



FOREST FIRE

News July 30, 2018 – 21:30

Parry Sound 33 Fire Update

- Parry Sound 33 Forest Fire is 8973 hectares in size. Winds occurred from the west/southwest, as the northeast side of the fire maintained as the most active portion.
- The northeast and east portions of the fire were the most active and a few of these sections progressed eastward towards the CN Line. Crews have been working hard to slow the fire's progression in this part of the fire.
- Structural protection is being set up on identified priorities. Structures along the Pickerel and Key Rivers have had sprinklers set up on them today as well as structures along the French River on Hartley Bay Road.
- Crews worked on the southeast portion to hold the perimeter and complete hose line.
- Water bucketing and water bombers along the east flank continue as aerial suppression efforts seek to close in the fire.
- Structural protection has been established on over 400 structures in the surrounding area of the fire. We are continually assessing the area around the fire to determine what structures will require protection in the near future.
- Even though the focus is on the northeast side, we continue to suppress and monitor all portions of the fire. Aerial ignition on portions of the fire near Fox Island have brought the fire to natural boundaries removing the fire hazard in this area.
- The fire behaviour for tomorrow is expected to remain the same as today. High temperatures mixed with low humidity will be present on the fire site.
- Winds from the west/southwest will occur again into tomorrow, possibly bringing more smoke into surrounding communities and along highway 69. The fire is approximately five kilometres

west of highway 69 and less than one kilometre south of the Pickerel River near the CN trestle bridge on the west side of highway 69.

Parry Sound 33 Resources

- 249 firefighters and support staff
- 14 helicopters
- An incident management team
- Water bomber support

Forecast and weather information -

Tue 07/31	Wed 08/01	Thu 08/02	Fri 08/03	Sat 08/04	Sun 08/05	Mon 08/06
Sunny	A mix of sun and clouds	Chance of a shower	Risk of a thunderstorm	Mainly sunny	Mainly sunny	Chance of a shower
						
26°	25°	25°	24°	27°	27°	26°
17°	19°	19°	21°	23°	22°	20°
30	29	31	30	34	35	34
10 %	30 %	40 %	40 %	20 %	10 %	40 %
14 sw	12 w	19 sw	18 sw	17 sw	17 sw	17 sw
21	18	29	27	26	26	26
12 h	7 h	9 h	9 h	12 h	11 h	8 h
-	<1 mm	~1 mm	~5 mm	-	1-3 mm	<1 mm

Dry conditions will continue to persist for the day under light south/southwesterly winds. Gusts will likely climb back into the 20-30km/h range again by late afternoon with gusty conditions. Temperatures will be around 26C.

Travel Restrictions

Travel restrictions in parts of Parry Sound and Sudbury districts due to forest fires

Pursuant to the Emergency Area Order signed July 21, 2018, an Implementation Order has been issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry prohibiting access and travel in portions of Parry Sound District where there are public safety hazards as a result of increased fire activity from Parry Sound #033.

The Order restricts travel, access and use in an identified area (see attached map below) and may be modified regularly to reflect changing fire conditions.

This measure has been put in place to ensure public safety while allowing fire personnel to safely and effectively suppress the fires in the identified area.

- All travel and use of all **water ways east and west** of Hwy. 69 in Mowat, Mason, Bigwood, Allen, Struthers, Kilpatrick and Travers townships and all associated tributaries that access the river systems, including all access from Georgian Bay, and all islands on Georgian Bay within the French River Provincial Park boundaries, Dokis Island system, and Puddick Island and all islands north of Henvey Inlet 2, southern boundary from mainland due west to Potvin Point is prohibited unless authorized by travel permit issued by Parry Sound District or Sudbury District Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).
- All road access west of Hwy. 69 in Bigwood, Allen, Struthers, Kilpatrick and Travers townships is prohibited and the unsurveyed lands from the French River to Nesbitt Creek including 14 Mile Island and French River Provincial Park and to the southern border of Henvey Inlet 2 Indian Reserve, excluding business and residences north of the French River directly adjacent to the west side of Hwy. 69.

If a member of the public believes that access within the restricted travel area is necessary for non-recreational purposes, please call [705-773-4218](tel:705-773-4218) in Parry Sound or [705-564-7963](tel:705-564-7963) in Sudbury to request a travel authorization permit. Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry will review the request for access based on the rationale provided, local fire activity, and the potential fire risk.

See the [restricted travel and access areas on this PDF map](#) (Note: this map gets updated regularly).

For inquiries about the travel restrictions, please call:

- Parry Sound MNRF 705-773-4218.
- Sudbury MNRF 705-564-7963

Restricted Fire Zone

A Fire Restriction remains in effect.

When a Restricted Fire Zone is declared, it is illegal to set a fire within the affected area. Failure to comply could result in a fine of up to \$25,000 and three months in jail, as well as the financial responsibility for any costs incurred in fighting a forest fire caused by the illegal act. If you need heat for cooking and warmth, you must use a portable gas or propane stove. Portable charcoal equipment (ex. BBQs, Hibachis, etc.) are illegal for use during a Restricted Fire Zone, except close to a dwelling you legally own or occupy or in an organized campground.

Visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/outdoor-fire-restrictions> for more information.

Smoke Concerns

Many Ontario residents have reported smoke drift in their communities. Smokey conditions are expected to continue when fires are active until weather patterns change.

We would like to remind the public that if they do see flames or smoke, please report it. Stay away from the area for public safety.

If you have questions or concerns about smoke and your health, please contact TeleHealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000.

Did You Know?

- Fire condition is described using the Intensity Class system. There are 6 classifications for wildfires. As fire's behavior increases so does the intensity.
- **Intensity Class 1**
- Very little if any visible open flame; smouldering.
- **Intensity Class 2**
- Low vigour surface fire. Some open flame, not very active or creeping.
- **Intensity Class 3**
- Moderately vigorous surface fire. Single tree may torch.
- **Intensity Class 4**
- Highly vigorous surface fire with single tree or clumps of trees torching.
- **Intensity Class 5/6**
- Extremely vigorous surface fire or active crown fire. Major fire runs are probable.
- **Fire Size**
- Hectares (ha) are the unit of measurement used by the MNR for fire size description.
- 1 football field = approximately 1 ha.



(Picture Credit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/about-bcws/wildfire-response/fire-characteristics/rank>)

Contact Numbers and Online Information

For more information about travel restrictions:

- Parry Sound MNRF 705-773-4218.
- Sudbury MNRF 705-564-7963

For general information about the fire situation: 705-564-6165

For information about highway closures: 5-1-1

For inquiries regarding Ontario Parks closures and updates:



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WEB: ontario.ca/forestfire ontario.ca/incendiedeforet



CALL: Fire Updates 1-705-564-6165