



# WILDFIRE UPDATE

## Placer Mountain Fire (K61241)

**Location:** Approx. 37 km south of Princeton

**Date of Discovery:** July 17, 2018

**Fire Size:** Estimated at 2,372 hectares in size

**Status:** Being Held, 90% contained

**Cause:** Lightning

**Resources:** 113 firefighters that are supported by heavy equipment are on site today. There are 10 helicopters assigned to the entire complex that are being interchanged amongst the two wildfires.

**Objectives:** Today, crews will patrol and extinguish any hot spots that they find. Fire equipment will be demobilized in areas where it is no longer required.



← If you have a QR code-reading app on your cellphone, scan this code to be directed to the Placer Mountain update on our website. This webpage gets updated regularly.

## Snowy Mountain Fire (K51238)

**Location:** Approx. 14 km south of Keremeos

**Date of Discovery:** July 17, 2018

**Fire Size:** Estimated at 12,039 hectares in size

**Status:** Out of Control, 40% contained

**Cause:** Lightning

**Resources:** 106 firefighters that are supported by 8 pieces of heavy equipment are on site today. There are 10 helicopters assigned to the entire complex that are being interchanged amongst the two wildfires.

**Objectives:** With the support of helicopters, crews began to conduct a burn-off yesterday morning on the southeast corner, near Chopaka Road. This operation was initiated for the purpose of removing fuels from the slopes adjacent to properties in order to halt the forward progression of the fire. This burn was very successful in helping us with our suppression efforts, and is being continued again this morning to expand along the south flank as of 06:00 hours. Smoke will be visible.

Crews will continue to work to secure the north flank and tie it into rocky slopes in order to keep the fire from wrapping around towards Keremeos. Other crews continue their work on the east flank to mop-up and patrol along Chopaka Road, and personnel worked to utilize an existing road system in the Roberts Creek area to the south of the fire to develop containment lines and take advantage of existing features. The fire remains to the west of Chopaka Road, but is burning in a southward direction and the south flank and is approximately 3 km from the U.S. border. The BC Wildfire Service Incident Management Team assigned to the Snowy Mountain Fire is working collaboratively with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources given the fire's proximity to the border.

The steep terrain is inoperable in some areas, and poses a safety risk to firefighting personnel. Crews are being strategically placed where it is safe and where suppression objectives can be met. Crews are positioned in rotations for 24 hour coverage, working on the south flank to protect communities around where evacuation orders have been implemented. Control lines are being constructed with heavy equipment.

Fire equipment will be demobilized in some areas where it is no longer required. Structural protection specialists will continue to assess properties on the valley bottom, moving south along the Chopaka Road down to the U.S. border.



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### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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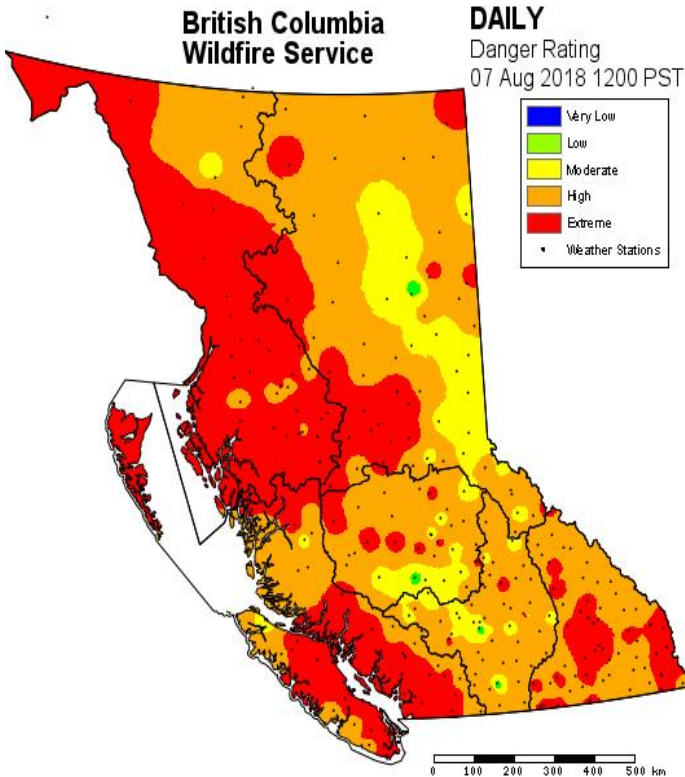
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# WILDFIRE UPDATE

**FIRE DANGER RATING:**



**FIRE WEATHER:**

Today will be mainly sunny, with smoke likely to be present in the valley bottom at the beginning of the day. Temperatures down in the valley will reach 38 degrees today and southwesterly winds will be 15-25 km/h, becoming light and westerly at the end of the day. At higher elevations, temperatures will reach 29 degrees and winds are predicted to be southwesterly at 15-25 km/h. The upper ridge will persist until late Friday, which will continue to increase temperatures. An upper trough will set up late Friday, breaking down the ridge into Saturday. This trough will bring moderate southwesterly winds with thunderstorms and cooler temperatures.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

A campfire prohibition is in place throughout the Kamloops Fire Centre. For more information go to:

<http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hrScriptsWildfireNews/Bans.asp>

To report a Wildfire call: **1-800-663-5555** or **\*5555** on your cell  
To call in a violation of the prohibition (if you do not consider the violation an immediate threat) you can call: Report all Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) at **1-877-952-7277** or **#7277**.

← If you have a QR code-reading app on your cellphone, scan this code to be directed to our website that outlines all the current bans and prohibitions for the Kamloops Fire Centre.

**PUBLIC WEATHER—KEREMEOS:**

Wed 08/08	Thu 08/09	Fri 08/10	Sat 08/11	Sun 08/12	Mon 08/13	Tue 08/14
Sunny	Sunny	Mainly sunny	Chance of a shower	Sunny	Mainly sunny	Sunny
36°	38°	36°	23°	28°	28°	31°

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# WILDFIRE UPDATE

## ALERTS AND ORDERS:

### July 29, 2018 14:30—Evacuation Alert For 4 Properties (2 Addresses) on Chopaka Road in Electoral “B”

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Emergency Operations Centre is issuing an Evacuation Alert. Protected Area wildfire K51238 in the vicinity of Cawston in Electoral Area “B” and adjacent to the Lower Similkameen Indian Band.

### July 31, 2018 18:00—Evacuation Alert for 481 Properties in Keremeos and Cawston

The precautionary Evacuation Alert includes all homes south and west of Highway 3 from 1143 Highway 3, south of Cawston, to the Fas Gas Plus service station at 3163 Highway 3, west of Keremeos. This includes selected homes within Electoral Area “B”, Electoral Area “G” and the Village of Keremeos closest to the Snow Mountain wildfire. [See RDOS for details.](#)

### Aug. 01, 2018—Smalqmix (Lower Similkameen Indian Band) Expanded evacuation alerts

Citizens can contact their band office at <https://www.lsisib.net/> for any updates.

### Aug. 01, 2018—Cathedral Provincial Park and Protected Area

There is an evacuation order for Cathedral Park Lodge and access routes within the vicinity. Please refer to [BC Parks](#) for updates.

### Aug. 01, 2018 10:00—Evacuation Order for Cathedral Lakes Lodge

Under a State of Local Emergency in RDOS Electoral Area “G”, an Evacuation Order has been issued for Cathedral Lakes Lodge. [See RDOS for full details.](#)

### Aug. 01, 2018 19:00—Evacuation Alert for Crown Land in the Cawston Area

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen issued an expanded precautionary Evacuation Alert area to include Crown Land/Snowy Mountain Protected Area to prepare for pre-emptive cattle relocation.

### Aug. 02, 2018 08:00—Evacuation Order for Lower Similkameen Indian Band

Precautionary evacuation order recommendation for five properties on the Lower Similkameen Indian Band.

### Aug. 03, 2018 11:00—Evacuation Order for Chopaka Road

The Lower Similkameen Indian Band issued an evacuation order for homes on Chopaka Road. Please see the [Lower Similkameen Indian Band information release](#) for details. The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen issued an evacuation order for properties in their jurisdiction, please see [the RDOS release](#) for complete details.

### Aug. 06, 2018 2:00—Evacuation order rescinded for four properties

An Evacuation Order for four properties in the vicinity of Cawston in Electoral Area “B”; issued on August 3, 2018 has been rescinded. Please see the [Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen information release](#) for further details.

### Aug. 07, 2018— Evacuation order for Cathedral Lakes Lodge rescinded

The Evacuation Order will now be replaced with an alert. Please see [the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen information release](#) for more information.

### Aug. 07, 2018— Evacuation Order for properties on Chopaka Road rescinded

The Evacuation Order was lifted for three properties on this Road. Please see the [Lower Similkameen Indian Band release](#) for more details.

### Aug. 8, 2018— Area Restriction is rescinded

The Area Restriction around Placer Lake has been rescinded

## HELPFUL RESOURCES:

Wildfires of Note: <http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/OneFire.asp?ID=699>

Drifting Smoke: [www.bcairquality.ca/bluesky/west/index.html](http://www.bcairquality.ca/bluesky/west/index.html)

Smoke Health Concerns: HealthLink BC | dial 8-1-1 | [www.healthlinkbc.ca/kbaltindex.asp](http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/kbaltindex.asp)



## Wildfire prevention for your home and community:

Preparing for the threat of wildfire is a shared responsibility. Homeowners, communities, industry and government all have responsibility to lessen the effects of wildfire.

The BC Wildfire Service encourages individuals and communities to learn more about the FireSmart program, which is focused on reducing the risk of wildfire around homes and communities. FireSmart is a national initiative to help property owners and communities understand the ways in which wildfire might threaten structures and property located in, and close to, forested and wildland areas. It also identifies steps individuals and communities can take to reduce the risk and impact of wildfire. Being FireSmart means living with and managing for wildfire on our landscape.

### At home:

Start with taking precautions to minimize the likelihood of igniting a fire on your property. For example, ensure that lawn equipment has a working spark arrestor fitted to prevent sparks from exiting through the exhaust pipe and take care to fully extinguish cigarettes and dispose of them safely.

Use FireSmart principles to minimize susceptibility of your buildings and property to wildfire. This is especially important and timely for homes and property recently impacted by wildfire since many of the actions can be taken during the repair and rebuild phase following a wildfire.

Examples of FireSmart actions you can take at home include:

- Building with fire-resistant materials such as metal roofing
- Clearing all plants and other vegetation from within 10 meters of a structure
- Planting deciduous species such as birch and aspen rather than coniferous trees
- Ensuring that no trees or other vegetation overhang the roof of a structure

### On your ranch or farm:

In addition to the information provided for homeowners, the FireSmart program includes specific recommendations for ranches, farms and acreages. Topics include burning barrels, livestock evacuations, feed storage, managing fields and pastureland, fence lines and ditches, and more. Check out the farm and acreage page on the FireSmart website or read the FireSmart Farm and Acreage Magazine for more information.

### In your community:

Communities benefit when they adopt programs of interface fire awareness and work together on effective preventative solutions. The FireSmart Communities program recognizes the citizens of a community who work together with a FireSmart representative from a local government or agency to identify and mitigate wildfire hazards throughout their community. The program relies on the energy and spirit of a community joining together in an effort to reduce wildfire risk for everyone. Funding may be available to communities who work to mitigate risk from wildfire in the wildland urban interface. For more information about the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative, please talk with your local municipal government or regional district for funding initiatives available that may benefit your community.

Visit [www.firesmartcanada.ca](http://www.firesmartcanada.ca) for additional resources and information