



OVERVIEW

Current Situation: Improving

PECC Activated Level 1

Southeast PREOC Activated Level 2

Local Government EOCs: Activated Level 2

Weather conditions over most of the province over the past few days have helped to keep the wildfires in check. There has been a general reduction in public safety risks over the past 72 hours in the Southeast Region where most of the fire activity is currently centered. There are 7 major fires burning in the Southeast Region at this time, however none have shown any significant growth over the past few days. **MOF reports that they are making good progress on containing the fires through burn-offs and guard building. The largest of the Kootenay fires, the Springer Creek Fire near Slocan, is currently estimated at 2850 ha.** 30 homes have been evacuated as a result of this fire. Highway 6 remains closed and a number of homes remain on evacuation alert.

The Ministry of Forests Protection Program continues to aggressively action the fires in the Southeast Region. Current information on wildfires can be found on Ministry of Forests Protection Program website at: <http://bcwildfire.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/Situation.asp>

IMPACTS - RESPONSE

The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) issued a Declaration of State of Local Emergency on August 1st, to facilitate evacuations and response actions.

- **There are currently 30 homes under Evacuation Order. No change.**
- **There are 68 homes on Evacuation Alert. No change.**
- **Highway 6 remains closed at Slocan Bluffs.**

Re-entry visits for the evacuees continue today. Due to the ongoing risk to evacuated residents, ESS has been extended through to August 9th. The RDCK continues to work on re-entry and recovery plans.

The RDCK will be hosting information meetings for evacuees this evening at the following locations:

- **Slocan, RD Fire Hall 18:00**
- **New Denver, Knox Hall 20:00**

For specific information and maps on evacuations and alerts associated with the fires, visit the Regional District of Central Kootenay website at:

<http://www.rdck.bc.ca/publicinfo/news.html?action=display&id=67>

BC Ambulance has established a Regional EOC in Nelson.

BC Hydro has pre-positioned 5 emergency generators in the West Kootenays for use in communities which may experience power outages. **BC Hydro reports that repairs to transmission lines damaged by fires have been completed and a plan to re-energize the lines is being developed.**

RCMP continue to staff the traffic control sites for the closure of Highway 6.

MOT and MOF have developed a strategy to protect a wooden bridge on Highway 6 at Enterprise Creek, using sprinklers. **MOT is currently evaluating the risks to Highway 6 through the burn area.**

The Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) has deployed 1 Sprinkler Protection Unit to the Springer Creek Fire in the Slocan Valley; A second SPU kit has been deployed to the Hamil Creek Fire (previously known as Argenta), and a third SPU kit has been deployed to the Penstock Fire near Needles.

The SEA PREOC in Nelson is activated at Level 2 and the PECC in Victoria remains activated at Level 1. The RDCK EOC in Nelson, remains staffed along with 4 satellite operations centres.

OUTLOOK

A frontal system is pushing across most of the province today, bringing cooler temperatures and showers to most regions. Afternoon high temperatures in most regions are expected to be below seasonal normals over the next few days. Light showers are also expected across most of the province today and tomorrow.

In the Southeast of the province temperatures will remain near or slightly below seasonal normals for the next 2 days. Some light showers are expected over the next 2 days as well. Lightening is possible in the Southeast Region this afternoon and some areas may also see high winds. Current weather models indicate a return to hotter and drier weather by this coming weekend.

Additional detailed local news and fire maps, can be found on the Regional District of Central Kootenay website at <http://www.rdck.bc.ca/publicinfo/news.html>