



Wildfires evolve rapidly and conditions can change extremely quickly. Information in this bulletin is current as of noon on Monday, August 3. For the latest information, go to [BCWILDFIRE.CA](https://bcwildfire.ca)

There are currently 59 wildfires burning in the Southeast Fire Centre. Recent precipitation, while highly variable across the Southeast Fire Centre, has raised humidity and led to a decrease in fire activity. This downturn in weather has bolstered the efforts of hundreds of firefighters across the region who have been working for weeks in difficult conditions to bring these wildfires under control.

Successes on the fireline, along with the weather, have led to downgrading of several evacuation orders and alerts, including on the Trozzo Creek wildfire, the Michaud Creek wildfire, the Octopus Creek wildfire and the Akokli Creek wildfire. Visit the respective regional districts' websites for details and the latest information.

Heavy smoke continues to keep temperatures cooler and humidity at higher levels. On Tuesday and into Wednesday, there is a potential for thunderstorm activity accompanied by dry lightning, wind gusts and varying amounts of precipitation.

The BC Wildfire Service is aware of several requests for donations and online fundraising pages soliciting funds to buy masks and other personal protective equipment (PPE) for firefighters working on the Trozzo Creek (N51705) wildfire that originated northeast of Winlaw.

Although we appreciate the sentiment behind these requests, there is no need for additional supplies and we are not able to accept donations of any kind.

All BC Wildfire Service personnel and contractors are provided PPE required for their jobs, as well as COVID 19-related supplies. Personnel adhere to all public health orders and guidelines regarding COVID 19 to ensure that operations continue safely throughout the Southeast Fire Centre and the province. In indoor areas, all personnel must physically distance, wear masks and sanitize. All products necessary to ensure COVID 19-related safety are provided, including masks.

Please be wary of online requests of this nature as they are unsolicited by the BC Wildfire Service. Any donations made cannot be accepted. We appreciate your understanding and support.

So far, the 2021 fire season has been a busy one for our crews. If you are looking for a way to actively support crews and personnel, we encourage you to post signs thanking them for their work. If you would like to learn more about how you can help those affected by this year's wildfires, visit [BC Government News](https://www.bcgov.ca/newsroom/).

EVACUATION ORDERS AND ALERTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ALWAYS CONSULT YOUR REGIONAL DISTRICT FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION.





Wildfires of Note in the Southeast Fire Centre include:

TROZZO CREEK (N51705)

Date of detection: July 9, 2021

Location: Originated 7.5 kilometres northeast of Winlaw

Size: 5202 hectares

Status: Out of Control

Cause: Lightning

Resources: 143 personnel, 27 heavy equipment, 7 helicopters

Fire camp in place: No

Fire Update: Fire activity has remained stable and general objectives the same: contain the western flank from Lemon Creek to Winlaw Creek, increase containment depth in the Trozzo Creek drainage, establish contingency guards north and south of the fire and plan containment guards for the south and east flanks to implement once the western flank is contained. Cloud cover and precipitation reduced fire activity on Monday and allowed for quicker progress in suppression efforts along the western and northern flanks. On Tuesday, crews continue to work along the Lemon Creek FSR and crews are putting in hose lay to engage in direct attack. Firefighters continue fire suppression along Elliot Anderson FSR. Crews continue mopping up to 100 feet deep along the contained edge in the Trozzo Creek drainage. Firefighters have successfully mopped up to 10 metres deep along the Elliot FSR to Trozzo FSR. There is still potential for spotting across the containment lines when hot, dry weather returns. Firefighters continue mopping up deeper into the burn area. Crews are working on containment lines into the upper Winlaw Creek; more resources are expected Tuesday to assist these efforts. Work is underway Tuesday to construct helipads to access the Winlaw Creek area and cut trails for access and egress to enable direct attack to begin. Heavy equipment is completing construction of contingency guards, establishing an indirect guard from Pedro and Sproule FSR and supporting ground crews. Helicopters continue to support mop up activities and aerial monitoring. As of 18:00 on August 2, the fire had not crossed the Lemon Creek FSR. Ongoing challenges include: lack of access to upper Winlaw Creek; lack of water resources at high elevations and difficulties delivering by truck due to rough roads; steep, rocky and complex terrain; a high volume of dead and downed trees; dense smoke that limits visibility and the ability for fixed-wing aircraft to access the fire.



The Trozzo Creek wildfire is burning in mountainous terrain common across the Southeast Fire Centre, as shown in this file photo.

Evacuations: On August 3, the Regional District of Central Kootenay reduced an evacuation order to an evacuation alert in the vicinity of this fire. Further information is available at <https://www.rdck.ca>

Other: An area restriction order is in effect in the vicinity of this fire. Further information is available at www.bcwildfire.ca

Spot a wildfire, smoke or illegal fire activity? Call 1 800 663-5555 or *5555 on your cellphone.



WILDFIRE UPDATE

BILL NYE MOUNTAIN (N11629)

Date of detection: July 8, 2021

Location: Originated 7 kilometres southeast of Wasa

Size: 2956 hectares (this will increase once further information is available)

Status: Out of Control

Cause: Lightning

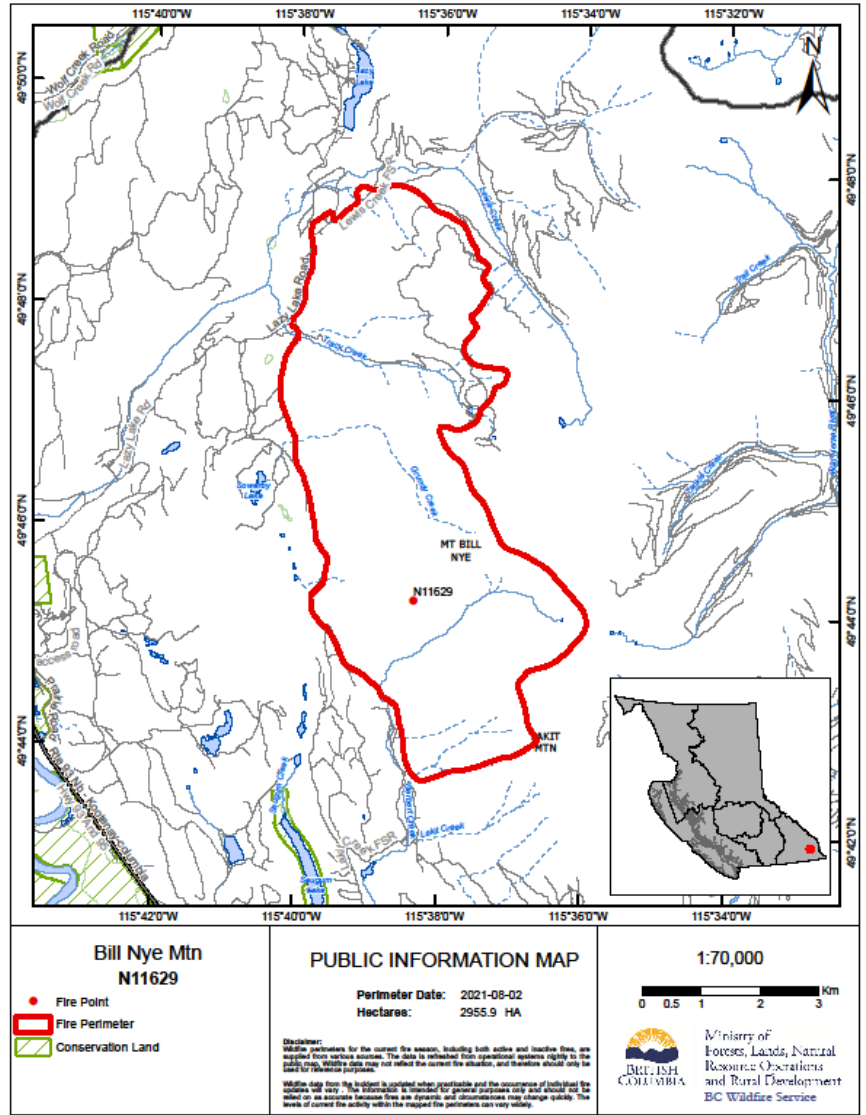
Resources: 77 personnel, 11 heavy equipment, 3 helicopters

Fire camp in place: No

Fire Update: Cooler temperatures and precipitation have resulted in a reduction of fire activity and allowed crews to make good progress, but poor visibility is hampering efforts to monitor and map the fire. Control lines around an excursion that occurred Saturday night are complete, as are lines adjacent to structures. Work continues to secure control lines along the northwest perimeter of the fire near Lazy Lake Road. Once that is complete, heavy equipment will return to work on control and contingency lines along the north flank. A planned ignition on Sunday evening successfully removed fuel from a 72-hectare area near the Lazy Lake Road, reducing the risk of the fire spreading closer to structures. Ongoing challenges include: extreme slopes, heavy concentrations of fuel, poor access, poor visibility due to heavy smoke/ weather.

Evacuations: The Regional District of East Kootenay has implemented an evacuation order and an evacuation alert in the vicinity of this fire. Further information is available at <https://www.rdek.bc.ca/>

Other: An area restriction order is in effect. Further information is available at www.bcwildfire.ca



An August 2 map of the Bill Nye Mountain (N11629) wildfire shows it at 2956 hectares. Poor visibility continues to hamper efforts to accurately map the fire. Updated information is provided as it becomes available.



AKOKLI CREEK (N71686)

Date of detection: July 9, 2021

Location: Originated 7 kilometres east of Boswell

Size: 3012 hectares

Status: Out of control

Cause: Lightning

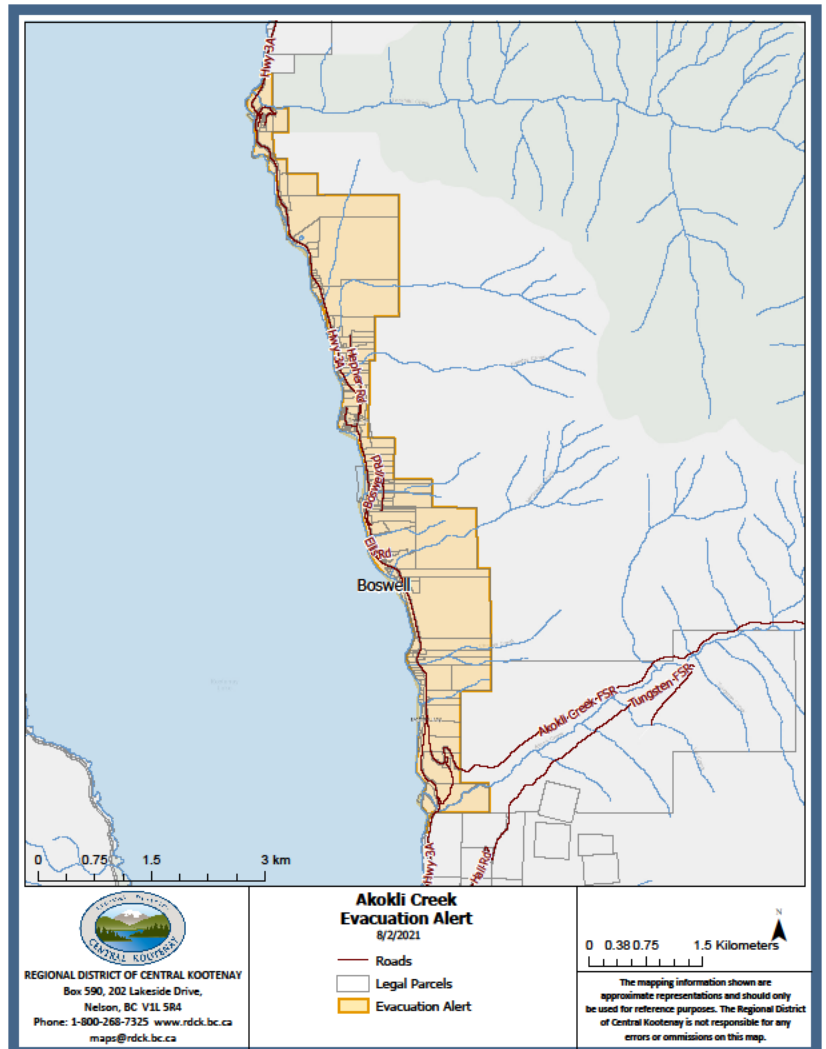
Resources: 34 personnel, 2 heavy equipment, 2 helicopters

Fire camp in place: No

Objectives: Recent precipitation has decreased fire behaviour and slowed down growth in portions of the fire outside constructed control lines. Crews are transitioning from mop up to patrol along the fire guard in Akokli Creek on the south flank and above Boswell on the west flank. Uncontained fire still exists in Lockhart Park but is not currently threatening structures. Contingency planning is still occurring and BCWS is monitoring the fire within the park. Heavy equipment work is complete for now but equipment remains on standby should it be needed. Lingering smoke and poor visibility continue to limit the ability for aircraft to fly but helicopters are available to support ground crews if needed and if conditions permit. Expect to see a decrease in the resources committed to this fire in the next few days as patrol activities are completed and strategy transitions to monitoring the fire.

Evacuations: The Regional District of Central Kootenay reduced an evacuation alert in the vicinity of this fire. Further information is available at <https://www.rdck.ca>

Other: An area restriction order is in effect. Further information is available at www.bcwildfire.ca



The Regional District of Central Kootenay reduced the size of an evacuation alert in the vicinity of the Akokli Creek (N71686) wildfire on August 2. The area still under evacuation alert is shown on the map above. For the latest information on evacuation orders and alerts, always consult your regional district.

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The **Arrow Lake Complex**, comprised of the Octopus Creek, Michaud Creek and Renata Creek wildfires, is being managed by an Incident Management Team. Going forward, the Southeast Fire Centre will be including brief updates on the two Wildfires of Note in the complex (Octopus Creek and Michaud Creek) in the daily newsletter. If you would like to receive the daily newsletter from the Arrow Lake Complex information team, which includes more detailed updates, email BCWS.ArrowLakeInfo@gov.bc.ca

The fires received 0-7 millimeters of precipitation overnight on Monday, and the area has a 30 per cent chance of showers/thundershowers Tuesday afternoon and evening. The cooler temperature and increased humidity have dampened surface fuels; however, the larger fuels and deep soil remain highly combustible, and significant rainfall is needed to improve conditions. Crews report reduced fire activity on the fireline; however, conditions could change quickly and lead to rapid, increased fire behaviour.

MICHAUD LAKE (N51765)

Date of detection: July 10, 2021

Location: Originated 21 kilometres south of Edgewood

Size: 8,847 hectares (estimated)

Status: Out of Control

Cause: Lightning

Resources: 66 personnel, 20 heavy equipment, 5 helicopters (shared with two other fires in the Arrow Lake Complex)

Fire camp in place: IMT established

Fire Update: Good progress is being made by firefighters, who continue to work on the control line located to the north of the wildfire. Crews have established pumps and water hose from the lake and continue to work toward the west. The objective is to prevent the fire from growing toward the north/north west. Firefighters continue to look for and extinguish spot fires across Johnson Creek with water and hose along with helicopter assistance when visibility allows. Under the current weather conditions, firefighters anticipate they can contain the spot fires. Firefighters have now begun to establish guard line south of Michaud Creek, starting from the lake, with hand tools and pump and hose. The majority of the wildfire has been inaccessible for rotary-wing due to smoke conditions; however, the wildfire is being monitored by satellite imagery.

Evacuations: The Regional District of Central Kootenay has removed the evacuation alert in the vicinity of this fire. Further information is available at <https://www.rdck.ca/>

Other: An area restriction order is in effect. Further information is available at www.bcwildfire.ca



OCTOPUS CREEK (N51800)

Date of detection: July 11, 2021

Location: Originated 11 kilometres south of Fauquier

Size: 18,337 hectares (estimated)

Status: Out of Control

Cause: Lightning

Resources: 90 personnel, 12 heavy equipment, 5 helicopters (shared with two other fires in the Arrow Lake Complex)

Fire camp in place: IMT established

Fire Update: The construction of the north flank line has been very successful. Firefighters and heavy equipment will continue to reinforce the control line built to protect the community of Fauquier from the advancing wildfire. A small spot fire was located on the east flank near Mista Peak. It's estimated to be 0.2 ha in size and being actioned by firefighters. Heavy equipment and crews at the east flank on Koch Creek are making good progress establishing control lines in the valley. This line is intended to prevent the wildfire from spreading east into adjacent valleys. The fire is slowly creeping each day; however, the crews and equipment continue to reinforce the guards. Additional heavy equipment is planned to install new guard in areas once the priority lines are set. Structure protection was established early on and is maintained and monitored by dedicated firefighters on properties that are threatened. The fire is very visible from Edgewood, Fauquier, Needles and surrounding areas.

Evacuations: The Regional District of Central Kootenay has reduced a portion of the area currently under evacuation order to an evacuation alert. Some areas in the vicinity of this fire remain on an evacuation order. Further information is available at <https://www.rdck.ca/>.

Other: An area restriction order is in effect. Further information is available at www.bcwildfire.ca









HELPFUL RESOURCES:

- View an interactive map by clicking [here](#) or visiting <http://ow.ly/uo2U30oXqzS>
- **Road Closures:** DriveBC | dial 1-800-550-4997 | <https://www.drivebc.ca/>
- **Drifting Smoke:** www.bcairquality.ca/bluesky/west/index.html
- **Smoke Health Concerns:** HealthLink BC | dial 8-1-1 | www.healthlinkbc.ca/kbaltindex.asp
- For info on **Community Support Services**, click [here](#) or visit <https://www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca/>

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

BC Wildfire Service	Emergency Management BC	Local municipalities and regional districts	First Nations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BCWS’s jurisdiction covers all BC Parks, Crown and private lands, but does not include the boundaries of local governments that have forest fire prevention bylaws and are serviced by a fire department. - BCWS speaks directly about wildfires (i.e. fire status, operations, etc.) and is responsible for disseminating wildfire updates to local governments, stakeholders, First Nations and the public. - BCWS does <u>not</u> announce Strategic Evacuation Orders or Alerts. - BCWS <u>does</u> announce Tactical Evacuations. - In the event of an imminent threat to public safety, BCWS can authorize an immediate Tactical Evacuation of the affected area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EMBC coordinates communication across all agencies and stakeholders to support communities. - EMBC provides advice to evacuees and support to communities regarding Emergency Operations Centres and Emergency Support Services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Municipalities and Regional Districts speak directly about Strategic Evacuation Orders and Alerts in their respective jurisdictions. - Local Municipalities and Regional Districts <u>do not</u> speak about the status of a wildfire unless the fire occurs within their jurisdiction. For example, if a wildfire <u>starts</u> within the boundaries of a local government, BCWS will often assist the local fire department with suppression efforts. If the fire spreads into Crown land to become a wildfire, BCWS will often assume control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On IR lands, Evacuation Orders and Alerts are implemented by a Band Council Resolution or other. - A designated person(s) from the respective First Nations community will speak to Evacuation Orders and Alerts on IR lands.

ACCESSING INFORMATION

BC Wildfire Service Online Communications	EmergencyInfoBC EMBC Online Communications	PreparednessBC EMBC Online Communications
 @BCGovFireInfo	 @EmergencyInfoBC	 @PreparedBC
 www.bcwildfire.ca	 www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca	 www.gov.bc.ca/preparedBC
 BC Wildfire Service	 BCWS Mobile App	PreparedBC

FIRE 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) 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	The fire has received sufficient suppression action to ensure no further spread of the fire.

WILDFIRE RANKS:

Rank	Description
1	<p>Characteristics: Smouldering ground fire, no open flame, white smoke, slow (i.e. creeping) rate of fire spread.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Direct attack with ground crews using hand tools and water delivery systems (i.e. pumps and hose).</p>
2	<p>Characteristics: Surface fire, visible, open flame, unorganised or inconsistent flame front, slow rate of spread.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Direct attack with ground crews using hand tools, water delivery systems, or heavy equipment. Hand constructed control lines and lines that have been cleared of combustible material will likely be successful.</p>
3	<p>Characteristics: Organised flame front – fire progressing in organised manner, occasional candling may be observed along the perimeter and/or within the fire, moderate rate of spread.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Hand constructed control lines alone are likely to be challenged, ground crews conducting direct attack may require air support from fixed-wing air tankers, skimmers or helicopters conducting bucketing or tanking operations. Control lines constructed by heavy equipment will generally be effective</p>
4	<p>Characteristics: 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.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Ground operations may not be successful at the head of the fire, indirect tactics may be required to bring the head of the fire under control. Parallel attack may be used along the flanks of the fire to direct the head into favourable ground or fuels. Air operations may be required to support ground personnel.</p>
5	<p>Characteristics: Black to copper smoke, organised crown fire front, moderate to long-range spotting and spot fire growth.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: The limited options available include indirect attack and planned ignitions to remove fuel in the path of this type of fire behaviour. Ground operations are often restricted to fighting the least active sections of the fire or conducting ground ignition operations from secure control lines with readily available escape routes and safety zones.</p>
6	<p>Characteristics: Organised crown fire front, long-range spotting and independent spot fire growth, possible fireballs and whirls, violent fire behaviour probable, a dominant smoke column may develop which influences fire behaviour.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Firefighting under these conditions is extremely dangerous. Suppression efforts will be well away from active fire behaviour and may include preparing structure protection measures or conducting indirect large-scale ignition operations in an attempt to steer the fire. Often, the safest and most prudent strategy is to pull resources back to safe areas, ensure that personnel and the general public are safe, and wait for fire behaviour to lessen before re-engaging in fire suppression operations.</p>



RANK 1

RANK 2

RANK 3

RANK 4

RANK 5

RANK 6