



WILDFIRE UPDATE

Comstock Lake Wildfire (G10696)

June 29, 2018

Fire Size: 2,750.00 hectares (estimated)

Location: 7km northeast of Comstock Lake

Resources: 119 firefighters, an Incident Management Team, structural protection personnel, support staff, 2 helicopters, and heavy equipment. The camp is established and operational.

Update: **West Division** – 21 BCWS firefighters, 34 contract firefighters, and 2 support staff are assigned to the 696 West Division. The current objectives are to burn out to machine guard where possible, mop up established guards, achieve 100% mop up in plantations and cut blocks, and patrol in very low risk areas. Burning out is a planned ignition strategy that reduces the fire activity by eliminating unburned forest fuels between a control line and a fire perimeter. Burning out can bring the fire's edge to a natural boundary like a lake or rock outcropping or to constructed boundaries like machine or hand guard.



Photo of Air Tankers on G10696 June 27, 2018

East Division – 64 BCWS firefighters and 12 support staff are assigned to 696 East Division. Current objectives include patrolling the fire and establishing priorities. Danger tree assessors/fallers will be assessing the fire and working to increase safety for personnel. Crews will hand lite unburned fuels when conditions are favourable.

Crews are being supported by 2 helicopters. Heavy equipment is working to support crews and more equipment is coming in the next few days. An Incident Management Team has been deployed to manage fires Comstock Lake (G10696), NW of Batnuni Lake (C10782), and 600 Road (G40886). A fire camp will be set up in the Pelican Lake area.

As a precautionary measure, 60 properties have been assessed for sprinkler protection units and sprinklers have been mobilized. No properties are threatened at this time and the fire has shown minimal fire behaviour over the past few days.

Northwest of Batnuni Lake Wildfire (C10782)

Fire Size: 150.00 hectares (estimated)

Location: 15km northwest of Batnuni Lake

Resources: 54 firefighters, an Incident Management Team, support staff, 2 helicopters, and heavy equipment.

Update: 44 BCWS firefighters, 10 contract firefighters, and 5 support staff are working to mop up from machine guard. Crews are being assisted by 2 helicopters. The fire has machine guard around 100% of the fire perimeter and is not exhibiting growth at this time. The camp is established and operational.

600 Road Wildfire (G40866)

Fire Size: 69.00 hectares (estimated)

Location: 22.5km NE of Comstock Lake

Resources: 19 firefighters, an Incident Management Team, support staff, and heavy equipment.

Update: 19 BCWS firefighters are working to mop up from machine guard. The current objective is to secure existing guard. The fire is not exhibiting growth at this time. The camp is established and operational.



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Outdoor Safety Tips

As we move into the Canada Day long weekend, please remember that despite the cool conditions fires can still easily be ignited. Be responsible when enjoying the outdoors, and keep these tips in mind if you're heading out into the backcountry this weekend:

- Anyone riding an all-terrain vehicle or dirt bike on Crown land must have a spark arrestor installed on the vehicle. Check the condition of the muffler, regularly clear build-ups of grass or other vegetation from hot spots, stay on dirt paths and avoid tall grass and weeds to help reduce wildfire risks.
- Smokers must dispose of cigarette butts and other smoking material responsibly, making sure that these materials are completely extinguished.

Campfire Safety

Here is an example of an abandoned campfire. Despite the rock ring around this fire, this campfire was not fully extinguished before campers left the area. As a result, this campfire crept into the surrounding area and resulted in a small wildfire. Please be smart when having campfires and remember these regulations:



- Campfires must not be larger than 0.5 metres high or 0.5 metres wide.
- Have a shovel or at least eight litres of water available to properly extinguish your campfire. Make sure that the ashes are cold to the touch before leaving the area for any length of time.
- Clear the area of debris and combustible material to create a fuel break. It must be wide enough to stop the spread of a fire.
- Always ensure that a campfire is extinguished and cold to the touch before you leave the area.
- If you see an abandoned campfire please call:
1-800-663-5555

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION :

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If anyone would like to be added to the distribution list to receive these community updates, please email:

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