



WILDFIRE UPDATE

Diamond Creek wildfire Information bulletin

Fire size: 4,814 hectares (estimated)

Status: Out of control, 0% contained

Resources: 2 firefighters, 4 support personnel, 1 rotary-wing aircraft and 9 pieces of heavy equipment

Cause: Human-caused in the U.S. and has crossed border into Canada

Interface: No

Weather forecast: High 20s and dry on Wednesday and Thursday. Light winds from the north on Wednesday, south on Thursday.

Additional information: The BC Wildfire Service is using a modified response to manage the Diamond Creek wildfire. The wildfire is burning in alpine forests and assessments indicate there is no threat to public safety and there is a limited threat to structural values at this time. The area has a substantial amount of standing and fallen dead wood from mountain pine beetle and spruce beetle infestations. Using a modified response on this wildfire will reduce the amount of forest fuels and promote regeneration of healthy forest in the area.

To manage the wildfire, personnel are currently flying over the area twice a day by helicopter. An assessment of infrastructure values, including cabins and outbuildings, in the vicinity of the fire has been completed and structural protection units and other tactics will be used to minimize the impact of wildfire on these values if needed. Trigger points for further suppression activity have also been developed. Aggressive fire behaviour requires the use of indirect attack methods to ensure the safety of firefighting crews and equipment, so crews are building machine guard to establish control lines on the fire's north flank near the 2006 Tatoosh wildfire and in an easterly direction toward Flat Top Mountain to protect identified values.

Information about the fire on the U.S. side of the border:
nciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/5409/

Regional district of Okanagan Similkameen:
<http://www.rdos.bc.ca/home/>

BC Smoke Forecast: www.firesmoke.ca

BC Parks: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Kamloops Fire Centre Information: 250 554-6965
Information email: bcws.kfcinformationofficer@gov.bc.ca



www.bcwildfire.ca



BC Forest Fire Info



@ BCGovFireInfo



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Modified response

The BC Wildfire Service seeks to protect BC's forests from unwanted wildfires and reduce the impact of wildfires on communities and natural resource values. Our first priority is always to protect life and property. However, under certain circumstances, a wildfire may be deemed beneficial and, therefore, warrant a modified response, with crews monitoring and managing a fire, rather than fighting it. Also, during a record-breaking fire season such as this, response resources must be prioritized to fires posing the highest risk to public safety, communities and critical infrastructure.

In a modified response, the wildfire is managed using a combination of suppression techniques and monitoring to steer, contain or otherwise manage fire activity within a pre-determined perimeter using set policies and management guidelines (to minimize damage while maximizing the benefits from the fire). The BC Wildfire Service, with land managers and stakeholders, determines specific values that, if threatened, will trigger an altered response to the fire. These are called trigger points. Trigger points indicate where greater risks may develop and, if the fire begins approaching these points, resources will be allocated to manage the fire.

Other response types

Full response: The wildfire requires immediate initial attack and/or sustained suppression action until the fire is declared out.

Monitored: The wildfire is observed and assessed to determine the appropriate response option to minimize social disruption and/or significant impacts on values and resources, while achieving beneficial ecological, economic or resource management objectives.

Spot a wildfire, smoke or illegal fire activity?

Call 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on your cell phone.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Drifting smoke: <http://firesmoke.ca/>

Smoke health concerns: HealthLink BC | dial 8-1-1 | www.healthlinkbc.ca/kbaltindex.asp