated from day to day within the complex as priorities shift.



Fire behaviour on the Thomas Creek Wildfire remained low on Tuesday.

#### RESOURCES:

**Firefighters** — 46 firefighters and 62 Canadian Military personnel.

**Heavy Equipment** — 24

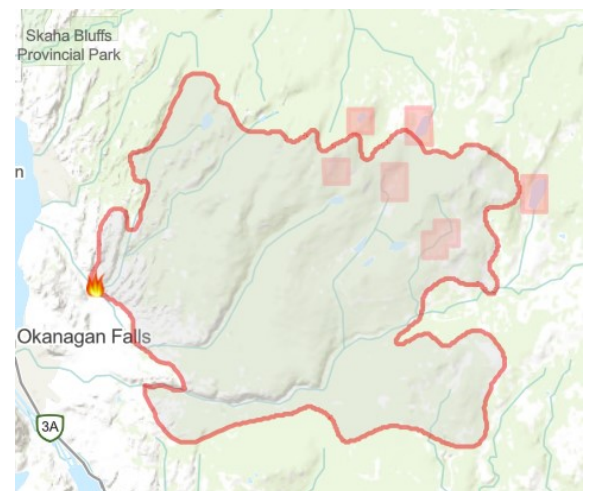
**Helicopters** — 4 (assigned)

**Support** — 33 including a BCWS Incident Management Team

#### EVACUATION ALERTS, ORDERS & AREA RESTRICTIONS:

As a result of ongoing suppression efforts and favourable weather conditions, the BC Wildfire Service has recommended changes in evacuation order and alert areas to local governments.

For the Thomas Creek Wildfire, visit the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen website for more details: <https://www.rdos.bc.ca/>



Source: [BC Wildfire Dashboard](#)

### 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)



[www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca)



[BC Forest Fire Info](#)



[@BCGovFireInfo](#)



[www.firesmartbc.ca](http://www.firesmartbc.ca)



## Nk'Mip CREEK WILDFIRE (K52001)

This fire was first discovered 6 kilometers north of Osoyoos on July 19, 2021.

### CONDITIONS:

A warm, drying trend has returned to the south Okanagan. Temperatures will increase and humidity will decrease over the coming days. Today, winds will continue to be from north to northwest with the potential of gusting in the afternoon. Fire behaviour is expected to increase on a daily basis.

### OBJECTIVES:

Crews will continue to establish machine and contingency guards around the perimeter of the fire in a methodical manner. These guard lines will be reinforced using hand and aerial ignitions when conditions allow. Today, airtankers may be used to support a large contingent of crews who are working in steep, rocky terrain on the northwest flank of the fire. The airtankers will apply retardant to slow the spread of the fire, which will provide more time for ground crews to construct and reinforce guard lines. Helicopters will also be used to support this effort by bucketing water onto the fire. This is being done to keep the fire out of the front country. Firefighters continue to mop-up hot spots along the southern fire perimeter.

A small hand ignition was completed yesterday to remove a triangular area of fuel on the northwest corner of the fire. This caused a plume of dark smoke that could be seen yesterday afternoon from surrounding communities.

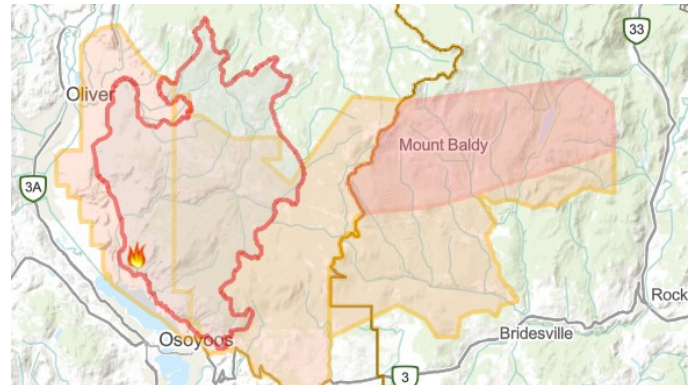
A task force of structural protection crews and engines will continue to patrol to protect assets along McKinney Road and in other areas of the fire and will also action hotspots that are found during patrols. Properties near Mt. Baldy are being continually assessed for structural protection needs.

Ninety-eight Mexican firefighters, have returned today after three days of rest, and will be working within high priority areas of the fire.

A BC Wildfire Service Incident Management Team is managing the Okanagan Complex, which includes the Thomas Creek (K51794), the Brenda Creek (K51924) and the Nk'Mip Creek (K52061) wildfires. Aircraft and other resources may be reallocated from day to day within the complex as priorities shift.

A water source is not always readily available for crews to draw from with their pumps and hoses.

At right, members of the Lytton Rattlers Unit Crew holds a bladder open while a helicopter releases water from its bucket.



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

### RESOURCES:

**Firefighters** — 243 firefighters

**Heavy Equipment** — 29

**Helicopters** — 9 (assigned)

**Support** — 37 including a BCWS Incident Management Team

**Structural Protection:** 1 structural protection task force leader, 8 firefighters from 3 fire departments are working on this fire.

### EVACUATION ALERTS, ORDERS & AREA

#### RESTRICTIONS:

As a result of ongoing suppression efforts and favourable weather conditions the BC Wildfire Service has recommended changes to local governments on the evacuation orders and alert areas.

For the Nk'Mip Creek Wildfire, visit the following websites for more information on these changes and remaining evacuation details:

- The Osoyoos Indian Band: <http://oib.ca/>
- The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen: <https://www.rdos.bc.ca/>
- Kootenay Boundary Regional District: <https://emergency.rdkb.com/Current-Emergencies/nkmip-creek-fire>

In the interest of public and responder safety, an Area Restriction was implemented on July 24 and expanded on August 7.

More information is available at: [www.bcwildfire.ca.](http://www.bcwildfire.ca/)



## The Canadian Armed Forces Working Alongside BC Wildfire

The BC Wildfire Service is fortunate to have the support of Canadian Armed Forces personnel who are working closely with firefighters on the Thomas Creek Fire (K51794) within the Okanagan Complex. These dedicated and hard working troops are from the 1st Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, Bravo Company, who celebrated their 107th regimental birthday yesterday. We would like to thank them for celebrating this day by being an integral part of the suppression effort on this fire. Their service and dedication is truly appreciated.



The Flathead Unit Crew, whose home base is Cranbrook, with the Air Crew from the Canadian Armed Forces 450 Tactical Helicopter.



The 1st Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, Bravo Company on the Thomas Creek Wildfire .