

# British Columbia Wildfire Service

## BCWS DataMart

### (DRAFT)

## 1. Overview

The BCWS Datamart is a public FTP site where external users can access weather station observations and fire weather indices for analysis or other similar needs.

BCWS Weather Observations can also be downloaded from Environment Canada's Datamart as well as the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium.

[BC Station Data Disclaimer](#) | [Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium](#)

[Readme obs insitu swobdatamart en - MSC Open Data / Données ouvertes du SMC \(eccc-msc.github.io\)](#)

**IMPORTANT:** If you are, or plan on using the BCWS Datamart, please send an email to [bcws.predictiveservices@gov.bc.ca](mailto:bcws.predictiveservices@gov.bc.ca). If you do not, then you will not be notified of service disruptions or discontinuation.

## 2. Datamart Location

### HTTPS

The data mart can be access via HTTPS using this URL.

[https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/HPR/external/!publish/BCWS\\_DATA\\_MART/](https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/HPR/external/!publish/BCWS_DATA_MART/)

### FTP

An FTP client can also be used to access the data. The FTP location is:

<ftp.for.gov.bc.ca>

**USER:** anonymous

**PWD:** <your email address> e.g. [bob@happymtn.ca](mailto:bob@happymtn.ca)

Once connected you will need to navigate to the data mart folder with a command such as the following:

```
cd /HPR/external/!publish/BCWS_DATA_MART/
```

### 3. Folder Structure

The folders are organized by year inside the BCWS\_DATA\_MART folder.

BCWS\_DATA\_MART\2020\

BCWS\_DATA\_MART\2021\

BCWS\_DATA\_MART\2022\

### 4. File Naming Convention

The files inside each folder will be named as yyyy-mm-dd.csv. For example:

BCWS\_DATA\_MART\2022\2022-01-01.csv

### 5. Data Update Frequency

Each daily file will be updated several times during the day as new data is recorded from the weather stations with an intent to update once per hour. There are several reasons why the data may be delayed but there is an intent to update the information once per hour.

## 6. File Structure

Each daily file (e.g. 2022-01-01.csv) will be in a CSV format and contain the following header information:

“STATION\_CODE”, “DATE\_TIME”, PRECIPITATION, TEMPERATURE, RELATIVE\_HUMIDITY, WIND\_SPEED, WIND\_DIRECTION, FINE\_FUEL\_MOISTURE\_CODE, INITIAL\_SPREAD\_INDEX, FIRE\_WEATHER\_INDEX, **DUFF\_MOISTURE\_CODE**, **DROUGHT\_CODE**, **BUILDUP\_INDEX**, **DANGER\_RATING**, RN\_1\_PLUVIO1, SNOW\_DEPTH, SNOW\_DEPTH\_QUALITY, PRECIP\_PLUVIO1\_STATUS, PRECIP\_PLUVIO1\_TOTAL, RN\_1\_PLUVIO2, PRECIP\_PLUVIO2\_STATUS, PRECIP\_PLUVIO2\_TOTAL, RN\_1\_RIT, PRECIP\_RIT\_STATUS, PRECIP\_RIT\_TOTAL, PRECIP\_RGT, SOLAR\_RADIATION\_LICOR, SOLAR\_RADIATION\_CM3

A daily record for the purposes of the file structure is the 12:00 noon PST reading. That record will have the extra fields highlight in **Orange** above. Not all stations will have all the data identified above, and during off season fire index values will not be calculated. Not all stations have indices calculations starting at the same time so some stations may be reporting indices while others don't.

**DATE\_TIME** is provided in PST (GMT-8) and does not recognize DST. Daily records will therefor always show up as “YYYYMMDD**12**”