BC Wildfire Service - Coastal Region - Fire Weather Forecast

Issued: 1230 PDT Saturday September 2, 2023.

SYNOPSIS: The upper ridge is starting to getting squeezed out across South Island as a short-wave upper trough approaches Haida Gwaii in a developing northwest flow aloft. Still, it looks like one more sunny, dry and very warm day with highs near 30C inland and minimum RHs in the 20s and 30s. The main change today is the switch in winds from a light outflow pattern to stronger inflow as the thermal trough shifts inland. Light and gusty S-SW 10-20 G30-45 km/h will develop this afternoon over the mainland valleys and inlets including the Fraser Canyon.

Tonight, northwest flow aloft will send an upper cold front down the coast to about Mid Island overnight. Falling pressures in the Interior ahead of front will maintain gusty S-SW inflow winds well into the evening over the mainland and probably overnight as well. Isolated showers but no lightning could fall near the front. RH recoveries trending better tonight especially at elevation but could see some fairs over exposed mainland valleys overnight.

On Sunday the upper cold front moves south of the fire centre in northwest flow aloft. The cold front is looking a little wetter on the latest models particular for the Fraser zone where they could see scattered showers and a few mm rainfall accumulations. There's a slight risk of thundershowers near Manning Park. Otherwise mainly to partly sunny skies and dry conditions continue in the wake of the system across the fire centre. Winds will continue light and gusty S-SW inflow over Mainland inlets including the Fraser Canyon. Northwest winds will redevelop overnight through the inner straights and continue Sunday. It will be much cooler with highs in the low to mid twenties. RH's will be elevated Sunday; Tweedsmuir could fall into the 20s with drier air from the Chilcotin sneaking in behind the cold front.

OUTLOOK: **Monday to Wednesday:** Monday looks like an in-between systems day across the south with westerly flow aloft. Partly cloudy skies, seasonal temperatures, elevated RHs and SW inflow winds will prevail. Some scattered showers will persist Sunday night through Monday morning in Fraser zone. Maybe a bit of warming in the Canyon to the mid to upper 20s. The next organized upper trough reaches Haida Gwaii late in the day.

Tuesday and Wednesday are cool and showery. The broad upper trough works its way down through the southern half of the Fire Centre on Tuesday. Showers reaching all zones but the precip looks disorganized in the south. Doesn't look like a lot of accumulation. The South Island could stay dry. For Wednesday the trough crosses the Fraser zone late in the day keeping scattered showers and instability around much of the south. Drying developing Wednesday for Mid Coast and Haida Gwaii in northwest flow aloft.

CONFIDENCE/DISCUSSION Confident on the switch to SW inflow winds this afternoon over the Mainland inlets with the approaching upper cold front. Still expect winds to stay elevated overnight through mainland valleys including in the Fraser Canyon area. Models trending wetter on Sunday for the Fraser zone so could see a few mms of rain there but not much in the Canyon. But no rain expected with this feature anywhere on the Island.

6 TO 10 DAY: **Thursday to Monday of next week:** Fair confidence through Friday or Saturday. A short-wave ridge develops Thursday and Friday for dry and seasonally warm conditions, especially in the south. Then the next trough hits the north and Mid Coast/N island areas Saturday but looks like it

may lift northwards thereafter and only give a glancing blow to the south without precip. Then there's a lot of uncertainty in the models from Saturday onwards. Some indications of ridging from models but they differ significantly in strength. Stay tuned.

ZONE FORECASTS

FRASER-PEMBERTON-SUNSHINE COAST

TODAY: Mainly sunny. Hazy. MAX TEMP: 25 to 31C. MIN RH: 22 to 40%.

WINDS: Becoming W-SW inflow 10-20 km/h gust 30-40 this afternoon.

TONIGHT: Partly cloudy. MIN TEMP: 12 to 15C. MAX RH: 60-80%.

WINDS: W-SW inflow 10-20 km/h gust 30-40.

TOMORROW: Mainly cloudy. Scattered showers. Rain amounts up to 5mm Fraser zone. Risk afternoon thundershowers near Manning Park. MAX TEMP: 20 to 23C. MIN RH: 50 to 70%.

WINDS: W-SW inflow 10-20 km/h gust 30-40.

CHANCE OF LIGHTNING / DRY LIGHTNING Today: 0/0. Tonight: 0/0. Tomorrow: 10/0.

SOUTH ISLAND-MID ISLAND

TODAY: Sunny. MAX TEMP: 25 to 31 C. MIN RH: 25-40%

WINDS: Becoming S-W 10-20 km/h this afternoon.

TONIGHT: A few clouds. MIN TEMP: 11 to 15C. MAX RH: 60-80%

WINDS: Variable 10-20 km/h with NW 20-40 km/h develop near Georgia Straight overnight

TOMORROW: Sunny with cloudy periods. MAX TEMP: 20 to 26C. MIN RH: 38-55%

WINDS: Variable 10 to 20 km/h.

CHANCE OF LIGHTNING / DRY LIGHTNING Today: 0/0. Tonight: 0/0. Tomorrow: 0/0.

MID COAST-N ISLAND

TODAY: Mainly sunny. Low cloud and fog patches dissipating early this afternoon. MAX TEMP: 21 to 27C inland. MIN RH: 50-70% to 25-35% inland.

WINDS: W-NW 20 km/h gust 40 exposed coastal areas. Inland Mid Coast becoming W 20 km/h gust 40-50 this afternoon.

TONIGHT: Becoming cloudy this evening. Scattered showers late this evening and overnight mainly Mid Coast inland. MIN TEMP: 11-13C. MAX RH: 90-100%.

WINDS: W-NW 20 km/h G40 this evening persisting Mid Coast Inland overnight.

TOMORROW: Clearing. Morning low cloud and fog patches coastal areas. MAX TEMP: 17 to 23C inland. MIN RH: 50-70% to 20-30 Tweedsmuir.

WINDS: W-NW 20 km/h gust 40.

CHANCE OF LIGHTNING / DRY LIGHTNING Today: 0/0 Tonight: 0/0. Tomorrow: 0/0.

HAIDA GWAII

TODAY: A mix of sun and cloud. MAX TEMP: near 20C. MIN RH: 55-70%.

WINDS: N to NW 10-20 km/h.

TONIGHT: Partly cloudy. MIN TEMP: near 13C. MAX: RH: 90-100%

WINDS: NW 20 km/h.

TOMORROW: A mix of sun and cloud. MAX TEMP: near 18C. MIN RH: 55-70%.

WINDS: NW 10-20 km/h.

CHANCE OF LIGHTNING / DRY LIGHTNING Today: 0/0 Tonight: 0/0. Tomorrow: 0/0.

Lightning Descriptor Reference Table:

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

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