



INCIDENT UPDATE

Monashee Complex

This information is current as of:	August 20, 2018
Incident Commander	Jennifer Young
Contact information	Fire Information Officer Kamloops Fire Centre Phone: 250-554-5965 Email: MonasheeComIN@gov.bc.ca
Incident overview	<p>The Monashee Complex started at 27 fires and now covers 14 fires in the drainages of Mabel and Sugar lakes from just south of Hwy 6 in the south to Three Valley Gap in the north. The change in number is due to a few factors: K41813 burned into several smaller fires, some fires are now OUT or Under Control, and others have been transferred to the Vernon Zone. The Monashee Complex has three Fires of Note: Mabel Creek (K41813), Sugar Mountain (K41791) and Harris Creek (K41800). These fires are in full response sustained action. The remainder of the fires burning in the Monashee Complex are either full response monitor-only fires or as full response - modified fires. Please refer to the definitions section of this document for details.</p> <p>Priority fires are assessed and evaluated based on their potential threat first to lives and safety, second to property and third to values like critical infrastructure and industry interests.</p>
Weather forecast	Mainly sunny skies today, but will continue to be smoky. However, smoke is anticipated to start lifting a bit today. Winds becoming north to north-easterly 10 to 15 km/hr with occasional gusts to 25km/hr. Local topographical features will dictate wind direction, especially with light winds. Minimum relative humidity will be 30 to 35%. Temperatures today will range between 22 to 24 (°C).
Fire behavior prediction	The potential for active fire behaviour exists, especially if smoke thins throughout the day. Areas that see sunshine should expect isolated torching with the potential for intermittent crown fire behaviour in C3 fuels through the afternoon, especially for the southern reaches of the complex. Slash fuels have the potential to exhibit extremely aggressive fire behaviour with substantial rates of spread.
Challenges	Smoke continues to be the main challenge throughout the Kamloops Fire Centre and this complex. Smoke has been inhibiting our air support from flying, due to lack of visibility, and is preventing us from having aerial views and is also stopping us from performing danger tree falling. However, the air support that is assigned to this complex will fly once the smoke clears and it is deemed safe to do so.
Yesterday's achievements	Despite the visibility issues with smoke, good progress is being made on all these fires. Even though the smoke prevents us from flying, it is advantageous in that it keeps the temperatures down and the relative humidity up, which decreases fire behaviour. However, once the smoke clears, we can anticipate fire activity to increase. There was good progress made on the Woodward Creek wildfire (K42705) yesterday as the machine guard is 60% completed. Crews have also made good advancements on the Harris Creek wildfire (K41800) as blacklining has been executed in strategic areas and has 85% of its guard completed. The Sprokton Creek wildfire (K42448) is 100% surrounded by guard.
Today's objectives	<p>Today, we will concentrate our efforts on prepping the Mabel Creek wildfire (K41813) for ignition operations that will take place later on this week on the north flank. The Sugar Mountain wildfire (K41791) will also be monitored. We will also prepare for the burn operation that we are anticipating to execute later on in the week, conditions permitting, on the Harris Creek wildfire (K41800) in order to tie into the north flank. The Woodward Creek wildfire (K42705) will have crews preparing for a burn operation later in the week, if conditions are ideal. In addition, heavy equipment will be tying into their lines today on this wildfire.</p> <p>We will be having the Canadian Armed Forces transitioning into the Monashee Complex by the end of the week to provide ground assistance on priority fires.</p>
Other	There is an Area Restriction Order along the northeast side of Mabel Lake and a closure along the Mabel Lake FSR to all recreation traffic from Km 10 (north the Mabel Lake Provincial Park) to Km 59 (at the junction of Highway 1) and all recreation sites along that road. There is an Area Restriction Order on northeast side of Sugar Lake, the Sugar Creek recreation site on the North-East corner of Sugar lake, and the Kate Creek FSR access road.

The exceptions to these Area Restrictions are those persons entering the area only in the course of:

- (a) Travelling to or from his or her principle residence, that is not under an evacuation order;
- (b) Travelling to or from private or leased property for the purposes of accessing a secondary residence or recreational property, that is not under an evacuation order;
- (c) Travelling as a person acting in an official capacity;
- (d) Travelling for the purpose of supporting wildfire suppression activities; or,
- (e) Engaging and/or participating in agricultural activities pertaining to livestock management on private or leased property.

We have had a number of reports of people violating the area restrictions and the Forest Service Road closure that are in place for the safety of our workers as well as for the safety of the public. As such, we are working with our enforcement partners to have a higher presence of Natural Resource Officers in the area of the Mabel Lake Forest Service Road.

Definitions: Response

Full Response-Sustained	A wildfire which requires aggressive sustained suppression action until the fire is declared out. A wildfire that is not expected to be held from the time of detection to the end of the third burning period (72 hours).
Full Response-Modified Fire	A wildfire that is managed using a combination of suppression techniques, including direct and indirect attack as well as monitoring to steer, contain or otherwise manage fire activity within a pre-determined perimeter such that costs and/or damage are minimized and/or benefits from the fire are maximized.
Full Response-Monitor-Only fire	A wildfire that is observed and assessed to determine the response option required to minimize social disruption and/or significant value and resources impacts while achieving beneficial ecological, economic or resource management objectives.

Definitions: Stages of Control

Out of Control:	Describes a wildfire that is not responding (or only responding on a limited basis) to suppression action, such that the perimeter spread is not being contained.
Being Held:	Indicates that (with the resources currently committed to the fire) that sufficient suppression action has been taken that the fire is not likely to spread beyond existing or predetermined boundaries under the prevailing and forecasted conditions.
Under Control:	Indicates that the fire has received sufficient suppression action to ensure no further spread of the fire.
Out:	Indicates that the fire has been extinguished.

Fire Name	Fire Number	Size (ha)	Status	Fire of Note	Action
Mabel Creek	K41813	1,861	OC	Y	Full Response – Sustained
Sugar Mountain	K41791	394	OC	Y	Full Response – Sustained
Harris Creek FSR	K41800	511	OC	Y	Full Response – Sustained
Devil's Creek	K42185	39	OC	N	Full Response – Sustained
Woodward Creek	K42705	27	OC	N	Full Response – 10+ Firefighters
Derry Drainage	K41812	43	OC	N	Full Response Monitor-Only Fire
SW Green Bush Lake	K42146	2.1	OC	N	Full Response Monitor-Only Fire
Hound Creek	K42136	0.1	OC	N	Full Response Monitor-Only Fire
Whip Creek	K42067	504	OC	N	Full Response – Modified Fire
East of Tsuius Mountain	K42143	44	OC	N	Full Response Monitor-Only Fire
Finlyson Lakes	K42022	16	OC	N	Full Response Monitor-Only Fire
Spectrum Creek	K41987	0.009	OC	N	Full Response

					Monitor-Only Fire
Sprokton Creek	K42448	23	OC	N	Full Response Monitor-Only Fire
Proctor Road	K41809	20	UC	N	N/A
Kidney Lake	K42472	0.009	OUT	N	N/A
Ireland Creek	K42040	2	OUT	N	N/A
Silver Ireland FSR	K42116	0.009	OUT	N	N/A
Sugar Lake Road	K41458	0.009	OUT	N	N/A
Silver Hills	K42044	0.009	OUT	N	N/A
Spallumcheen Forest	K41772	3	OUT	N	N/A
Wap Creek	K41874	0.009	OUT	N	N/A
**BURNED INTO K41813	K41983				N/A
**BURNED INTO K41813	K41984				N/A
**BURNED INTO K41813	K41986				N/A
**NOW PART OF K42067	K42097				

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