



# INCIDENT UPDATE

## Meachen Creek Complex

<b>This information is current as of:</b>	August 24, 2018
<b>Incident Commander (IC)</b>	Joel Legasy
<b>Contact information</b>	<p>Information Officer:          Melanie Morin          Phone: 819 441-7006          Email: melanie.morin@gov.bc.ca          Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.</p>
<b>Incident Command Post</b>	Teck Cominco
<b>Incident overview</b>	<p>A 22 person Incident Management Team from Ontario assumed command of the Meachen Creek Complex last Sunday night. The complex comprises three incident sites.</p> <p><u>The Meachen Creek Fire (N11886)</u>          9073 hectares in size (mapped by high level scan August 22)          22 firefighting personnel on site          3 helicopters are assigned to the complex          7 pieces of heavy equipment</p> <p>This wildfire is located in the Kianuko Provincial Park and the Meachen Creek drainage, approximately 4 kilometres southwest of St. Mary Lake and is classified as Out of Control.</p> <p>Yesterday wind speeds were lighter than forecasted. The wind, temperature and relative humidity was moderated by smoke cover thus causing fire behaviour to be active but not extreme. There were a few small (less than half a hectare) excursions in the northeast corner but suppression efforts were holding containment lines as of last night. The fire was active in the Fiddler Creek area but had not yet crossed it. However, winds were increasing by nightfall as the cold front moved through.</p> <p>This morning ground crews are reporting that there were no significant changes overnight. A few minor excursions once again but containment lines held. Due to limited visibility aerial recognisance was not possible earlier this morning. Today crews will work the northeast corner with hose to tie in the containment line to the spine up the Meachen Creek. Maintenance will continue on the structural protection equipment in zones 1 and 2. Visibility will be challenging today, but when safe to do so, helicopters with buckets will be used.</p> <p>A high-level scan was conducted Wednesday overnight and a new perimeter map is now available on the Wildfires of Notes page for the Meachen Creek fire at <a href="http://www.bcwildfire.ca">www.bcwildfire.ca</a></p> <p><u>The Lost Dog Complex (N12314, N12419, N12420)</u>          714 hectares in size          26 firefighting personnel on site          3 helicopters are signed to the complex          6 pieces of heavy equipment</p> <p>This wildfire is located approximately 14 kilometres north of Kimberley and is classified as Out of Control.</p> <p>The smaller N12420 and N12419 fires are in patrol stage and now considered Under Control. All other resources are affected to N12413. This fire is 90% contained with machine guard. The remaining 10%, located in a bay in the southern portion of the perimeter. Today crews</p>

	<p>will continue working the south flank heading west creating a 50-foot-wide black line. They will also continue working on a 50-foot-wide black line on the north flank towards the east. A heavy helicopter with bucket will be used to suppress the line in the uncontained area if need be. Ground crews continue to make good progress and containment lines have been holding.</p> <p><u>The Mount Dickson Fire (N71602)</u>  1997 hectares in size  This fire is being monitored and therefore no ground resources have been assigned  3 helicopters are signed to the complex</p> <p>This wildfire is classified as Out of Control</p> <p>The fire continues to be active, however it is currently not a threat to any values. The fire is approximately one and a half kilometers south of the Meachen Creek fire. It's size and perimeter were updated by the high-level scan.</p>
<b>Weather forecast</b>	<p>Friday: Unsettled weather conditions moved in overnight Thursday. Smoke cover with increasing cloudiness was observed. Temperatures are forecast around 20C with relative humidity values around 40%, although smoke cover may moderate further. Winds in the low teens with a westerly flow although direction will be determined by local topographic influences. Isolated showers, and potentially thunderstorms, may occur in the late afternoon into the evening. The convective activity could bring periods of strong gusty winds upwards of 70km/h. Minimal if any precipitation is expected.</p> <p>Saturday: Smoke cover and cloud is expected. Temperatures in the high teens to low twenties with relative humidity values around 40-50%. Generally light winds with a northwesterly flow.</p>
<b>Fire behavior prediction</b>	<p>The potential for thunderstorms exists in the afternoon into the evening hours. Strong wind gusts are possible with the forecast convective activity. With the extreme drought code values, root masses are compromised. Falling trees are a fire line hazard, ensure all working areas are assessed and concerns are communicated.</p>
<b>Other</b>	<p>An evacuation order has been issued by the Regional District of East Kootenay in the St. Mary Lake area from the west boundary of the City of Kimberley to the Redding Creek/St. Mary River convergence including St. Mary Lake Road and Lakefront Road.</p> <p>An evacuation alert has been issued by the Regional District of East Kootenay for the entire City of Kimberley Municipal Boundary, and properties in the RDEK directly south and southeast of the City of Kimberley Municipal Boundary.</p> <p>An evacuation alert has been issued by the Regional District of East Kootenay in the Ta Ta Creek area including west of the Kootenay River from 1.5 km south of Farstad Way Road to 2.5 km north of Woods Corner. For more information, please call the RDEK at 250 426-2188 or visit their website at: <a href="http://www.rdek.bc.ca">www.rdek.bc.ca</a></p>

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