BC Wildfire Service

INCIDENT UPDATE

Old Tom Creek (K52670)

This information is current as of:	September 6, 2018
Incident Commander (IC)	Glen Burgess
Contact information	Information Officer: Noelle Kekula 250-319-4815 Email: PlacerComIN@gov.bc.ca
Fire camp	Keremeos
Incident overview	This fire was discovered on August 15, since then ground crews, helicopters, air tankers and heavy equipment have been assigned to this fire. The current size of the fire is estimated at 1,130ha. This wildfire is classified as Being Held. Community members can still expect to see smoke within the perimeter over the coming weeks. This is common with large wildfires and will continue until the region receives significant rainfall or snowfall. If smoke is seen coming from well within a fire's perimeter and the area is surrounded by black, burned material, this is typically not a concern.
Weather forecast	Mainly sunny today with high temperatures of 25 C and low RH near 18%. Winds SW 5-15 km/h becoming W 10-20 km/h by late afternoon. Light winds may give greater variability in direction, and winds may also be influenced by day time heating / cooling. Nocturnal inversion to 1300 metres with a breakdown temperature of 22 C. **Tonight:** Overnight low near 10 C and RH recovery to near 50%. Winds becoming W 20 by 21:00. **Outlook:** The ridge will be out of the region on Friday and an upper trough along the coast will rotate inland. Fire areas may receive little or no precipitation (possible 1mm or less). Temperatures will cool into the teens on Friday and winds will be light to moderate southwest. As the trough weakens on Saturday the showers will dissipate, leaving cooler temperatures and light southwest winds. The next upper low moves closer to the coast on Sunday with temperatures reaching near twenty degrees and light to moderate southwest winds.
Fire behavior prediction	This afternoon temperatures and RH have potential to cross over. Fire behaviour is likely to be more vigorous than yesterday, as the RH has been low and overnight recovery has been poor/moderate for a couple of nights now. There is likely to be increased ignition potential, and very fast to extremely fast rates of spread under the dry conditions. Surface fires are likely to be very vigorous during the day, with continuous crowning possible in the C-3, and intermittent crowning in the C-7. Poor to moderate overnight RH recovery (50%) is forecast for Wednesday night. Fire behaviour may pick up in the fine fuels early in the morning.
Challenges	Steep slopes and challenging terrain continue to hamper suppression efforts on this incident. Poor visibility for crews also slowing progress on this incident.
Yesterday's achievements	Crews continued to mop up along the east, south and north flanks and have extinguished to a minimum of 100' from perimeter. Crews working along the west flank continue to prep for burn operations. BCWS working with industry to remove wood on the fire side of the control line. Contingency guard for planned burn has been completed, tying in Olalla FSR with shale slide above Hwy 3
Today's objectives	Continue mop up in drainage on southeast corner. DTA/DTF as required. Continue to patrol north and south flanks and extinguish any hot spots within 100' of perimeter. Continue to prep contingency lines on west flank.

Definitions: Stages of Control

Out of Control:	Describes a wildfire that is not responding (or only responding on a limited basis) to suppression action, such that the perimeter spread is not being contained.
Being Held:	Indicates that (with the resources currently committed to the fire) that sufficient suppression action has been taken that the fire is not likely to spread beyond existing or predetermined boundaries under the prevailing and forecasted conditions.
Under Control:	Indicates that the fire has received sufficient suppression action to ensure no further spread of the fire.
Out:	Indicates that the fire has been extinguished.

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