

# BENDOR RANGE COMPLEX WILDFIRE UPDATE

The Bendor Range Incident Management Team currently has command of five wildfires located in the Lillooet Fire Zone.

This Community Bulletin covers the following wildfires:

- 🔥 **Downton Lake (K71649)**
- 🔥 **Casper Creek (K71535)**

## Key Statistics

Total Fire Size	7,249ha
Firefighters Deployed	105
Aircraft Assigned to Complex	11
Heavy Equipment Assigned	22

## Weather Overview

*Today:* Hot and Sunny, with temperatures in the low 30s.

*3-5 Day Outlook:* The upper ridge of high pressure will remain in place throughout the next several days. Expect the thermal trough to strengthen on Monday and slide further to the west. This will have a strong influence on local winds with outflow becoming more prevalent. By Wednesday, the pattern shifts back to inflow as the dome of hot air begins to shift eastward and maximum temperatures start to slowly cool down.

## Downton Lake (K71649)

The Downton Lake (K71649) wildfire was initially detected on Thursday July 13, starting as a result of lightning activity in the area. It is currently 2,596ha in size and remains Out of Control.

Firefighters successfully implemented one section of a planned ignition on the Northeast flank yesterday which has brought the fire down to established guards, Firefighters may do some small-scale hand ignitions to bring the remaining sections down to workable ground. This planned ignition and consolidated containment is an important step in the process towards being able to rescind/modify current Evacuation Orders and Alerts in the future. Smoke from this planned ignition may remain visible from surrounding areas as pockets of unburnt fuel burn behind guards. Dry conditions may also increase smoke along this flank. Bucketing helicopters are continuing to support work along the North Flank of the fire on any hot spots.

Across the remainder of the fire perimeter, firefighters continue to consolidate guards and mop up operations to protect and minimize further fire progression towards people, private property, and critical community infrastructure. Due to the deep seeded nature of remaining hotspots, this work will be ongoing for a number of days.

Structure protection continues to be demobilised from the area as the risk to structures and assets is reducing,



Work continues along the Northeast flank of the Downton Lake Fire (V71649)

# BENDOR RANGE COMPLEX

with targeted mop up operations adjacent to properties now being implemented.

An [Evacuation Order](#) - issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District - remains in place.

An [Evacuation Alert](#) - issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District - remains in place.

BC Wildfire Service and the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District acknowledge the impact of ongoing Evacuation Orders have on communities and are continually reviewing and assessing the status of the current Evacuation Order and Alert. Whilst favourable fire weather conditions in recent days have aided in moderating fire behaviour, we are not yet in a position to recommend to the

Squamish-Lillooet Regional District to rescind the current Evacuation Order and Alert. Forward planning is underway to ensure that when the situation allows for these to be rescinded return access for community members is done in a safe and coordinated manner. BC Wildfire Service and the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District remain

committed to towards getting community members back to their properties as soon as safely practicable and we appreciate the ongoing understanding of the community during this challenging time.

BC Wildfire Service and BC Parks continue to liaise with regards to the [South Chilcotin Mountains Park](#) closure. Given ongoing work to establish containment along the north/north-eastern extent and forecast conditions over the weekend, a decision has been made to continue the closure of South Chilcotin Mountains Park. A further review of the closure is scheduled for Monday August 14.

Road 40 (Lillooet-Pioneer Rd) has re-opened with single lane alternating traffic arrangements in place between 8.00am-5.00pm daily following a mudslide between Marshall Lake Rd and Mission Mountain Rd. Visit the [DriveBC](#) website for further updates.

## **Casper Creek (K71535)**

The Casper Creek (K71535) wildfire was initially detected on Tuesday July 11, starting as a result of lightning activity in the area. It is currently 4,653ha in size and remains Out of Control.

Firefighters - supported by heavy equipment and aviation resources - continue work on consolidating guards and undertaking mop up operations around the fire ground to protect and minimize further fire progression towards people, private property and critical community infrastructure and to ensure the safe access for returning community members.

The Evacuation Order previously issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District was rescinded Wednesday August 9 and downgraded to an [Evacuation Alert](#).

The Evacuation Alert previously issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District for Connel Creek to Pemberton Portage Road was also [rescinded](#) Wednesday August 9.

The Evacuation Alert issued by the Ts'al'ah Government remains current.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

**BC Wildfire Service**  
**Bendor Complex Information Team**  
BCWS.Bendor.Info@gov.bc.ca  
250-554-7178

**Squamish-Lillooet Regional District**  
**Emergency Operations Centre**  
[www.slrd.bc.ca/EOC](http://www.slrd.bc.ca/EOC)  
604-938-3546

