



INCIDENT UPDATE

Old Tom Creek (K52670)

This information is current as of:	August 29, 2018
Incident Commander (IC)	Glen Burgess
Contact information	Information Officer: Noelle Kekula 250 319-4815 Email: PlacerComIN@gov.bc.ca
Fire camp	Merritt and Keremeos
Incident overview	This fire was discovered on August 15, since then ground crews, helicopters, air tankers and heavy equipment have been assigned to this fire. The current size of the fire is estimated at 1,025 has. This wildfire is classified as out of control. Community members can still expect to see smoke within the perimeter over the coming weeks. This is common with large wildfires and will continue until the region receives significant rainfall or snowfall. If smoke is seen coming from well within a fire's perimeter and the area is surrounded by black, burned material, this is typically not a concern
Weather forecast	Increasing cloud with the chance of a late day shower (20% chance of 1-2mm). Showers will be more likely to occur to the north and east of the fire site. Winds WSW 15 gusting to 30 km/h by late morning and then SW 20 km/h with gusts to 45 km/h for the afternoon. Minimum RH near 45%, and high temperature near 15C. Tonight: Overnight low near 6 C and RH recovery to near 75%. Winds diminishing to light W starting near 18:00. Outlook: For Thursday, the upper trough will move off to the east, which may bring sunnier skies. Winds will be W/NW 15 km/h with afternoon gusts up to 30 km/h. Minimum RH near 35%, and High temperature near 17 C.
Fire behavior prediction	Gusty conditions may eventuate this afternoon which will assist in drying of fuels. Surface spread may pick up today, particularly with wind gusts in the open fuel types. Moderate rates of spread are predicted for the slash and grass fuel areas, with creeping surface fires anticipated in the standing forests. The underlying indices are still high, so any increases in wind will create the potential for fire behaviour to pick up, with moderate rates of spreads in grass and slash.
Challenges	Steep terrain on the west side of the fire which is inaccessible to crews. These gullies have high potential for extreme fire behaviour. Radio communications within this fire still proving to be challenging for crews.
Yesterday's achievements	Mopping up along established control lines 100 feet into the black.
Today's objectives	SE and SW flanks are still not contained. Continue to utilize air support on the SW corner to suppress fire because there is no access for crews. Crews will continue with direct attack utilizing hand guard and hoselay on the SE flank, supported by helicopters. Crews will continue to patrol all other areas of the fire ensuring no hot spots within 100 feet of the perimeter.

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