

# BENDOR RANGE COMPLEX WILDFIRE UPDATE

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

This Community Bulletin covers the following wildfires:

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

## Overview

Expect sunny skies, warm temperatures, and low min RHs today with widespread smoke. Reduced visibilities will continue to impact aerial operations. Relative humidities remain low, recovering to around 50% overnight, with max temperatures of 21- 25 C today and cooler temperatures into Wednesday. Tuesday night we expect to see winds ease but still be occasionally gusty especially on ridgetops. Wednesday through Friday we expect to see cooler and more unsettled conditions with a better chance of showers and gustier winds on Wednesday as the upper low pushes northeast. Thursday sees drying conditions across our complex with this continuing into Friday and the weekend.

## Casper Creek (K71535)

This wildfire remains active in areas surrounding Mission Mountain Road, as well as downslope on the west side of Tsee Creek above Shalath.

Today, ground crews will be using direct attack when safe to do so to limit further growth of the fire down Mission Mountain Road.

Crews will also support work on the contingency guard around Shalath, implementing water delivery and removing danger trees along the guard. Personnel will also be working to protect BC Hydro infrastructure in the immediate vicinity of the wildfire, as well as working in the community of Shalath prioritizing fuel reduction around properties. Personnel remain on site through the overnight period.

Structure protection will be ongoing within the Evacuation Order area in Tsal'alh, and triage of properties in the Bridge River valley has begun.

The Evacuation Alert and Order issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District remain in effect. Full evacuation information can be found on the [SLRD website](#). The Tsal'alh First Nation has upgraded their Evacuation Alert to an [Evacuation Order](#) as of Aug. 20, 2023.



The southeast flank of the Casper Creek wildfire (K71535) looking west towards Shalath and Mission Mountain Road (Aug. 22, 2023).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Bendor Range Complex Information

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### Squamish-Lillooet Regional District EOC

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## Downton Lake (K71649)

The Downton Lake wildfire is now estimated to be 7,382 hectares in size, though heavy smoke has limited accurate tracking of the fire perimeter in most flanks.

Today, ground crews are working to complete guard construction south of Gun Creek Road, running along the northside of Gun Creek. They will tie this guard in with previous guard completed north of Gun Creek Road. Personnel will also continue to mop up hot spots near properties on Gun Creek Road. Crews are identifying control line opportunities east of Gun Lake to secure the southeast flank of the fire.

Smoke limited all aerial operations yesterday, Aug. 21, and have limited air operations surrounding Lillooet through most of today. As of late afternoon, helicopters have been able to provide bucket support to on eastern flanks of the wildfire.

The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District are in the fire area conducting rapid damage assessments in the Gun Lake area today. The results of these assessments will be communicated from the regional district directly to the individuals affected.

The [South Chilcotin Mountains Park](#) and all [Rec Sites and Trails](#) in the vicinity of the wildfire have been closed.

All Evacuation Orders issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District remain in effect. Full details can be found on [their website](#).

**For your own safety, do not stay behind after an Evacuation Order has been issued. Evacuation routes can change rapidly or become impassable due to a wildfire's behaviour. In a volatile wildfire situation, first responders and other authorized personnel may not be able to reach an evacuated area because of a risk to their own safety or because access routes are blocked.**



The Downton Lake wildfire (K71649) burning in dense fuels on steep terrain, looking west over Gun Creek (Aug. 22, 2023).

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