

**From:** [Edith Watson](#)  
**To:** [Edith Watson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: ATTN: Mayor and Council, Chair and Board, CAOs | Provincial Wildfire Update - July 16, 2024  
**Date:** July 16, 2024 11:49:52 AM

**From:** Rob Schweitzer <[rob.schweitzer@bcwildfire.gov.bc.ca](mailto:rob.schweitzer@bcwildfire.gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 16, 2024 11:00 AM  
**To:** Email - [administration@strathconard.ca](mailto:administration@strathconard.ca) <[administration@srd.ca](mailto:administration@srd.ca)>  
**Subject:** ATTN: Mayor and Council, Chair and Board, CAOs | Provincial Wildfire Update - July 16, 2024

**NOTICE:** This email is from an external source.

BC Wildfire Service Wildfire News banner



Hello Mayor and Council, Chair and Board, and CAOs,

As we enter the core months of wildfire season, I am committing to providing regular updates on the wildfire situation in British Columbia. As a valued partner in wildfire management, it is critical for you to remain engaged and up-to-date on wildfire activity in your area.

I would encourage you to take advantage of the wildfire situation resources that are available. There is a large amount of information available on the BCWS Map and Dashboard, which is available on desktop, on mobile browsers, and as a mobile app. Automatic updates to this page occur in near real-time from our wildfire dispatch system, and fire information officers usually update wildfire incident pages that have increased levels of response twice a day. There are several links throughout this email that will assist in navigating this information.

In addition to the wildfire information presented below, I can advise that B.C. has reached out to our external wildfire partners for increased wildfire personnel to supplement our own BCWS and contract crew resources. BCWS has requested the following resources:

- One 25-pack unit crew and one AREP from Nova Scotia arrived at the Prince George Fire Centre on July 12.
- Five additional 25-pack unit crews are requested through CIFFC.
- Incident Management Teams are requested from Australia.
- Two CL415s (water-scooping aircraft) and a birddog (scouting aircraft) have arrived from Ontario. Additional aircraft are requested through CIFFC.
- Additional requests for out-of-province resources are underway with international partners.

These resource requests have been submitted early in anticipation of increased activity later in July and August. Both CIFFC and U.S. are at prep 4 (out of 5), with B.C. and Alberta currently at the highest prep levels nationally. With heightened wildfire activity across Canada and in the US, resource sharing becomes challenging and early requests are essential to ensure that B.C. is supported through our resource-sharing agreements.

Out-of-province resources do not replace the vast wildfire community we rely on in BC. We currently have active standing arrangements with 55 private companies to provide wildfire suppression services and additionally rely on privately held heavy equipment contractors to support suppression. There are many additional contract opportunities that can be offered through contacting a local fire centre.

As mentioned, I will provide further updates as we head into core fire season. Your support and amplification of official messaging is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Rob Schweitzer

A/ Assistant Deputy Minister

Ministry of Forests, BC Wildfire Service

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## Provincial Summary

The hot and dry weather trend continues through the province today. We will continue to see a steady temperature build from high 20s to mid 30s throughout the southern half of B.C..

We can expect to see thunderstorms over eastern portions of B.C. through the middle of the week, over the Columbias and North Rockies. Later this week, a pickup in winds is forecasted across the province, which has potential for an increase in fire activity.

Over the weekend, we welcomed partners from Nova Scotia; one 20-person unit crew and an agency representative. With hot, dry weather anticipated to continue through many areas of the province, these firefighters will support our staff and contractors to meet objectives on new

and existing fires for the next two weeks. Additional out-of-province resources include two CL415 aircraft and one birddog aircraft from Ontario, stationed in Williams Lake.

Forest fuels remain dry and susceptible to new starts. To reduce the risk of human-caused wildfires, a province-wide Category 1 (campfire) ban is in effect. Please stay up to date on current fire conditions and adhere to all fire bans and restrictions in your area, including those enforced by your regional district or local authority.

**Provincial Information Officer | [FIREINFO@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FIREINFO@gov.bc.ca) | (250) 312-3051**

### WILDFIRE MAP

The wildfire map has information on every active wildfire in B.C. Detailed information for large incidents can be found under the Response tab of the incident webpage.

### WILDFIRE DASHBOARD

The wildfire dashboard has a provincial summary, wildfire statistics, assigned resources, fire prohibition information, and other relevant resources.

### Web and Mobile App Reference Guide

## Statistics

Visit the BC Wildfire Service Dashboard for the most up-to-date wildfire statistics available.

### CURRENT STATISTICS

## Resources

Connect with your local Fire Centre, stay current on the latest Wildfire news, and learn more about how we can work together to build resilience and keep your community safe.

CONNECT

Access contact channels for general inquiries, Fire Information and feedback

COLLABORATE

Access the Wildfire Collaborative Partnership Guide for local governments

STAY CURRENT

Visit the BC Wildfire Service blog to read the latest information bulletins

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