



The Paskwa Fire (HWF030) | May 15, 2023, as of 9:00 am

The Paskwa fire is located in the community of Fox Lake and was detected on May 2, 2023. This fire is classified as Out of Control (OC) and the last recorded size is 35,285 hectares. The fire is approximately 6km from the Wood Buffalo National Park boundary and 13km from the community of Garden River.

Today, the Structure Protection Group will begin installation of sprinklers and other structure protection measures in the community of Garden River. The incoming cold front and shifting winds may create favorable conditions for ignition operations and the burning of forest fuels on the northeast perimeter of the fire over the coming days. This will help secure the perimeter of the fire and help prevent spread fire growth towards the community. Crews may begin retardant drops to create control lines in preparation for this work today and air tanker operations could be visible from Garden River.

Overnight winds shifted and are now coming from the East. This has cleared smoke in the community of Garden River and conditions should remain clear over the next few days. The Paskwa fire is now visible from the community, but it remains outside the park boundary.

Firefighters and heavy equipment will continue building a fire guard along the perimeter moving east from Deep Lake and working in the community of Fox Lake to create safe conditions to allow for re-entry, beginning with temporary access and escorted community visits.

Today there are 76 firefighters, 13 helicopters, and heavy equipment working on the Paskwa fire. Air tanker support is available as requested.

Little Red River Cree Nation has an evacuation order in place for the community of Fox Lake. The community of Garden River is on an evacuation alert. For information regarding the evacuation, please stay informed by visiting the Little Red River Cree Nation's Facebook page.

The Incident Management Team will continue to coordinate with the Wood Buffalo National Park management team as the fire moves towards the park boundary.

Weather Forecast | Paskwa Fire (HWF030)

The Incident Management Team has a dedicated Fire Behaviour Analyst and therefore the weather briefing will be fire area specific. Hot and dry conditions continue with no significant rain in the forecast. Today the forecast is as follows, a temperature of 28 degrees and a relative humidity of 15 percent. A cold front will be passing through the area bringing with it winds from the northwest of 15 km/h to 30 km/h, with gusts of up to 55km/h. These winds will continue throughout the day and into the overnight period. Wind direction will also change throughout the day, coming from the east and switching to out of the northwest as the front passes.



Where can I find more information about the wildfires?

Current information on wildfires can be found:

- [Wildfire.alberta.ca](https://wildfire.alberta.ca)
- Download the Alberta Wildfire Status App https://open.alberta.ca/blog/?page_id=206
- High Level Forest Area Updates: <https://srd.web.alberta.ca/high-level-area-update>
- Follow Alberta Wildfire on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

To Report a wildfire call 310-FIRE (3473)



Crews and equipment working on the Paskwa Fire on May 14th 2023