



BULKLEY ZONE OVERVIEW:

A BC Wildfire Service Incident Management Team (IMT) has been assigned to support the response of several fires in the Bulkley Fire Zone, which ranges from Hungry Hill in the east to Little Oliver Creek in the west along Highway 16. The IMT is managing the recently activated Ministry Zone Operation Centre (MZOC), which allows the team to support the local crews and staff.



A U.S. rappel helicopter after completing a rappel mission in the Bulkley Zone. Rappell crews are used bring fire fighting personnel to more remote fires where ground access is limited.

Over the last several days, conditions have remained stable across the zone and very little fire growth has been observed. This has allowed personnel to make good progress on the various objectives, including building fire guard, conducting direct-attack suppression, and extinguishing hot-spots where possible.

Crews have also begun assessments on the 480 Road Fire (R31391) and the South of Mount Horetzky Fire (R31581) to identify potential guard locations if needed in the future.

RESOURCES AND RESPONSE:

Several resources are assigned to the Bulkley Zone, including 8 helicopters, several pieces of heavy equipment, and firefighting personnel. These resources are being assigned to fires as needed on a daily basis, which allows operations staff to be adaptable in prioritizing fires.

EVACUATION ALERTS AND ORDERS:

West of Sik-E-Dakh (Glen Vowell) Fire (R41582) - The Evacuation Alert was rescinded on July 18, 2023 at 1600 hours.

Woodcock Fire (R41510) - An Evacuation Alert was issued on July 14, 2023 at 1700 hours.

For more information, visit the website for the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine: www.rdks.bc.ca

Nilkitkwa Fire (R31465) Lake Babine Nation and the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako downgraded the existing Evacuation Order to an Evacuation Alert on July 18 at 1400 hours.

For more information, visit the website for the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako: www.rdbn.bc.ca

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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WOODCOCK Fire
R41510

FIRE SIZE:
102 hectares (estimated)

FIRE STATUS:
Out of Control

LATEST UPDATES:

The guard construction that heavy equipment has been working on over the past several days has been completed. Crews will be monitoring any growth on this fire today to assess proximity to trigger points. The crew members will be doing direct attack on the west flank as opportunities arise.

NILKITKWA Fire
R31465

FIRE SIZE:
700 hectares (estimated)

FIRE STATUS:
Out of Control

LATEST UPDATES:

Heavy equipment operators have been making good progress on construction of contingency guards to the north and west of the fire. Local industry personnel are currently assessing for suitable locations to build guard closer to the fire on the north and east flanks. If feasible, these closer guards will support the establishment of a smaller area for containment while conditions remain stable. A Unit Crew is continuing direct-attack on the southeast finger of the fire. Direct attack is conducted on low-intensity wildfires that pose minimal risk to safety of firefighters.



Conditions observed from the air yesterday on the Nilkitwa Fire.

WEST OF SIK-E-DAKH (Glen Vowell) Fire
R41582

FIRE SIZE:
32 hectares (estimated)

FIRE STATUS:
Under Control

LATEST UPDATES:

Yesterday evening, July 19, the fire status was change to Under Control. Over the next several days crews will continue to expand the existing wet-line into the fire perimeter. A wet-line is a tactic used on low-intensity fires where crews work off a built trail and use water to extinguish any remaining hotspots to prevent further spread into the surrounding areas.

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



HOLLAND LAKE Fire

R31585

FIRE SIZE:

206 hectares (estimated)

FIRE STATUS:

Out of Control

LATEST UPDATES:

Heavy equipment operators and BC Wildfire personnel are continuing with guard construction on the north flank, and contingency guard on the southwest flank.

JOHN BROWN CREEK Fire

R31512

FIRE SIZE:

48 hectares (estimated)

FIRE STATUS:

Out of Control

LATEST UPDATES:

An updated fire perimeter was tracked recently, giving a more accurate representation of the current fire size. Conditions have remained relatively stable and there has not been significant fire behaviour observed on the fire recently. Heavy equipment operators established access to within two kilometers of the fire perimeter to allow for future ground-crew access if needed.

POWERS CREEK Fire

R31228

FIRE SIZE:

34 hectares (estimated)

FIRE STATUS:

Under Control

LATEST UPDATES:

Crews are working today to patrol a 200-foot perimeter and action any hotspots that are located, with support by a water tender operator. Much of the equipment previously used on this fire has been demobilized and reallocated to other priority fires.

WEATHER FORECAST:

Potential thunderstorms may be seen in the area Thursday afternoon, causing some local winds. Conditions are not likely to cause any significant increases in fire behaviour, or to significantly influence fire growth in the Bulkley zone. Temperatures are expected to remain in the high 20s to low 30s, and will cool off slightly this weekend. The smoke in the area is likely to dissipate Friday or Saturday as winds shift to westerlies.

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