

Lightning sparks 17 new wildfires in 24 hours

July 22, 2021

Wildland Fire Management recorded 17 new wildfires yesterday evening across central and southern Yukon as a result of lightning activity that struck 3,836 times over the course of the day. In the last 3 days, a total of 33 new lightning-caused fires have been identified.

In the Lake Laberge area, lightning struck 500 metres from a Fox Creek residence. The subsequent 0.1-hectare fire was successfully contained by an initial-attack crew with helicopter bucketing support.

The Dawson district saw 9 new ignitions in conditions of moderate to high fire danger. Of these, suppression action took place at the following fires while the remainder were assessed:

- Bell Creek (DA-018, 15 hectares, out of control): an air-tanker group worked this fire yesterday evening to slow its spread.
- Bonanza Creek Road (DA-019, 0.1 hectares, under control): an initial-attack crew, supported by a helicopter with a water bucket, contained this fire.
- Dominion Creek (DA-020, 0.3 hectares, out of control): an air-tanker group dropped retardant along the fire front to slow its spread.
- East of Dempster Corner (DA-023, 2 hectares, out of control): an initial-attack crew, supported by 2 helicopters with water buckets, held this fire 12 kilometres east of the Dempster Highway junction with the North Klondike Highway.

In Carmacks, crews continue to develop and implement structure protection plans for sites near the 725-hectare Ta'tla Mun Lake and 1,590-hectare Bear Feed Creek fires. During hot conditions, highway users may see these fires from the North Klondike and Robert Campbell Highways, respectively, but neither road is currently threatened.

This week's forecast calls for scattered showers and thundershowers across central and southern Yukon.

Visit [Yukon.ca/firemap](https://www.yukon.ca/firemap) to see the locations, size and control status of all Yukon wildfires.

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