



INCIDENT UPDATE

Old Tom Creek (K52670)

This information is current as of:	September 3, 2018
Incident Commander (IC)	Glen Burgess
Contact information	Information Officer: Noelle Kekula 250-319-4815 Email: PlacerComIN@gov.bc.ca
Fire camp	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 1,087ha. This wildfire is classified as Being Held. 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	A weakening cold front approaches the area in the early morning and is likely to bring gusty northwest winds. Winds shift from W ahead of the front to NW behind the front, between 05:00 and 06:00. During the day, occasional cloudy periods. High temperature 14 C and low RH near 26%. Winds W 10-20 km/h becoming N 10-20 by afternoon. 10% chance of a shower with totals of 1mm. Tonight: Overnight low near 5 C and RH recovery to near 85%. Outlook: An upper ridge will begin building off the Pacific coast on Tuesday, ushering in a period of slight warming and dry conditions. At the surface a ridge across northern BC will give light northwest to northeast winds. Wednesday and Thursday will be similar with temperatures warming one or two degrees each day.
Fire behavior prediction	Much drier conditions forecast for today than the previous few. Combined with the drying trend over the past few days, fuels are likely to sustain surface spread with moderate to fast rates of spread, and also intermittent crowning in the C-3 fuels. Fast rates of spread are also possible in fuels where grass is likely to carry fire. Vigorous surface fires are possible in the early morning with the gusty winds (despite cool temps and high RH), and again from early afternoon through to early evening with the low RH. DC values are very much above average, and heavy coarse fuels are likely to burn well and at high intensity.
Challenges	Steep slopes, unstable and challenging terrain. Due to remote areas of the fire, crews moves are currently being undertaken by helicopter. This is time consuming and requires planning.
Yesterday's achievements	Established access to the ridge west of Old Tom Creek. Crews commenced hand guard on excursion. Small amount of growth on the south west flank. The rest of the fire is very quiet with crews pushing in to 100ft for mop up.
Today's objectives	Continue establishing guard on the south west excursion. Continuation of mop up in drainage on south east corner. Danger tree assessment and falling is ongoing. Continue to patrol north flank and extinguish any hot spots within 100ft of 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.