



# WILDFIRE UPDATE

## Placer Mountain Fire (K61241)

**Location:** Approx. 37 km south of Princeton.

**Date of Discovery:** July 17, 2018

**Fire Size:** 828 hectares, mapped

**Status:** Out of Control

**Cause:** Lightning

**Resources:** 99 firefighters, 7 helicopters, 5 water tenders and 7 pieces of heavy equipment and industry personnel.

**Objectives:** Crews will clear road access with heavy equipment heading to the gully on the eastern sector and continue establishing 3 metre wetlines. Crews will remove green islands of unburned fuels as necessary, additional firefighters will then mop up. Heavy equipment will be used to establish fuel free line from Ashnola to McBride Creek scree slope (a slope covered with small loose stones). Using tenders, crews will mop-up along the top treeline/regeneration area.

**Evacuations:** An evacuation alert is being finalized for Cathedral Park Lodge and access routes within the vicinity.

**Area Closure:** Documentation for an area closure is being finalized.

**Other:** BC Parks has closed Ewart and Wall Creek trails.

Please go to: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/cathedral/>



Additional Resources arrived yesterday

## Snowy Mountain Fire (K51238)

**Location:** Approx. 14 km south of Keremeos

**Date of Discovery:** July 17, 2018

**Fire Size:** 1,530 ha

**Status:** Out of Control

**Cause:** Lightning

**Resources:** Bucketing is being carried out with 1 helicopter in the sub-alpine to cool hot spots and prevent fire spread into adjacent drainages as needed. A remote camera has been set up and is providing real time imaging to assist in monitoring this fire.

**Objectives:** Modified Response. Continue to closely monitor and assess. Land managers have been consulted and trigger points have been set to determine at what point this fire will be actioned. The fire is burning at a high elevation and is visible to Cawston and Keremeos.

**Other:** This fire is located in the Snowy Protected Area. BC Parks has closed Ewart and Wall Creek trails pending further assessment of the fire.

For more information go to: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/snowy/>

**Evacuations:** There are no current evacuation orders or alerts.



Snowy Mountain Fire—July 26, 2017  
Photo taken from Heli not remote camera

**Wildfires caused by lightning are natural events that have occurred for thousands of years. Many plants and animal species are adapted to fire, and actually depend on fire for their long term survival and reproduction. Periodic fire stimulates new growth, encourages reproduction of fire dependant plants, and provides habitat for many wildlife species.**



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## Control Lines and Firelines

**Control Line**—A control line is a combination of human-made fire lines and/or natural fire barriers (e.g., roads, rivers). A control line is necessary at every fire.

**Fireline**—A fireline refers to any person-made control line. For instance, a control line may consist of a road on one side, a river on the other. Crews will then establish a fireline in the form of a handguard, fuel free or 'dozer' line (done using heavy equipment).

1) **Fuel Free**—is when a buffer is constructed between the fire and unburned fuels. A fuel free line is essentially a road built through the bush. This is work not done using heavy machinery but by hand by tree fallers who eliminate all burnable material, aside from the duff layer, within the intended area. Swampers follow behind and remove the fallen material. This is largely done in areas that are inaccessible to heavy equipment such as steep terrain. It is very labour intensive work.

2) **Hand Guard**—is a trench 45 to 60 cm in width built entirely by crews who must reach mineral soil. Edges of the trench must be clean and distinct and the depth is predicated on how quickly mineral soil is reached. This is a very labour intensive job and one in which the Pulaski is most useful. Done well, it will prevent ground fire from spreading.

For a hand guard to be successful it must be constructed in conjunction with a Fuel Free line and as close as possible to the actual fire or burned off to reduce the fuel.

3) **Dozer Line**—a dozer line is a line which is built using heavy equipment including a bulldozer, an excavator, a skidder and/or a feller buncher. The result is a wide control line that is 5 to 10 metres wide, and down to mineral soil in depth. The heavy equipment is used to completely remove timber from the control line. Dozer lines are used primarily on large fires where equipment can be used. Heavy equipment cannot be used on extremely steep terrain.

**Line Location**— is the process of determining where a control line will be established and then flagging the intended route. This is done before the line is constructed to ensure that efficient and effective routes are selected and located in favourable terrain, avoiding sharp bends or corners.

## Spot a wildfire, smoke or illegal fire activity?

Call 1-800-663-5555 or \*5555 on your cell phone

### HELPFUL RESOURCES:

Link to Wildfire of Note: <http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/OneFire.asp?ID=699>

Drifting Smoke: [www.bcairquality.ca/bluesky/west/index.html](http://www.bcairquality.ca/bluesky/west/index.html)

Smoke Health Concerns: HealthLink BC | dial 8-1-1 | [www.healthlinkbc.ca/kbaltindex.asp](http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/kbaltindex.asp)



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Remember that a Campfire Prohibition is in place throughout the Kamloops Fire Centre.

For more information go to: <http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/Bans.asp>

To report a Wildfire call: 1-800-663-5555 or \*5555 on your cell

To call in a violation of the prohibition (if you do not consider the violation an immediate threat) you can call:

Report all Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) at 1-877-952-7277 or #7277.

## Fire Weather

**Friday:** Mainly sunny. High temperature near 26 and minimum RH near 15%. Isolated thunderstorms in the vicinity with dry lightning possible. Winds west 10-20 km/h.

**Saturday:** Mainly Sunny. High temp near 29. Min RH 20%. Winds NW 5 to 10 km/h

**Outlook:** The upper ridge continues through Sunday, giving temperatures reaching to the high twenties and RH values in the teens. Overnight RH recoveries will be fair. Winds Saturday will be light northwest, becoming light southwest on Sunday. An approaching upper low on Monday may bring more widespread convection. Temperatures will be two or three degrees cooler.

## Public Weather

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
07/28	07/29	07/30	07/31	08/01	08/02	08/03
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Mainly sunny	Mainly sunny
						
33°	34°	35°	34°	29°	25°	23°

### ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Information Officer: Ken Juvik | 604-819-7205



[www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca)



BC Forest Fire Info

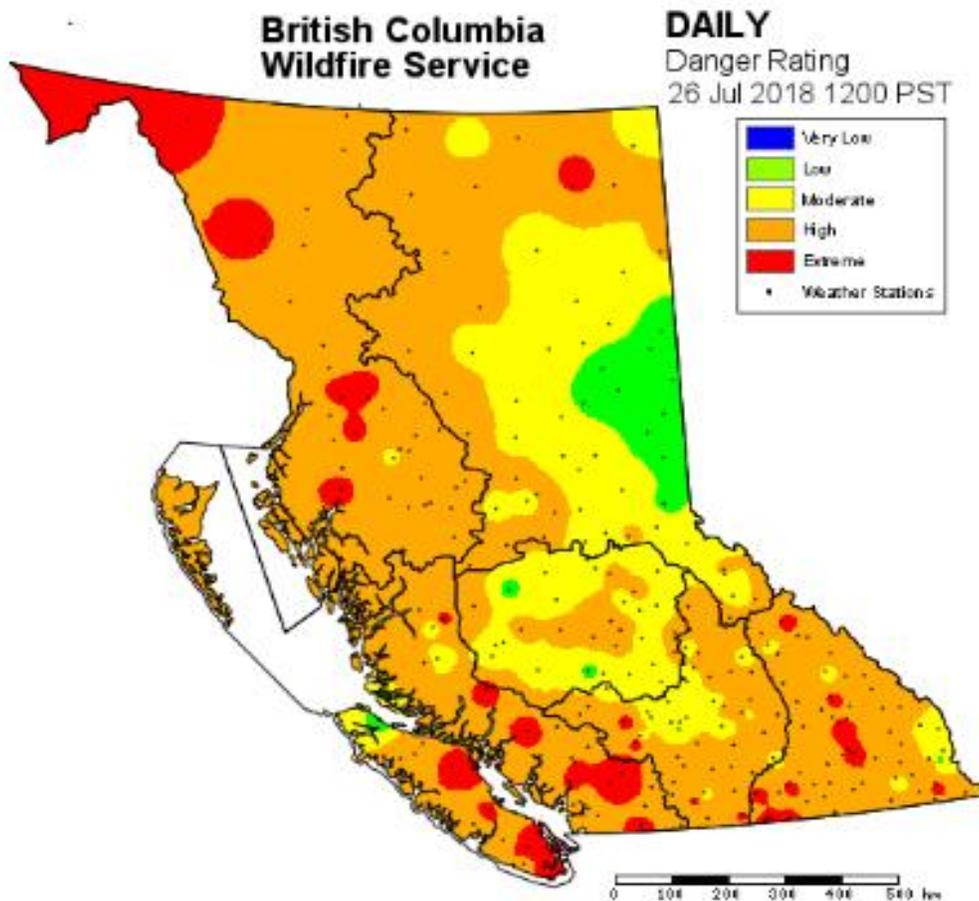


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## Fire Danger Rating:



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