The Paskwa Fire (HWF030)| May 19, 2023 at 9am

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 67,250 hectares. The fire is 1km inside the Wood Buffalo National Park boundary and is approximately 8km from the community of Garden River.

Today, crews will continue work to secure the northeast perimeter of the fire working along the retardant line on the flank closest to the community of Garden River

Work continues in the community of Fox Lake to create safe conditions to allow for re-entry, beginning with temporary access and escorted community visits. The Incident Management Team is working closely with the Little Red River Cree Nation to develop a timeline for when these visits may be able to occur. Access to the Little Red River cultural heritage site will also be facilitated once escorted visits to the community begin.

Crews will continue to assess and remove dangerous trees in the community of Fox Lake as well as continuing to create an extinguished perimeter of approximately 30 metres around every structure, this objective will take time given the number of structures in the community.

Last night a specialized drone equipped with infrared cameras scanned the community of Fox Lake. The IMT will soon have access to maps showing detailed locations of the remaining hot spots in this area, which will help crews locate them for extinguishment. The drone will be requested again tonight for a scan of the southwest perimeter.

ATCO crews are also working in the community to restore power and repair damaged lines.

There are 99 firefighters, 8 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 remains on an evacuation alert. For information regarding the evacuation, please stay informed by visiting the Little Red River Cree Nation's Facebook page.

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 20 percent. Southeast wind in the morning that will switch to north wind of 20-35 km/h with gusts of 50 at midday due to a passing cold front.

Where can I find more information about the wildfires?

Current information on wildfires can be found:

- Wildfire.alberta.ca
- Download the Alberta Wildfire Status App h□ps://open.alberta.ca/blog/?page_id=206
- High Level Forest Area Updates: h□ps://srd.web.alberta.ca/high-level-area-update

- Follow Alberta Wildfire on Facebook, twi er and Instagram.

To Report a wildfire call 310-FIRE (3473)

Crews set up a pump on the Peace River along the Paskwa Fire perimeter, May 18, 2023