



Sparks Lake

(K21001)

FIRE SIZE:

77,102 hectares (estimate)

FIRE STATUS:

Out of Control

RESOURCES:

94 personnel are responding during the day in conjunction with heavy equipment. During the day, crews are assisted by 9 helicopters, 27 pieces of heavy equipment, an Incident Management Team and Structure Protection personnel. Structure protection equipment is established and being monitored in areas of the fire with structures present. Resources are shared within the Sparks Lake Complex (Tremont Creek and Sparks Lake)

UPDATES:

August 06: Over the last few days, the fire has had no significant growth and is currently burning unburnt fuel between the fire and guards in the North-East and North-West. The fire has merged with the southern heel of the young lake fire and both IMT's and crews are working together to ensure machine guards are built in the North east.

Some planned ignitions may occur through the weekend during milder fire conditions to burn remaining unburnt fuel between guards and the fire.

BC Hydro crews are working around the clock to restore infrastructure through the burnt areas and when this is complete we will be looking at recommending the removal of Orders where it is safe to do so. Areas we are reviewing over coming days include areas from the south of the fire near Red lake up to approximately the Criss creek area. Some areas will also be looked at on the western flank, however, specifics are currently unknown as we still reviewing our containment on this side of the fire.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Tremont Creek Information Team | Hours: 0800-2200

778 364-1265 | BCWS.SparksLakeInfo@gov.bc.ca



www.bcwildfire.ca



BC Forest Fire Info



@BCGovFireInfo



www.firesmartbc.ca



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EVACUATION ORDERS AND ALERTS:

Evacuation orders and Alerts have been put in place by the TNRD. The IMT are working to get communities back in their homes and properties as soon as we can ensure the area is safe. More information is available here: [Thompson- Nicola Regional District](#).

The Chief and Council of the Skeetchestn Indian Band have Downgraded the Evacuation Order to Alert for their community as of 9 am, Aug 04, 2021.

To see the full list of affected properties, please contact:

TNRD Emergency Operations Centre

Phone: (250) 377-7188

Toll Free: 1-866-377-7188

emergency@tnrd.ca

Ashcroft Indian Band

Phone: (250) 453-9154

Email: info@ashcroftband.ca
ashcroftband.ca

AREA RESTRICTION:

The BC Wildfire Service has updated the Area Restriction Order in the vicinity of the Sparks Lake wildfire that was implemented July 26, 2021. The size of the area restriction reflects the continued need to protect the public in areas where there are ongoing fire suppression activities. Find the map here: <http://ow.ly/auCv30rP3sY> Travelling as a person acting in an official capacity.

- (a) Travelling for the purpose of supporting wildfire suppression activities.
- (b) Travelling as a person working for Highland Valley Copper Mine to and from the mine site for the purposes of maintaining critical infrastructure at the site.
- (c) Travelling to or from his or her principle residence, that is not under an evacuation order.
- (d) Travelling to or from private or leased property for the purposes of accessing a secondary residence or recreational property, that is not under an evacuation order.
- (e) Engaging and/or participating in agricultural activities pertaining to livestock or agriculture management on private or leased property.
- (f) Using a highway as defined in the Highway Act (e.g. use of travelling along Hwy 97C).

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REGISTER FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS:

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District has chosen Voyent Alert! to serve the region to provide residents with critical emergency information. Voyent Alert! is a multi-purpose communication service used to send alerts to residents, businesses, and visitors during critical events like fires or floods as well as for relevant day-to-day communications. Registration is FREE, simple and totally anonymous. For mobile app alerts, download and install the *Voyent Alert!* app from the Apple or Google Play stores For email, text message, or voice call alerts: <https://register.voyent-alert.com>

Personalized Communications: Voyent Alert! provides informative communications. Critical information such as the distance and direction from an incident, time of intercept and preferred evacuation routes from your tracked locations.

Track Multiple Locations: Voyent Alert! allows you to create and track multiple locations such as “Kids School” or “Mom’s House”. Any event or communication related to your tracked locations will be forwarded to you along your preferred communication channel.

No Message Fatigue: Voyent Alert’s smart alerting capabilities ensure that you will only get notified when a communication is relevant to you or one of the locations you are tracking.

Communications Your Way: Receive alerts over a wide variety of communication channels including mobile apps, text/ SMS alerting, email or voice calling You can register for all or one of them.

Privacy is Paramount: Registration is anonymous, and no information volunteered or derived is shared or used for marketing or data harvesting purposes. Locational information from your tracked locations is only used to determine its proximity to an alert event and to provide critical context within the communications (such as distance and direction).

Leaving is Easy: Both mobile applications and web-based accounts provide access to an unsubscribe feature accessed via the menu icon on the top right of the screen/page. If the service isn’t working out simply click on “Unsubscribe” button.

See the full release at: <https://www.tnrd.ca>

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RESOURCES FOR BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY WILDFIRES:

The BC Economic Development Association (BCEDA) has launched a special webpage dedicated to Wildfires 2021—<https://www.bceda.ca/wildfires.php> — which contains a live document where information will be added for business and communities, plus manuals and toolkits dedicated to disaster preparation.

Have the BC Wildfires impacted your Business? If so, a short survey has been created. The responses will help distinguish businesses' and communities' short and long-term needs. The BCEDA has pledged to do everything it can to help.

The BCEDA collects this information to share in an aggregate format with provincial, Indigenous, Local and Regional Governments. No confidential information will be shared unless a follow-up call is requested by the business. All information is stored in Canada by Soft landing.

Here is the URL for the survey:

<https://www.executivepulse.ca/bcwildfire2021>

MORE BCEDA RESOURCES:

[Resources for Wildfire Impacted Individuals & Businesses 2021 \(Live Document\)](#) - A document of resources that is constantly being updated as new information and resources are released. Check back in on this document regularly for up-to-date information regarding the wildfires.

[Top 10 Steps to Prepare Your Business for Evacuation](#) - A document that can be made available to businesses in your community to aid in, and encourage, preparation for an evacuation scenario. It highlights the 10 steps necessary to prepare a business for an evacuation.

[Province of BC: Disaster Financial Assistance](#)—Following a disaster, the provincial government may declare the event eligible for Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA). Once declared, the DFA program may compensate individuals for essential uninsurable losses and/or reimburse local governments for damaged infrastructure.

[Local Economic Recovery & Restart Toolkit](#) - This toolkit provides a collection of resources developed to assist local councils, organizations and individuals involved in community economic recovery following an emergency such as the COVID-19 pandemic, wildfires and floods.



WILDFIRE UPDATE

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

BC Wildfire Service	Emergency Management BC	Local municipalities and regional districts	First Nations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BCWS's jurisdiction covers all BC Parks, Crown and private lands, but does not include the boundaries of local governments that have forest fire prevention by-laws and are serviced by a fire department. - BCWS speaks directly about wildfires (i.e. fire status, operations, etc.) and is responsible for disseminating wildfire updates to local governments, stakeholders, First Nations and the public. - BCWS does <u>not</u> announce Strategic Evacuation Orders or Alerts. - BCWS <u>does</u> announce Tactical Evacuations. - In the event of an imminent threat to public safety, BCWS can authorize an immediate Tactical Evacuation of the affected area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EMBC coordinates communication across all agencies and stakeholders to support communities. - EMBC provides advice to evacuees and support to communities regarding Emergency Operations Centres and Emergency Support Services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Municipalities and Regional Districts speak directly about Strategic Evacuation Orders and Alerts in their respective jurisdictions. - Local Municipalities and Regional Districts <u>do not</u> speak about the status of a wildfire unless the fire occurs within their jurisdiction. For example, if a wildfire <u>starts</u> within the boundaries of a local government, BCWS will often assist the local fire department with suppression efforts. If the fire spreads into Crown land to become a wildfire, BCWS will often assume control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On IR lands, Evacuation Orders and Alerts are implemented by a Band Council Resolution or other. - A designated person(s) from the respective First Nations community will speak to Evacuation Orders and Alerts on IR lands.