



ASHCROFT INDIAN BAND

INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release
March 05, 2024

Prescribed Burn via hand ignition, at the Ashcroft Indian Band Reserve.

The Ashcroft Indian Band plans to conduct a 5.5 ha prescribed burn, scheduled for the lower field along the creek, south of the Band office.

The burn could begin as early as March 16, 2024, with the exact timing dependent on weather, site and venting conditions. Ignition will proceed only if conditions are suitable and will allow for quick smoke dissipation.

Crews will carefully control and monitor the fires at all times. Smoke and flames may be visible from Ashcroft, Cache Creek and possibly Spatsum, the Trans Canada Hwy, Highway 97C and Cornwall Road. For information about road conditions near these projects, please visit www.drivebc.ca.

The main purpose of this burn is to protect the community, help with ecosystem restoration, and the reduction of hazardous fuel.

Our primary goal on this prescribed fire, is to reduce the hazardous fuels for community protection. The reduction of dead/cured grass and the regeneration of sagebrush also meets the goal for added benefits to asparagus and bitterroot maintenance. The burn will create space for native grasses and herbs to establish.

This burn will include the Ashcroft Indian Band members, Contractors, FNESS, BCWS, and members of the Ashcroft Volunteer Fire Department, all under the supervision of Burn Boss, Colleen Ross, Wildland Fire Ecologist.

This burn will be used as a training opportunity for community members and the volunteer fire department to practice their Wildland Firefighter training, that they recently received through FNESS. This burn is part of a larger unit that will be completed in 2025.

For more information on the importance of cultural burning and prescribed fire, please visit www.prescribedfire.ca

For public information inquiries, please contact Diana Hoggard, AIB's Fire Mitigation/ Emergency Management Coordinator at diana@ashcroftband.ca or 250-453-9154.

The Ashcroft Indian Band Fire Mitigation/ Emergency Management Department