



BCWS Seasonal Readiness For Oil and Gas Sector

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The BC Wildfire Service



The BC Wildfire Service is a branch of the Ministry of Forests

Mandate:

Deliver effective wildfire management and emergency response support on behalf of the Government of British Columbia

Protect lives and values at risk

Encourage sustainable, healthy and resilient ecosystems

The BC Wildfire Service is authorized to carry out fire control on any land in British Columbia if the fire endangers life or threatens forest or grass land.





Fire Season Summary & Outlook

Activity by Fire Centre

Northwest Fire Centre (NWFC)

84 wildfires
111,274 hectares burned

Prince George Fire Centre (PGFC)

447 wildfires
803,591 hectares burned

Coastal Fire Centre (CoFC)

157 wildfires
2,537 hectares burned

Cariboo Fire Centre (CaFC)

230 wildfires
30,354 hectares burned

Kamloops Fire Centre (KFC)

393 wildfires
52,785 hectares burned

Southeast Fire Centre (SEFC)

369 wildfires
73,675 hectares burned

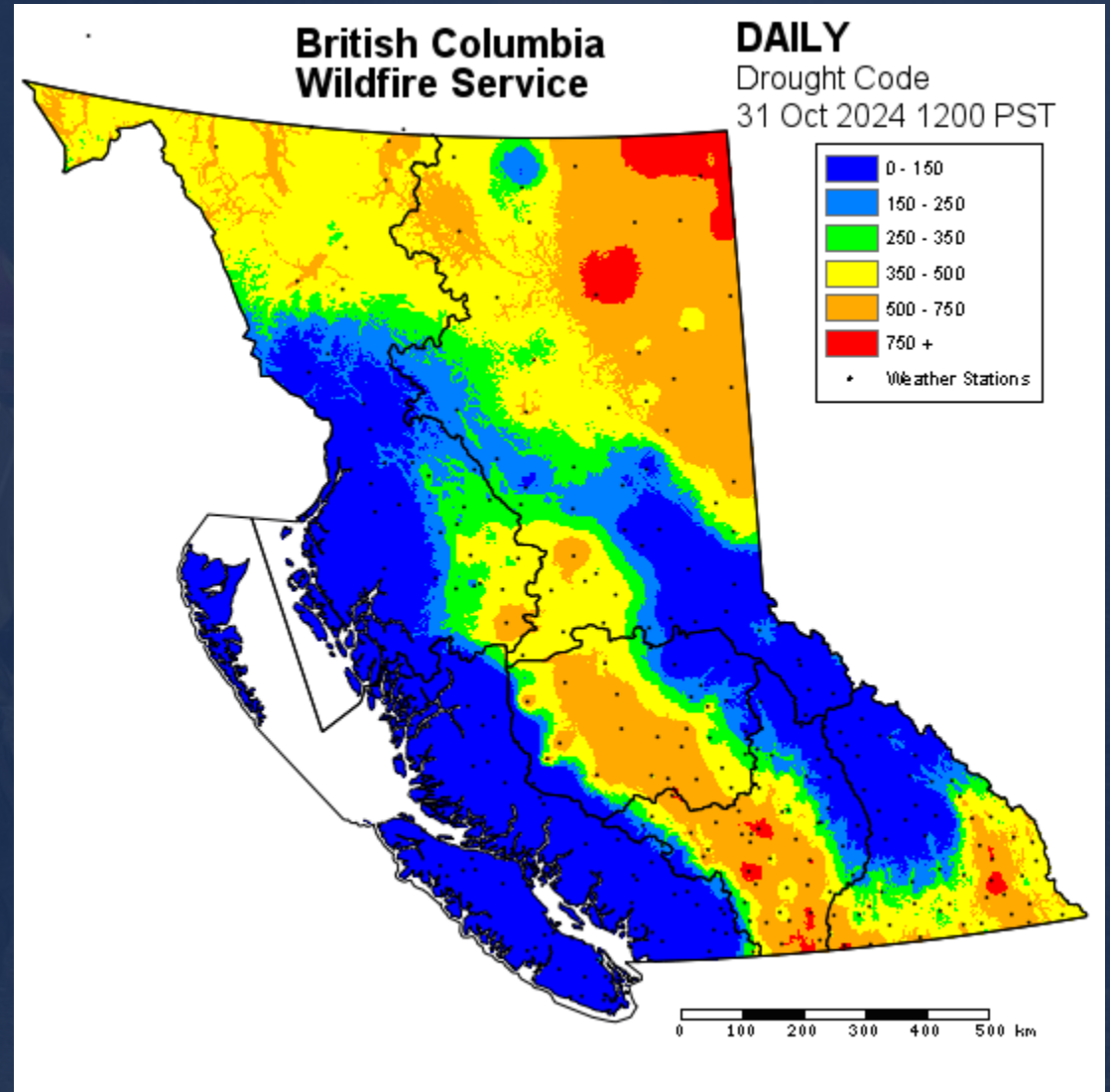


**From April 1, 2024, to December 10, 2024*



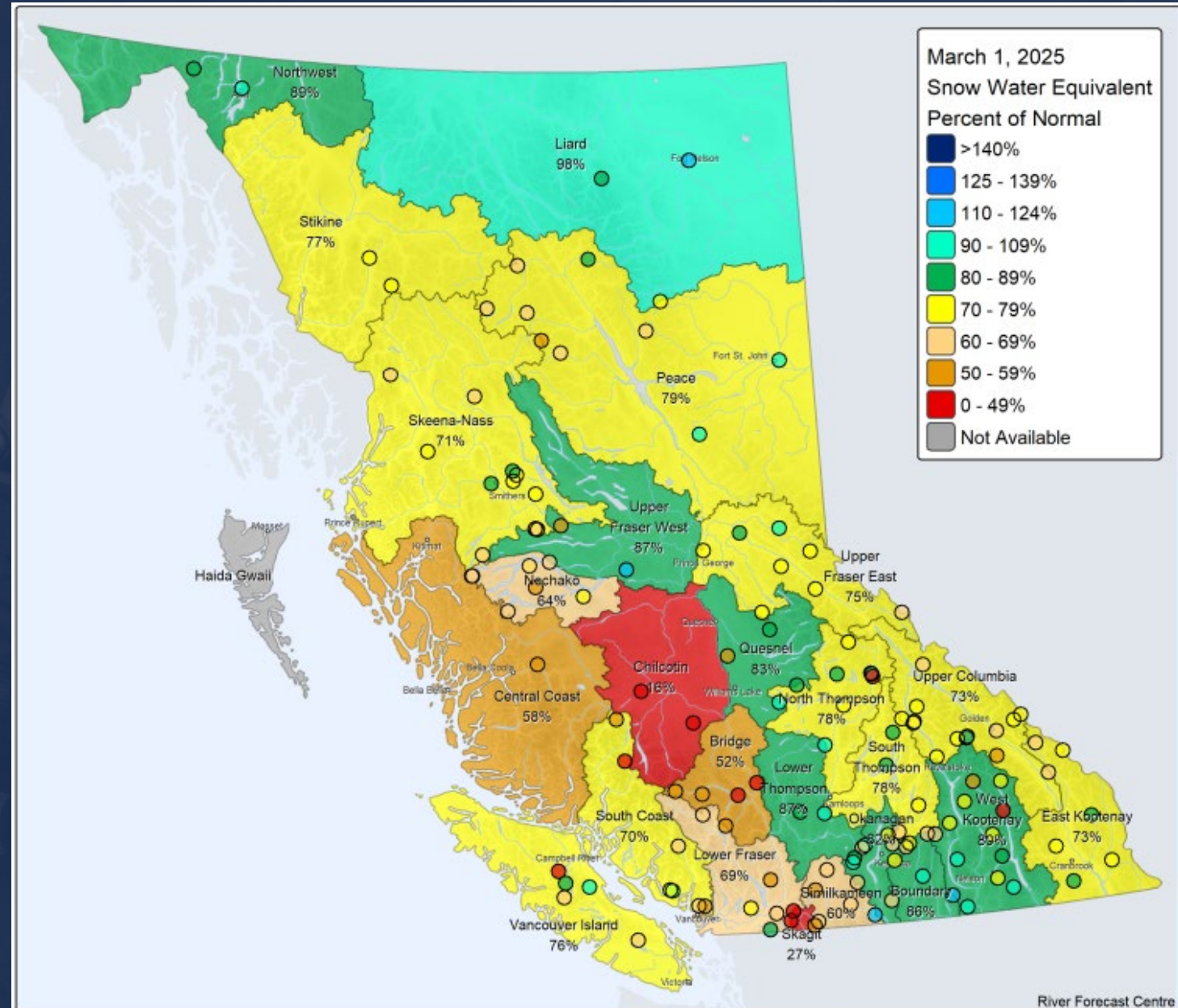
Conditions at the end of 2024

- Parts of the Southeast, Kamloops, Cariboo, and Prince George Fire Centres will carry high to extreme Drought Code values into spring 2025.
- Frozen soils and dormant forests have limited capacity to absorb moisture. Snow and rain received over winter have a limited impact on the drought code.
- To alleviate the drought, continuous and widespread rain is needed once the snow melts.



Snow basin indices

- As of March 1, the BC River Forecast Centre reported a below normal provincial snowpack averaging 73% of normal across British Columbia.
- Areas with below normal snowpack show early concerns for drought conditions amplifying in the spring and summer



Role of BCWS and EMCR



British Columbia Wildfire Service (BCWS)

- Lead wildfire management agency

Emergency Management & Climate Readiness (EMCR)

- Lead coordinating agency for all emergency activities
- Provide emergency coordination for local authorities, First Nations, other government agencies, industry, non-government organizations

Role of Industry in Wildfire Management

Preventing Wildfires and Risk Mitigation

Emergency planning and training

Response and site protection



Prevention and Risk Mitigation

Understanding of *Wildfire Act* and Regs

Controlling ignition sources

Maintaining sites

FireSmart

Wildfire Prevention - The Oil and Gas Industry

- 1) Scope
- 2) Evaluating Wildfire Threat
- 3) FireSmart Principles
- 4) Wildfire Act and Regulation
- 5) Useful Links



<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/for-industry-commercial-operators>

Emergency Planning and Training

Evacuation Routes

Safety Zones

Emergency Exercises



Wildfire Training and Equipment

- S100 Basic Fire Suppression
- ICS 100 (Incident Command System)
- SP 115 Structure Protection (Sprinklers)
- Portable pumps, hose, hand tools, portable water tanks, water tenders/trailers, heavy equipment, sprinklers

Response and Site Protection

Structure Protection

Collaboration with agencies

Overseeing emergency crossings

Staying informed



Evacuation Alerts and Orders

Emergency Program Act

- BC Wildfire recommends alert, order or all clear to local authority or First Nations
- Local authority or First Nations issues the alert, order or all clear

Wildfire Act

- BC Wildfire may issue an order to leave when time is of the essence
- BC Wildfire may order an Area Restriction to keep the public out of fire areas

EVACUATION ORDER

Somewhere, BC

[DATE (mm/dd/yyyy) AND TIME (24-hr clock)]

Regulatory Exemptions and Permits

Exemptions on High-Risk Activities

Entry permits into Area Restrictions



BCWS Public Website: bcwildfire.ca

Easy-to-access information, including:

- Interactive wildfire map
- Wildfires of Note
- Current wildfire activity
- Information bulletins
- Fire bans and restrictions
- Collaborative Partnership Guide
- And more ...

The screenshot shows the homepage of the BC Wildfire Service website. At the top, there is a blue header with the British Columbia logo and a search bar. Below the header, the main content area is titled "Wildfire Service". A prominent banner features the "Update: BC FireSmart Manual" with a "Download now!" button. To the right, there is a "Fire Danger Rating" section with a map of British Columbia showing current fire danger levels. Below the banner, there is a search bar for "Wildfire Service". A "Popular Resources" section includes links to "Wildfires of Note", "Interactive Wildfire Map", and "Emergency Info BC". A "Contact Us" section provides information on how to report a wildfire and the fire information line number (1 888 336-7378).

EmergencyInfoBC

Find current and official information during emergencies in B.C.



Follow [@EmergencyInfoBC](https://twitter.com/EmergencyInfoBC) on X (Twitter) for updates.

<https://www.emergencyinfobc.gov.bc.ca/>

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/emergency-management-and-climate-readiness>

Prince George Fire Centre Contact Information

Front Desk: 250-561-4628

Communications: 250-561-4629

BCWS.PGFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Doug Smith, Deputy Fire Centre Manager

Desk: 778-693-2879

Email: doug.j.smith@gov.bc.ca

Bruce Raby, Senior Wildfire Officer

Desk: 250-570-0669

Email: bruce.raby@gov.bc.ca

Emergency Aviation Contact

Desk: 778-693-2890

Email: bcws.pgfcaviation@gov.bc.ca

**Wildfire Reporting Centre: 1-800-663-5555
(*5555 on mobile)**

Fire Centre Communications

Prince George Fire Centre

Phone 250-561-4629

email: BCWS.PGFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Northwest Fire Centre

Phone 250-876-6844

email: BCWS.NWFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Cariboo Fire Centre

Phone 778-799-2100

email: BCWS.CAFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Kamloops Fire Centre

Phone 250-554-5965

email: BCWS.KFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Southeast Fire Centre

Phone 250-318-7715

email: BCWS.SEFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Coastal Fire Centre

Phone 250-951-4209

email: BCWS.COFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Other BCWS Information Sources

Official BCWS mobile app

- Available in the App store

GeoBC

- Wildfire perimeter uploads

Social Media

- Facebook (BC Forest Fire Info)
- Twitter (@BCGovFireInfo)

**Wildfire Information Hotline: 1-888-336-7378
(1-888-3FOREST)**



THANK YOU.
Questions?

