



CONNELL RIDGE WILDFIRE

(N10989)

FIRE SIZE:

1,350 hectares

FIRE STATUS:

Out of Control

RESOURCES:

Today on site, there are 67 firefighters, 2 structure protection specialists, and support staff including the Incident Management Team. The fire is also supported by 27 pieces of heavy equipment and operators, and nine helicopters with pilots.

UPDATES:

No significant growth has been observed over the past several days. The fire is still actively burning within the perimeter and smoke is still visible from nearby communities. Fire behaviour is expected to increase as temperatures rise over the weekend. Crews and equipment are making good progress on the construction of containment lines around the southeast, south, west, and northwest flanks of the fire. Some minor ignition operations along the fire perimeter may occur today to clean up the containment lines. Equipment will continue to work on building guard along the eastern flank of the fire over the next couple of days.

EVACUATION ALERTS AND ORDERS:

The Regional District of East Kootenay has issued an Evacuation Alert in the vicinity of the fire. Evacuation information is available [here](#).

AREA RESTRICTIONS:

An Area Restriction is in effect for this incident in order to protect the public in areas where ongoing fire suppression activities are taking place. Full information including a map of the affected area is available [here](#).



Wildfire crews get an operational briefing from the Connell Ridge Operations Chief.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Information Officer: Sarah Hall and Shannon Street | Hours: 0700-2200

778 362-4783 | BCWS.ConnellRidgeInfo@gov.bc.ca



www.bcwildfire.ca



BC Forest Fire Info



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WEASEL CREEK WILDFIRE

(N11062)

FIRE SIZE:

526 hectares in Canada 1,028 in
USA hectares

FIRE STATUS:

Out of Control

RESOURCES:

Jurisdictional collaboration is occurring between the Incident Management Team (IMT) in the United States located in Eureka and the BC Wildfire Service Incident Management Team in Canada located in Cranbrook. The two IMT's are closely coordinating on wildfire management and are sharing resources as required.

UPDATES:

The structure protection specialist assigned to the Connell Ridge wildfire is assessing the need for any structural protection resources around the Weasel Creek wildfire. Approximately 482 of the total 965 hectares is burning on the Canadian side of the border.

The size of the wildfire has changed slightly upon further coordination and more accurate mapping being provided to us from the United States Incident Management Team.

There was some overall growth on the Weasel Creek wildfire today, however the Infrared Scan completed by the US IMT last night has provided us a more accurate map of the portion of the fire burning within Canada.



The Weasel Creek wildfire at the Canada-United States border, August

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CUMMINGS CREEK WILDFIRE

(N11051)

FIRE SIZE:

43 hectares

FIRE STATUS:

Out of Control

UPDATES:

The Incident Management Team assigned to the Connell Ridge (N10989) wildfire and the Weasel Creek wildfire (N11062) has taken over control of the Cummings Creek wildfire and resources will be shared between the three incidents as required. Due to the relative inaccessibility of water sources suitable for helicopter bucketing and the inability for crews to support on the ground suppression currently, it would not be effective at this time to attempt bucketing suppression efforts.



The Cummings Creek wildfire August 7, photo taken from the southwest

Aggressive fire behaviour was witnessed overnight on the eastern flank of the fire. The fire is continuing to burn in extremely steep, inoperable terrain where it is unsafe for crews or equipment to work on suppression operations or build containment lines. The access to the fire is limited, partly because of steep terrain and partly due to the smoky conditions that limit air access. BC Wildfire Service operations staff are observing the fire daily for ongoing data gathering and will be working closely with the local fire departments and the Regional District to assess response efforts for the best chance of success. The BC Wildfire Service Structure Protection Specialist worked closely yesterday with the Sparwood Fire Chief and will continue into the coming week.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Information Officer: Sarah Hall and Shannon Street | Hours: 0700-2200

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FORECAST:

Today, August 8, a slight shift in the weather pattern should bring slightly warmer temperatures, slightly lower humidities and slightly greater winds. An upper ridge is building over the region from the southeast on Tuesday and will bring hotter temperatures and lower humidities. Winds should remain generally light on Tuesday, likely shifting to a southeast flow.

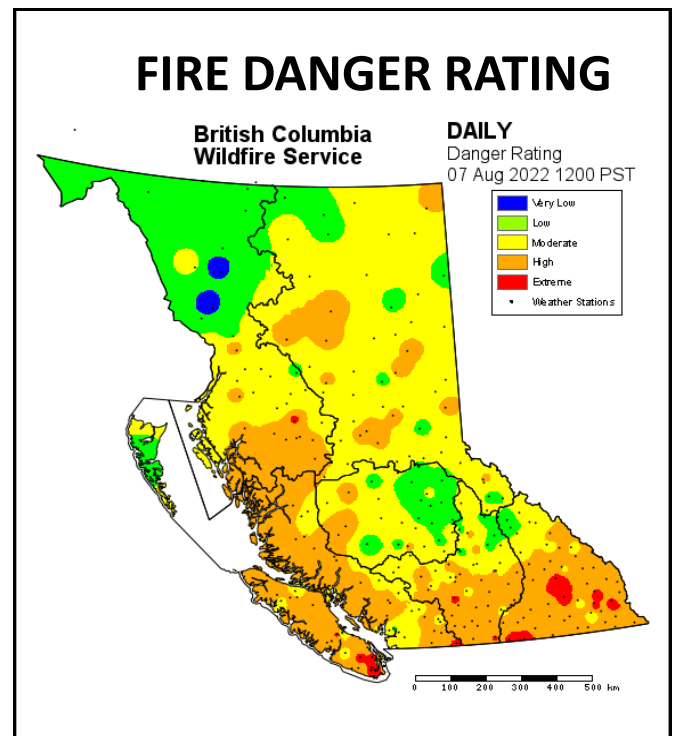
STRUCTURE PROTECTION:

When a wildfire threatens structures, the BC Wildfire Service can (in some cases) access specialized resources to help protect those structures. These additional resources from local fire departments may include structure protection units (SPUs), engines, tenders, structure suppression crews or other resources.

Structure protection units are generally used in high-risk areas. The availability of these units is coordinated by the BC Wildfire Service and its structure protection coordination officer. Defending structures from a wildfire will not be possible in every situation. An assessment of several factors (including risks to firefighters, fire behaviour and the availability of resources) will dictate the strategies that will be used. When the BC Wildfire Service determines that there's a need to defend structures from wildfire threats, firefighters will take appropriate, safe and reasonable tactical actions for which they are properly trained and equipped.

Residents of Sparwood might see an influx of fire apparatus, structure protection unit trailers and personnel today. Most of these individuals will be structure protection personnel that will be triaging and assessing properties in the Sparwood area. This work is being done in a proactive manner to establish adequate positioning if required. Currently the community of Sparwood is not imminently threatened, however we want to give our structure protection personnel ample amount of time to deploy structure protection apparatus in the event of the fire progressing closer to the community of Sparwood.

For more information on structure protection: <http://ow.ly/70jS30spyGh>



Fire Danger Rating map for August 7, 2022