



Coastal Wildfire Bulletin

August 12, 2013 2:00 PM

A series of lightning storms in the Bella Coola area from July 31—Aug 2 have resulted in multiple forest fires. Lightning is expected in the area for later today and tomorrow, and we ask the public to report columns of smoke to the numbers below.

These fires are not exhibiting high or extreme fire behaviour and do not currently pose safety concerns to residents, no structures are threatened, and Highway 20 remains open. Local fires are currently generating smoke in the Bella Coola Valley, especially with inflow winds that travel from the ocean to the interior. Smoke in the Dean and Burke channels is a result of fires in the North West Fire Centre in the Kitlope Heritage Conservancy.

For information about air health and venting indexes go to: www.airhealthbc.ca.

VA0359 South Bentinck



The largest fire is the South Bentinck fire, located approximately 16 kilometres southwest of Bella Coola, below the Blue Jay Lake Recreation Site. Due to favorable weather conditions, fire activity has significantly decreased for the South Bentinck wildfire. The fire's exact size is difficult to establish since heavy smoke in the area has prevented an accurate mapping of the fire. The fire is approximately 130 hectares in size. The fire is

burning in steep and rocky ground that is not safe for wildfire crews to work due to rolling debris and steep slopes. The fire is being actively patrolled several times a day, and we will continue to do so until there is a dramatic change in weather, or the fire moves into ground that crews can safely work. The Clayton Falls Forest Service Road has been closed by the District from approximately 500 metres past the Clayton Falls generating station to protect public safety.

Horsetail (formerly Talchako/Stuie); 41km east of Bella Coola; 100% contained; approximately 4.5ha in size. No hotspots have been discovered after a recent aerial scan. This fire now is now out.

Swallop area (Kimsquit Arm); 11.5 km NE of Bella Coola; two fires. No hotspots have been discovered after a recent aerial scan. Both fires are now out.

For further information, please go to:

Website: BCWildfire.ca, Fires of Note

Facebook: BC Forest Fire Info

Or call: Coastal Fire Centre Information at 250-951-4209

To report a forest fire: 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on your cell