

INFORMATION BULLETIN

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For Immediate Release
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Ministry of Forests and Range
Coastal Fire Centre

ARSON / ILLEGAL CAMPFIRES KEEP CREWS BUSY ON THE COAST

PARKSVILLE – The Coastal Fire Centre is anticipating a period of escalating fire potential and is asking for the public’s help in preventing any unnecessary person caused wildfires.

An extended period of dry and hot weather without any precipitation has dried forest fuels, and fuels are now much dryer than they were at this time last year. Our crews are reporting that wildfires are growing more quickly and require more resources to contain than even a week ago.

The current fire weather outlook shows increased potential for lightning within the next week for south-western B.C. It is anticipated that the lightning will not come with any appreciable precipitation.

Our crews are still responding to unnecessary human caused fires attributed to arson, campfires and equipment use. We are asking the public’s assistance to prevent these fires that are impacting our ability to respond to naturally occurring lightning fires and support the wildfires in the interior of the province.

Please report any arson tips to the RCMP or to Crime Stoppers at 1.800.222.TIPS or at www.bccrimestoppers.com. Also, please do not hesitate to report fires. We need your help to get to these wildfires as quickly as we can when they are small.

To date there have been about 650 incidents that required our response in the Coastal Fire Centre. All these incidents were caused by human activity.

The Coastal Fire Centre appreciates the public’s continued cooperation and efforts in fire prevention and reporting of wildfires.

To report a wildfire please call *5555 or 1-800-663-555.

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Contact: Mike McCulley
Coastal Fire Centre
Fire Information Officer
250 951-4209

Ellie Dupont
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Fire Information Officer
250.951.4209

More information on wildfires in British Columbia is available on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo> and Facebook at <http://facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo>

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province's news feeds using RSS, visit the Province's website at www.gov.bc.ca.