


FIRE NAME

V30067

FIRE SIZE:

100 hectares (estimated)

FIRE STATUS:

Out of Control

On Wednesday afternoon, a fire was reported to RCMP who responded, requesting the assistance of BC Wildfire Service and the Squamish Fire Department. Upon arrival crews assisted the RCMP to evacuate the Squamish Valley Campground and approximately 6 homes nearest the fire yesterday evening. More information about evacuations can be found on the Squamish Lillooet Regional District.

Crews reported the fire was an aggressive fire Wednesday afternoon, fanned by 15 km/hr winds, warm temperatures and steep slopes.

By dusk, fire behaviour dropped considerably, winds dropped, the temperature cooled, and the fire had burnt up the slope onto more level ground. At the end of day, firefighters reported the fire as a ground fire with some open flame (Rank 1/2).

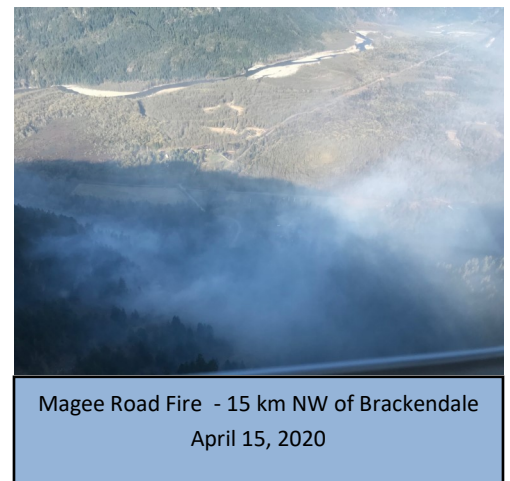
That evening, 22 crew persons, 3 helis, and one Structural Protection Unit brought by the Squamish FD who are assisting, and 3 excavators were working the fire. One unit crew stayed overnight to continue to protect around the structures.

Update—April 16, 2020

- The fire was quiet this morning, and is a low intensity ground fire (rank 1/2).
- The fire is considered an interface fire due to its proximity to homes and infrastructure
- The fire is impacting the main access road to the rural community further along the Squamish Valley Road
- Evac orders/alerts in place by Squamish Lillooet RD; please refer to their website for more information.
- The fire is suspected human caused and is under investigation.

EVACUATION ALERTS AND ORDERS:
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Evacuation information is available here: <https://www.slrd.bc.ca/inside-slrd/notices/emergency-notices/evacuation-order-and-alert-issued-upper-squamish-valley>



Magee Road Fire - 15 km NW of Brackendale
April 15, 2020

RESOURCES:

Today, there are 37 firefighters on the fire, with more resources anticipated to arrive.

There are 3 helicopters, 3 excavators and a Structural Protection Unit on site, being installed onto homes closest to the fire.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Information Officer: Marg Drysdale | Hours: 0800-2000

Cell Phone: 250 927-4637 | BCWS.COFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca



FIRE STAGES OF CONTROL:

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Out of Control | Describes a wildfire that is not responding (or only responding on a limited basis) to suppression action, such that the perimeter spread is not being contained. |
| Being Held | Indicates that (with the resources currently committed to the fire) sufficient suppression action has been taken that the fire is not likely to spread beyond existing or predetermined boundaries under the prevailing and forecasted conditions. |
| Under Control | The fire has received sufficient suppression action to ensure no further spread of the fire. |

WILDFIRE RANKS:

| Rank | Description |
|------|---|
| 1 | <p>Characteristics: Smouldering ground fire, no open flame, white smoke, slow (i.e. creeping) rate of fire spread.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Direct attack with ground crews using hand tools and water delivery systems (i.e. pumps and hose).</p> |
| 2 | <p>Characteristics: Surface fire, visible, open flame, unorganised or inconsistent flame front, slow rate of spread.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Direct attack with ground crews using hand tools, water delivery systems, or heavy equipment. Hand constructed control lines and lines that have been cleared of combustible material will likely be successful.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Characteristics: Organised flame front – fire progressing in organised manner, occasional candling may be observed along the perimeter and/or within the fire, moderate rate of spread.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Hand constructed control lines alone are likely to be challenged, ground crews conducting direct attack may require air support from fixed-wing air tankers, skimmers or helicopters conducting bucketing or tanking operations. Control lines constructed by heavy equipment will generally be effective</p> |
| 4 | <p>Characteristics: Grey to black smoke, organised surface flame front, moderate to fast rate of spread on the ground, short aerial bursts through the forest canopy, short-range spotting.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Ground operations may not be successful at the head of the fire, indirect tactics may be required to bring the head of the fire under control. Parallel attack may be used along the flanks of the fire to direct the head into favourable ground or fuels. Air operations may be required to support ground personnel.</p> |
| 5 | <p>Characteristics: Black to copper smoke, organised crown fire front, moderate to long-range spotting and spot fire growth.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: The limited options available include indirect attack and planned ignitions to remove fuel in the path of this type of fire behaviour. Ground operations are often restricted to fighting the least active sections of the fire or conducting ground ignition operations from secure control lines with readily available escape routes and safety zones.</p> |
| 6 | <p>Characteristics: Organised crown fire front, long-range spotting and independent spot fire growth, possible fireballs and whirls, violent fire behaviour probable, a dominant smoke column may develop which influences fire behaviour.</p> <p>Firefighting tactics: Firefighting under these conditions is extremely dangerous. Suppression efforts will be well away from active fire behaviour and may include preparing structure protection measures or conducting indirect large-scale ignition operations in an attempt to steer the fire. Often, the safest and most prudent strategy is to pull resources back to safe areas, ensure that personnel and the general public are safe, and wait for fire behaviour to lessen before re-engaging in fire suppression operations.</p> |



RANK 1

RANK 2

RANK 3

RANK 4

RANK 5

RANK 6