



For Immediate Release  
May 16, 2018

BC Wildfire Service  
Coastal Fire Centre

## **UNSEASONAL DRYING TREND INCREASES FIRE DANGER**

PARKSVILLE – Temperatures in the Coastal Fire Centre are continuing to break records and the current fire danger ratings are higher than normal for this time of the forest fire season. The fire danger rating is currently registering as ‘high’ (DC 4) or ‘extreme’ (DC 5) at many weather stations in the Coastal Fire Centre and with no significant precipitation in the forecast these ratings will continue to increase. This will result in restrictions as per Schedule 3 of the Wildfire Regulation when conducting high risk activities.

Caution must be exercised in any industrial operations particularly when working in fine forest fuels such as logging slash. With an increased potential for industrial fire starts due to this unseasonal increase in fire danger ratings, it would be prudent to ensure that your industrial operations, notably high risk activities, are monitored by a representative weather station. It is recommended that there is adequate fire fighting equipment and personnel on site to ensure compliance with the *Wildfire Act* and *Regulation*, which can be found at our web site at [gov.bc.ca/wildfirelegislation](http://gov.bc.ca/wildfirelegislation).

Please ensure that any open burns conducted this spring are patrolled to ensure they are extinguished. Details of your obligations can be found at our web site at [gov.bc.ca/wildfiresindustry](http://gov.bc.ca/wildfiresindustry). Effective noon Friday May 18, 2018, all Category 2 open burning will be prohibited in the Coastal Fire Centre with the exception of the Haida Gwaii Forest District and the Fog Zone.

Thank you for your continued cooperation. For further information about this notice please contact the Coastal Fire Centre at 250-951-4222. To report a wildfire, please call directly to the Coastal Fire Centre Dispatch Centre Emergency Line at 250-951-4200, or alternately to 1-800-663-5555 or \*5555 on cellular networks.

Contact: Robert Fraser  
Regional Wildfire Coordination Officer  
250-951-4201

cc: Regional Manager, CEB, West & South Coast Forest Regions  
District Managers, West Coast Forest Region  
District Managers, South Coast Forest Region  
Timber Sale Manager, Chinook Timber Sale Area  
Timber Sale Manager, Strait of Georgia Timber Sale Area  
Timber Sale Manager, Seaward/Tlasta Timber Sale Area  
All Coastal Fire Centre Base and Zone offices