



Thomas Creek
(K51794)

FIRE SIZE
7,918.9 hectares (estimate)

FIRE STATUS
Out of Control

This fire was first discovered on Sunday, July 11, 2021 and is approximately 3 kilometres northeast of Okanagan Falls.

CONDITIONS:

Increased fire activity is expected to continue in the coming days as hot, dry, and windy conditions persist. No precipitation is anticipated in the near future. These conditions will continue to challenge fire suppression efforts.

Initial attack success continues to be the priority in the Kamloops Fire Centre. Resources and aircraft from the Okanagan Complex will support this priority, as required, should dry lightning bring additional fire starts to the region.

OBJECTIVES:

If conditions on site are favourable today, small scale planned ignitions will occur along the southeast flank of the fire.

Crews will be focusing on patrolling hot spots along the west flank of the fire and preparing for a potential planned ignition that will bring the fire to the established guards along the north flank. Crews will also be looking for opportunities to complete small hand ignitions to bring the fire to established guards along the 201 Road. Heavy equipment will be working off the 201 Road along the east flank of the fire to extend machine line where possible.

RESOURCES:

Firefighters – 17 and 33 military personnel

Support Staff—21

Heavy Equipment - 19

Helicopters – 4 assigned

Incident Management Team

Structural Protection – Structural protection within and adjacent to the fire perimeter is being triaged.

EVACUATION ALERTS & ORDERS:

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) has issued an Evacuation Alert for 724 properties in Electoral Area "D," as well as an Evacuation Order for 8 properties in Electoral Area "D." More information is available here: <https://www.rdos.bc.ca/>

AREA RESTRICTION:

In the interest of public and responder safety, a new Area Restriction was implemented for the Thomas Creek Wildfire area on July 14, 2021 and further updated on July 27, 2021. More information is available at: www.bcwildfire.bc.ca

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

71W22KC - Okanagan Complex Information Section

Telephone: 778-694-8325 | Email: BCWS.Okanagan.Complex.Info@gov.bc.ca





Brenda Creek
(K51924)

FIRE SIZE
824.3 hectares (estimate)

FIRE STATUS
Out of Control

This fire was first discovered on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 and is located south of the Okanagan Connector (Highway 97C), approximately 40 kilometres west of West Kelowna.

CONDITIONS:

Fire behaviour increased yesterday due to warmer and drier conditions, but overall fire growth was minimal. An increase in fire activity may occur in the coming days as hot, dry and windy conditions persist. No precipitation is anticipated in the near future. These conditions may continue to challenge fire suppression efforts.

OBJECTIVES:

Staff are working to identify and build contingency lines on active flanks of the fire. The protection of life, property and critical infrastructure are the priorities. Yesterday crews completed a successful planned ignition on the eastern flank of the fire to bring fire down to control lines. Crews will continue to patrol and monitor spots along the powerline to the north of the fire and will be patrolling the west flank. Crews on the southern division of the fire will be working on a 25-foot wet line along the fire perimeter. Night operations will continue with direct attack with heavy equipment and completing small hand ignitions to clean up the guards if conditions on site are favourable. This fire is being managed by a BC Wildfire Service Incident Management Team as part of the Okanagan Complex. Aircraft and other resources may be reallocated from day to day within the complex as priorities shift.

STRUCTURE PROTECTION:

One task force leader, one high volume water delivery system, two structure protection trailers, and 16 firefighters from six different fire departments continue continuity on site. Structural protection remains in place on high value resources. Structure protection will continue to extinguish any fire along the transmission line and work on the northeast corner of the fire. Structure protection crews will also work with night operations on critical infrastructure and properties as needed.

AREA RESTRICTION:

The BC Wildfire Service implemented an Area Restriction Order in the vicinity of the Brenda Creek wildfire on July 17, 2021. This Area Restriction Order will remain in place until noon, October 15, 2021 or until it is rescinded. The size of the Area Restriction Order reflects the need to protect the public in areas where there are ongoing fire suppression activities. For more information, please review the [Brenda Creek Area Restriction Order](#) information bulletin and [map](#).

RESOURCES:

- Firefighters**— 51
- Heavy Equipment**— 19
- Helicopters**— 3 assigned
- Danger tree assessors/fallers**— 4
- Incident Management Team**

EVACUATION ALERTS & ORDERS:

The Evacuation Order issued by the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen remains in place. An Evacuation Alert has also been issued for Eneas Lakes, Pennask Lake, Trepanier, and Pennask Creek provincial parks. Please contact the [Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen](#) for more information.

The Regional District of Central Okanagan has issued an Evacuation Alert for 18 properties, three recreational camping areas and Crown land within West Electoral Area, south of Highway 97C and northwest of Peachland. Please contact the [Regional District Central Okanagan](#) for more information.



White Rock Lake
(K61884)

FIRE SIZE
20,000 hectares (estimate)

FIRE STATUS
Out of Control

CONDITIONS:

Extreme weather conditions continued to cause significant growth on the fire. Yesterday, the east flank has grown towards the Bouleau Lakes area. The north flank has also been very active. Conditions in these areas are extremely smoky, which is hampering the ability for aircraft to fly. This is challenging suppression efforts. To protect the safety of the public and first responders, the BC wildfire Service will continue to evaluate the need for further evacuation order and alert recommendations.

Given the amount of fuel loading and forecast weather conditions, elevated fire behaviour is expected to continue. On Thursday, subtropical moisture may bring thunderstorms, strong winds and dry lightning to the region. Hot and dry conditions will remain through the weekend. Fire growth is expected to the east and northeast.

Initial attack success continues to be the priority in the Kamloops Fire Centre. Resources and aircraft from the Okanagan Complex will support this priority, as required, should dry lightning bring additional fire starts to the region.

Heavy smoke in the area has been impacting hydro lines. As a result, power outages have occurred and may continue to do so.

EVACUATION ALERTS & ORDERS:

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) has implemented an Evacuation Order for 85 properties and has issued an Evacuation Alert for an additional 576 properties. For more information, please contact: [Thompson-Nicola Regional District](#) / 250-377-7188.

The Columbia-Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) has implemented an Evacuation Order for 10 properties. On July 27, 2021, the CSRD expanded the Evacuation Alert issued on July 26, 2021, to include the south-west corner of CSRD Electoral Area D, including the communities of Falkland and Sweetsbridge, and all properties along Chase-Falkland Road to Joyce Lake. For more information, please contact: [Columbia-Shuswap Regional District](#) / 250-833-3350.

The Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) implemented an Evacuation Order for approximately 20 properties, including seasonal dwellings. The RDNO also issued an Evacuation Alert for Electoral Area B: east of Thompson Nicola Regional District and Columbia Shuswap Regional District, north of Central Okanagan District, west of Okanagan Indian Band Territory IR #1, and south of Columbia Shuswap Regional District. Please contact [Regional District of North Okanagan](#) /250-550-3700 for more information.

On July 27, the Okanagan Indian Band (OKIB) issued an Evacuation Alert for the southern most boundary of OKIB IR#1 Reserve up to Newport Beach including but not limited to Newport Beach, Old Mill site, Komasket Part Area, 6 Mile, Parkers Cove, and Whiteman's Creek. Please contact [Okanagan Indian Band](#) /OKIBEOCInformationOfficer@okanagan.org for more information.

This fire was first discovered on Sunday, July 13, 2021 and is approximately 56 kilometres northeast of Merritt.

RESOURCES:

Firefighters – 117 (including 100 firefighters from Quebec)

Support Staff—45

Heavy Equipment - 36

Helicopters – 7 assigned

Structural Protection – One Structural Protection specialist, four structure protection personnel, and nine firefighters from three fire departments.

AREA RESTRICTION ORDER:

The BC Wildfire Service has implemented an Area Restriction Order in the vicinity of the White Rock Lake wildfire. This Area Restriction Order took effect yesterday at noon, July 27, 2021 and will remain in place until noon, October 15, 2021 or until it is rescinded. The size of the Area Restriction Order reflects the need to protect the public in areas where there are ongoing fire suppression activities. For more information, please review the [White Rock Lake Area Restriction Order](#) information bulletin and [map](#).



White Rock Lake
(K61884)

FIRE SIZE
20,000 hectares (estimate)

FIRE STATUS
Out of Control

OBJECTIVES:

The BC Wildfire Service is conducting planned ignitions along the east flank of the White Rock Lake wildfire. Given the terrain and fire behaviour in this area, planned ignitions are the most effective tactic to aid containment along this flank. These planned ignitions are being carried out using Plastic Sphere Dispensers (PSD). PSDs accurately deploy golf-ball sized plastic spheres onto the landscape. Through a chemical reaction, the spheres ignite shortly after they reach the forest floor. This technique allows our personnel to ignite a manageable amount of fuels in a timely and accurate manner as conditions allow. Air support will be utilized for the durations of the planned ignition operations as required.

The BC Wildfire Service continues to work with industry partners to establish and reinforce control lines, and to protect critical infrastructure. Crews remained on site overnight to ensure operational continuity.

Heavy equipment is being used to construct large, cleared areas at regular intervals along the guard lines. These areas are known as "safe zones," and provide crews and equipment a safe place to take shelter if the fire behaviour should suddenly increase. A heavy equipment task force is working west of the fire perimeter to connect control lines from Moose Pond to Pratt Road, as well as working to protect previously constructed control lines in this area. Crews are working in behind the heavy equipment task force to support the control lines with a water delivery system and hose lay. To the southwest of the fire perimeter, crews are working to tie Salmon Lake Road into Sawmill Lake where they will then begin mop up along the fire perimeter in this area.

East of the fire perimeter, a ground-based retardant unit is being used to reinforce control lines from Talbot Road to Douglas Road. This unit is a large truck that can apply the same type of retardant used by airtankers to help slow the spread of the fire, allowing equipment and crews time and space to safely work along pre-constructed control lines. A unit crew will continue to mop up along Onion Road and Mine Road and are also working to complete a 100-metre fuel free buffer zone to connect these two roads. Fuel free buffer zones are used as control lines in areas where heavy equipment is unable to operate. To help secure the control lines in this area, crews will use low intensity hand ignitions to remove any remaining combustible fuels between the control lines and the existing fire perimeter. To ensure personnel safety, the unit crew is being supported by danger tree assessors/fallers and a water tender. Heavy equipment is continuing to construct machine guard, as well as connect pre-constructed control lines in this area.

Seven helicopters are assigned to the White Rock Lake wildfire and will be delivering water to problematic areas of the fire to support ground suppression efforts.

Structural protection personnel will continue to assess and prioritize critical infrastructure and properties. A structure protection task force of fire engines will be patrolling and actioning hotspots to protect properties and high value assets. Northeast of the fire perimeter, personnel are triaging structures at Pinaus Lake and actioning any hot spots nearing the Douglas Lake Road.



Planned Ignition operations occurring along the east flank of the White Rock Lake wildfire on July 28, 2021.



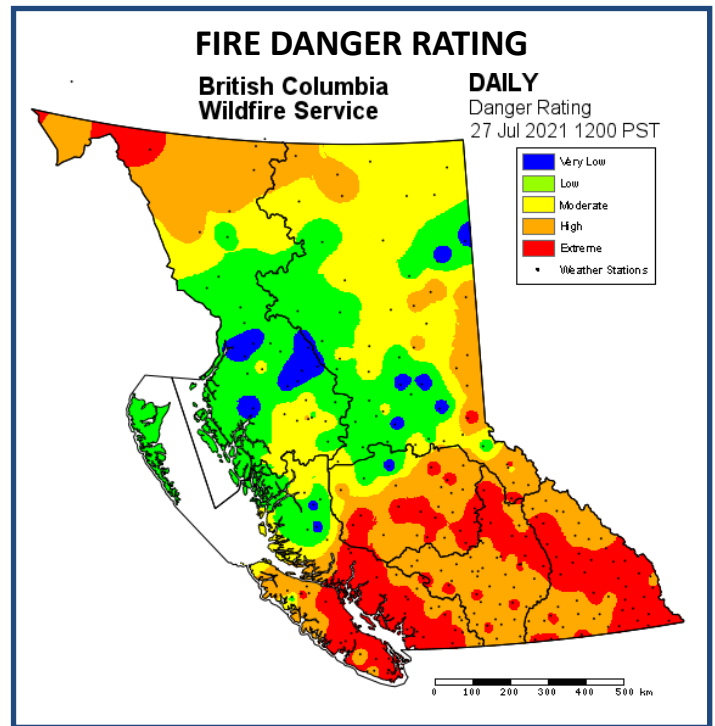
STRUCTURE PROTECTION UNITS (SPU):

Defending structures from a wildland fire will not be possible in every situation. An assessment of several factors (including risks to firefighters, fire behaviour, and the availability of resources) will dictate the strategies that will be used. When the BC Wildfire Service determines that there’s a need to defend structures from wildfire threats, firefighters will take appropriate, safe and reasonable tactical actions for which they are properly trained and equipped.

Structure protection specialists prioritize the deployment of structure protection units based on:

- assessing how “defensible” a property is (i.e. whether the SPU would be effective if it’s deployed there)
- determining where the need for SPUs is greatest (based on anticipated fire growth and activity)
- confirming whether SPU resources are available to be deployed in the area

The safety of first responders and firefighters is a primary focus of the BC Wildfire Service. Other factors that are considered to determine whether a structure will be assessed for a possible SPU deployment include: the wildfire’s rate of spread; the property’s location; how easily firefighters can access the property; and the property’s proximity to the wildfire.



EVACUATION ORDER & ALERT INFORMATION:

Receiving an Evacuation Order can be an unsettling and emotional experience. We understand that you may be reluctant to leave your home and community. However, choosing to remain in an area that is under an Evacuation Order puts yourself, your family, and first responders in danger. If you’ve been placed under an Evacuation Order, that means you are advised to leave the area for your own safety and for the health and safety of firefighters. People who remain in an area that’s under an Evacuation Order may impede the ability of fire crews to fight a wildfire, because crews may be forced to stop fighting the fire to keep you out of harm’s way.

People who decide to “wait and see” if they need to evacuate an area may find their escape route blocked by fallen trees or abandoned vehicles, and once familiar landmarks may be blanketed in thick smoke. Help us keep you and your community safe by following Evacuation Orders.

If/when you receive an Evacuation Order, do not hesitate to leave. For your own safety, do not stay behind after an Evacuation Order has been issued. Evacuation routes can change rapidly or become impassable due to a wildfire’s behaviour and/or the impact of other Evacuation Orders in an area where people might have considered travelling through. In a volatile wildfire situation, first responders and other authorized personnel may not be able to reach an evacuated area because of a risk to their own safety or because access routes are blocked.