



DISTRICT OF TUMBLER RIDGE

Date: July 14, 2021
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

WILDFIRES WITHIN DISTRICT BOUNDARY AND SURROUNDING AREAS

There are currently no evacuation alerts or orders issued for the District of Tumbler Ridge.

The District of Tumbler Ridge has received many phone calls regarding the reappearance of the smoke column southwest of town. We can confirm at this time that the smoke is a result of the Tentfire Creek, G71138, wildfire burning approximately 27 kms down the Kinuseo Falls Road. With the increased winds received today, the growth of this fire was anticipated by the BC Wildfire Service. Crews remain on scene with firefighters and heavy equipment to maintain and establish new guards as required. While the estimated size of the fire is currently unknown to the District of Tumbler Ridge, it is estimated to still be 20 kilometres away. Upper winds can carry smoke a considerable distance, should not be used as a means to gauge its proximity. Heading into the weekend, a significant rainfall is forecasted for our area. This will assist in efforts to confine the fire. A direct link to the BC Wildfire G71138 page is can be found by visiting <http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/OneFire.asp?ID=822>

Poor air quality conditions are forecasted as winds push the smoke from nearby wildfires as well as wildfires in the Prince George and Caribou regions into our immediate area and an air quality advisory is currently in place. Please see the [Smoky Skies Bulletin](#) for more information. These smoky conditions may cause adverse health affects for some residents with respiratory problems. Please take the appropriate precautions to protect yourself if you are susceptible to poor air quality. Visit <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/prevention-public-health/wildfire-smoke> for more information on wildfire smoke and air quality.

The G71134 fire near Hook Creek is now approximately 203 hectares in sizes and is being monitored by BC Wildfire Service and BC Parks representatives. Monkman Provincial Park remains closed at park boundary, and signage has been put up warning the travelling public of the closure. River access to the park is not prohibited at this time, however, those travelling within the park boundary by river are urged to use caution and to be alert to the current fire conditions in the area and this closure may come without notice.

The Emergency Operations Centre remains activated in order to coordinate the gathering and dissemination of information. Media releases may not occur daily as they will be issued as relevant information on conditions/events becomes available. The most updated information from the EOC will be posted on the District's website. www.districtoftumbleridge.ca. Additional information on the wildfires in our area can be found by visiting the BCWS current wildfire activity page <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/wildfire-situation>



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Are you registered for the North East BC Emergency Alerts System? This system is specifically designed to allow you to get notifications such as an evacuations alert or orders in the fastest way possible. Visit www.NEBCAlerts.com to register your contact information today.

Emergency preparedness is an invaluable tool to help keep you and your families' safe in the event that you may need to leave quickly. Please take a moment to visit www.preparedbc.ca to learn how you can plan ahead.

Important Links:

For a current wildfire map, visit

<https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/f0ac328d88c74d07aa2ee385abe2a41b>

BC Wildfire G71138 wildfire of note link.

<http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/OneFire.asp?ID=822>

More information on forecasted air quality and smoky conditions can be found at

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/air/advisories/2021-07-14_smoky-skies-issue.pdf

More information on health effects and how to protect yourself from wildfire smoke, visit

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/prevention-public-health/wildfire-smoke>

To register for the Northeast BC Emergency and Public Alerts System visit www.NEBCAlerts.com

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