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## Silverton Wildfire Operational Update #1

**Wednesday, July 24, 2024 2:00 p.m.**

### **Aylwin Creek Fire and Komonko Creek Fire**

Silverton, BC – The inversion didn't lift today as expected, keeping low elevations smoked in. No precipitation or lightning is expected today, and temperatures will again reach near 30 degrees Celsius. Winds will be south-southwest 10 – 20 km/h with gusts of 30 – 40 km/h. Wind speeds will increase in the afternoon with daytime heating, and the moisture content in fuels will be low (relative humidity of 15 – 25%). The low relative humidity values combined with gusty winds will result in increased fire behaviour and rates of spread.

The Evacuation Alert remains in place for the entire Village of Silverton, and the Evacuation Order for the rural Red Mountain Road area was expanded further south. Detailed information including specific addresses for properties under Evacuation Order can be found on the Regional District of Central Kootenay website at

<https://www.rdck.ca/index.html>

The Komonko Creek fire is mapped at 534 hectares in size, and the Aylwin Creek fire is at 400 hectares. Both fires remain out of control. Today the fires are being actioned by two unit crews, four operational single resources, three helicopters with more aerial resources enroute, two line locators, 14 pieces of heavy equipment and 7 machine operators under the direction of a new Incident Management Team that assumed command on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Komonko Creek and Aylwin Creek fires are now part of the Slocan Lake Complex of fires.

The operational objectives today are to continue to construct a hand guard with the assistance of heavy equipment and monitoring the fire's proximity to properties and maintaining fire line security. Heavy equipment is establishing machine guard, and work continues on control lines to tie into the cliffs above Slocan Lake that is a natural guard. Structure Protection crews continue to deploy structure protection on areas of concern, and helicopters are supporting with reconnaissance and water delivery whenever visibility improves enough to make that safely possible.

An Area Restriction is now in effect for the entire Slocan Lake Complex – for Silverton, this begins at the Silverton Forest Service Road (also known as 4 Mile Creek Road) and extends all the way south to Slocan. Highway 6 remains closed in both directions to protect both public and responder safety.

For more detailed information from BC Wildfire Services specific to the Komonko and Aylwin Creek fires, please visit the following websites:

<https://wildfiresituation.nrs.gov.bc.ca/incidents?fireYear=2024&incidentNumber=N51210&source=list>

<https://wildfiresituation.nrs.gov.bc.ca/incidents?fireYear=2024&incidentNumber=N51065&source=list>

The Village of Silverton will provide regular updates with as much information as possible. Please continue to support our fire fighters and the teams that are working hard to protect our community.

Issued by: Village of Silverton