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Silverton Wildfire Operational Update #4

Saturday, July 27, 2024 2:00 p.m.

Aylwin Creek Fire and Komonko Creek Fire

Silverton, BC – The entire Village of Silverton remains on evacuation order today. Anyone who has not yet registered with Emergency Support Services either in person at the Nakusp & District Community Complex or online or by phone is encouraged to do so, whether you expect to be seeking support or not. Details can be found on the Regional District of Central Kootenay website. (www.rdck.ca)

Partly cloudy skies and relatively cool temperatures are expected into Saturday evening. Winds are expected to be lighter, however gusty conditions could develop again this afternoon or early evening which could increase fire activity.

The smoke lifted temporarily yesterday afternoon which allowed BC Wildfire Services to get updated perimeters on the Aylwin Creek Fire. The fire is now 593 hectares in size, although this growth is over the past week. Crews are using various tactics to remove fuels on the north flank of the fire and strengthen the control line. Crews continue making progress creating a control line on the north flank of the fire near Bannock Point. Structural protection units have set up equipment. The fire is being actioned by one unit crew, one initial attack crew, one operational single resource, nine helicopters (assigned to the Slokan Lakes Complex), 4 pieces of heavy equipment and 4 machine operators, as well as Structure Protection units.

The Komonko Creek Fire is still sized at 543 hectares. Crews here are also using various tactics to strengthen the guard on the west flank of the fire. Structure Protection crews continue to deploy apparatus and equipment on areas of concern. Heavy equipment continues to support the construction of control lines from Red Mountain Road northwards. The fire is being actioned by two unit crews, nine helicopters (assigned to the Slokan Lakes Complex), six pieces of heavy equipment and 5 machine operators, as well as Structure Protection units.

BC Ferries has advised that the Needles Ferry will remain in service. The ferry had been scheduled for maintenance, but due to the current fire conditions and evacuations, it will not be going on scheduled maintenance at this time. Please check BC Ferries website for the latest information before planning your trip. (www.bcferrries.com)

We have been advised that the New Denver Post Office will reopen on Monday, July 29th.

A Boil Water Notice remains in place for the Village of Silverton's water system on the recommendation of Interior Health. This is a precautionary step, due to the potential for ground water contamination from fire fighting activities in the area. All users are advised to bring water intended for consumption, oral hygiene or food preparation to a rolling boil for at least 1 minute or use an alternate, safe source of water.

An Area Restriction remains 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.

Village of Silverton