



# WILDFIRE UPDATE

## Elephant Hill Wildfire

Information Bulletin August 11, 2017

**Fire Size:** 117,170 hectares (estimated)

**Status:** 30 per cent contained

**Resources:** 451 firefighters, 25 helicopters, 123 pieces of heavy equipment, numerous support persons including a BC Incident Management Team, structural protection personnel are all supporting efforts on this fire.

### Progress to date:

The shift in the wind pattern occurred today, which has made sections throughout the fire more active this afternoon. The division of the fire north of Hwy 99 (Division B) was active and crews kept the fire from crossing Hwy 99. Hwy 99 has been closed temporarily while crews were working on the fire.

The fire was active on the north and east flanks and we saw growth on these areas of the fire. Structural crews continue to support the BC Wildfire Service including along the Hwy 97 corridor, Loon Lake, Hihium Lake, Deadman Valley, Back Valley Road and Young Lake areas.

There has not been an updated public map of the perimeter of the fire, due to the amount of smoke. Today, crews were trying to get an updated map of the fire. If a new perimeter map has been made, I will post on the wildfires of note page for the Elephant Hill fire.

Yesterday, there was a flare up around Loon Lake, but crews were there and actioned the fire quickly.

Effective at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 11, 2017 all Crown land within the Cariboo Fire Centre is closed to public access due to the continued extreme fire danger and the number of active wildfires throughout the region.

A map of the affected area is available online at: <http://ow.ly/SFhp30eIHuP>



### ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Information Officer:** Noelle Kekula (250) 319-4815 or [noelle.kekula@gov.bc.ca](mailto:noelle.kekula@gov.bc.ca)



[www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca)



BC Forest Fire Info



@BCGovFireInfo

# Questions and Answers

## Questions Regarding Evacuation Orders and Alerts

For information on Evacuation Orders and Alerts, please contact the Cariboo Regional District at <http://cariboord.bc.ca/>

Or call the Cariboo Regional District Emergency Information Line at: 1-866-759-4977

For information on Evacuation Orders and Alerts, please contact the Thompson Nicola Regional District at <http://tnrd.ca/>

Or call the TNRD Emergency Information Line at: 1-866-377-7188

For information on Evacuation Alerts, please contact the Squamish Lillooet Regional District at <http://slrd.bc.ca/>

## Questions Regarding Road Blocks and Access

The public is encouraged to check <http://www.drivebc.com> for information regarding Road Blocks and access restrictions.

## Recreation Sites and Recreation Site Closures

Until further notice, the public is advised to avoid **all** recreation sites and Provincial Parks in the Chilcotin and Cariboo regions, due to the severe wildfire hazard. [www.sitesandtrailsbc.ca](http://www.sitesandtrailsbc.ca)

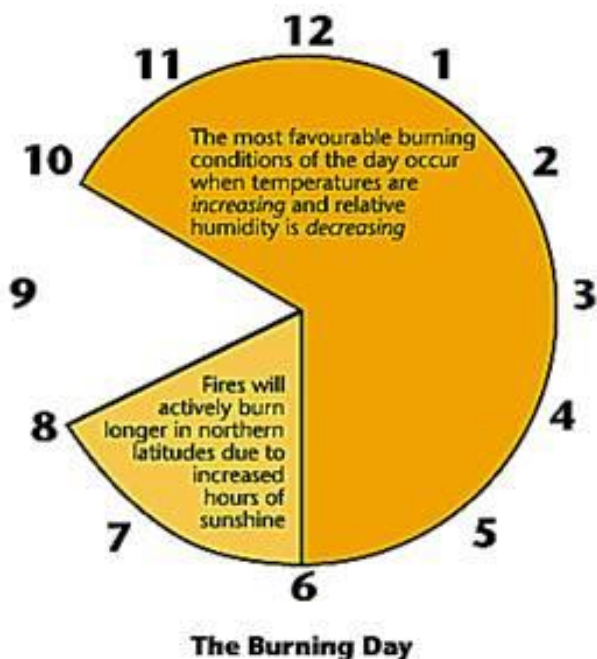
## What about people with respiratory concerns who are having a hard time with smoke?

- Smoke concentrations will vary widely as winds, fire behaviour and temperatures change.
- Residents are advised to consider avoiding strenuous outdoor activities.
- For air quality conditions, visit: [www.bcairquality.ca](http://www.bcairquality.ca)

## Important links

Fire information: [www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca)

Preparedness: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/preparedbc/know-the-risks/wildfires>



You may have heard firefighters talk about the 'witching hour' or see more activity in the vicinity of the fire around 6 pm. The reason for this is that fire behaviour will generally decrease overnight due to cooling temperatures, rising humidities and overall cooling, then during the day temperatures slowly increase, and winds may help dry fuels throughout the day. By late afternoon conditions will be at their peak for increased fire behaviour and it is during this period that fires will often become most active.

Crews prepare throughout the day knowing that this period will often mean more vigorous burning with fires potentially