



WILDFIRE UPDATE

FRASER COMPLEX EVENING UPDATE

Shovel Lake Wildfire (R11498)

Location: approx. 6km north of the community of Fraser Lake

Status: 86,850 hectares (mapped—infrared scan)

Cause: under investigation

Resources: 229 firefighters, 47 pieces of heavy equipment, 8 helicopters (shared in the complex)

Status: The Shovel Lake wildfire has not moved towards Highway 27, Fort St. James, or Highway 16 in the past 5 days. It is currently ~14.5km from the furthest eastern point of the fire to Highway 27, however, the main eastern flank of the fire is still between 20km -23km away from Highway 27. The fire is still also holding north of the PNG pipeline guard on the southern flank. The fire perimeter is ~5.30km northeast of Highway 16 on the furthest western tip, ~5.7 km north of Highway 16 near Endako, and ~7.25km north of Highway 16 near Fort Fraser where the main eastern flank of the fire runs.

The most activity and growth on the fire today, around 450ha, was in the northwest of the fire between Taltapin Lake and Hannay Lake. Crews are staying late in this area to take advantage of lower fire activity at night.

Thick smoke continues to challenge the use of aircraft (including helicopters, airtankers, and water skimmers) due to visibility concerns. Helicopters for this incident and the Island Lake fire have been placed in Fort St. James and Burns Lake to try and take advantage of visibility windows. Aircraft was unable to lift off today.

Beginning tonight through Thursday afternoon, wind gusts will pick up with prevailing 15 km/hr from the southwest with possible gusts up to 30 km/hr. Crews will work to address any increases in fire behaviour.

Evacuations: An Evacuation Order and Alert remains in effect for this wildfire issued by the Bulkley-Nechako Regional District.

A Partial Rescinded Evacuation Order and Revised Alert Area was issued on August 21 at 1100. [For more information click here.](#)

BC Wildfire Service continues to implement an Area Order Restriction to protect public safety due to the wildfire's rate of spread and to avoid interference with fire suppression efforts. The area restriction will remain in place until noon on Sept. 15, 2018, or until the order is rescinded. The area restriction order applies to all Crown land outlined on the map (including recreational campgrounds) that is available online at: <http://ow.ly/X8Mr30lbPR9>

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Forrest Tower | Forrest.Tower@gov.bc.ca | 250-614-6743



WILDFIRE UPDATE

FRASER COMPLEX EVENING UPDATE

Island Lake Wildfire (R11921)

Location: Adjacent to Island Lake

Status: 17,291 hectares (mapped—infrared scan)

Cause: Under investigation

Resources: 65 firefighters, 15 pieces of heavy equipment, 8 helicopters (shared in the complex)

Objectives: Air support has been grounded for the most part of the last three days. The smoke is reducing fire behaviour, however, it is difficult to determine the exact location of the fire perimeter. The Island Lake fire remains active, but visibility is very poor over the fire. There was a 120 hectare excursion to the south of Anzus Lake running southeast towards Borel Lake three days ago. Equipment has gone ahead of this excursion and has created guard to stop further growth.

There is some increased activity on the south east corner of the fire below Anzus Lake. A 50 hectare planned ignition was conducted to remove fuels ahead of the fire.

Crews continue to monitor for and extinguish any spot fires. Ground crews and heavy equipment are continuing to work off the 238 Road to build a fuel free containment line. Structural firefighters are monitoring for values in need of structural protection in the area and on the lakeshore.

Evacuations: An Evacuation Order and Alert remains in effect for this wildfire issued by the Bulkley-Nechako Regional District.

A Partial Rescinded Evacuation Order and Revised Alert Area was issued on August 21 at 1100. [For more information click here.](#)

Fire Weather Summary

Tuesday – Sunny with smoke becoming patchier later in the day. Winds becoming near noon S to SW 10-15 km/h with afternoon gusts to 30 km/h, easing a bit but overall lasting into the evening. Min RH near 24%. High near 26.

Outlook Wednesday and Thursday – Wednesday the ridge makes a slow collapse over the region as an upper trough moves onto the coast. The upper trough moves through on Thursday, however is forecast to be a dry feature (no precipitation expected). Temps will fall into the mid to low 20's and humidity values will trend upward closer to the 30% mark. Winds are going to be the bigger issue, increasing to general SW's in the 20 gusting to 40 km/h range, with locally higher possible. These winds are expected to persist into the overnight and into Thursday, maintaining a W to SW flow.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Forrest Tower | Forrest.Tower@gov.bc.ca | 250-614-6743