



White Rock Lake

K61884

FIRE SIZE

80,745 hectares (estimate)

FIRE STATUS

Out of Control

This fire was first discovered on Sunday, July 13, 2021 and is approximately 10 kilometres west of Vernon. The cause of this wildfire is lightning.

CONDITIONS:

TODAY: Maining cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Temperatures remain unseasonably cool today with highs into the mid-teens. Winds will ease slightly today compared to yesterday, but will remain fairly high and gusty throughout the day northwest 10 to 20 km/h, gusting 30 km/h. Fuels continue to dry, especially with recent elevated winds, and fire behaviour is expected to increase into the afternoon as winds pick up.

WEATHER OUTLOOK: Conditions will warm and dry on Tuesday/Wednesdays with light winds through the area. By Wednesday afternoon an upper trough will approach the coast bringing cloudy periods and instability.

RESOURCES:

Wildland Firefighters – 280

Heavy Equipment – 55

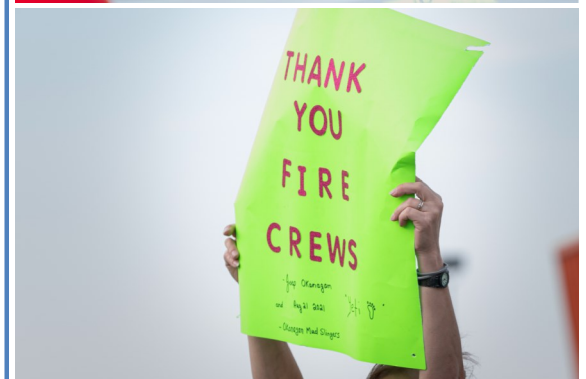
Danger tree assessors/fallers – 11

Helicopters – Ten assigned

Incident Management Team

AREA RESTRICTION ORDER:

The BC Wildfire Service has expanded the 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](#).



The BC Wildfire Service would like to thank the City of Vernon for their ongoing support.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

White Rock Lake Information Section

Telephone: 778-694-8325 | Email: BCWS.WhiteRockInfo@gov.bc.ca



www.bcwildfire.ca



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IGNITION OPERATIONS PLANNED FOR NORTHEAST FLANK:

The BC Wildfire Service is preparing to conduct a large-scale planned ignition operation on the northeast flank of the White Rock Lake wildfire. The exact timing of this ignition will depend on weather and site conditions, but it could begin as early as Wednesday, August 25, 2021. Significant planning, forecasting, and data analysis has been completed and will continue to be assessed prior to the ignition operation.

Due to steep and inaccessible terrain in this area of the fire, BC Wildfire Service personnel have determined that a planned ignition is the most favourable tactic to gain control while also maintaining an appropriate safety margin for firefighters. Over the past 72-hours, heavy equipment operators have been working to complete a machine guard along Irish Creek Road, working north towards Irish Creek and then west towards Six Mile Creek. The ignition operation will be completed using a combination of hand and aerial ignitions to remove fuels that currently lie between the control line and the advancing fire. Ground crews and hose lay will be ready to patrol and monitor for any spotting across the constructed machine guard between Westside Road and Irish Creek.

With the current weather forecast, the BC Wildfire Service anticipates being able to conduct this operation as soon as Wednesday. If weather patterns shift drastically from what is expected, operational personnel will reassess alternative potential suppression options. However, at this time there is no alternative suppression tactic that will provide an equal or greater likelihood of success given the fuel type, terrain, and sustained drought conditions expected to persist over the coming weeks.

The planned ignition area is upwards of 3,000 hectares in size. During the ignition operations, significant amounts of smoke will be visible from nearby communities, including Vernon, Armstrong, Spallumcheen, Glennema, and Falkland. The ignitions will only occur under very specific site conditions and further updates will be provided prior to commencement.

STRUCTURE PROTECTION:

The structure protection branch consists 87 structure protection personnel from various fire departments. Two Type 1 Structure Protection Unit (SPU) trailers, seven Type 2 SPU trailer, eight engines, five mass-water delivery systems, one water boat and ten water tenders are also assigned to the structure protection branch. Structure protection personnel are continuing to action hot spots and mop-up around interface areas of Killiney, Okanagan Indian Band IR #1, and Six Mile Road. Structure protection apparatuses will continue to be demobilized and re-allocated to areas where the wildfire is of greater threat. Structure protection specialists are continuing to assess and triage structures around Irish Creek and Okanagan Indian Band IR #1, north of Newport Beach.

EVACUATION ALERTS AND ORDERS:

The following government authorities have implemented Evacuation Alerts and Orders. Please contact the applicable local authority for more details.

[Thompson-Nicola Regional District](#) / 250-377-7188

[Columbia-Shuswap Regional District](#) / 250-833-3350

[Regional District of North Okanagan](#) / 250-550-3700

[Okanagan Indian Band](#) / OKIBEOCInformationOfficer@okanagan.org / 250-241-5809

[Regional District of Central Okanagan](#) / 250-469-8490 (local) or 1-877-569-8490 (toll-free)

[Splatsín First Nation](#)

[The City of Vernon](#)

[Township of Spallumcheen](#)

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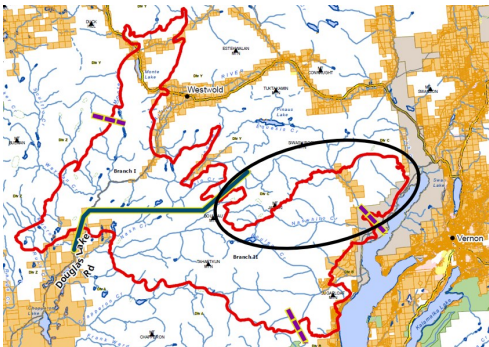
OBJECTIVES:

Division Bravo (east flank): 134 wildland firefighters, heavy equipment, aerial support



Crews and equipment will continue to defend pre-established containment lines above communities and protect structures. Structure protection personnel are continuing to action hot spots and mop-up around impacted interface areas. The Drought Code in this area of the fire is resulting in incredibly deep burning forest fuels making it difficult to bring this area to full extinguishment. Heavy equipment has re-established a guard previous used on the Terrace Mountain fire (2009) and will have it tied into the pre-established guard at Stuart Lake by the end of the day today.

Division Charlie (northeast flank, south of Glenemma): 23 wildland firefighters, heavy equipment, aerial support



Heavy equipment continues to construct the guard from Irish Creek to Six Mile Creek. This control line will be completed by the end of the day tomorrow. Ground crews are working to establish hose lay, as required, along pre-established control lines from Westside Road working north towards Irish Creek road and are continuing to hold the line between Irish Creek and McGregor Creek. Aerial resources will continue to cool this area of the fire with water buckets to support heavy machine and crews as they work to establish containment lines and hose lay.

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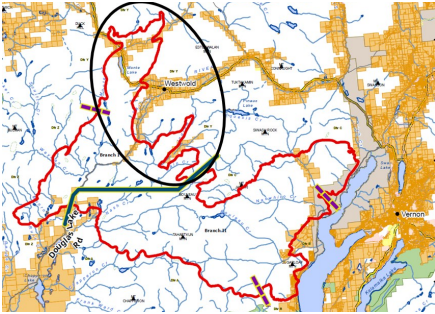


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OBJECTIVES:

Division Yankee (north flank): 115 wildland firefighters, heavy equipment, aerial support



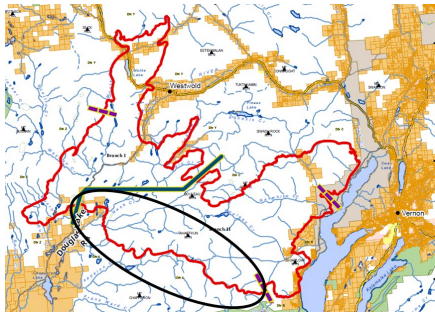
Today, crews focus is to complete mop-up from Biancotto Lake north to Paxton Lake, and north to Highway 97. There continues to be no growth along all fire perimeters of the northern finger north of Highway 97 and down towards Woods Lake. Last night, an infrared scan was completed along this flank which will help operational personnel to better determine where to focus suppression efforts moving forward. Heavy equipment operators will have completed the initial construction of the McGregor FSR by the end of the day today. A unit crew continues work on a contingency fuel-free buffer zone from the west side of Pinaus Lake working south towards established containment lines.

Division Zulu (west flank): 8 firefighters. Heavy equipment, aerial resources



This flank of the fire continues to be observed by aerial resources. No growth has been observed along this flank over the past week. Crews are continuing with mop-up work along this flank. Heavy equipment is beginning construction on a contingency line around the Monte Creek area.

Division Alpha (south flank): aerial resources



Aerial resources continue to monitor this flank of the fire. A 52-kilometre contingency guard has been established south of the fire perimeter from Chapperon Lake moving eastward towards Fintry Park.

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