



Okanagan Indian Band

12420 Westside Road
Vernon, BC V1H 2A4
250-542-4328

EOC Update

August 25, 2021

White Rock Lake fire update @ 4:00

Way' Members,

Yesterday's minor planned ignition was successful in mitigating potential fuels within the vicinity of Westside Road in proximity to Irish Creek. Potential fuel was allowed to burn off in a controlled, lower intensity than an uncontrolled burn. This has allowed safer access for Rapid Damage assessment crews to begin entering the affected areas and begin completing their work. The total size of yesterday's burn is estimated at 350 hectares, and is expected to have caused a low percentage of tree mortality overall.

There are ongoing planned ignitions for today off reserve, north of Terrace Mountain. Residents please be advised that based on wind conditions, there may be a reduction of air quality expected in the North and Central Okanagan today.

Due to a shift in wind direction, **The Irish creek planned ignition has been postponed for at least two days.** Current north facing winds are not favorable to proceeding with a planned ignition however; conditions are being actively monitored for changes. There is still potential window for planned ignitions within the next two weeks should conditions become favorable. Because of the planned ignition postponement, there will be changes upcoming to the Evacuation Order status and going forward the OKIB EOC will be moving to a case by case basis for Evacuations based on comfort level. When the planned ignitions take place, they will only be conducted during favorable conditions and have BC Wildfire crews onsite monitoring the fire perimeter 24/7 from now onward.

Thank you for your patience waiting for this update, the OKIB EOC will continue to monitor the ongoing situation and provide the community with updates as they develop.

Please be advised that due to BC Hydro repairing lines further down Westside Road that there is no power along that portion. Members whose residences are along Westside would be recommended to stay the night at your lodging and return in the morning at your leisure.

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Please see map on following page.

