

# Additional guard added to north of Takhini Bridge fire (XY-019)

July 11, 2023 - 9 pm

Evening update on the Takhini Bridge fire (XY-019).

The latest fire size estimate is 1402 hectares. The status of the fire remains “out of control.”

Overnight the fire continued growing up the Ibex ridge to the east. Fire did not cross the critical guard in place protecting the Alaska Highway and homes. During the day the fire demonstrated moderate behaviour, influenced by smoke coverage that brought slightly cooler temperatures.

New dozer guard has been established along the north flank of the fire, along the base of Ibex Ridge. This will provide a defensible position if the fire continues to move east. Handheld ignition operations were successful overnight in the northwest corner of the fire.

Aerial ignitions are being assessed going forward to remove fuel between established guard and the fire, but these operations require careful planning and favourable winds to take place. Precautionary structure protection took place on additional homes.

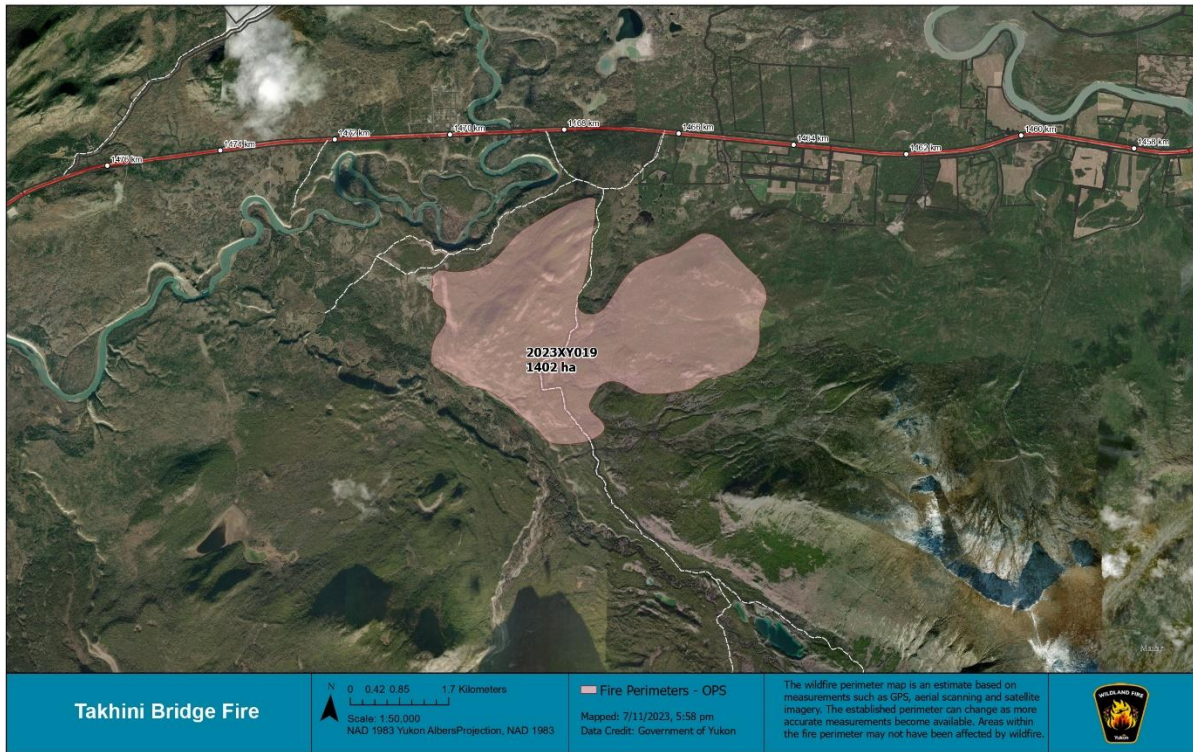
Today 32 firefighters, four wildfire officers and a SHOT structure protection team are being supported by four helicopters and two air-tanker groups. These resources include an AS-332 Super Puma helicopter that can carry 3,800 litres of water in its bucket.

An Incident Management Team has been established to support the fire response. This group will include dedicated logistics, planning, administrative and information resources assigned to XY-019. Today and yesterday wildland fire officials met with the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations and the Ibex Valley Local Advisory Council to provide more information on the fire.

The Alaska Highway remains open for public use. If you are travelling in the area, avoid stopping on the highway or any side roads near the fire so that firefighters can safely travel through the area.

[Parts of the Ibex Valley remain under evacuation alert.](#)

Visit <https://wildfires.service.yukon.ca> to see the locations, size and control status of all Yukon wildfires.



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