



# INCIDENT UPDATE

## Old Tom Creek (K52670)

<b>This information is current as of:</b>	August 21, 2018	
<b>Incident Commander (IC)</b>	Glen Burgess	
<b>Contact information</b>	Information Officer: Nicole Bonnett 250 571-4913 <a href="mailto:PlacerComIN@gov.bc.ca">PlacerComIN@gov.bc.ca</a>	Information Officer: Stephen Kada 250-819-2564 <a href="mailto:PlacerComIN@gov.bc.ca">PlacerComIN@gov.bc.ca</a>
<b>Fire camp</b>	Merritt ICP	
<b>Incident overview</b>	This fire was discovered on August 15, since then ground crews, helicopters, air tankers and heavy equipment have been assigned to this fire. This wildfire is classified as out of control.	
<b>Weather forecast</b>	Extensive smoke. High temperature 22C and low relative humidity (RH) near 21%. Winds becoming E 10 - 20 km/h by afternoon. Nocturnal inversion to 1200 metres with a breakdown temperature of 18 C. Temperature and RH values may continue to be affected by widespread smoke, and may differ from the forecast. Overnight low near 9 C and RH recovery to near 40%. Winds NE 10 – 20 km/h. Over the coming days the ridge flattens and moves eastward on Wednesday as an upper trough starts digging along the Pacific coast and the region is in a westerly flow, but still dry. Temperatures will reach to the low twenties, but winds will be light to moderate southwest. The upper trough with an associated cold front moves over the region on Thursday, and will give cooler temperatures and winds light to moderate from the southwest.	
<b>Fire behavior prediction</b>	Smoke thinned yesterday as a result of wind, but may thicken up again today as winds diminish. Moderate RH recovery (40%) over Monday night may mean that fire behaviour picks up a little earlier in the day than the previous few. The potential for aggressive fire behavior exists and may be difficult to see until nearby. Crews should be aware of conditions if smoke starts to lift, fire behavior may intensify. If breakouts occur, there is potential for fast rates of spread in the high elevation all fuel types that have active flame.	
<b>Challenges</b>	An increase in fire activity due to the high winds. Terrain is unworkable in areas and creates safety issues for firefighters.	
<b>Yesterday's achievements</b>	Crews continued to directly action the fire as it burned towards containment lines. Small amounts of fire growth were quickly actioned.	
<b>Today's objectives</b>	Limit the amount of growth and action as much active fire as possible prior to forecasted deteriorating conditions.	
<b>Other</b>	Crews will be operating out of the Keremeos camp to reduce drive time to incident. Aircraft will be using Oliver or Princeton airport for refuelling.	

### 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.

View an interactive map by clicking [here](#) or visiting [www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca)