

White Rock Lake August 11 08:00 Operations Update

Division Zulu

On the west flank, crews and heavy equipment will work on securing the excursion over in the Foley Road area working back towards the Monte-Pratt. Mop-up is occurring on the west side of Douglas Lake Rd and along Grange FSR towards Rock Bluff. Handline is being built in the Monte-Twig area. Yesterday, rank 1 to 2 fire behaviour was observed throughout most of the west flank. There was a single spot fire over the guard that equipment responded to and have contained.

Division Yankee

On the northern flank, crews will work on establishing containment along Grange FSR to Adelphi Road on the eastern side of the northern finger of the fire perimeter to protect this flank from growing towards Pinaus Lake. On the northern flank, crews are working on containment along Grange FSR to Adelphi Road on the eastern side of the northern finger and along the Monte Creek Private FSR on the western side. Crews and heavy equipment have completed line on the east side of the finger and were able to successfully establish line across the top towards Paxton Lake and connect to Hwy 97. The fire has not jumped any guards in the Paxton Valley area; however, bucket helicopters were required most of Aug 10 to assist guard construction. There is a hose lay throughout the north perimeter completed now.

A unit crew is working in the Ingram Road area. Machine guard is being built from Biancotto Lake south to existing hand guard.

The potential of a 3km fire break, with a mass water system deployed within, from Pillar Lake northwest is being explored. If feasible, this will act as a large barrier to limit the potential of fire growth towards communities northeast of the fire.

Construction on the Martin contingency line, along Duck Range Road to Martin Mtn, will be completed today if conditions allow. This will act as a secondary control line should the fire move north.

Division Alpha

Crews along the southern flank of the fire have completed control lines along the south of the fire perimeter using a combination of Forest Service Roads, lakes, and pre-existing machine guards. Personnel will also be patrolling and, engaging in direct attack, along the fire perimeter. A 50km contingency guard south of the perimeter from Fintry in the east to south of Chapperon Lake in the west is currently being constructed. This will act as a second contingency guard should the fire progress south. Most of Div A is burning rank 1 – 2.

Division Bravo

On the east flank, crews and structure protection personnel are working in the Westside Rd area where the fire is close to properties. Where conditions are suitable, crews are continuing along the fire perimeter and direct attacking using water and hand ignitions to tie in lines and secure the perimeter. Line locators are working on a secondary control line from Salmon River FSR to Okanagan Lake. Skimmers and bucket ships have been required to support crews in the Naswhito Creek area, which is the most active area of the fire. Yesterday evening, the fire crossed the Naswhito drainage and was

burning rank 3 and 4. Bucket ships and firefighters were working in the area to create control lines where safe to do so. Heavy equipment is working along the northeast tip of Div B to create machine guard where possible and will utilize aircraft to cool the fire above the dozer line construction as required.

Aerial Resources

The helicopter fleet includes a Sikorsky 64 SkyCrane helicopter, which has a 10,000-litre tank that is fillable in less than one-minute. There are also four Kamov heavy helicopters in the fleet. Additional air support is available and will be utilized as required, should conditions allow.