

# Coastal Fire Centre: Status Report



Prepared August 11, 2021

Zone Fire Danger Rating and Activity Level		
Zone	Fire Danger Rating	Activity Level
Fraser	High	4
Pemberton	High-Extreme	2
Sunshine Coast	High	2
South Island	Extreme	3
Mid Island	Extreme	2
North Island	High	2
Central Coast (Bella Coola)	Moderate-High	1
Haida Gwaii	Low	1

Overview
<p>There are currently 18 fires burning in the Coastal Fire Centre. Of these, 12 are burning in the Fraser Zone most suspected to be lightning caused.</p> <p>Initial attack response continues to be prioritized with crews being transported by helicopter and support following by ground. Quick reporting means quick response. Also, please note that despite minor rainfall in areas, a Category 2, Category 3 and campfire prohibition remains in place, except for Haida Gwaii.</p> <p>Please continue to watch for and report any fires you may see to 1 800 663-5555 or *5555 on cell phones.</p>

Fire Activity			
<b>Fires Currently Burning</b>	18 (7 human or undetermined / 11 lightning) *Subtotals may not add up to the total since fires not classified as "lightning-caused" or "human-caused" are still under investigation.		
<b>New Fires Last Week</b>	11 (Aug 5-Aug 11)		
	<b>This Fire Season (since April 1)</b>	<b>Last Year (2020)</b>	<b>10-Year Avg. (2010 – 2020)</b>
<b>Total Fires to Date</b>	182	70	120
<b>Total Hectares to Date</b>	3461	270	6073

Active Fires
<p><b>North End Long Island (V12262)</b> – This lightning caused fire has an evacuation alert that affects 8 cabins in the area. While fire behaviour has been relatively quiet the last few days, expect to see more smoke over the coming days due to the increase in temperature and lowered humidity. The fire remains at 256 hectares and is classed as Out of Control.</p> <p><b>North Cloudburst Mountain (V32358)</b> – this fire is approximately 20km northwest of Squamish and is 8.27 hectares in size and is Being Held.</p> <p><b>North Fork of Scuzzy Creek (V12269)</b> – This Modified Response fire is 330 hectares in size and is burning in steep, inaccessible terrain.</p> <p><b>Copper Canyon (V62452)</b> - This suspected human caused wildfire 13 Kms NW of Duncan is 32 ha and is Being Held. The Cowichan Valley Regional District has implemented an evacuation order for one property near the fire.</p>

Fire Prohibitions and Restrictions		
		
Cat 2 – Prohibition Cat 3 – Prohibition	Prohibition Everywhere except Haida Gwaii	Not in Effect
<p>For more information on specific activities that are prohibited during a Category 2, Category 3 or campfire prohibition, visit <a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status</a></p>		

### Coastal Fire Centre: Fire Zones







Click [here](#) for more information about the Coastal Fire Centre (Fire Danger Rating Maps, Danger Class Reports, Fire Weather Maps, Active Wildfire Map) or visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status>

Weather Forecast
<p><b>SYNOPSIS (Thursday):</b> The current hot dry spell is off to a very modest start but that is about to change. The large high centred offshore is shifting east. The gradient tightens all night Wednesday and peaks around dawn with the strongest gusty outflows through all the mainland inlets reaching mainly 20 to 25 km/h but a few inlets will see 25-30 km/h. With a stronger high the temperatures rise another few degrees, likely topping 40 degrees in a few interior valleys and the humidity falls a few points in the continuing outflow breeze with possible single digit readings. Outflow speeds decrease in the afternoon. The pressure gradient increases again over night but likely does not generate quite as strong winds for Friday morning.</p> <p><b>OUTLOOK: (Friday-Sunday)</b> Friday is another strong ridge day with afternoon highs throughout the fire centre in the mid 30s or even warmer in some of the deep interior valleys. Humidity likely moderates somewhat as the outflow lessens. Saturday a change starts with the high shifting east and an upper trough deepening along the coast. Showers reach the central coast and temperatures cool a few degrees in the south. Sunday charts now show rain sliding down the coast Sunday afternoon and evening.</p> <p><b>6 TO 10 DAY: (next week)</b> By next Tuesday the trough and associated showers are gone. A new but temporary ridge follows for a day or two and then a ridge after that.</p>

### Coastal Contact Information

**Coastal Fire Centre Information Officer:** 250 951-4209  
**To Report a Wildfire:** 1 800 663-5555 or \*5555 on a cell phone  
**Fire Information Line:** 1 888 336-7378  
**Burn Registration Line:** 1 888 797-1717

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-  **Website:** [www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca)
-  **FireSmart** [www.FireSmartBC.ca](http://www.FireSmartBC.ca) and [www.FireSmartCanada.ca](http://www.FireSmartCanada.ca)

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Zone Activity Level	
<b>Level 1: (Exporting)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low to normal fire activity; no additional resource support is anticipated</li> <li>Adequate resources to deal with anticipated fire demands</li> <li>Monitor and anticipate possible support for non-wildfire provincial emergencies</li> <li>Zone resources may be deployed to other zones, fire centres, and out of province</li> </ul>	
<b>Level 2: (Exporting/ Holding)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is an increase in fire activity; zone resources are adequate to meet their demands</li> <li>Monitor and anticipate possible support for non-wildfire provincial emergencies</li> <li>Limited resources may be deployable to other zones, fire centres, or out of province</li> </ul>	
<b>Level 3: (Holding)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is an increase in fire activity; zone may not be able to meet local resource demands</li> <li>Resources from other zones / fire centres may be requested to assist zone activity</li> <li>Long term strategic planning becomes critical in determining what resources are needed where</li> <li>Zone staff on standby based on anticipated needs</li> </ul>	
<b>Level 4: (Holding/ Importing)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The zone is experiencing a high level of fire activity</li> <li>Zone resources will need to be supplemented from other zones / fire centres / type 2 crews</li> <li>Out of province resource requests for specific or critical resources may be required if provincial resource capacity is not able to handle fire demands</li> </ul>	
<b>Level 5: (Importing)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The zone is experiencing very significant fire activity, and/or extreme fire behaviour; heavy demands on provincial and fire centre resources are occurring and anticipated to continue</li> <li>Resource capacity is supplemented with staff from Wildfire TEAMS, other Ministries, the forest sector, Fire Departments, and type 2/3 resources</li> </ul>	
Fire Stages of Control	
<b>Out of Control</b>	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.
<b>Being Held</b>	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.
<b>Under Control</b>	The fire has received sufficient suppression action to ensure no further spread of the fire.

*Disclaimer: The information in this status report is intended for general purposes only and should not be relied on for operational decisions as fires are dynamic and situations change quickly. The BC Wildfire Service makes no warranties or guarantees either expressed or implied as to the completeness, accuracy or correctness of the information, nor accept any liability arising from any incorrect, incomplete or misleading information contained therein.*

Fire Danger Rating	
Status	Description
<b>Low</b>	Fires may start easily and spread quickly but there will be minimal involvement of deeper fuel layers or larger fuels.
<b>Moderate</b>	Forest fuels are drying and there is an increased risk of surface fires starting. Carry out any forest activities with caution.
<b>High</b>	Forest fuels are very dry and the fire risk is serious. New fires may start easily, burn vigorously, and challenge fire suppression efforts. Open burning and industrial activities may be restricted.
<b>Extreme</b>	Extremely dry forest fuels and the fire risk is very serious. New fires will start easily, spread rapidly, and challenge fire suppression efforts. Open burning, industrial activities and campfires may be restricted.
Wildfire Ranks	
Rank	Description
<b>1</b>	<b>Characteristics:</b> Smouldering ground fire, no open flame, white smoke, slow (i.e. creeping) rate of fire spread. <b>Firefighting tactics:</b> Direct attack with ground crews using hand tools and water delivery systems (i.e. pumps and hose).
<b>2</b>	<b>Characteristics:</b> Surface fire, visible, open flame, unorganised or inconsistent flame front, slow rate of spread. <b>Firefighting tactics:</b> 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.
<b>3</b>	<b>Characteristics:</b> 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. <b>Firefighting tactics:</b> 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.
<b>4</b>	<b>Characteristics:</b> 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. <b>Firefighting tactics:</b> 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.
<b>5</b>	<b>Characteristics:</b> Black to copper smoke, organised crown fire front, moderate to long-range spotting and spot fire growth. <b>Firefighting tactics:</b> 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.
<b>6</b>	<b>Characteristics:</b> 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. <b>Firefighting tactics:</b> 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.



RANK 1      RANK 2      RANK 3      RANK 4      RANK 5      RANK 6