

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – BC Wildfires

Road Transportation – Highway 20

Who do I contact for road closures?

Drive BC has updated information about road closures, major events and transportation delays including updates for Highway 20. Please check www.drivebc.ca or call 1 800 550 4997 or 511.

Who should I contact about transportation on BC Ferries?

BC Ferries is providing complimentary prearranged travel support to people evacuating from the wildfires in the BC Interior provided travelers phone in advance to make arrangements.

Please call BC Ferries at 1 888 BCFERRY (1 888 223-3779) to discuss travel.

Backcountry Access

Can I access the backcountry in the Cariboo Region?

Yes. Effective at 2pm on Wednesday, August 23 the general backcountry closure for the [Cariboo Region](#) was rescinded.

Can I access the backcountry in the Coastal (Bella Coola) Region?

Yes. The Coastal Region is open. There are certain areas within BC Parks that remain closed. Please check [Tweedsmuir South Provincial Park](#) for the most current information.

Can I have a campfire?

Yes. Campfires are now permitted in some areas of the Coastal Fire Centre, including the CCRD. Please check [fire bans and restrictions](#) for the latest information.

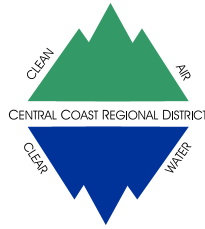
Support Services

What supports services are available for people who are on evacuation order?

Emergency Support Services (ESS) are available for those who are on evacuation order. Contact the ESS in the community where you are currently located to ask about getting assistance. You can call the provincial number at 1-800-585-9559 to find contact information for the closest ESS.

What support services are available for small businesses affected by the wildfires?

The Canadian Red Cross will be providing emergency assistance of \$1,500 to each eligible small business, not-for-profit organization or First Nations cultural livelihood directly impacted by the British Columbia Fires through an application and validation process. Deadline is October 31, 2017. Please see www.redcross.ca or call 1 855 999 3345.



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Can I access support through the Red Cross?

Red Cross support is available for registered evacuees. If you are an evacuee, you can register with the Red Cross and learn more about the financial supports available. Evacuees can register with the Red Cross by calling 1-800-863-6582. More information is available at www.redcross.ca.

Fire information

What is the closest fire to the Bella Coola Valley?

The closest wildfire is located 52 kilometres east of Bella Coola in a remote area called 'The Precipice'. Wildfire Service crews have been working hard since July 7th. The fire is now being managed by the Cariboo Fire Centre.

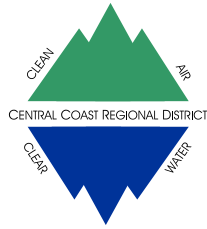
There is one evacuation alert in the CCRD from the junction of the Tote Road at the foot of the Bella Coola Hill east of Highway 20 to the end of the Tote Road and Turner Lakes trailhead and northeast to the area known as the Precipice. A copy of the alert can be found here: http://www.ccrd-bc.ca/files/library/Signed_Evacuation_Alert_Aug-25_2017.pdf

How do I get more information about the Precipice fire?

A daily Wildfire Bulletin with information on the size and location of the fire is available on the CCRD website under Emergency Notices. A hardcopy of the bulletin can also be found at the main entrance of the Nuxalk Administration office and at the local post offices, groceries stores, and downtown restaurants. The daily information bulletin also contains information on the Kleena Kleene and Colwell Lake fires.

How do I get information about the status of wildfires?

For Current Wildfire Information, please check the BC Wildfire website, Facebook and telephone line. BCWildfire.ca "[Wildfires of Note](#)" page has the latest fire information. 1 888 281-2992 Wildfire Phone line (recorded) has fire information [BCForestFireInfo](#) BC Wildfire Service's Facebook page



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Helpful Links

The following sites have information regarding the wildfire situation:

Central Coast Regional District: www.ccrd-bc.ca

Cariboo Regional District: www.cariboord.bc.ca

DriveBC: www.drivebc.ca

Wildfire Information: www.bcwildfire.ca

Tweedsmuir South Provincial Park: http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/tweeds_s/

Emergency Info BC: www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca

Red Cross: www.redcross.ca

Campfire Bans and Restrictions: www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status