

August 12, 2022



FIRE NAME

Keremeos Creek (K50863)

FIRE SIZE:

6712 hectares (estimated)

FIRE STATUS:

Out of Control

RESOURCES:

309 wildland firefighters are assigned to this fire working with an additional 49 structural protection personnel from fire departments across BC for a total crew complement of 358 firefighters. 16 helicopters and 45 pieces of heavy equipment are also assigned.

UPDATES:

Status: Despite the hot and dry conditions, yesterday, August 11, there was no significant increase in fire activity. Over the next two days some isolated showers or thunderstorms may occur, and temperatures will cool into the mid to high twenties. Winds will continue to be gusty and erratic near thunderstorms. As of 10 a.m. on August 12 Highway 3A will be open to the public please be advised of reduced speed. For up-to-date road conditions please check Drive BC.

K50863—August 7, crews working on mop up.

Assignments: The fire is currently stable along the eastern side of Highway 3A and operational objectives

remain mostly the same. On the evening of August 10 an aerial infrared scan was completed along the Northeast section of the fire along the Highway 3 corridor and Green Mountain Road. Crews continue to locate and extinguish hotspots identified.

Northwest:

- Crews are using direct attack along the northwest between Keremeos creek and Green Mountain Road.

- Crews are using direct attack methods on the Northern most section of the fire Northeast of Green Mountain Road.
- South of Green Mountain Road crews continue to patrol and mop up between Sheep Creek Road and Highway 3A.

Southwest:

- A water delivery system is being established around Winter Creek to support wildfire crews.
- Yesterday crews completed the planned ignition on the 2 km stretch along the Olalla Forest Service Road.
- Crews will continue mopping up and patrolling area along highway 3A and up the Olalla Creek FSR.

- Night Operations are continuing to monitor the fires edge up to the Olalla FSR for any spill over caused by rolling debris and establish a black line where safe to do so.

Northeast:

- Crews continue to mop up and patrol along the fire perimeter adjacent to Sheep Creek Road, towards Yellow lake, and southwest along the Highway 3 corridor.

- Along Highway 3, crews are patrolling and mopping hotspots identified by the aerial infrared scan.

Structure Protection:

- Continue to support planned ignitions near Olalla, filling relay tanks for both structure protection and wildfire crews. Check and prioritize based on fire behaviors and the protection of additional structures

- Continue to monitor and prioritize structure protection equipment at Apex Mountain and Sheep Creek based on current fire activity.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Information Officer: Karley Desrosiers and Paula Walbauer | Hours: 0800-2000

Phone: (778) 362-4872 | Email: <u>BCWS.KeremeosCreekINFO@gov.bc.ca</u>













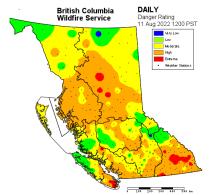
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EVACUATION ALERTS AND ORDERS:

BC Wildfire Service has worked with the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen, Village of Keremeos, Penticton Indian Band, Lower Similkameen Indian Band and Okanagan Nation Alliance to provide information to keep residents safe. Recommendations for Evacuation Orders and Alerts are based on current and forecasted conditions to proactively keep people safe, and so BCWS can actively work the fire. For more information about Evacuation Orders and Alerts go to: <u>Regional District of</u> <u>Okanagan-Similkameen</u>, <u>Village of</u> <u>Keremeos</u>, and <u>Penticton Indian Band</u>.

FIRE DANGER RATING





August 11—Planned ignition on the Keremeos Creek wildfire.

FORECAST:

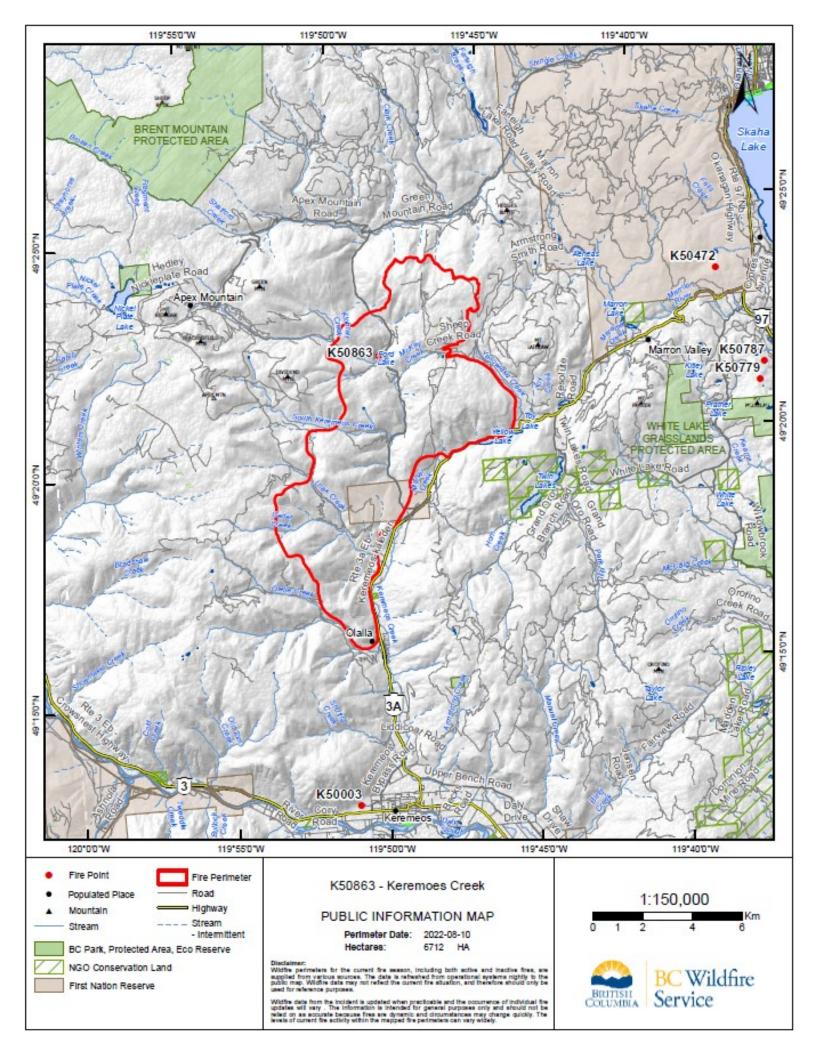
SYNOPSIS: The low weakens and is absorbed into a trough Saturday as it rotates northward to be in northern BC by afternoon. Some isolated showers or thunderstorms may occur, and temperatures will cool into the mid to high twenties. Light to moderate south to west winds will prevail with some gustiness.

OUTLOOK: An upper ridge will be building over the region Sunday and temperatures will warm to the midtwenties to near 30 C with light south to west winds. Continued ridging with a dry southwest flow will allow temperatures to rise to the high twenties to low thirties Monday. Winds will be light south to west. Temperatures reaching the low to mid -thirties are in store for Tuesday and Wednesday under the ridge.

Safety

The BC Wildfire Service reminds members of the public that the Keremeos Creek wildfire is an active worksite and they should exercise caution at all times while travelling in the area and along the Highway 3A corridor. We would like to ask all residents that if they are driving on ANY roads in the vicinity of the Keremeos Creek Wildfire to slow down. Crews and equipment are being moved using roads in the area. Please slow down and stay alert! Before entering any area affected by a wildfire, members of the public should be aware that significant safety hazards may be present.

Trees that have been damaged by fire might be unstable and could fall. Ash pits can be hard to detect and can remain hot long after the flames have died down. Nearby communities can still expect to see smoke within the fire's perimeter over the coming weeks. This is common with large wildfires, and smoke will continue to be visible until there is significant rainfall at the site. Smoke appearing from well within the fire perimeter and burned material is common. However, smoke that rises from green, unburned fuel or from outside of fire's perimeter should be reported. To report a wildfire or open burning violation, call 1 800 663-5555 toll-free or *5555 on a cellphone.



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Honour House

We are often asked how the public can help the crews. The BC Wildfire Service does not accept donations for many reasons (pre-existing contracts, Covid restrictions, etc.), however, if you are looking for a long term way to support our crews please consider Honour House. Honour House is described as a "home away from home" for members of our Canadian Armed Forces, Veterans, Emergency Service Personnel and their families to stay, completely free of charge, while they are receiving medical care and treatment. This includes BC Wildfire Service personnel and their families. You can learn more about Honour House and what they offer by visiting their website at www.honourhouse.ca or an alternative is the Canadian Fallen Fighter Foundation.

Thank you!

Helpful Resources

A great resource for anyone on evacuation alert is the FireSmart's

Last-Minute Checklist for Protecting Your Home and Property from Wildfire:



K50863—August 11, crews working on steep slopes along Hwy 3A to put out hot spots.



BC Wildfire App:

The official BC Wildfire Service mobile app is available for free download in the App Store and on Google Play.

Additional information is provided in the **BCWS Mobile App Reference** Guide.

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