

TAKLA NATION

HEALTH • PROSPERITY • TRADITION

## Area Restriction for Omineca Complex rescinded

PRINCE GEORGE – The Area Restriction that was established around the Omineca Complex has been rescinded effective as of 12:00 p.m. (PDT) on July 16, 2023.

With the reduced fire activity and behaviour, there is no longer a need to restrict public or industry access in order for firefighting personnel to operate efficiently and safely in the area.

The rescind applies to the Area Restriction covering the Fall River (G50851), Big Creek (G60666), Thane Creek (G60882) and Mesalinka River (G60651) fires. The Area Restriction for the Nation River (G60853) wildfire remains in effect.

The BC Wildfire Service reminds members of the public and industry personnel that wildfires within the Omineca Complex remain active and continue to be active worksites and caution should be exercised at all times while travelling or working in the area. Even if an area restriction has been rescinded, officials still have authority under the *Wildfire Act* and the *Wildfire Regulations* to order anyone to leave the area.

Before entering any area affected by a wildfire, members of the public and industry personnel should be aware that significant safety hazards may be present. Trees that have been damaged by fire might be unstable and could fall. Ash pits can be hard to detect and can remain hot long after the flames have died down.

Road closures and area restrictions are subject to change depending on fire activity. For the most current information please visit the <u>BC Wildfire Service's Bans and Restriction Page</u>.

Residents, travellers and industry personnel within the vicinity of these fires may continue to see smoke from within the perimeter and burned material; however, smoke that rises from green, unburnt fuel or from outside the perimeter should be reported immediately.

To report a wildfire or an open burning violation, call \*5555 on a cell phone or 1-800-663-5555 toll-free. Reporting is also available through the BC Wildfire Service mobile app.