

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 Creek (K71649)**
- Casper Creek (K71535)**
- Blackhills (K71778)**

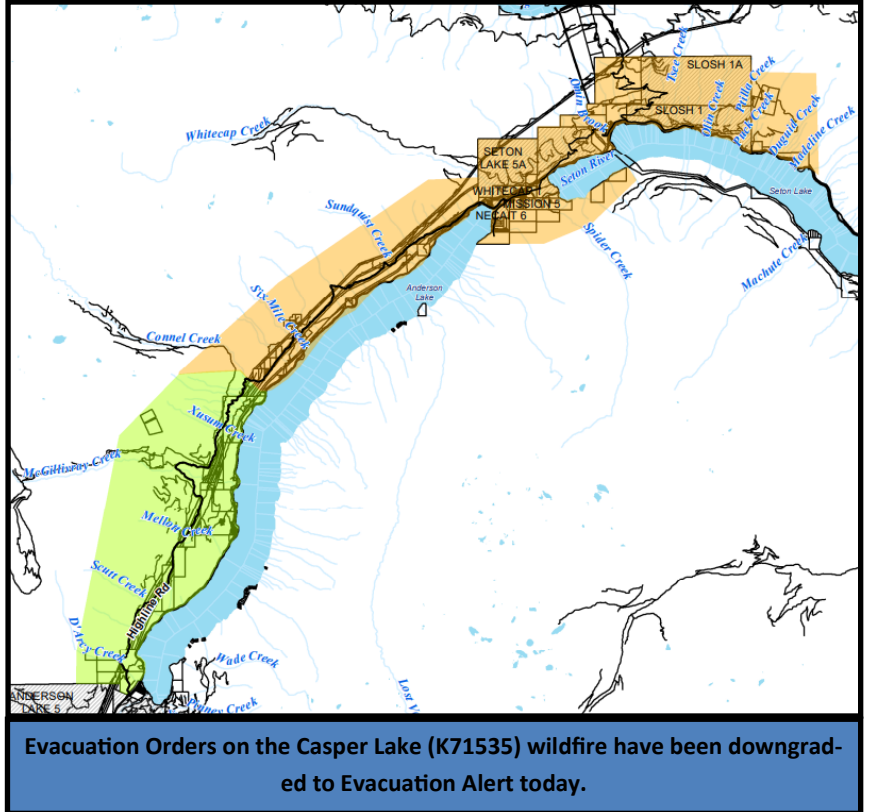
Key Statistics

Total Fire Size	7,748ha
Firefighters Deployed	158
Aircraft Assigned	15
Heavy Equipment Assigned	26

Weather Overview

Today, periods of cloud and sun throughout with a slight (20%) chance of showers lingering closer to the mountains. Temperature 21-24C.

Outlook indicates an upper ridge gradually rebuilds over the region into the weekend, with warmer and drier conditions returning. Winds expected to remain light from the south-west, with occasional gustiness. No rainfall predicted.



Downton Lake (K71649)

Starting as a result of lightning on Thursday July 13, the Downton Lake wildfire is currently 2,596 hectares in size and remains Out of Control.

Favorable fire weather conditions over the past 48 hours are aiding in moderating fire behavior across the fireground. The wildfire remains within identified containment lines, with no immediate threat to values along the lake shore.

Firefighters - supported by heavy equipment and aviation resources - are leveraging these favorable conditions to continue work on establishing and consolidating guards around the fireground to protect and minimize further fire progression towards people, private property and critical community infrastructure.

An Evacuation Order and Evacuation Alert - issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District - remain in place. For more information visit slrd.bc.ca/eoc

Consultation occurred today between BC Wildfire Service and BC Parks in 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. For more information visit bcparks.ca/south-chilcotin-mountains-park

BENDOR RANGE COMPLEX

Road 40 (Lillooet-Pioneer Rd) has re-opened with single land alternating traffic arrangements in place following a mudslide between Marshall Lake Rd and Mission Mountain Rd. Visit the DriveBC website for further updates bcdrive.ca

Casper Creek (K71535)

Discovered on Tuesday July 11, the Casper Creek wildfire remains listed as Out of Control with an estimated size of 4,563 hectares.

Favorable fire weather over the past 48 hours has aided in moderating fire behavior across this fireground.

Firefighters - supported by heavy equipment and aviation resources - continue to work on establishing and consolidating guards around the fire ground to protect and minimize further fire progression towards people, private property and critical community infrastructure. Firefighters have also been focused on extinguishing hotspots closest to the fires perimeter, with an infrared scan to be completed in support of these operations - including along the Highline Road/Seton Portage Road to secure safer access for the community.

Warm and dry conditions are anticipated to return over the coming days and into the weekend, with an increase in fire activity anticipated.

Following recommendation from BC Wildfire Service, the Evacuation Order issued by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District has been rescinded and replaced with an Evacuation Alert, with the previously issued Evacuation Alert also rescinded. For full details, visit slrd.bc.ca/eoc

Evacuation Orders and Alerts issued by Tsal'alh First Nation, have been downgraded to Evacuation Alerts.

Blackhills (K71778)

Starting Sunday July 16 as a result of lightning, the 589 hectare Blackhills wildfire remains listed as Being Held.

Firefighters - support by heavy equipment and helicopters - continue to mop up and patrol along established guards, extinguishing hotspots along the fire perimeter.

The Bendor Range Incident Management Team remain confident with the strategy and resources that continue to be assigned there will not be further fire spread beyond the pre-determined boundaries.

There are no Evacuation Orders or Evacuation Alerts current for this wildfire.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

BC Wildfire Service

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Squamish-Lillooet Regional District **Emergency Operations Centre**

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