

## Snowy Mountain (K51238)

<b>This information is current as of:</b>	August 06, 2018
<b>Incident Commander (IC)</b>	Jim Richardson
<b>Contact information</b>	Information Officer: Claire Allen 250 319-2205 PlacerComIN@gov.bc.ca
<b>Fire camp</b>	Princeton Fire Base
<b>Incident overview</b>	This wildfire is estimated at 12,039 hectares in size and is classified as out of control. The fire remains to the west of Chopaka Road, but is burning in a southward direction and the south flank is approximately 3 km from the U.S. border. The BC Wildfire Service Incident Management Team assigned to the Snowy Mountain Fire is working collaboratively with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, given the fire's proximity to the border and expectation that the fire will continue to move south if prevailing strong winds come from the north. There are 91 firefighters on site today that are supported by 7 pieces of heavy equipment. There are 20 firefighters working throughout the night, enabling suppression efforts to be carried out around the clock. There are 11 helicopters allocated to the entire complex that are being interchanged amongst the two wildfires (the other fire being Placer Mountain). There is a mass water distributor assigned to this incident on a trial basis, which distributes more water with increased efficiency due to a higher PSI. In addition, the BC Wildfire Service also has structural protection specialists working on this wildfire.
<b>Weather forecast</b>	Today will bring mainly sunny skies with the valley bottom having northwesterly winds gusting 10-20 km/h and temperatures near 34 degrees. For higher elevations, temperatures will reach 25 degrees and there will be westerly winds at 15-25 km/h. The upper ridge will persist Tuesday through until Thursday, which will increase temperatures at all elevations.
<b>Fire behavior prediction</b>	Fire behaviour is expected to pick up today on Snowy Mountain given the hot and dry conditions. This fire may be an active surface fire, with candling and torching in the afternoon, especially in closed timber that's on a slope.
<b>Challenges</b>	Crews continue to face difficult topography. This steep terrain is inoperable in some areas and poses a safety risk to firefighting personnel. Crews are being strategically placed where it is safe and where suppression objectives can be met. The presence of rattlesnakes in the area brings further challenges to crews.
<b>Yesterday's achievements</b>	Yesterday, crews worked on the southeast flank to protect adjacent properties and on the north flank to tie the fire perimeter into rocky slopes to keep it from wrapping around the mountain.
<b>Today's objectives</b>	Crews will remain focussing their efforts on mopping-up around key areas and constructing hose lay in the northeast corner. In addition, a fuel-free guard will be established into the rocks on the northeast corner in order to increase containment. Firefighters will also initiate a patrol, in order to seek out hot spots to extinguish.
<b>Other</b>	Be advised that smoke is drifting from the incident to adjacent areas, and the smoke column and open flame is visible from the surrounding communities.

### Definitions: Stages of Control

<b>Out of Control:</b>	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.
<b>Being Held:</b>	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.
<b>Under Control:</b>	Indicates that the fire has received sufficient suppression action to ensure no further spread of the fire.
<b>Out:</b>	Indicates that the fire has been extinguished.