



2023 Northstar Interchange Prescribed Fire



Introductions/Development Group

Matthew Duran – BCWS – Project Lead

Daniel Houser – BCWS – Ignition Specialist

Peter Holub – BCWS – Cariboo Cultural and Prescribed Fire Specialist

John Salewski – BCWS - Quesnel Wildfire Officer

Erin Robinson – City of Quesnel

Ryan Lee – BC Hydro




Bruce McDonald / Tracey McDonald – Lhtako Dené

Florian Bergoin - Nazko



Dalton Sankey – MOTI

Bruce Matsuba - Emcon



Kirby Booker – Quesnel FD



Suzie Taylor – Quesnel District

Intent

- Will reduce the potential of starting RoW fires in the spring and spreading to adjacent private properties. (Brakes, Cigarettes, etc, as what happened in Fall 2022)
- Will reduce likelihood of fire damage to utility and FD infrastructure, as well as adjacent timber.
- Will facilitate better coordination, communication and allow training between structural Quesnel Fire Department and BCWS resources for the future.
- Will introduce the public to prescribed fire conditions, similar to what is currently used within the city of Williams Lake (Boitanio Park, Williams Lake Stampede Grounds)
- Collaborate with local First Nations, working alongside members to facilitate ignitions plan

Updates

- Prescription signed off
- Ignitions Plan finalized
- BCWS Film crew will be onsite
- MOTI Permit - approved
- Site map finalized
- First Nations consultation – completed
 - Ongoing coordination
- Postponed until Fall, waiting on proper condition
 - In process of updating partners



Dragon Lake Hill - Quesnel Zone Prescribed Burn Map

Map Date: January 18, 2023

- Prescribed Burn Area
- PMBC - Parcel of Interest
- Private Land
- Municipal Land
- Crown Agency
- Crown Provincial
- Regional & Local Parks
- Undeveloped
- Survey Parcel - Primary
- Survey Parcel - Subdivision
- Highway
- Main Road
- Right of Way - Transportation
- Right of Way - Infrastructure

| Name | Area_Ha |
|--------|---------|
| 1 | 0.4 |
| 2 | 0.9 |
| 3 | 1.3 |
| 4 | 1.7 |
| 5 | 2.6 |
| 6 | 2.8 |
| 7 | 0.4 |
| 8 | 0.4 |
| Total: | 10.5 |

1:4,000



**This map may contain
CONFIDENTIAL
information: for
INTERNAL use only**

Disclaimer:
Wildfire perimeter for the current fire season, including both active and inactive fires, are supplied from various sources. The data is refreshed from operational systems nightly to the public map. Wildfire data may not reflect the current fire situation, and therefore should only be used for reference purposes.

Wildfire data from the incident is updated when practicable and the occurrence of individual fire updates will vary. The information is intended for general purposes only and should not be relied on as accurate because fires are dynamic and circumstances may change quickly. The levels of current fire activity within the mapped fire perimeter can vary widely.

Data Sources and Notes:

Projection: NAD 1983 BC Environment Alberta
Created by: cdey



Low Ground Disturbance Strategies and Techniques

- Prep site with removal, limbing and disposal of specific treed vegetation
- Use prescribed fire to remove grass fuel load
- Use Hand ignitions to burn the highway RoW (ditches). Common technique
- Use hand ignitions to burn slopes leading to and away from highway infrastructure
- Use Hand ignitions to burn the roundabouts within the interchange
- Use a tight strip pattern to lower the intensity of the fire to keep a surface fire of $<2000\text{kw/h}$
- Black line or mow around all utility poles and infrastructure
- Use the fire weather index to determine appropriate ignition time and duration
- Use onsite crews to extinguish the fire
- Annually/biennially maintenance cycle (Spring/Fall)

METHODS: The crews will use drip torches to burn the ditches, slopes and interchange roundabouts, using and tools and backpack pumps along with IA trucks to hold the fire. Quesnel Fire department as well as First Nations crews will be on-site in partnership and provide additional resources.



Questions Comments Concerns

- Continue First Nations collaboration
 - Contracts to be in place for crews
 - Post ignition walkthrough
 - Arch assessment for treatment unit 6
 - Identification and location of potential Fox dens
- City Council presentation
- BCWS site prep
 - Removal, limbing and disposal
- Public media forum
 - Social media
- Highway control
 - Give ample notice so Emcon can incorporate appropriate personnel
 - Fill out required forms a few weeks prior to ignition
 - Contract to be place for road control
 - Pre-burn worksite garbage clean-up
- Have Spring update meeting with all Partners

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