



The Paskwa Fire (HWF030) | May 25, 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 73, 936 hectares. The fire is 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. Crews have been working to extinguish 30–60-feet along the perimeter from the oxbow to the Peace River. Bucketing work will continue on the east side of the oxbow where the fire has been moving into slash and old burn areas

Enough progress has been made on this task that yesterday, the Incident Management Team made the recommendation that the evacuation alert in place for Garden River be downgraded from 24-hours to 72-hours. There are still some areas of the perimeter that need to be fully secured before a full lifting of the alert can be recommended.

Many hotspots have dug deep into the ground in the community of Fox Lake and significant work remains to fully extinguish the fire in this area. Crews are working to create an extinguished perimeter of approximately 30 metres around every structure in the community of Fox Lake. This objective will take time given the number of structures in the community.

Last night, an infrared drone camera re-scanned part of the community. The new imagery shows that crews are making significant progress in extinguishing hot spots, though many still remain.

ATCO crews have been working in Fox Lake to restore power and repair damaged lines.

Today, a new Incident Management Team will arrive and take over command of the Paskwa Fire. The two teams will have a full day of transition together on May 25th.

There are 91 firefighters, 9 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. No precipitation is anticipated for the coming days. Today, the forecast is as follows, a temperature of 22 degrees and relative humidity of 25 percent, with northwest winds of 15km/h.

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 [hhttps://open.alberta.ca/blog/?page_id=206](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)

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Members of the Incident Management Team and crew leaders pose for a photo at the morning briefing, May 25, 2023