



WILDFIRE UPDATE

Quesnel Fire Zone Wildfires— Fires West of the Nazko River Information Bulletin

Visibility continues to be an issue in some areas of the fire, particularly on Fire C10812. While smoke can help to reduce temperatures, it can also pose a hazard to those working in areas of poor visibility.

Growth on the fires over the last few days has been wind driven but as the wind slackens all flanks of the fires have the potential to see some active fire behaviour.

Heavy equipment has been invaluable on these fires. Today there are 12 feller bunchers engaged in building fire guard on C10812. We would like to thank all equipment operators who have been instrumental in fire operations.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) have set up a road block at the 6 kilometre mark of the 4200 Road. There is a lot of heavy equipment in the vicinity and we ask that everyone who is not involved in fire suppression stay away from this area. Equipment and crews are being moved, or conducting operations along this road, and we would not like to have cease operations if someone encroaches on this worksite.

For any questions about an Order or an Alert please go to: <http://www.cariboord.bc.ca> for the most up-to-date information.

Conditions

Today: Sunny with smoke. Winds will be from the North/Northeast at 5-10 km/hr. Temperatures will be up to 25 degrees.

Tomorrow: Sunny with smoke. Winds will be from the North/Northeast at 5-10 km/hr. Temperatures will be up to 29 degrees.

If further information is required for the fires below or any fires in the Quesnel West Complex, please email Marg Drysdale at: QuesnelWComIN@gov.bc.ca or call reception in Nazko at 250-249-9654 (please leave a message).



Crew watching the results of a planned ignition on Fire C10830.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

For Fires [east](#) of the Nazko River, Information Officer: Alison Martin | 250-617-7890
For Fires [west](#) of the Nazko River, Information Officer: Marg Drysdale | 250-249-9654



WILDFIRE UPDATE

Wildfire Updates

C10812—4 km North of Baezaeko River and C11014—East of Toil Mountain

Location: 4 Km north of Baezaeko River, approximately 110 km west of Quesnel—Now includes fire C11010

Status: Estimated at 35,980 hectares—please see map

Resources: 31 firefighters and 40 pieces of heavy equipment

Cause: Under Investigation

Objectives: Crews will be building guard on the northwest side. Crews and machinery will also concentrate on the protecting the eastern flank.

Evacuations: Evacuation Order and Evacuation Alert in place

Please go to: <http://cariboord.bc.ca>

C10966—Kluskoil Lake #2

Location: On the northern edge of Kluskoil Lake Park

Status: Estimated 279 hectares, 70% contained

Resources: 18 firefighters and 2 pieces of heavy equipment

Cause: Under Investigation

Objectives: Continue to establish hoselay along the west and north flank.

C10830—Bishop Bluff

Location: 5 Km North of Bishops Bluff, approximately 130 km west of Quesnel, approximately 5 km SW of the community Kluskus

Status: Estimated 2,525 hectares, 80% contained

Resources: 28 firefighters and 1 piece of heavy equipment

Cause: Under Investigation

Objectives: Mop up along north flank. Assess burn opportunities along areas on the north flank and mop up on the southeast flanks.

Other: An evacuation alert has been expanded by the Cariboo Regional District for Kluskus First Nation. For more information visit:

<http://cariboord.bc.ca>

C10970—Kluskoil Lake #1

Location: West side of Kluskoil Lake Park, approximately 110 km northwest of Quesnel

Status: Estimated 3195 hectares, 0% contained

Resources: Helicopter bucketing and values protection equipment

Cause: Under Investigation

Objectives: Some spotting occurred on the south side of the fire and crews will work on containing those areas.

Strategic values protection is setup in the area on some cabins. Continue to review and conduct on-site monitoring of fire activity at the field level to ensure the appropriate response, tactics and strategies are utilized and maintained. Parks representatives have been engaged. This strategy is as per the Parks fire management plan.

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WILDFIRE UPDATE

Wildfire updates

C11058—Swede Creek

Location: Approximately 12 km southwest of Tite Town

Status: Estimated 144 hectares, 70% contained—Being Held

Resources: 21 firefighters

Cause: Under Investigation

Objectives: Some spotting occurred on the northeast and northwest flanks. Crews will work on those areas. Danger Tree Assessment and Falling will continue.

C10967—Kluskoil Lake #3

Location: Approximately 5 km south of Kluskoil Lake Park

Status: Estimated 45 hectares

Resources: Fire is wrapped with hoselay

Cause: Under Investigation

Objectives: Continue to review and conduct on-site monitoring of fire activity at the field level to ensure the appropriate response, tactics and strategies are utilized and maintained. Monitor fire and extinguish hotspots. Determine long-term strategy.

Firefighting Tactics

Fuel reduction, indirect firelines, contingency firelines, planned ignitions and wetting unburnt fuels may provide effective results and allows for better planning on large fires. Being able to strategically place firelines in lighter fuels using natural barriers allows for safer working conditions in less smoke filled and cooler areas.

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 line 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.
On larger fires such as the fires in the complex handguards are not generally effective due to the scope of the fires.
- 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 can not 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,



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Questions and Answers

Questions Regarding Evacuation Orders and Alerts

For information on Evacuation Orders and Alerts, please contact the Cariboo Regional District at

<http://cariboord.bc.ca/>

Or call the Cariboo Regional District Emergency Information Line at: 1-866-759-4977

Questions Regarding Road Blocks and Access

The public is encouraged to check DriveBC.ca for information regarding Road Blocks and access restrictions.

Recreation Sites and Recreation Site Closures

Until further notice, the public is advised to avoid **all** recreation sites and Provincial Parks in the Chilcotin and Cariboo regions, due to the severe wildfire hazard.

What about people with respiratory concerns who are having a hard time with smoke?

- Smoke concentrations will vary widely as winds, fire behaviour and temperatures change.
- Residents are advised to consider avoiding strenuous outdoor activities.
- For air quality conditions, visit: www.bcairquality.ca

Important links

Fire information: www.bcwildfire.ca

Evacuation Orders and Alerts: <http://cariboord.bc.ca/>

Road closures: <http://www.drivebc.com>

Preparedness: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc/know-the-risks/wildfires>

For more information about these or other fires in the Province go to:

Website: www.bcwildfire.ca

Facebook: BC Wildfire Service

Twitter: @BCGovFireInfo

Landline: 1-888-336-7378

BC Provincial Parks closed due to fire activity within the West Quesnel Complex include:
Kluskoil Lake, Narcosli Ecological Reserve and Titetown Provincial Parks. Itcha Ilgachuz is also closed.

Go to: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/> for more information.

! All Recreation Sites and Trails are **closed** to the public in the **Cariboo Fire Centre** effective immediately until further notice. The public are advised not to access or use recreation sites and trails in the Cariboo Fire Centre until further notice.

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