



# INCIDENT UPDATE

## Meachen Creek Complex

<b>This information is current as of:</b>	August 25, 2018
<b>Incident Commander (IC)</b>	Joel Legasy
<b>Contact information</b>	Information Officer: Melanie Morin Phone: 819 441-7006 Email: melanie.morin@gov.bc.ca Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
<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. The sizes and perimeters of these incidents were last updated August 22 by the high-level scan. Maps are available at <a href="http://www.bcwildfire.ca">www.bcwildfire.ca</a></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          10 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>Winds became erratic mid-day due to the spotty thunderstorms. The increased winds caused the fire to be active in the Fiddler Creek area, particularly in its southern portion. The fire crossed the creek in a few areas and the excursions total a few hectares. Containment lines held in the northeast corner and therefore the fire did not get any closer to structures in St. Mary Lake. There was a bit of growth in in the western and southern flanks but no values were threatened. Visibility may limit the ability to assess the fire from the air, however crews are currently assessing the situation from the ground. Today these crews will continue to work the northeast corner with hose to tie in the containment line to the spine up the Meachen Creek. As well, maintenance will continue on the structural protection equipment in zones 1 and 2. When safe to do so, helicopters with buckets will be used to support suppression efforts in the Fiddlers Creek area. Heavy equipment will be used to put in line on Fiddlers Creek to tie into the rock bluff.</p> <p><u>The Lost Dog Complex (N12314, N12419, N12420)</u>          714 hectares in size          23 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. With yesterday’s winds, the fire was active but no containment lines were breached. Visibility was better on the fire than in Cranbrook. Today crews will continue working the south flank</p>

	<p>headed 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 as well as the west flank the with skidders. 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 operations chief was unable to assess this fire yesterday due to limited flying visibility, 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.</p>
<b>Weather forecast</b>	<p>Saturday: A broad upper trough creating a mix of sun and cloud to mainly cloudy skies will see similar temperatures to yesterday with slightly higher relative humidity values expected. Extensive smoke continues to drift across the region limiting visibility. Daytime highs will be in the high teens to low twenties with relative humidity values in the 30 to 40% range. Moderate 10-20km/h westerly winds are forecast although direction will be determined by local topographic influences. No precipitation is expected.</p> <p>Sunday: Like Saturday in the morning and early afternoon with an upper level disturbance moving southeastward through the fire area in the mid-afternoon to the evening. Temperatures in the high teens to low twenties with relative humidity values 40 to 50%. There will be a northwesterly flow with moderate 10-20km/h wind speeds, potentially gusty as the upper level disturbance moves through the area.</p>
<b>Fire behavior prediction</b>	<p>Slow to moderately slow rates of spread on level terrain with moderately fast rates of spread on sloped terrain in the more volatile fuel types. Due to the extreme build-up index values, predicted rank and intensity continues to exceed the capabilities of ground resources even under slow rates of spread, however a sufficient duff layer would be required for the predicted rank to become achievable.</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>

**Definitions: Response**

<b>Full Response-Sustained</b>	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).
<b>Full Response-Modified Fire</b>	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.
<b>Full Response-Monitor-Only fire</b>	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.

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