

INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release March 11, 2022

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development BC Wildfire Service

Prescribed burns scheduled near Penticton

PENTICTON – The BC Wildfire Service and Penticton Indian Band plan to conduct two prescribed burns in the south Okanagan with support from the Okanagan Shuswap Resource District.

Preparation work for these prescribed burns could start as early as March 14, 2022. However, the burns likely won't occur until after March 28, 2022. The exact timing of the burns will be dependent on weather, site and venting conditions. Ignition will proceed only if conditions are suitable and will allow for quick smoke dissipation.

The Penticton Indian Band and the BC Wildfire Service will carefully control and monitor the fires at all times. Smoke and flames may be visible from Penticton and surrounding areas, and to travellers along Highways 97, 97C and Highway 3A. For information about road conditions near these projects, please visit www.drivebc.ca.

The purpose of these prescribed burns is to improve public safety through a reduction in fuel loading (standing and surface fuel) within the wildland urban interface (WUI) to provide a level of community protection from wildfire and supporting the traditional use of fire as a tool to improve the landscape.

Ellis Creek prescribed burn

 This burn will cover an estimated 95-hectares located approximately 6 kilometres west of Penticton.

Penticton Creek prescribed burn

• This burn will cover an estimated 61.5-hectares located approximately 8 kilometres northeast of Penticton.

To report a wildfire, unattended campfire or open burning violation, call *5555 on a cell phone or 1 800 663-5555 toll-free.

Learn More:

For more information on the importance of cultural burning and prescribed fire, please visit prescribedfire.ca.

People can follow the latest wildfire news:

- on the free BC Wildfire Service public mobile app, available for Apple (iOS) and Android devices
- on Twitter: twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo
- on Facebook: <u>facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo</u>

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