CARIBOO FIRE CENTRE WEATHER FORECAST

ISSUED: 11:00 am Friday, October 21, 2022

VALID: Through Sunday, October 30, 2022

SYNOPSIS: A cool upper trough and surface high pressure dominate the weather over the fire centre for the next couple of days. A series of weak short-wave troughs embedded in the overall pattern will bring slightly unsettled conditions and mainly cloudy skies today and Saturday. Light westerly winds are expected today, diminishing to near calm overnight. Winds should pick up from the north to northwest Saturday afternoon as surface pressure drop to the SE of the Cariboo and a ridge begins to build onto the coast. Ventilation will be fair to poor today, perhaps edging into the fair category Saturday PM as winds increase. Maximum temperatures today will be near seasonable averages, dropping to a few degrees below seasonable tomorrow. Tonight, low temperatures drop off below freezing over most the Fire Centre and winds diminish, forming a strong inversion with good RH recoveries. Although generally dry, a few flurries are likely over the higher terrain of the Quesnel Highlands and Cariboo Mountains today and there may be a few scattered elsewhere. Tomorrow will be unsettled as energy from the Gulf of Alaska deepens the upper trough over BC and convective showers or flurries develop over much of the Cariboo. Most localities will see less than a mm of water equivalent with 4 mm maximum at any single site. Favoured areas for precipitation tomorrow are the west and north facing slopes of the Cariboo east of the Fraser.

Freezing levels are dropping through the next few days. 1600 m today, and surface rebounding to 1400 m Saturday.

See you next year 😊

3 TO 5 DAY OUTLOOK…Sunday October 23rd to Tuesday October 25th

Sunday will be dry as a transient upper ridge moves through the Fire Centre. Clouds increase and gusty southeast winds develop in the afternoon as a strong warm front approaches the coast. Monday will be windy and milder as the frontal system crosses the coast. Up-slope areas of the Cariboo east of the Fraser could see significant precipitation Monday while zones west of the Fraser remain dry in a classic rain-shadowing pattern. Dry weather should return to all of the Fire Centre Tuesday.

CONFIDENCE: Tomorrow continues to look quite unstable, with widespread showers and flurries although accumulations will be light. Confidence is high on a wetter, more active pattern for the week ahead.

WINDS ALOFT: Puntzi Mountain

2000m WNW 10 km/h. 3000m NW 20 km/h.

6 TO 10 DAY WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26th TO SUNDAY OCTOBER 30th: Wednesday through Thursday morning feature a warm frontal repeat of the pattern on Monday, with strong winds and another shot of precipitation for the Cariboo east of the Fraser. A windy cold front Thursday PM ends precipitation and brings colder air that drops temperatures to slightly below seasonable on Friday. Saturday the 29th looks dry at this point with models suggesting another strong frontal system possible for Sunday the 30th.

WEST OF FRASER

TODAY: Mainly cloudy. Chance (30%) of a shower or wet flurry. Winds west 5-15 km/h. MAX TEMP: 4 to 9 C. MIN RH: 45% to 60%.

TONIGHT: Partly cloudy. Chance of an overnight flurry. Winds becoming light. MIN TEMP: 0 to -5C. MAX RH: 85 to 95%.

SATURDAY: Mainly cloudy. A few flurries (60%). Winds light increasing to northwest 10-15 km/h in the afternoon. MAX TEMP: 0 to 8 C. MIN RH: 45% to 55%

FORECAST LIGHTNING/DRY LIGHTNING

Today: Nil/Nil

Tonight: Nil/Nil

Tomorrow: Nil/Nil

Venting: Poor. Poor to fair Saturday due mechanical mixing.

EAST OF FRASER

TODAY: Mainly cloudy. Chance (30%) of a shower or wet flurry but scattered (60%) showers or flurries over the Cariboo mountains and Quesnel Highlands with accumulations trace to 2mm. Winds west 5-15 km/h. MAX TEMP: 4 to 10C.

MIN RH: 50% to 70%.

TONIGHT: Mainly cloudy. Winds diminishing to light. MIN TEMP: -1 to -6C. MAX RH: 70 to 95%.

SATURDAY: Mainly cloudy with scattered flurries or wet flurries (60%). Local accumulations trace to 4 mm. Winds increasing to northwest 15 -25 km/h in the afternoon. MAX TEMP: 3 to 6 C. MIN RH: 50% - 60% south and 60-75% north

FORECAST LIGHTNING/DRY LIGHTNING

Today: Nil/Nil

Tonight: Nil/Nil

Tomorrow: Nil/Nil

Venting: Poor. Fair Saturday due mechanical mixing

Lightning Forecast Definitions

Description	Spatial Coverage
Nil	No lightning
Risk	Less than 20%
Isolated	20-40%
Scattered	40-60%
Widespread	Greater than 60%

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