



Okanagan Indian Band

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EOC Update

September 1, 2021

White Rock Lake fire update @ 1:00 PM

Way' Members,

The White Rock lake wildfire is currently estimated at 81,362 hectares. Rain over the last 12 hours helped dampen fire activity in the controlled burn area last night and today. The area where ignitions occurred is expected to continue to burn and produce smoke over the next several days. Crews and aerial resources will remain on site to patrol containment lines. The planned ignitions have brought the fire down to established control lines on the northeast sector of the fire which has helped reduced the risk of further fire growth. BCWS crews in the Ewer Creek and Irish Creek areas are continuing to fully extinguish the fire perimeter in the area where the planned ignition occurred on August 24, and are continuing to work on a 100 ft blackline into the fires edge.

Securing these northeast perimeters allows the BC Wildfire Service to recommend to local authorities that their Evacuation Orders and Alerts may be downgraded much sooner. Containment may now be achieved in the next 7-10 days versus upwards of six weeks if the fire was left to naturally reach containment lines.

Work continues on the recovery front as well, BC Hydro and MOTI crews continue to work towards restoring service in the 6 mile area. The OKIB EOC's recovery team also continues to come online as we move from an active fire EOC to recovery planning. More info will become available as the process is solidified. OKIB EOC crews will also be onsite monitoring and checking controlled burn areas today.

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