



Coastal Wildfire Bulletin

August 9, 2013 6:00 PM

A series of lightning storms in the Bella Coola area from July 31—Aug 2 have resulted in multiple forest fires. More fires are being discovered and responded to, and we ask the public to report columns of smoke to the numbers below.

These fires are not exhibiting high or extreme fire behaviour, however it is expected that these fires will respond to daytime heating and wind. The fires do not currently pose safety concerns to residents, no structures are threatened, and Highway 20 remains open. Local fires are currently generating smoke in the Bella Coola Valley, especially with inflow winds that travel from the ocean to the interior. Smoke in the Dean and Burke channels is a result of fires in the North West Fire Centre in the Kitlope Heritage Conservancy.

The NOTAM in the Bella Coola Valley is due to lapse today, and will not be renewed.

For information about air health and venting indexes go to: www.airhealthbc.ca.



VA0359 South Bentinck

The largest fire is the South Bentinck fire, located approximately 16 kilometres southwest of Bella Coola, below the Blue Jay Lake Recreation Site. This fire is currently estimated to be 130 hectares in size, although the exact size is difficult to establish due to heavy smoke in the area today. The fire is burning in steep and rocky ground that is not safe for wildfire crews to work due to rolling

debris and steep slopes. The fire is being carefully monitored, and fire suppression plans are in place should the fire reach areas that can be worked. The Clayton Falls Forest Service Road has been closed by the District from approximately 500 metres past the Clayton Falls generating station to protect public safety.

Horsetail (formerly Talchako/Stuie); 41km east of Bella Coola; 100% contained; in mop up; approximately 4.5ha in size.

Swallow area (Kimsquit Arm); 11.5 km NE of Bella Coola; two fires. One is in patrol, and one is still active today. This fire is being worked with 2 danger tree fallers and 10 firefighters. We are unable to estimate the size due to smoke in the area.

For further information, please go to:

Website: BCWildfire.ca, Fires of Note

Facebook: BC Forest Fire Info

Or call: Coastal Fire Centre Information at 250-951-4209

To report a forest fire: 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on cell