



Northwest Fire Center

Skeena Zone
2022 Briefing
Package

NORTHWEST FIRE CENTRE OVERVIEW

The Northwest Fire Centre is in the northwest corner of the province and is based in Smithers. The population of Smithers is approximately 5500. Major employers include the provincial government, as well as forestry, ranching and farming.

The Northwest Fire Centre area encompasses approximately 25 million hectares from the Yukon border in the north to Tweedsmuir Park in the south and from Endako in the east to the Prince Rupert in the west. The Fire Centre comprises a variety of landscapes and terrain, including coastal temperate rainforest and mountains to the west, and rolling hills in the east. There are a variety of timber types which can be found within the region. Although dominated by pine and spruce trees, balsam can be found at higher elevations. Hemlock and red cedar are more prevalent in the coastal region.

There are 114 wildland firefighters stationed in the Northwest. The Fire Attack Bases (FAB) are located in Burns Lake, Telkwa, Terrace, Houston, Hazelton. Dease Lake, Atlin, and Watson Lake are unmanned bases which can be filled with crew members should the fire potential in the area warrant it. Watson Lake is located in the Yukon, but is a BC base. Protection staff have blanket permission to work out of this base, and the letter must be taken with personnel who plan on going to the Watson Lake base.

If you are staying within the Smithers area, and have some free time, check out www.tourismsmithers.com or visit the Information Centre off the highway for information on what the town has to offer. Smithers is well known for its many leisure opportunities and has more amenities than one would expect for a town of its size.

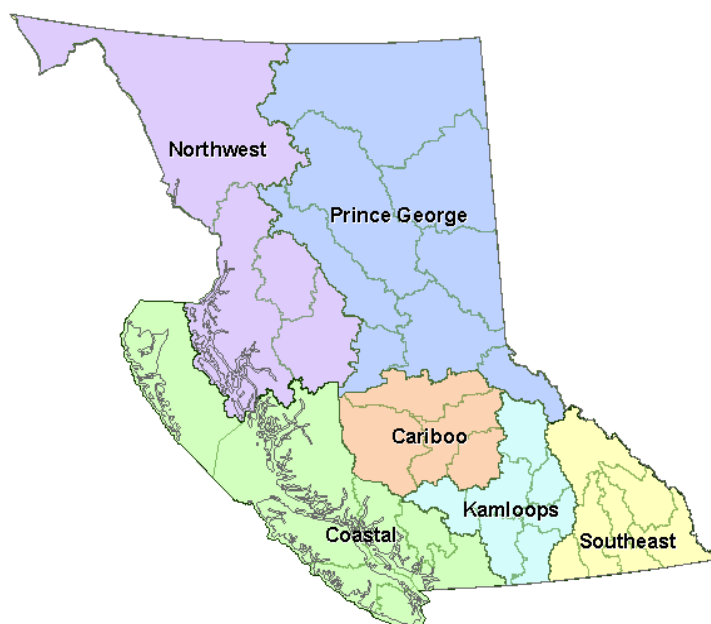
Northwest Wildfire Coordination Centre

3359 Victoria Drive Smithers

250-847-6633

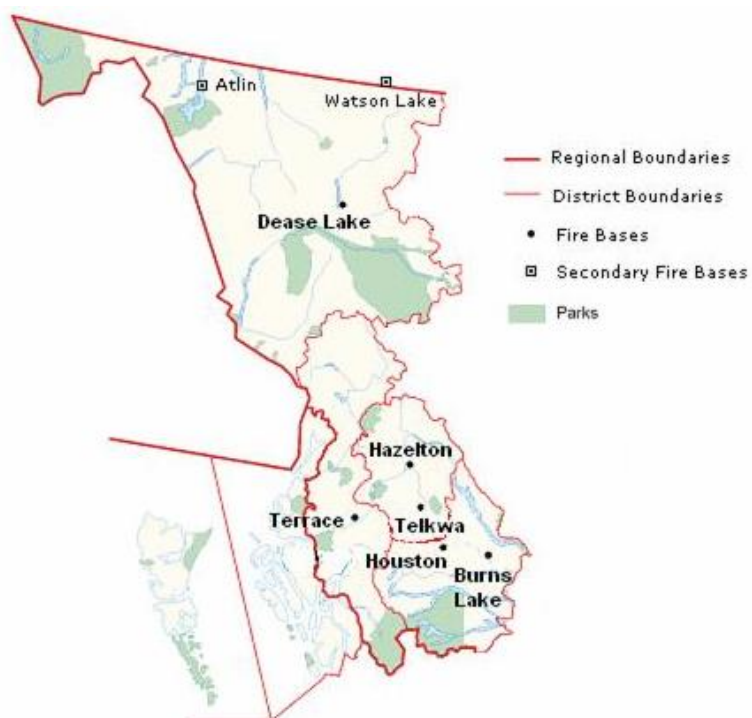
NORTHWEST FIRE CENTRE BOUNDARIES

The province is divided into six fire centres: Coastal, Northwest, Prince George, Southeast, Kamloops, and Cariboo. Each fire centre is in turn made up of fire zones.



Above are images of a) Provincial Fire Centre boundaries b) The Northwest fire centre boundaries. Below shows the breakdown of the Northwest into the zones.

Zone	Fire Bases
Cassiar	Dease Lake (Primary); Atlin and Watson Lake (Secondary)
Skeena	Terrace
Bulkley	Hazelton and Telkwa
Nadina	Houston and Burns Lake



Arrival at the Fire Centre

This could take place at the Fire Center or in a Zone depending on the situation. It will include:

- Introductions and welcome
- Current fire situation Provincially
- Current fire situation in the Northwest Fire Centre
- Northwest Fire Centre briefing package
- Current Fire centre status for: Command, Operations Logistics, Planning, Logistics, Finance & Administration; situation, structure, requirements and key contacts

Arrival Briefing at Fire

This will be done in accordance with Appendix J of the Incident management Guidelines and will involve the following forms.

- Current FS 1144 Fire Analysis
- FS 44 Fire Turnover Plan from outgoing IC as per Appendix L of the Incident Management Guidelines

Fire turn back/debrief

The following forms or processes will be involved:

- Before leaving an incident or the fire centre you need to be debriefed.
- Fire demobilization plan expected 3 days prior to teams departure.
- Supporting documents needs to be turned over.
- All fire reports complete as possible returned to the Zone Office
- FS 44 Fire Turnover Plan as per Appendix L of the fire management guidelines
- Copies of field notes, labeled photos to be turned in
- Issues documentation
- Fire Team Evaluation as per Appendix S of the Fire Management Guidelines.

EXPECTATIONS

Crews must arrive at work dressed in proper work attire (work boots, long pants, etc.)

The Code of Conduct will be followed at all BC Wildfire Service Facilities.

The base speed limit is 10 km/hr for all vehicles.

Personal phone calls (incoming and outgoing) are to occur after working hours at no cost to the government.

TELEPHONES, FAX AND CONTACT LISTS

Find the phone list in the appendices section of this document. There are also phone lists available on TEAMS – Skeena Zone – Phone List and can be found on the NWFC homepage.

CONFERENCE CALLS

During fire season weather conference calls occur daily at 09:00. Prep calls occur on Mondays and Thursdays. To view weather, click on the GoToMeeting button in the Northwest Box in the link below:

<https://bcfireweatherp1.nrs.gov.bc.ca/scripts/menu/BC/ShowPage.asp?page=wxbrief>

The number to dial into the conference call is listed below:

877-353-9184

ID: 080903

SKEENA ZONE



OVERVIEW

The Skeena Zone provides fire protection for the western half of the Prince Rupert Forest Region. The Zone borders are – East to Hazelton - West to the Prince Rupert – North to Bell II and South to the lower boundary of the Kitlope Protected Area.

The Skeena Zone has a primary attack base in Terrace. Staffing in Terrace includes a WO, WT, two WAs, three Initial Attack crews (NW Juliet, NW Lima, NW Kilo) and the Firebird Unit Crew.

Fuel Type:

Fuel types include spruce/hemlock plantations in the lower valleys of Skeena, Kalum, and Kitimat rivers. There is mixed wood and C3 in the Terrace, Thornhill and Nass River drainages and C5 in the remaining areas.

Location:

54 28.410 x 128 34.710

Physical Address: 4435 Bristol Road, Terrace/Kitimat Airport

Mailing Address: 4435 Bristol Road, Terrace, BC V8G 0E9

Things to Do:

Terrace has many recreational opportunities. Check out:

<http://www.visitterrace.com/stage.php/activities/> for a general list for things to do. For any additional details please ask around base. There are three maps of easily accessed trails within the Terrace area attached near the end of this document.

KEYS / ENTRY

Keyless entry code is 9735. The front gate uses a 3252 key and it is located at the rear of the office in a security box beside the rear door, press all four corners (the order does not matter).

The Airport security gate to airside requires a combination code. This code is changed periodically, and this code is posted in the security box. Currently it is 431.

TELEPHONES AND FAX:

This FAB has eight direct dial lines. There are two fax machines, one in the main office and one in the fire control room. (See Attached Phone list)

STATIONARY AND FORMS

Stationary and Forms are both found in the IA Quonset hut at the bottom of the stairs in a cabinet. Those forms not found in the cabinet can be accessed from the forms index page: (<https://intranet.gov.bc.ca/bcws/resource-centre>).

COMPUTER USE

Skeena zone computers are connected to the government network.

There are shared laptops located in the IA office board room and Unit crew building. Please check with staff prior to using any terminal. Use of all computers is subject to the Information and Communications Technology Agreement which is signed by all staff.

Printers can be mapped through network: Main office- \\deer\P11099
War Room- IP address 142.28.249.38
Unit Crew Building - \\Glacier\P23025

To access the NWFC Website:

<https://intranet.gov.bc.ca/bcws/fire-centres/northwest>

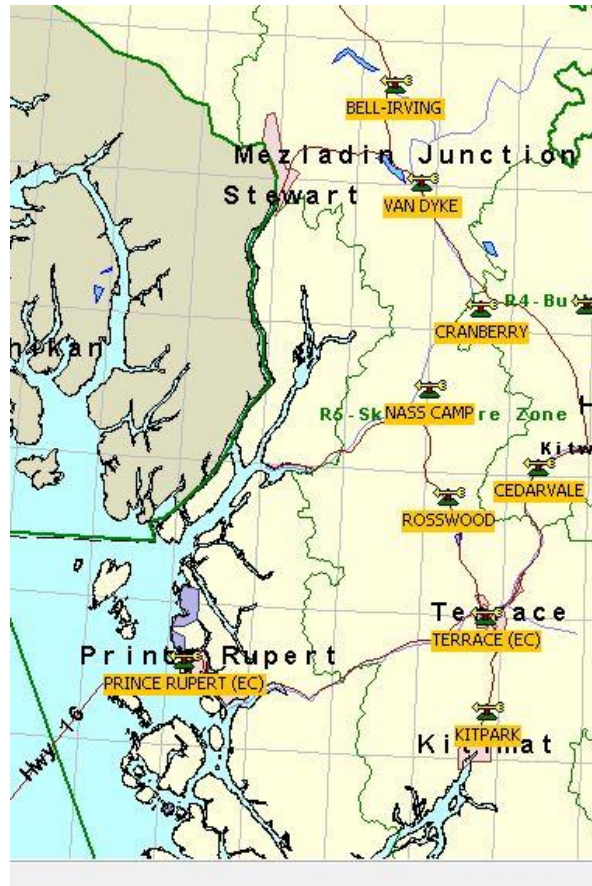
WEATHER STATIONS

Weather station indices and data can be accessed online through the Protection Branch Fire Weather website

<https://wfapps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/pub/wfwx-fireweather-web/stations>

Create a filter including these Skeena zone stations:

Weather Stations
Terrace (QD)
Kitpark
Rosswood
Prince Rupert
Nass Camp
Cranberry
Vandyke
Bell-Irving



FIRST AID

Extra Level 1, Level 3, personal kits and oxygen are located in the first aid room near kitchen in IA Quonset.

Two sked kits are in the MTC and Brutus ETV respectively, parked at the Skeena Zone base, they contain a level 3 kit, oxygen, and transport equipment (VSB, Spine board, Sked kit or basket stretcher). For internal transport in helicopters use the Flight Medivac Kit located in the MTC. An additional extraction Kit complete with a chainsaw (**without fuel**) for medivac use only is located in the First aid room near the kitchen in the IA Quonset.

First Aid Procedures are posted throughout the base and are easily accessible in the event of an emergency and can also be found in the Orientation Binder.

Emergency Phone Numbers	Location & Phone #	Special Instructions
FIRE, AMBULANCE, POLICE Dial 911	Terrace Fire Attack Base @ Terrace Regional Airport 4435 Bristol Rd (200 m on Left past the terminal building) 250-635-9735	Send ambulance to Terrace Fire Attack Base located 200 m past airport terminal building on the left just before Quantum Helicopters 4435 Bristol Rd Turn Right off HWY 37 South, then Right on Bristol Rd and Left at the Skeena Zone Building. A staff member will meet ambulance in front of building.

WAREHOUSE /EQUIPMENT

To order equipment for a specific Fire please route request through dispatch to ZWCO or Ops. To order equipment general for base stocking levels please list the items to be ordered on the White Board located in the IA Quonset hut in the truck bay. The zone IMIS person will then put an order into PFED. Orders can arrive within 24 hours if necessary. Please complete **FS 17's for all** equipment leaving the base and file FS 17. Locations for blank FS17's as well as the clipboards where to file them are located within the warehouse as well as within the mezzanine in the Quonset hut. When returning items continue with the proper admin work and sign the gear back to the base or in the case of hose or US equipment there are FS 17's on the Gaylor bins. Ask if you need assistance. Batteries, bug dope, and other consumables are stored in the mezzanine. Please ask before taking any consumable goods.

VEHICLE USE

The speed limit on Bristol Rd is 20 km/hr and must be obeyed at all times.

Please avoid using drive thrus and remain discreet while downtown.

Distracted driving is against the law and is to be taken extremely seriously. **There is zero tolerance for distracted driving.** Be mindful of loose objects like water bottles and portable satellite hardware in the cab.

Spotters should be used whenever backing up; this includes parking at the base.

FACILITIES

Crews must arrive at work dressed in proper work attire (work boots, long pants, etc.)

As with all BC Wildfire Service Facilities, the Code of Conduct will be followed at all times.

The kitchen/coffee break areas are in IA Quonset and the Unit crew building. These facilities are user-maintained and are to be kept clean at all times.

Overall base cleanliness and organization is a priority and should be treated that way at all times.

The Alert and Fire Behavior Advisory Board is located on the wall outside of the Duty Room in the IA Quonset

Alerts, Indices, Fire Weather Forecasts, Lightning, and Fire Behavior Advisories are posted daily. Crews should ensure they read these notifications daily.

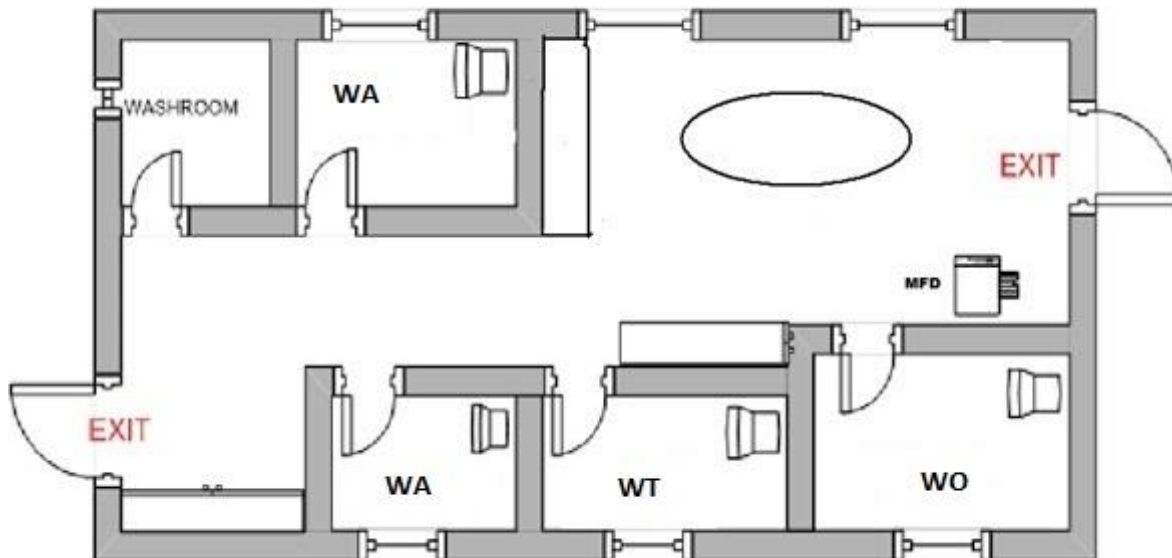
Before leaving at the end of the day, ensure lights and coffee maker is off, lock and double-check all doors in the office and warehouse, and ensure that the front gate is locked.

FIRE ATTACK BASE LAYOUT

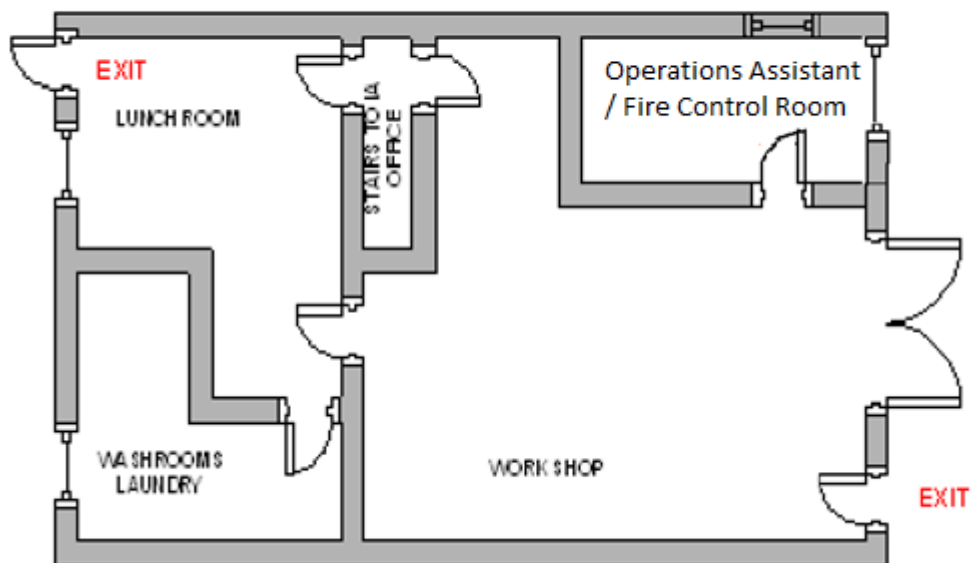
1	Main Office
2	Initial Attack Quonset Hut/ Duty Room
3	Fuel Shed
4	Warehouse
5	Unit Crew Building
6	Emergency Muster Point
7	Air Tanker Base
8	Tarmac (DO NOT CROSS WHITE LINE)
9	Quantum Helicopters



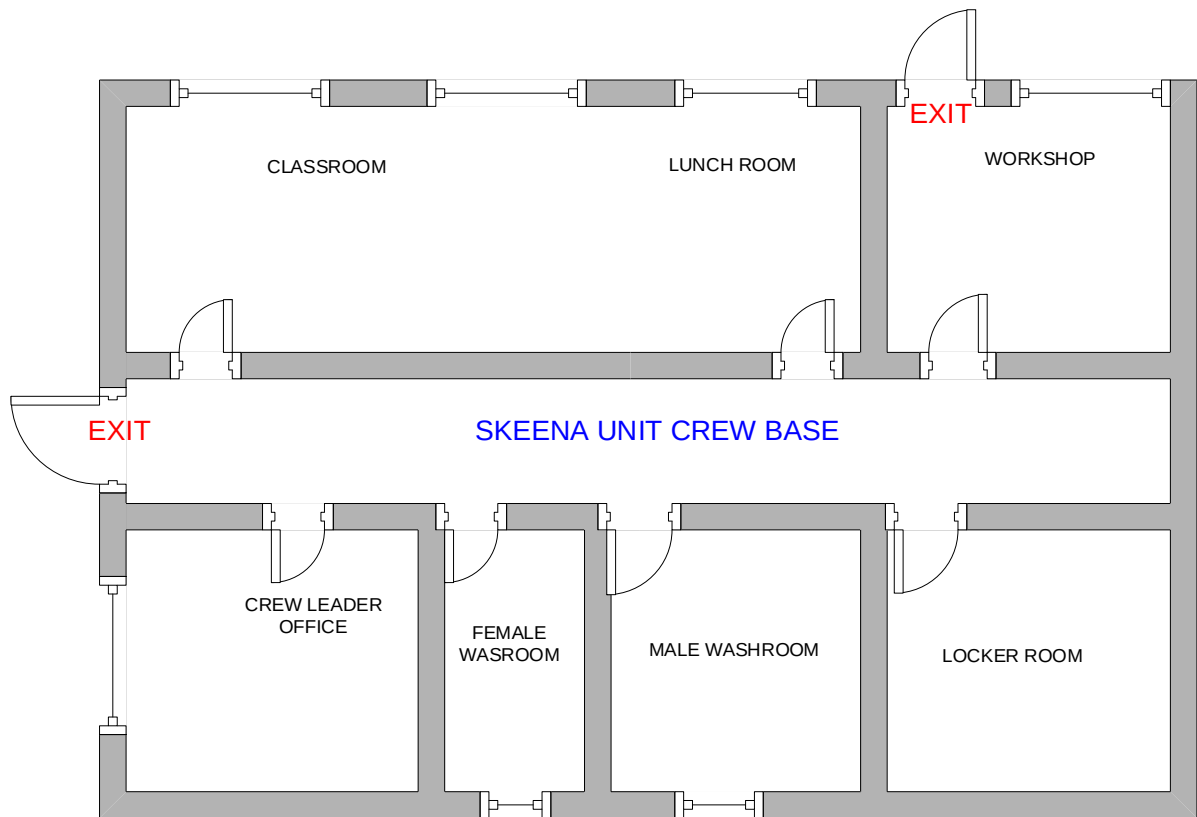
Main Office



Skeena IA Quonset



UNIT CREW BUILDING



DEMOBILIZATION

Before leaving the zone ensure:

- Fire Reports are complete and accurate.
- All fire photos are uploaded on to fire file.
- All supporting documentation, including notes, are uploaded onto the fire file.
- Hand in Field Fire Report Notebook
- Return all equipment and ensure all FS17s are completed for any inventory transactions.
- Debrief with the Zone Wildfire Coordinating Officer.

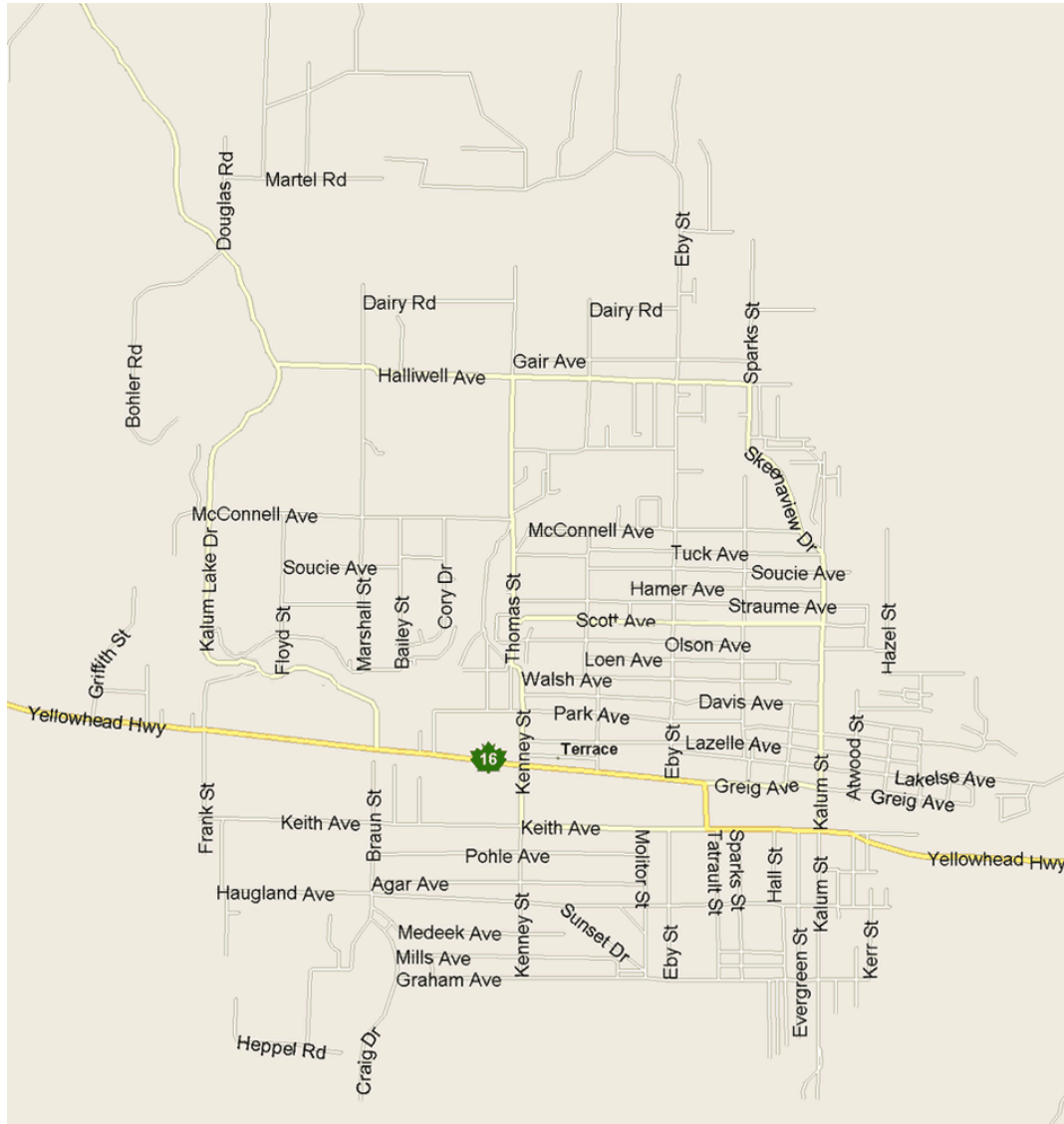
COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Please read https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/careers/all-employees/health-well-being-and-safety/health-well-being-safety/covid-19/covid19_response_faqs_bcps.pdf also found in the Orientation Binder.

RESTAURANT OPTIONS

Please visit: <https://www.visiterrace.com/where-to-eat>

MAPS OF TERRACE







PHONE LIST

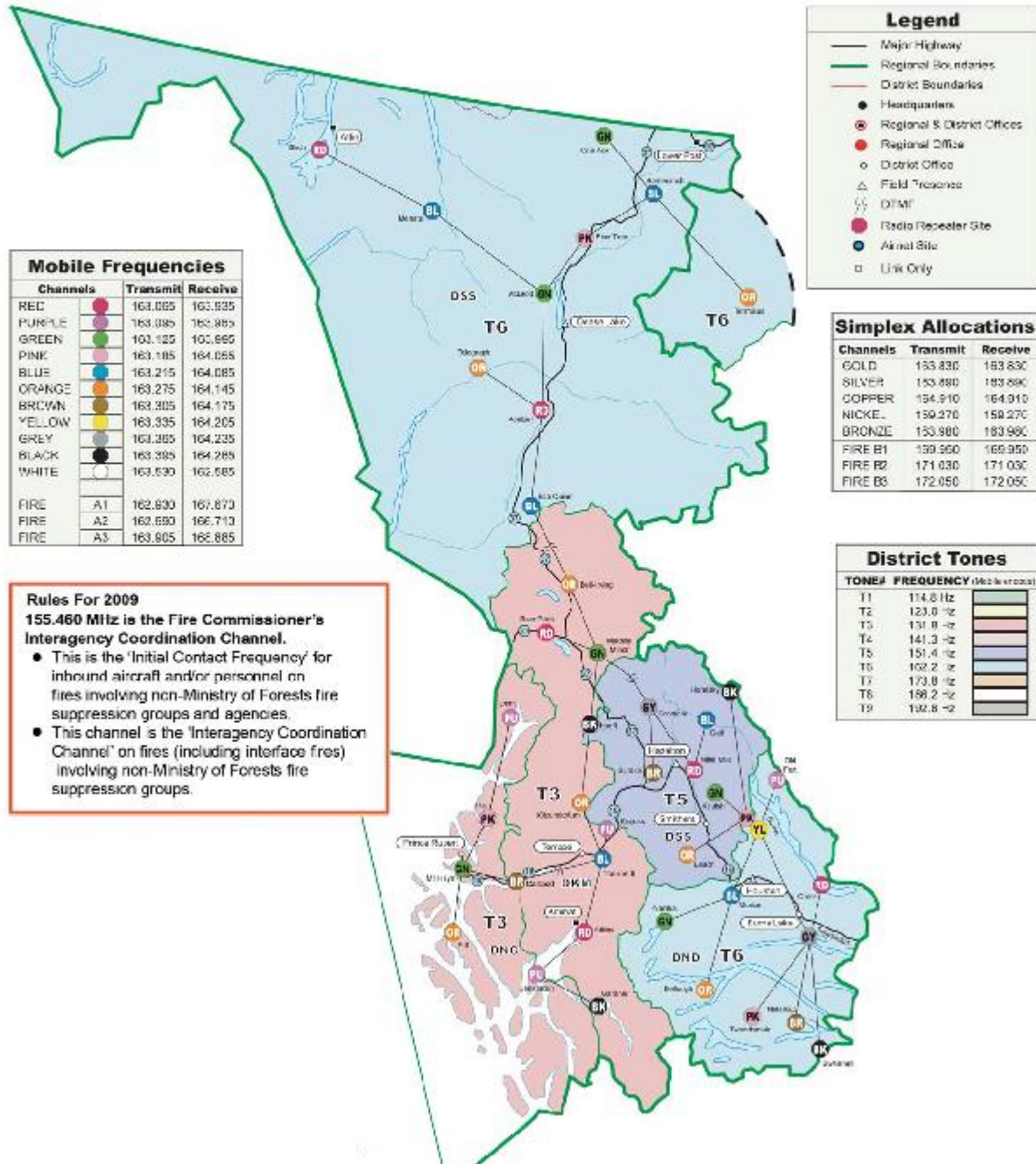
<i>Name</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Office</i>	<i>Cell</i>
<i>Steve Kitchen</i>	<i>NW 50</i>	<i>1-778-702-1429</i>	<i>1-250-641-0577</i>
<i>Richard Forget</i>	<i>NW 51</i>	<i>1-778-702-1425</i>	<i>1-250-615-7938</i>
<i>Jared Stephens</i>	<i>NW 52</i>	<i>1-778-702-1485</i>	<i>1-250-635-0475</i>
<i>Mitch Suliak</i>	<i>NW 53</i>	<i>1-778-702-1494</i>	<i>1-250-641-7582</i>
<i>Jennifer Fiebeler</i>	<i>NW 55</i>	<i>1-250-877-4201</i>	<i>1-250-641-4431</i>
<i>Kyrin Milhomens</i>	<i>NW 54</i>	<i>1-778-702-</i>	<i>1-250-631-9995</i>
<i>Cassidy Kitchen</i>	<i>NW Juliet</i>	<i>1-778-702-</i>	<i>1-250-641-7394</i>
<i>Gavin Anderson</i>	<i>NW Kilo</i>	<i>1-778-702-7602</i>	<i>1-250-631-7419</i>
<i>Pierce Fifield</i>	<i>NW Lima</i>	<i>1-778-702-1423</i>	<i>1-250-641-7612</i>
<i>Neil Walser</i>	<i>Firebird 1</i>	<i>1-778-702-</i>	<i>1-250-639-7648</i>

A more detailed list can be found on TEAMS – Skeena Zone – Phone List or you can get a printed copy upon request.

North West Fire Centre

Ministry of Forests & Range

Radio Operations





Pilot Info Guide



BC Provincial Repeater Map

Use the QR code above to download the georeferenced BC Provincial Repeater Map to Avenza. Avenza is a tool to download maps for offline use, and is available on the App store.



MAPPING

For an overview of the zone use the following map:

https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/dkm/gov_internal/!publish/Skeena_FZ.pdf

To access 20k zone maps:

1. Ensure you have the G drive mapped to your computer
2. Follow the link posted below.

<G:\!Publish\Zones\Skeena\Skeena Response\2 Skeena Maps>

3. Select the **Coast Mountains 20k map grid** link and identify the maps you wish to download
4. In Avenza create a folder for the Skeena fire zone
5. Go to the **20 000 individual maps** folder and select the maps that you will need and send them to your phone via email.
6. Import those maps into your Skeena fire zone map folder so they will tile together.
7. For all other maps go to: <https://a100.gov.bc.ca/ext/mtec/products/>
8. Zoom into 103I and download the PDF maps directly to your mobile device. Place into their own folder so they will tile together.

Fire Management Plans

For access to the FMP use the following link:

https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/!Project/Fire_Management_Planning/CurrentYear_FMP/FireCentre/Northwest/R5_R8_SkeenaFireZone_Overview.pdf

Channel Specifications:

Bandwidth and Power All channels are simplex narrowband (11 kHz) with a maximum power of 30 watts.

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Bandwidth and Power

All channels are simplex narrowband (11 kHz) with a maximum power of 30 watts.

Road Channels			
Frequency MHz	Label	Frequency MHz	Label
150.0800	RR-1	150.7700	RR-19
150.1100	RR-2	150.8300	RR-20
150.1400	RR-3	151.0100	RR-21
150.1850	RR-4	151.1300	RR-22
150.2000	RR-5	151.1900	RR-23
150.2450	RR-6	151.2200	RR-24
150.2600	RR-7	151.3100	RR-25
150.3200	RR-8	151.3400	RR-26
150.3650	RR-9	151.3700	RR-27
150.4100	RR-10	151.4300	RR-28
150.4400	RR-11	151.4600	RR-29
150.5000	RR-12	151.4900	RR-30
150.5300	RR-13	151.5200	RR-31
150.5450	RR-14	151.5800	RR-32
150.5600	RR-15	151.6100	RR-33
150.5900	RR-16	151.6400	RR-34
150.6800	RR-17	151.6700	RR-35
150.7100	RR-18		

Loading Channels	
Frequency MHz	Label
151.7000	LD-1
151.7450	LD-2
151.7900	LD-3
151.8050	LD-4
151.8500	LD-5

Contact Industry Canada at:

British Columbia/Yukon
1-800-667-3780

North Central Alberta
1-800-461-2646

Southern Alberta
1-800-267-9401

Canada



BC Wildfire Service
Ministry of Forests, Lands &
Natural Resource Operations

Preparedness Checklist:

- Manifest Completed and submitted
- Briefed on local hazard & weather
- Field Fire Report Notebooks
- Contact numbers
- Local map book
- GPS
- Sat phone
- Camera
- First aid requirements met
- Field safety plan
- IA kit
- Heavy kit *if required
- Required certifications
- Overnight gear & 24/72 hour food *if required.