

Two firefighters in orange protective gear are working in a forest. The firefighter on the right is wearing a helmet with a face shield and a yellow light, and is looking down at something in his hands. The firefighter on the left is also wearing a helmet and is looking down at the same area. In the background, there is a wildfire with flames and smoke. The text "Cariboo Fire Centre" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Cariboo Fire Centre

Public Wildfire Information
for the Cariboo Regional District

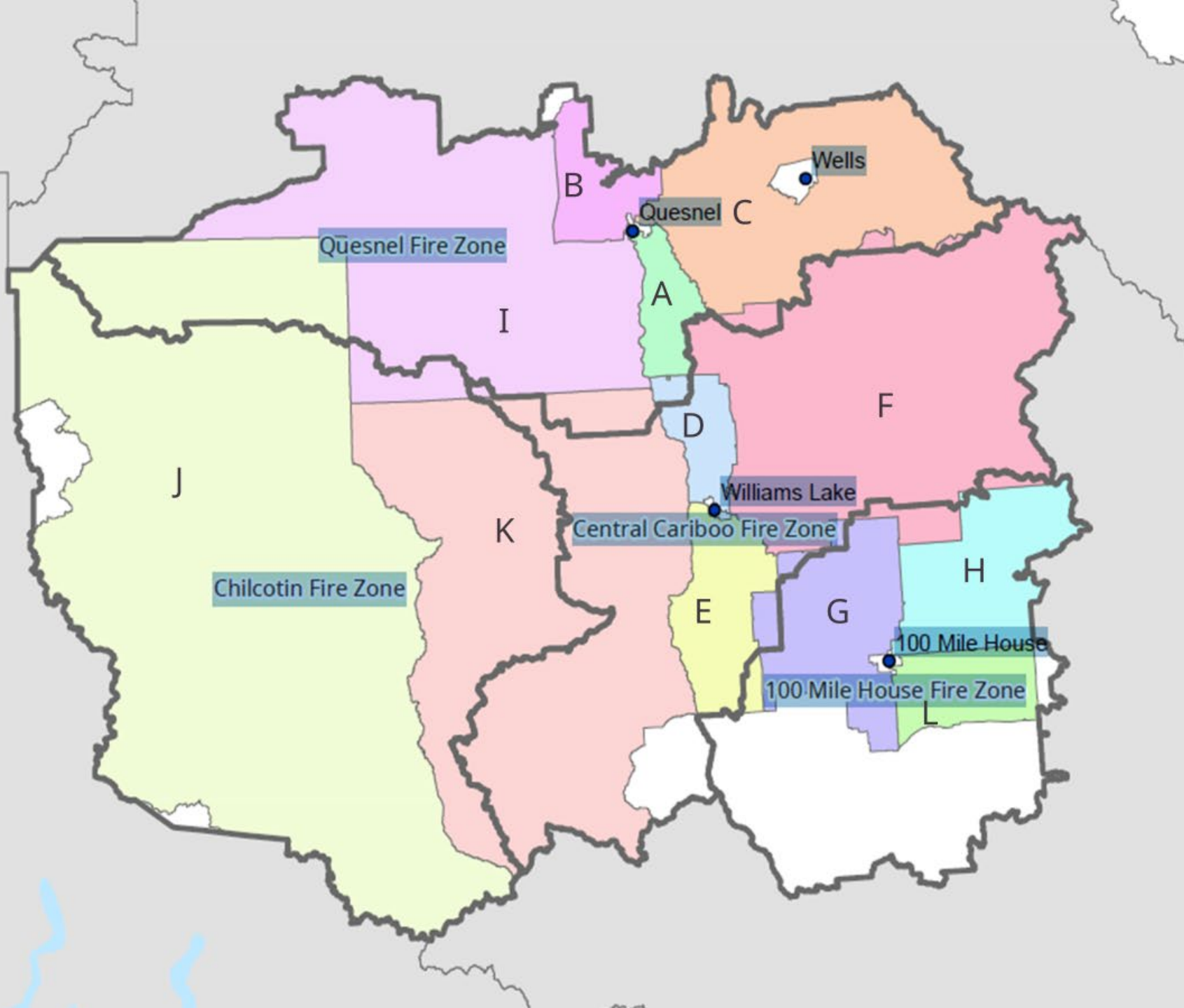


BC Wildfire
Service

A brief overview of publicly available wildfire information:

- Introduction
- BCWS Mandate
- How BCWS Responds
- Resources
- Prevention
- Wildfire Information
- App & Dashboard (website)
 - Wildfires of Note (WONs)
 - Reporting a Fire
- YouTube Links





The CaFC is in the Cariboo Regional District, which is comprised of 12 Electoral Area Districts, 2 Municipalities, and 2 District communities.

Regional Contacts:

Quesnel – [Mayor Paull](#)
Area A – [Director Sjostrom](#)
Area B – [Director Bachmeier](#)
Area C – [Director Massier](#)
Wells – [Mayor Coleman](#)
Williams Lake – [Mayor Rathor](#)
Area D – [Director Forseth](#)
Area E – [Director Neufeld](#)
Area F – [Director LeBourdais](#)
100 Mile – [Mayor Pinkney](#)
Area G – [Director Richmond](#)
Area H – [Director Wagner](#)
Area I – [Director Glassford](#)
Area J – [Director Pare](#)
Area K – [Director Anderson](#)
Area L – [Director de Vries](#)

Our Mandate



To deliver
effective wildfire
management
and emergency
response
support

To protect lives
and values at
risk

To encourage
sustainable,
healthy and
resilient
ecosystems

Pillars of Emergency Management



Prevention



Preparedness



Response



Recovery

How wildfire is fought in B.C.

We operate on land not governed by local burning bylaw, including Crown land, national & provincial parks, intertidal lands in the Strait of Georgia & private land not governed by open fire bylaw

Local governments respond within their boundaries

Interface fires are often multi-agency, including our Fire Services program



Wildfire Act and ***Wildfire Regulation***:

Provides us our authority to suppress wildfires & enact fire bans and restrictions

Defines obligations for everyone in B.C. with respect to fire use

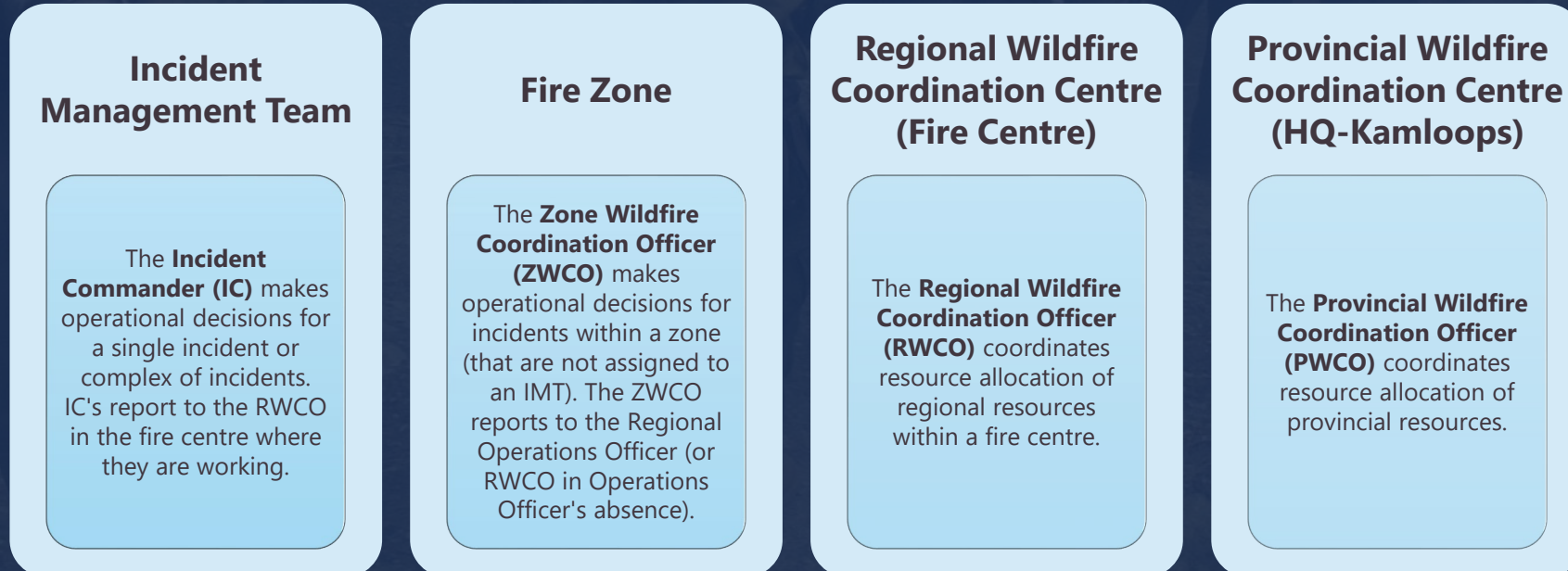
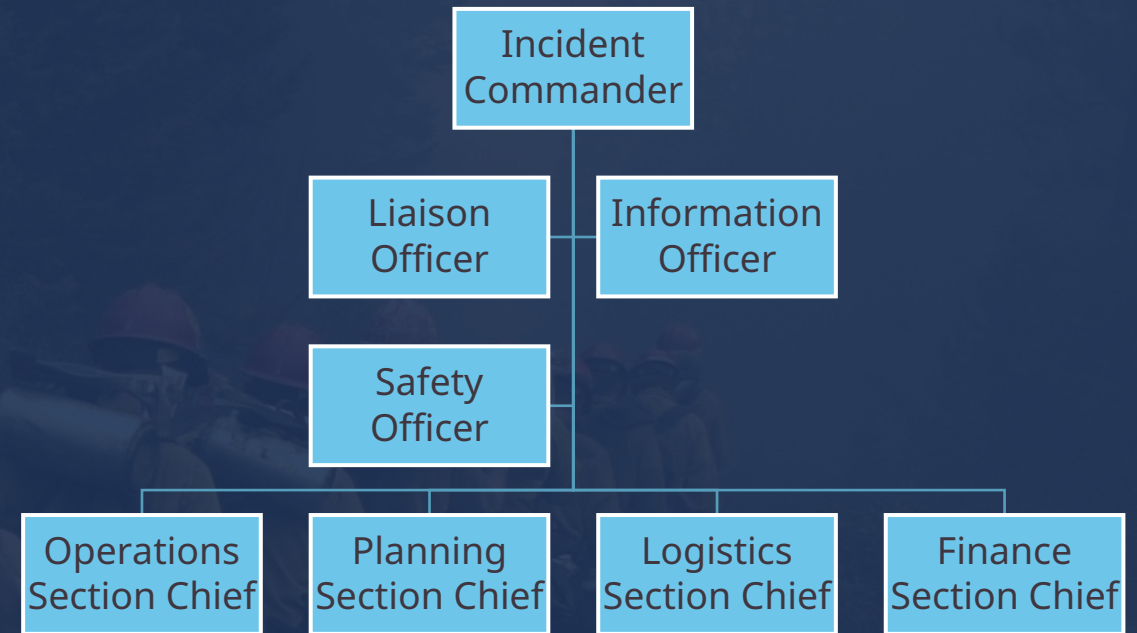
Violation tickets issued by Natural Resource Officers (NROs) & Conservation Officers (COs), not BC Wildfire Service

Organizational Structure



Wildfire Management & Decision Making

- Incident Command System (ICS) is used to manage wildfires and all-hazard incidents.
- ICS org charts can be scaled for each incident.
- There are varying levels of coordinated decision-making to manage wildfires.



BCWS Crews & ground personnel



Type 1

- BC Wildfire Service has 162 Initial Attack (IA) crews, 30 Unit Crews and 65 full-time Fire Crew Supervisors

Type 2&3

- We have standing arrangements with 55 contract fire suppression companies

Other ground personnel

- Danger Tree Assessors and Fallers (DTA, DTF)
- First Aid
- Indigenous Community Response
- Others e.g. line locators, GPS fire mapping, fire guard planning, etc.

IMTs

- Each IMT has an Information Officer



The Cariboo Fire Centre and Regional Wildfire Coordination Centre (RWCC) is in Williams Lake.

Located within the region are four zones: Quesnel, Chilcotin, Central Cariboo and 100 Mile House.

Crews in each Zone:

Quesnel

Blackwater Unit Crew
4 Initial Attack Crews

Chilcotin

Ravens Unit Crew

Central Cariboo

Vesta Unit Crew
8 Initial Attack Crews

100 Mile House

Stormriders Unit Crew
2 Initial Attack Crews

Other BCWS resources



Aviation

- 28 Air Tankers (land-based and skimmers) and bird-dog aircraft
- Rotary wing (helicopters), can surge to 150+
- Drones (reconnaissance, hot spot scanning)

Fire Services program & structure protection personnel from local fire departments

Heavy equipment & operators, other contracted resources

Out-of-province crews and overhead personnel

Some 2024 CaFC Resources

54 Permanent Staff

190 Auxiliary Staff

44 Stat Hires

18 Juniors

27 General Service Agreements

157 Equipment Rental Contracts

8 Occupancy Agreements

199 vehicles assigned with an average of 15,686 km travelled

26 ATV/SXS supporting crews

180 airtanker re-loads using 1,996,331 litres of mixed retardant

29 helicopters flown

Prevention Overview

Since 2017, 4 of 5 most destructive, costly wildfire seasons in B.C. history

- Thousands of homes destroyed
- Tens of thousands of evacuees
- Billions in suppression costs
- Over 75,000 square kilometres of forest burned
- 100s of millions of tonnes of carbon dioxide emitted
- Lives lost, incalculable impacts on physical and mental health

Sustained increase in extreme wildfire behaviour and events, particularly in the wildland-urban interface (WUI)

Program goal: reduce the negative impacts of wildfire on public safety, property, the environment and the economy



Education



Emergency Planning



Vegetation Management



Legislation



Development



Interagency Cooperation



Cross Training

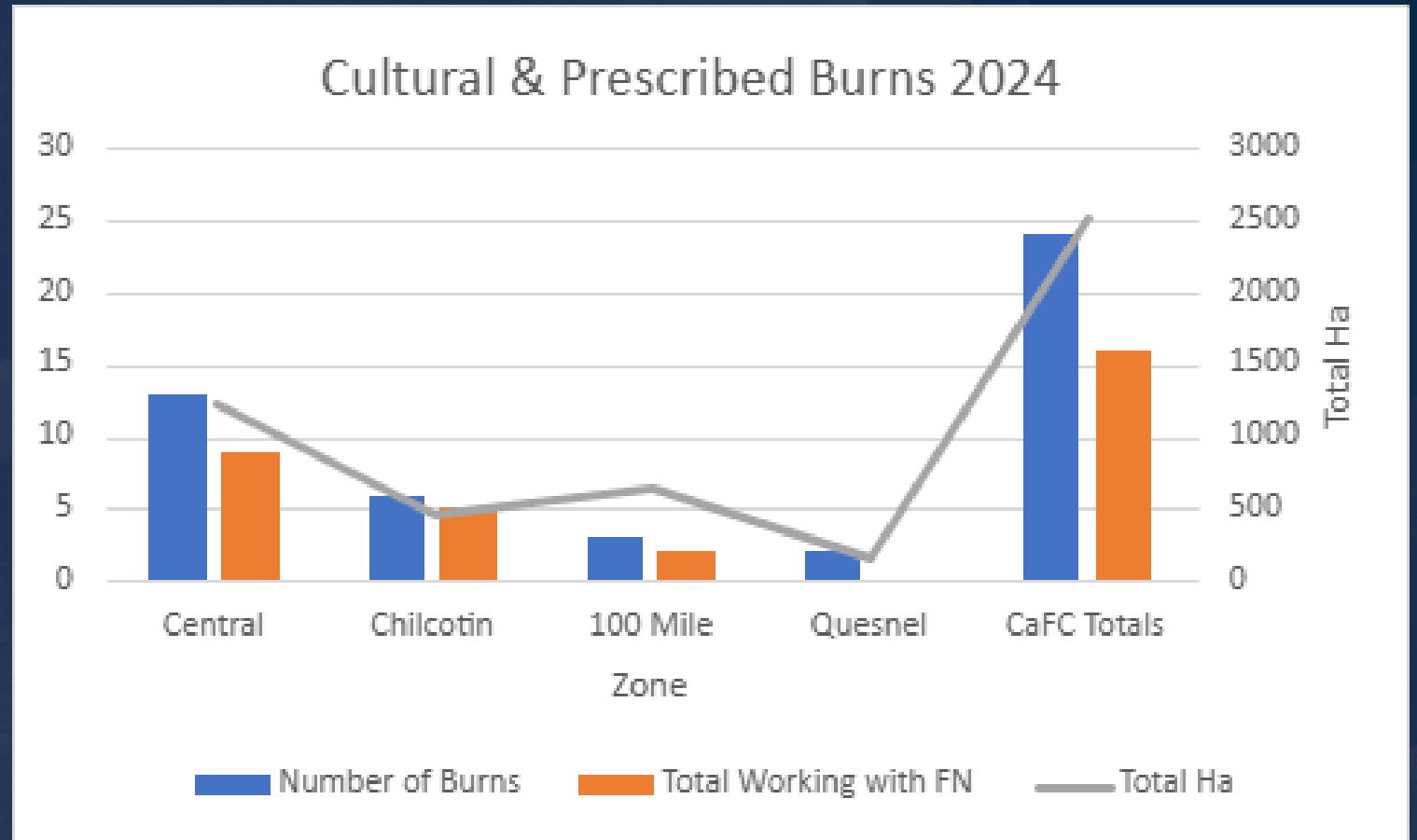
Cariboo Cx & Rx Burns

2024 Prescribed Burns

- 24 projects completed
- 16 in partnership with Local First Nations
- 2533 hectares treated
- \$611,048 spent
- 25 shelf ready projects for 2025
- [2024 Provincial Annual Report CRx](#)

2025 Prescribed Burns

- 5 projects completed as of April 1 2025



Initial
phone/app
report

Logged by
PWRC

Sent to RWCC
dispatch

Sent to RWCC
Ops Officer

Sent to Zone
(ZWCO)

Ops officer &
ZWCO decide
response

Detection

40 per cent reported by the general public

18,000 calls to the Provincial Wildfire
Reporting Centre (PWRC) in 2024

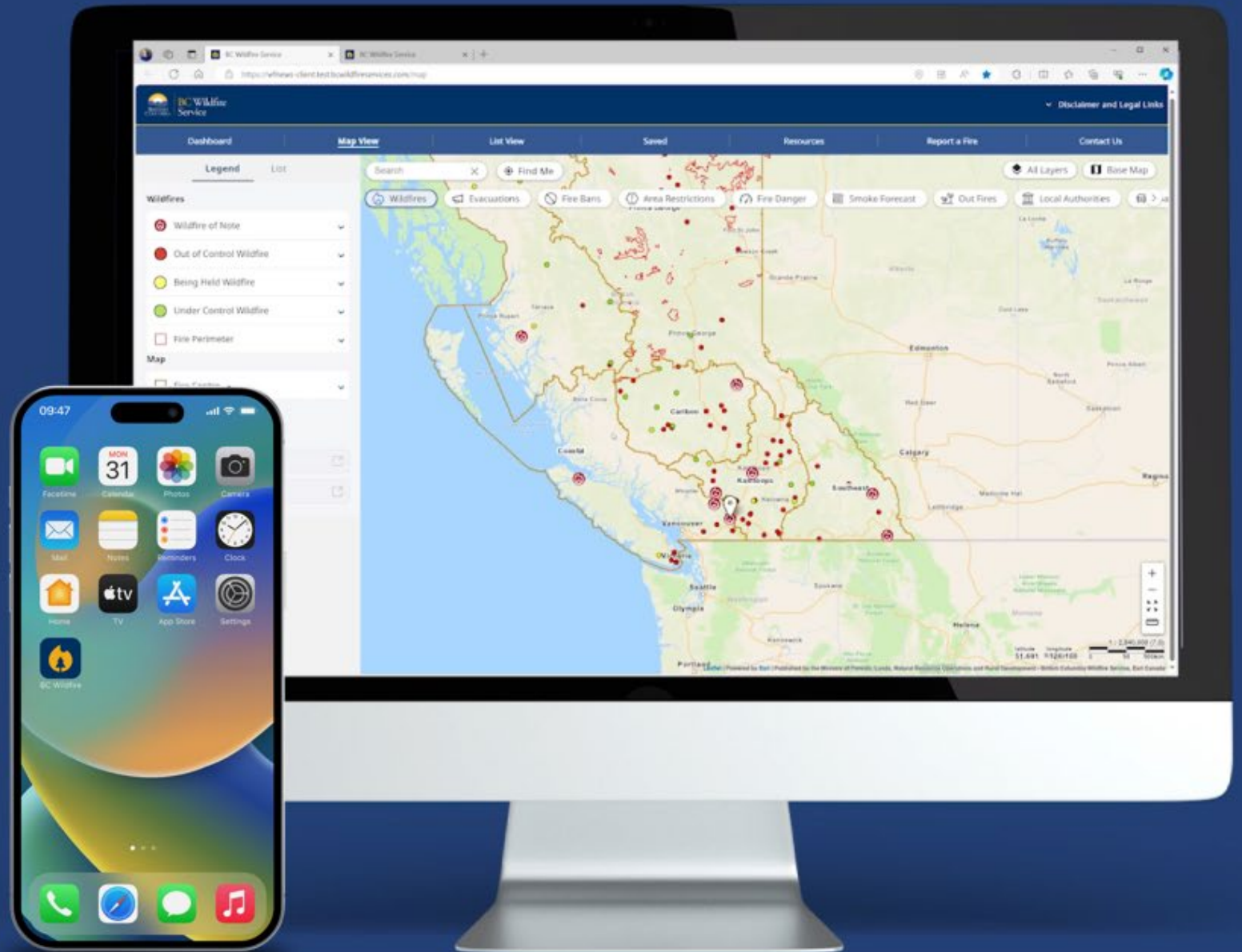
1,300 reports through the web and mobile
app

24/7 operations at PWRC during fire
season



How can the public stay informed?

BC Wildfire Service Web and Mobile App



BCWS Social Media



- joined in 2009
- public education, provincial and regional information, prohibitions and rescindments, and to share details regarding the initial stages of large wildfire incidents



- NEW in December 2024 as [@bcgovfireinfo](#)
- story telling and the sharing of educational information
- build relationships with new audiences



- joined in 2023 as BC Wildfire Service
- video library of seasonal, evergreen, educational and incident update videos



- joined in 2009
- primarily used to repost information from Facebook
- As of late 2024 the use of this app is being phased out

Other information sources

Information that
BC Wildfire
Service does not
manage

Local Govt

- Evacuation alerts & orders
- Structure loss

EMCR

- Evacuation alerts & orders, structure loss (regional/provincial)
- Emergency response, assistance to individuals/communities

MOTT

- Road/highway corridor closures
- Other wildfire impacts to transportation corridors

ENVR

- BC Parks affected by wildfire (impacts, closures)
- Category 1 (campfire) prohibition enforcement, tickets and fines
- Air quality, smoke effects

FOR

- Human caused wildfire investigations, penalties and fines
- Political issues and policy

WLRS

- Hydrological drought, snowpack

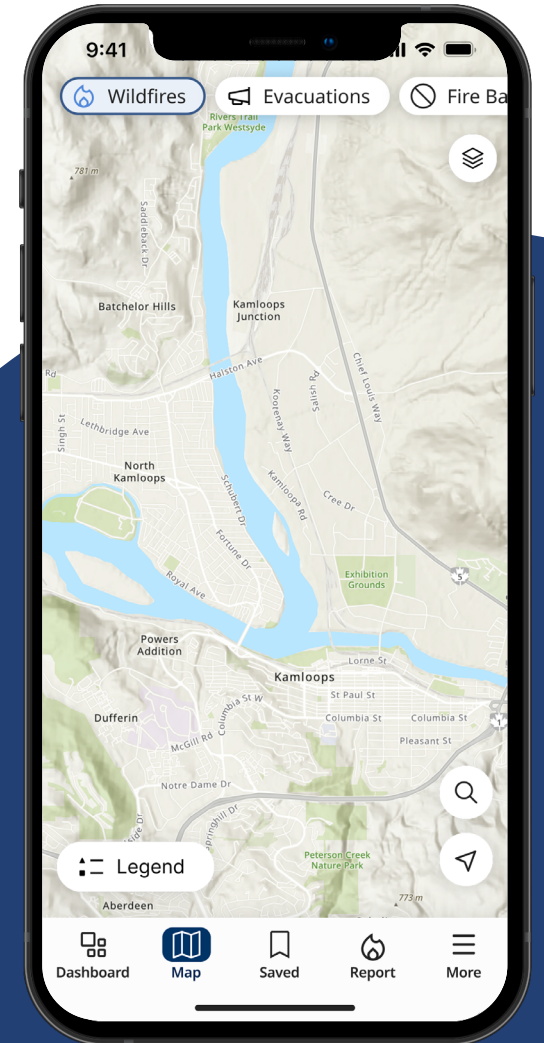
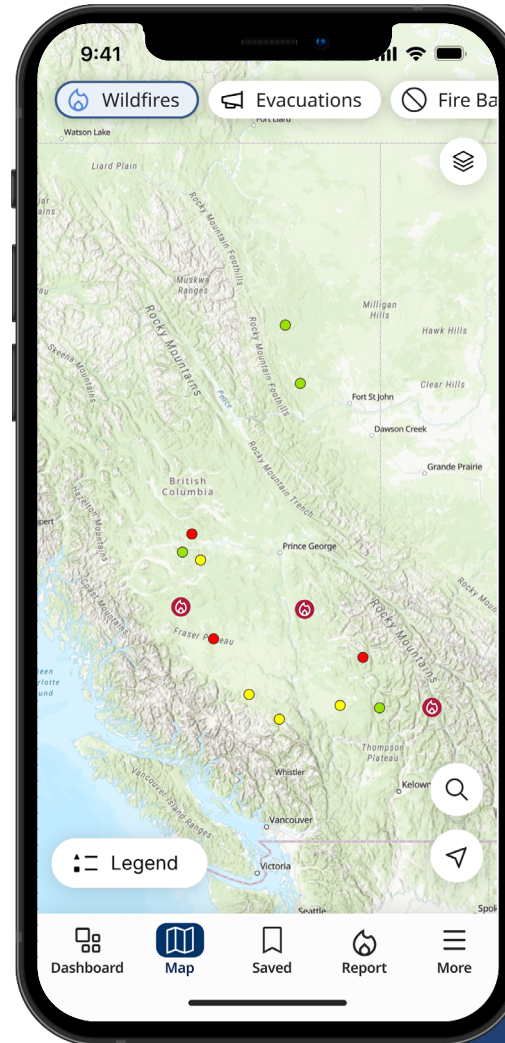
Wildfire Dashboard

Holds information on the provincial wildfire situation, provincial and fire centre statistics, evacuations, resources, fire bans and prohibitions and more.



Wildfire Map

Locate fires indicated by coloured dots and other interactive identifiable features

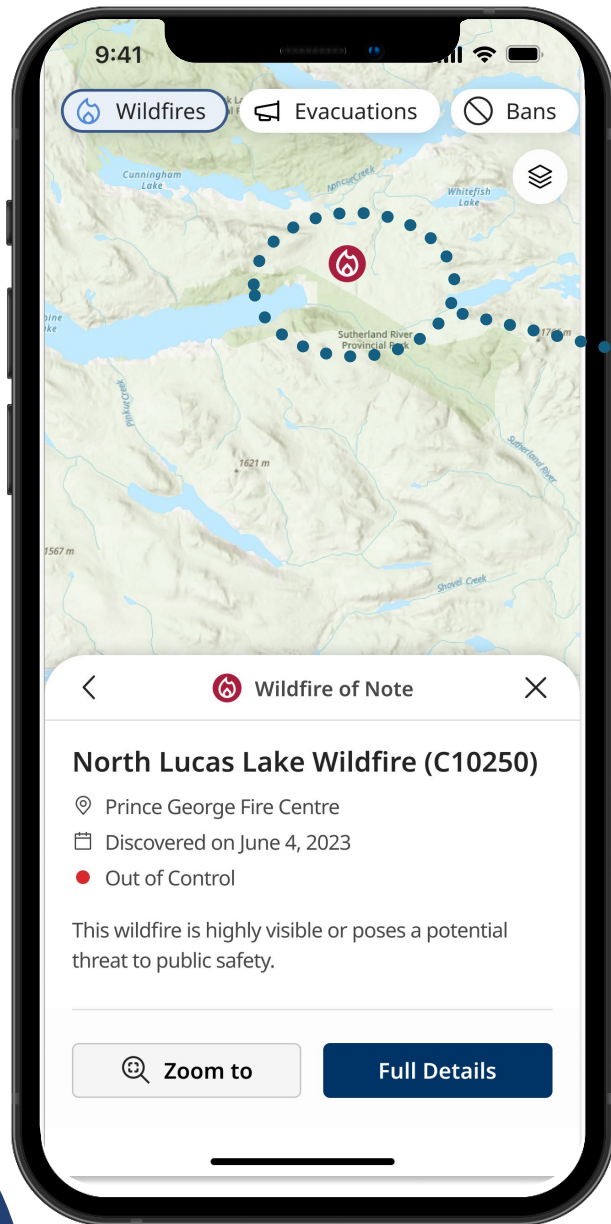




Layer filters

Similar to Google Maps, users can quickly filter information based on the most popular needs:

- Wildfires
- Evacuation
- Fire Bans
- Area Restrictions
- Smoke Forecast
- Fire Danger
- Out Fires
- Road Events
- Authorities
- All Layers



Specific incident information

Find important information about a specific wildfire and response efforts.

Full Detail

Explore the four tabs within the full details page to view the current stage of control, evacuation information, and more.

Automatic

Details page

- Updated directly from discovery based on information from the field
- Size
- Cause
- Discovery date
- Stage of control
- Location
- Perimetre







Evacuation

A collection of information about the evacuation process, including the number of people evacuated, the location of the evacuation, and the time taken to evacuate.



Share Button!

C52684 

-  Under Control
-  Fire Number C52684
-  2.1 Hectares
-  Discovered On March 22, 2025
-  Updated March 24, 2025 at 2:51 p.m. PDT
-  Cariboo Fire Centre
-  BC Wildfires Active Fires Layer

Contact Us

 Print

 Share



 Details

 Response

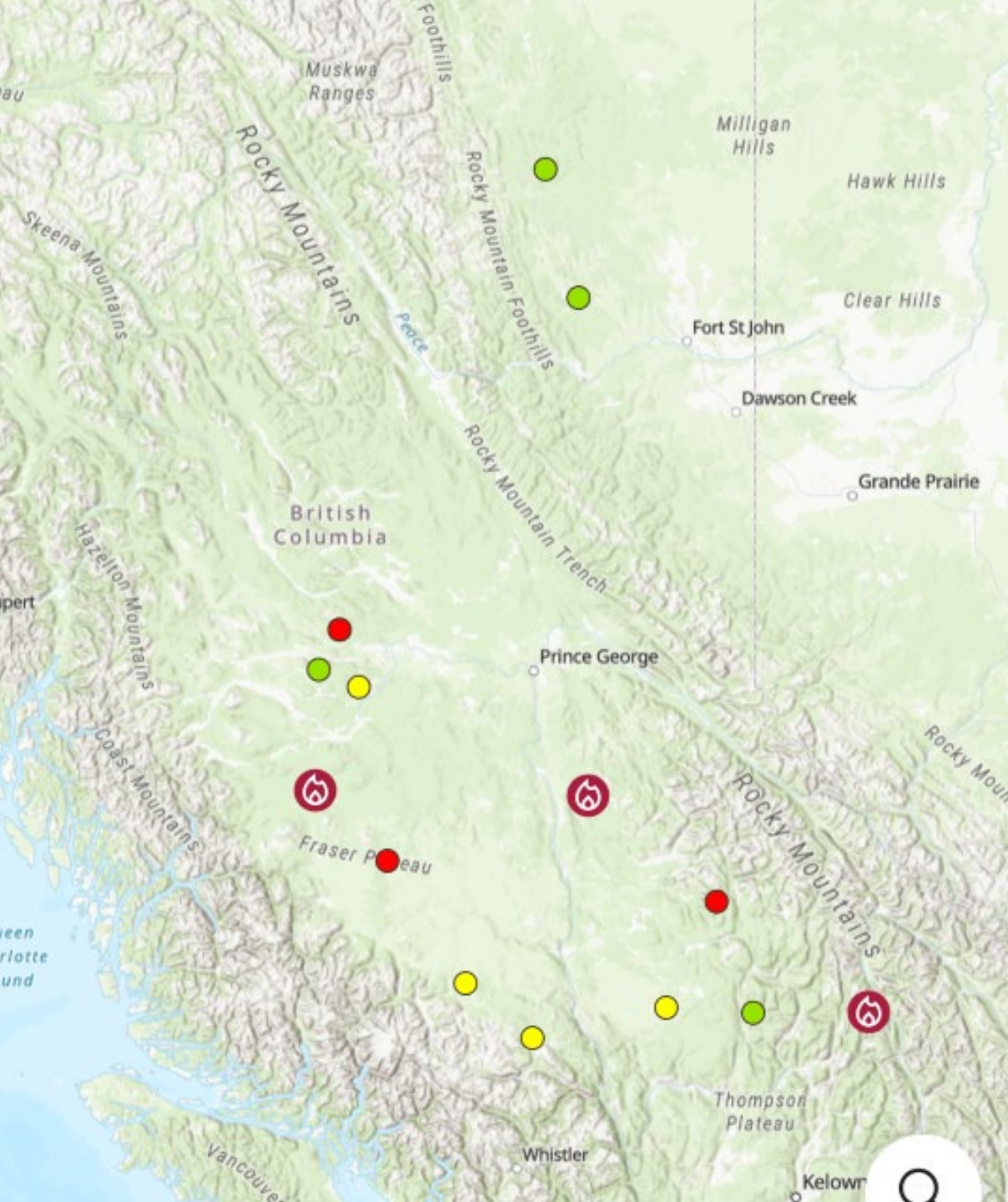
 Gallery

 Maps

Wildfire of Note

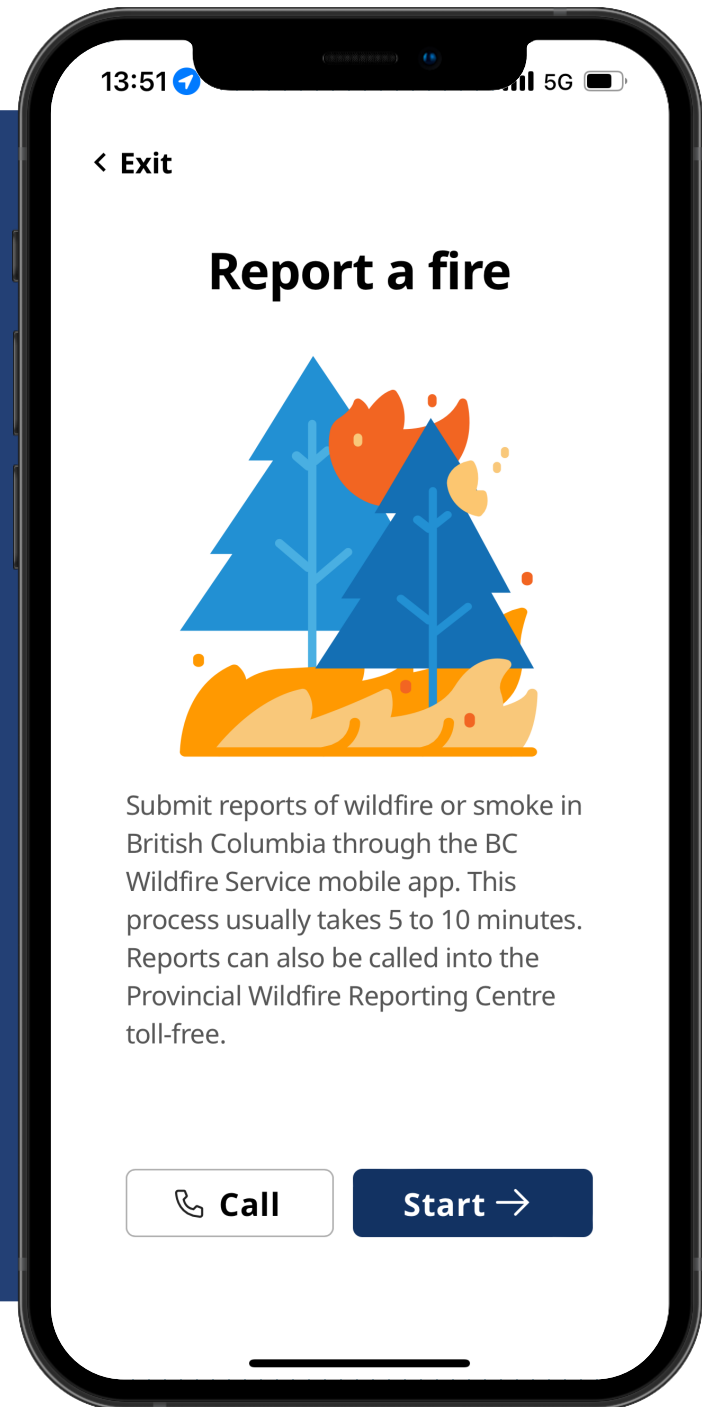
When a wildfire is especially visible or poses a threat to public safety, we classify it as a "Wildfire of Note" and provide detailed updates on it as information becomes available.

This icon was designed to make it easier to find and access response information on the wildfire map.



Report a Fire

Report a wildfire easily from your device.



Helpful BCWS YouTube Videos

- [Provincial Wildfire Reporting Centre](#)
- [How we respond to wildfires – Response](#)
- [BCWS App Tutorials Playlist](#)
- [Coastal Fire Centre: Fire Information Overview](#)

