

SAFETY ALERT

Forestry Harvesting Operations

Fire Danger Ratings High to Extreme in BC

Location: Province of British Columbia

Date: August 2018

Details: Forestry companies are reminded to be vigilant with industrial and/or high-risk activities, as hot and dry weather has resulted in High to Extreme fire danger ratings throughout British Columbia. As the wildfire risk increases, the standard of care used by industry should change accordingly to reflect current conditions. Human-caused wildfires divert critical response resources away from naturally occurring wildfires.

Please pay particular attention to the Fire Danger Class rating in your area, ensure that you are using the appropriate weather station data for the area where you're operating, and adhere to the shutdown formulas outlined in the province's wildfire regulations.

Learnings & Suggestions: To view the Fire Danger Class Report, please visit www.bcwildfire.ca and click on the "View Fire Danger Ratings" button.

Remember that if you see or cause a wildfire, you have an obligation to report it, take action with available resources and extinguish the fire if it's practicable to do so. Please ensure that you carry out your industrial operations in accordance with the Wildfire Act and the Wildfire Regulation.

Wildfire Act:

http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/00_04031_01

Wildfire Regulation:

http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/11_38_2005

A summary of good practices related to fire preparedness for the forest industry can be found at: <https://www.bcfpb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/SIR30-Summary-of-Good-Practices.pdf>

To report a wildfire or open burning violation, call 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on your cellphone.

General Contact: Provincial Wildfire Coordination Centre Information Line (250) 312-3051