



## 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 23, 2024 – UPDATE from BCWS Website

Fire Chief White continues to monitor the fire ground and participates in the morning crew meetings with BCWS ground crews when possible. Structure protection was set up by Ashcroft Fire Rescue (AFR) at the Ashcroft Ranch in an abundance of caution.

Today, July 23, is forecasted to be hot and dry like yesterday. Winds will be predominantly south southwesterly, approximately 10 to 15 km/hr with gusts up to 30 km/hr. Temperatures will remain in the 30's with relative humidity values in the high teens for the afternoon. Medium range spotting may be seen with forecasted winds and as fuels remain dry and susceptible for ignition.

### Shetland Creek Operations:

- Yesterday, July 22, observed fire behaviour along the east flank was displaying rank 2 and 3 which is low to moderate vigorous surface fire. Crews remained engaged in night operations along highway 1. For both public and ground crews' safety, highway 1 remains closed at this time. Watch Drive BC for updates as MOTI continuously assess the situation for improvements in consideration of reopening the highway.
- On the south flank of the fire, crews are supporting heavy equipment operations as they construct guard along Murray Creek, connecting to Rannie Pit Road and pushing towards through the Twaal Valley above the community of Spences Bridge.
- Night operations continued through last night with crews engaging in structure protection in the Venables Valley and along the Oregon Jack Road.
- Yesterday afternoon, ground personnel were supported by aviation resources with bucket operations to slow the rate of spread where an area of the containment line was challenged in south Venables Valley. Crews will remain onsite overnight actioning hotspots.
- Construction of the contingency guard to the north of the fire will commence today from the Hat Creek Valley pushing east towards Cornwall Hills Park.

**“Wellness Awaits You”**

**[www.ashcroftbc.ca](http://www.ashcroftbc.ca)**

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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.

Response:

- 156 firefighters are responding to this incident. This group is comprised of a combination of BC Wildfire Service personnel, contract crews and out of country resources.
- 9 helicopters assigned to this incident. Helicopters will be used for reconnaissance and bucketing.
- 27 pieces of heavy equipment and 3 line locaters are assigned to this incident.
- 1 Structure Protection Branch Director, 2 Structure Protection Specialists and 42 structure protection personnel, supported by 3 structure protection engines and 3 structure protection water tenders.

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.

A reminder, 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 24, 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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