



FOREST FIRE

News August 6, 2018 – 20:30

Parry Sound 33 Fire Update

- Parry Sound 33 Fire remains at 11,362 hectares. It could not be re-mapped due to cloud cover but we hope to do so tomorrow. It is anticipated that only minimal growth occurred.
- We received rain! Approximately 10mm was measured in the rain gauges located in the interior of the fire. Even with the rain, extremely dry fuel conditions still exist.
- Firefighters took advantage of the precipitation, high humidity and low winds to continue consolidating hose lines around the perimeter. Crews continued to move inward to solidify control lines.
- While crews continue to do a great job with suppression and containing the fire, we still have significant operations going on to manage the fire. The fire remains classified as Not Under Control.
- The fire remains less than a kilometer away from the Pickerel River at its north end and approximately 5 kilometers away from highway 69 on its east side.
- Tomorrow's weather brings another chance of a shower. Light northerly winds in the morning will change back to westerly winds in the afternoon. Highs in the mid-20's.
- If you have questions regarding travel restrictions or the Implementation Order, please call:
 - For Parry Sound District information, including calls related travel restrictions or to the recommendation of these evacuations and alerts, call 705-773-4218.
 - For Sudbury District information, including calls related to travel restrictions or to the recommendation of evacuation alerts, call 705-564-7963.

Parry Sound 33 Resources

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

Forecast and Weather Information



Tuesday will start out mostly cloudy with the chance of a shower. Skies partially clear in the afternoon to partly cloudy as temperatures climb to the mid-20s, with mid to high humidity. Light northerly winds will shift to the west in the afternoon, with some gusts reaching 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 send a travel request to travelpermitsPAR033@ontario.ca. 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?

The fire environment consists of three key factors that influence how a fire behaves:

- 1) Weather
- 2) Topography and
- 3) Fuel

Today's focus is on fuel, the only factor that firefighters can alter.

Quick facts about fuel:

- **Fuel moisture** content is the amount of water in a fuel. As fuels become drier, they become more flammable and easier to ignite.
- Live or green fuels always contain some moisture. The amount of moisture varies with the time of year. Under normal weather conditions, the amount of precipitation does not affect the amount of moisture being held by live fuels.
- Dead fuels are affected more by the weather; the drier the weather, the drier the fuel and easier for the fuel to ignite and burn.
- **Fuel Size** affects how easily fuels ignite and are consumed by fire. Fine fuels, those with smallest diameter, include cured grass, leaves, needles, moss and small twigs. These fuels ignite easily when they come into contact with flame. Medium fuels, those with diameter of 0.6 cm to 5 cm, require more heat energy to ignite, but burn longer when ignited. Large woody materials are difficult to ignite and burn slowly.
- In Canada, for fire management purposes, areas of forest fuels are classified into the following five **Fuel Groups**: Coniferous Trees, Deciduous Trees, Mixed Wood, Slash and Open (Grass).
- A conifer tree is more likely to burn than a deciduous tree.

- Mixed wood stands have both conifer and deciduous trees. Under summer conditions, areas with more deciduous trees tend to slow a fire's spread.



- Slash is wood debris left over from a logging operation or land clearing.

Contact Numbers and Online Information

For more information about travel restrictions:

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

To request a travel permit: travelpermitsPAR033@ontario.ca

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