BC Wildfire Service

INCIDENT UPDATE

Meachen Creek Complex

This information is current as of:	August 31, 2018
Incident Commander (IC)	Brian Lopushinsky
Contact information	Southeast Fire Centre 250-365-4014 or 250-365-4056 Brian Lopushinsky Incident Commander 780-706-5366
Incident Command Post	Teck Cominco
Incident overview	An 8-person Incident Management Team from Alberta has assumed command of these fires. <u>The Meachen Creek Fire (N11886)</u> 9284 hectares in size (estimated) 31 firefighting personnel on site 5 helicopters are assigned to the complex 5 pieces of heavy equipment This wildfire is in the Kianuko Provincial Park and the Meachen Creek drainage, approximately 4 kilometres southwest of St. Mary Lake and is classified as Out of Control. All containment lines have continued to hold in the northeast corner and there has been no further encroachment towards the St. Mary Lake community. Today's objectives will be much the same as Thursday. Crews will continue establishing hose lines around the excursion. When safe to do so, helicopters with buckets will be used to support the suppression efforts. Crews will work the lower end of the spine in the northeast corner and bucket hot spots as required. Maintenance will continue the structural protection equipment in zones 1 and 2. There are currently crews from BC and New Zealand working on the fire. <u>The Lost Dog Complex (N12314, N12419, N12420)</u> 714 hectares in size (mapped) 23 firefighting personnel on site 5 helicopters are assigned to the complex 1 piece of heavy equipment This wildfire is located approximately 14 kilometres north of Kimberley and is classified as Being Held. The Lost Dog Complex was originally a cluster of 4 fires. N12420, the 7-hectare fire to the east, was declared out on August 28. N12419 is Under Control and in patrol stage and N12413 is considered as Being Held. Crews will continue working the south flank headed west creating a 50 to 100-foot-wide black line. They will also continue working on a 50-foot-wide black line on the north flank towards the east as well as the west flank the with skidders. <u>The Mount Dickson Fire (N71602)</u> 1997 hectares in size (estimated) 2 BC Helitack crew are on site. 5 helicopters are assigned to the complex This wildfire is classified as Out of Control

	Fire behaviour has been quiet in past days and it has showed no significant growth. The fire is approximately one and a half kilometres south of the Meachen Creek fire. Crews are working a spot fire on the south end.
Weather forecast	Friday: Mix of Sun and Clouds. Temperatures just below seasonal in the low twenties with relative humidity values dipping into the mid 20 percent range. Moderate to strong winds out of the South West of 12 to 28 km/hr developing in afternoon. Gusts to 45km/hr. may occur.
Fire behavior prediction	The most active fire behavior will be where the slope and the wind interact with each other.
Other	The Evacuation Order issued to the St Mary's Lake area from the West boundary of the City of Kimberley to the Redding Creek / St Mary's River convergence including St Mary's Lake Road and Lakeside Road area was partially rescinded by the Regional District of East Kootenay Tuesday at 15:00. The rescind applies to properties along St Mary's Lake Road from the West boundary of the City of Kimberley to Lakeside/Lakefront Road. These areas remain on Evacuation Alert. The rescind does not apply to properties along Lakeside Road or properties along St. Mary's Lake Road west of Lakeside Road, which remain on Evacuation Order. The evacuation alert issued by the Regional District of East Kootenay for the entire City of Kimberley Municipal Boundary, and properties in the RDEK directly south and southeast of the City of Kimberley Municipal Boundary remains in effect. For more information, please call the RDEK at 250 426-2188 or visit their website at: www.rdek.bc.ca

Wildfire Rank

Rank 1 – Smouldering ground fire: no open flame, white smoke, slow rate of spread.
Rank 2 – Low vigour surface fire: visible open flame, unorganised or inconsistent flame front, slow rate of spread.
Rank 3 – Moderately vigorous surface fire: organised flame front, occasional candling may be observed, moderate rate of spread.
Rank 4 – Highly vigorous surface fire with torching, or passive crown fire: grey to black smoke, organised surface flame front, moderate to fast rate of spread on the ground, short aerial bursts through the forest canopy, short range spotting.
Rank 5 – Extremely vigorous surface fire or active crown fire: black to copper smoke, organised crown fire front, moderate to long-range spotting and independent spot fire growth.
Rank 6 – A blow up or conflagration; extreme and aggressive fire behaviour: organised crown fire front, long-range spotting and independent spot fire growth, possible fire balls and whirls, violent fire behaviour probable, a dominant smoke column may develop which influences fire behaviour.

View an interactive map by clicking here or visiting **www.bcwildfire.ca**