



COMMUNICATION BULLETIN

Consistent community updates regarding the status of the Shetland Cr. Wildfire will be as follows:

- Daily updates Monday - Friday by 2:00 pm on the Village Facebook Page, Website and poster at Post Office.
- After hours or weekend updates will only be posted when emergent information is received and must be communicated immediately to the public.
- Voyent Alerts will be sent for critical information only, not for daily fire status updates.

The Village in collaboration with the HUB and E-Fry are coordinating transportation for those that may require assistance if a future evacuation order is needed. To prepare we are simply asking residents requiring assistance to call the registration line between 8am and 8pm Monday – Friday at: **250-457-3422**.

Village approach is to plan, be prepared, stay informed and share information to our residents.

July 22, 2024 – UPDATE from BCWS Website

Today, July 22, is forecasted to be hot and dry similar to yesterday, which will result in aggressive burning conditions with increased fire behaviour. Winds will be predominantly south southwesterly, approximately 20 km/hr with gusts up to 30 km/hr and the potential for 40 km/h gusts at the top of the ridges. Temperatures will remain in the 30's with relative humidity values in the high teens for the afternoon. Medium range spotting will continue with forecasted winds and as fuels remain dry and susceptible for ignition.

- Ashcroft remains on Evacuation Alert;
- Fire size has increased to 19,941.6 hectares
- An incident command team is assigned, there are 136 firefighters, 12 helicopters, 26 heavy pieces of equipment and 4 line locaters, 1 Structure Protection Branch Director, 2 Structure Protection Specialists and 29 structure protection personnel, one Type 1 and two Type 2 structure protection trailers, 9 structure protection engines and 4 structure protection water tenders.
- July 21, aggressive fire behaviour was observed on the eastern flank of the Shetland Creek wildfire. Rank 4 fire behaviour which is a highly vigorous surface fire with torching, or passive crown fire was moving in an eastern direction to Highway 1. Due to increased fire activity between North and South Venables Road, the BC Wildfire made the recommendation to close Highway 1 for public safety.
- Night operations will continue with crews engaging in structure protection in the Venables Valley and along the Oregon Jack Road.
- Ground personnel on the east flank of the fire were staged along Highway 1 to do small scale hand ignitions to remove unburnt fuel between the fires edge and Highway 1. This operation will continue today if onsite conditions are favourable.
- Crews are continuing to secure guard parallel to the Oregon Jack Road.
- A Night Vision helicopter was utilized throughout the night for reconnaissance and crew coordination.

“Wellness Awaits You”

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- The fire spotted south over the Murray Creek FSR and is burning in the southern direction further south in the valley. Though the fire is highly visible to nearby communities it poses no imminent threat to the community of Spences Bridge.
- Structure Protection personnel are working in the southern part of the Hat Creek Valley, adjacent to the Oregon Jack Road and in the Venables Valley to install and maintain structure protection apparatus on identified values.
- Heavy equipment is continuing to construct guard tying into Blue Earth Lake northwest to Hat Creek Valley to keep the fire east of Hat Creek Valley. Approximately 25 kilometres of guard is in the process of being daylighted, which involves removing and widening machine guard and eliminating tree canopy to prevent spotting.
- On the south flank of the fire, crews are supporting heavy equipment operations as they construct guard along Murray Creek and East Murray creek, connecting to Rannie Pit Road above the community of Spences Bridge.

The Village of Ashcroft continues to participate in all coordination call with BC Wildfire Service and Emergency Management BC to monitor the situation and is committed to reporting back to residents.

Finally, to clarify notification in the event that Ashcroft is placed on evacuation order, residents will be notified by Voyent Alert, social media, Website, Bulletin boards at Post Office and most importantly you will be notified in person as we will conduct a door to door notification.

Stay safe, be prepared and take good care of yourself and check on your neighbours.

NEXT UPDATE – TUESDAY July 23, 2024

For more information:

BC Wildfire Service at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/wildfire-situation>

Thompson Nicola Regional District at: <https://www.tnrd.ca/>

Village of Ashcroft at: <https://ashcroftbc.ca/>

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