

## Snowy Mountain (K51238)

<b>This information is current as of:</b>	August 08, 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. This fire is 40% contained. 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. This wildfire requires this degree of involvement due to the fire's proximity to the border and the expectation that the fire will continue to move south if prevailing strong winds come from the north. 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 be mainly sunny, with smoke likely to be present in the valley bottom at the beginning of the day. Temperatures down in the valley will reach 38 degrees today and southwesterly winds will be 15-25 km/h, becoming light and westerly at the end of the day. At higher elevations, temperatures will reach 29 degrees and winds are predicted to be southwesterly at 15-25 km/h.  The upper ridge will persist until late Friday, which will continue to increase temperatures. An upper trough will set up late Friday, breaking down the ridge into Saturday. This trough will bring moderate southwesterly winds with thunderstorms and cooler temperatures.
<b>Fire behavior prediction</b>	Above the inversion, expect active surface fires. This includes torching and short crown bursts in the afternoon, especially in closed timber slope. Any ember production from developing fire columns is expected to create spotting in fine fuels. Creeping and running surface fires with candling should always be expected under any inversion.
<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>	With the support of helicopters, crews conducted a burn-off yesterday morning on the southeast corner, near Chopaka Road. This operation was initiated for the purpose of removing fuels from the slopes adjacent to properties in order to halt the forward progression of the fire. This burn was very successful in helping us with our suppression efforts.
<b>Today's objectives</b>	Due to the success of yesterday's burn operation and ideal weather conditions today, we will continue again with a burn-off this morning to expand along the south flank as of 06:00 hours. Smoke will be visible.

### 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.