

July 16, 2021  
17:00 Hours

## UPDATE – SEYMOUR ARM EVACUATION ALERT

At this time, the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) is reporting the estimated size of the Hunakwa Lake Fire at 1,100 hectares following an aerial survey of the area. The fire is approximately 3.7 kilometres away from the closest structure in the Seymour Arm-area.

BCWS is reporting the Hunakwa Lake fire is exhibiting Rank 2 fire behaviour, which is characterized as a ground fire with some visible, open flame and a slow rate of speed. They indicate the main growth area of the fire is away from the community.

Based on the updated fire behaviour information, BCWS is working with other agencies and private industry on plans to widen existing roads and natural fire-break areas to create a fire guard for the community of Seymour Arm.

The community of Seymour Arm remains on Evacuation Alert. This will continue until further notice. Residents and any remaining visitors need to be prepared for evacuation on short notice.

Backed by the BC Wildfire Service, the CSRD has three fire crews in Seymour Arm to assist with fire protection. A Structural Protection Unit is also being deployed, which includes five structural firefighters, two vehicles and a trailer equipped with water sprinkling systems.

All Seymour Arm residents are reminded to self-register with Emergency Support Services online through this link: <https://ess.gov.bc.ca/> When registering, please indicate the community as Seymour Arm. This step is critical as it provides important information in case of an evacuation.

It is advised for residents to pack up at least one week's worth of clothing and toiletries as part of their preparations. Vehicles should be kept filled with gas. As accommodations in the Shuswap are limited at this time, arrangements should be made to stay with family and friends, if possible.

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**For further information please contact Tracy Hughes, CSRD Communications Coordinator at 250.833.5963, toll free at 1.888.248.2773 or email [Thughes@csrd.bc.ca](mailto:Thughes@csrd.bc.ca).**