



FOREST FIRE

News July 31, 2018 – 21:30

Parry Sound 33 Fire Update

- Parry Sound 33 Forest Fire is 10,139 hectares in size.
- Fire behaviour was less active today as high humidity levels and cloud cover aided in fire suppression.
- The northeast portion of the fire closest to the Pickerel River was the most active part today. Winds from the southwest pushed some activity along the Pickerel, but it's still holding south of the river.
- The northeast corner of the fire is tucked along the west side of Little Canoe Channel. Ignition operations in that area were completed earlier this evening to tie the fire together and slow its progression down.
- Structural protection continues on identified properties. Additional protection occurred along the Key and French Rivers with sprinklers set up in noted priority zones.
- Crews worked the perimeter of the fire by continuing hose line north and northwest of Key Harbour. Sixty firefighters were placed along the east side, south of the Key River to continue perimeter containment.
- 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.
- Winds are forecast to be out of the north tomorrow. The fire is approximately five kilometres west of highway 69 and less than one kilometre south of Pickerel River near the CN trestle bridge on the west side of highway 69.

Parry Sound 33 Resources

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

Forecast and Weather Information

Tue Evening	Tue Overnight	Wed Morning	Wed Afternoon	Wed Evening	Wed Overnight
Mainly sunny	Light rain	Rain	A Few showers	A mix of sun and clouds	Partly cloudy
					
23°	18°	18°	24°	21°	18°
27	23	24	30	27	23
20 %	80 %	80 %	60 %	30 %	20 %
-	~1 mm	~5 mm	1-3 mm	-	-
6 E	7 E	12 NE	13 N	11 W	8 W
16	14	21	24	18	15
59 %	73 %	100 %	88 %	78 %	83 %

Low pressure moving northward from the lower Great Lakes will bring light rain and a risk of thunderstorms tomorrow morning. Up to 10mm is possible by the afternoon with another 20-40mm of additional rainfall from thunderstorm activity will likely move into the area. Winds will be from the north/northeast at 10-15 km/h with gusts up to 30 km/h.

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?

There are a number of tactics that can be used to suppress a forest fire. Here are some of the more common terms used when describing fire-fighting efforts:

Initial attack: The action taken to halt the spread or potential spread of a fire by the first fire fighting forces to arrive at the fire.

Sustained attack: The action taken on a fire that has not been contained or controlled by the initial forces.

Direct attack: Any treatment applied directly to burning fuel, such as wetting, smothering or by physically separating the burning fuel from the unburned fuel.

Control Line: A control line is a boundary—natural or manmade—that firefighters employ to control how and where a fire spreads. A rocky ridge or river can serve as a natural control line, or firefighters can establish a manmade one by, for example, clearing vegetation down to the mineral soil.

Indirect attack: When the control line is located a considerable distance away from the fire's active edge. Generally done in the case of a fast-spreading or high-intensity fires and utilizes natural or constructed firebreaks, fuel breaks and favorable breaks in the topography.

Mop-up: The act of extinguishing a fire after it has been brought under control.

Burning Period: That part of each 24 hour day when fires are generally the most active. Typically, this is from mid-morning to sun down.

Wildland Urban Interface: An area where various structures (most notably private homes) and other human developments meet or intermingle with forest and other vegetation fuel types.

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: 705-857-1630 x 224



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CALL: Fire Updates 1-705-564-6165