



INCIDENT UPDATE

Meachen Creek Complex

This information is current as of: September 6, 2018

Incident Commander (IC) Brian Lopushinsky

Contact information
Southeast Fire Centre
250-365-4014 or 250-365-4056

Brian Lopushinsky
Incident Commander
780-706-5366

Incident Command Post Teck Cominco

Incident overview An 8-person Incident Management Team from Alberta has assumed command of these fires.

The Meachen Creek Fire (N11886)
9113 hectares in size (mapped)
61 firefighting personnel on site
4 helicopters are assigned to the complex
5 pieces of heavy equipment

This wildfire is 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.

All containment lines have continued to hold in the northeast corner and there has been no further encroachment towards the St. Mary Lake community. The Meachen Fire is now 70% contained. Today's objectives will be much the same as Wednesday. Crews will continue establishing hose lines around the excursion. Helicopters with buckets will be used to support the suppression efforts. Crews will work the lower end of the spine in the northeast corner and bucket hot spots as required. Removal of some structural protection equipment will occur today. There are currently crews from BC and Ontario working on the fire.

Weather forecast Thursday: Mix of Sun and Smoke. Temperatures in the mid twenties with relative humidity values near 20%. Winds Upslope or Variable of 7km/hr to 15km/hr.

Fire behavior prediction Wind will be the biggest impact on the fires behavior. Keep an eye on the actual wind speed. Conditions will be slightly dryer and warmer. Crossover should be reached at approximately 1300 so there will be a slightly longer burn period today than what was seen yesterday.

Other The Evacuation Order issued to the St Mary's Lake area from East of St. Mary's Lake to the Redding Creek / St Mary's River convergence including St Mary's Lake Road and Lakeside Road area was rescinded and replaced by an evacuation alert by the Regional District of East Kootenay at 0900, Tuesday September 4, 2018. The alert west of the Municipal Boundary of Kimberly to St.Mary's Lake remains in effect. The Evacuation Alert 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and properties in the RDEK directly south and southeast of the City of Kimberley Municipal Boundary will also be rescinded as of 0900, Tuesday September 4, 2018. For more information, please call the RDEK at 250 426-2188 or visit their website at: www.rdek.bc.ca

Restrictions remains in effect for Meachen Creek and White Boar Forest Service Roads starting at the 25.3 km mark of the Hellroaring Forest Service Road junction.

There is a security check point located at the “Y” of Meachen Creek and Hellroaring Forest Service Road. The Hellroaring Forest Service Road is open. Starting at the 31 km mark of St. Mary Lake Road, the Redding Creek and Gray Creek Forest Service Road are now open.

Wildfire Rank

Rank 1 – Smouldering ground fire: no open flame, white smoke, slow rate of spread.

Rank 2 – Low vigour surface fire: visible open flame, unorganised or inconsistent flame front, slow rate of spread.

Rank 3 – Moderately vigorous surface fire: organised flame front, occasional candling may be observed, moderate rate of spread.

Rank 4 – Highly vigorous surface fire with torching, or passive crown fire: grey to black smoke, organised surface flame front, moderate to fast rate of spread on the ground, short aerial bursts through the forest canopy, short range spotting.

Rank 5 – Extremely vigorous surface fire or active crown fire: black to copper smoke, organised crown fire front, moderate to long-range spotting and independent spot fire growth.

Rank 6 – A blow up or conflagration; extreme and aggressive fire behaviour: organised crown fire front, long-range spotting and independent spot fire growth, possible fire balls and whirls, violent fire behaviour probable, a dominant smoke column may develop which influences fire behaviour.

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