



The Paskwa Fire (HWF030) | June 11, 2023, at 10:00 AM

The top priorities for managing the Paskwa Fire are full extinguishment of fire in Fox Lake, protecting Garden River, and working toward securing the fire perimeter to prevent significant fire spread.

Yesterday, GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping of the fire perimeter was completed to give a more accurate fire size. The Paskwa Fire is currently 94,172 ha.

There was some slight precipitation, and the cooler temperatures will assist with low fire behavior this morning. We are expecting fire activity to pick-up in the early afternoon after the cloud cover clears later this morning. There is still lingering smoke in the community of Fox Lake but ground crews are still present. Today, crews will be working to extinguish hotspots and remove danger trees along Ribbonleg Road and will continue as they expand their work outwards to Prairie Road and other areas in Fox Lake.

Work continues along the entire north-northeast perimeter to extinguish hot spots, working to keep the fire south of the Peace River. Today, fire crews are working near 5th Meridian and will continue east, working along the oxbow to extinguish hot spots within the fire perimeter. There are many spotty areas within the perimeter, and this will take time for crews to extinguish. Helicopters will also support by bucketing in the area. This area is a priority to prevent fire spread north across the Peace River and to protect the community of Garden River.

Helicopters will continue bucketing along the southeast perimeter, and today ground crews will continue with fire suppression in the area. Once this work is completed the crews will move upwards to the northeast flank of the wildfire. Most of the heat from the wildfire is located on this flank.

Firefighters will work to extinguish hotspots from Little Red River moving to Muskeg Creek.



Work continues in Fox Lake to extinguish 75m (250 ft) perimeters around structures and the removal of danger trees. Heavy equipment is working around larger hotspot areas where there is still potential for fire spread to contain the fire while crews work to extinguish these hotspots.

The high-volume water system, water lines, and sprinkler systems on structures are in place in the community of Garden River and structural firefighters will be available as needed. These are proactive measures to ensure the community is prepared should the fires move closer to Garden River.



There are currently 136 personnel supporting the Paskwa Fire response consisting of wildland and structural firefighters, incident management staff, and Paskwa Fire Base support staff. There are also 10 helicopters and 19 pieces of heavy equipment dedicated to the Paskwa fire.

Davidson Lake fires (Wildfires 8, 9, 11, 13, 14) – Wood Buffalo National Park

The fires in the Davidson Lake area are approximately 49,864 hectares combined and located 26 km northeast of Garden River.

Yesterday Fire 14 saw significant fire behaviour on the northeast flank. Running crown fire and spotting between 500 metres and one kilometre ahead of the fire front was observed. The fire remains on the east side of Trident Creek. Shifting winds may challenge this flank of the fire today.

Fire specialists conducted a small ignition operation to back the fire into Trident Creek to limit the potential of the fire crossing Trident Creek. The team will continue to monitor for opportunities to conduct these indirect suppression tactics to limit spread of the fire towards the community and values. Forecast rain later next week may allow for direct suppression efforts to occur along the flank closest to Garden River.

Eight bulldozers and two excavators completed work on Dozer Line A, a second fuel break line in the park, between the community of Garden River and Fire 14.

One crew continues to assess cabins in the area and maintain sprinkler systems already in place. A crew continues to be based out of the Paskwa fire base with one helicopter, which will make maintaining structure protection faster and more efficient.

For more information on this wildfire please visit [Wood Buffalo National Park wildfire updates - Wood Buffalo National Park \(canada.ca\)](https://www.alberta.ca/wood-buffalo-national-park-wildfire-updates-wood-buffalo-national-park-canada.ca)

Evacuation alerts and orders

- Currently, Garden River remains on evacuation alert.
- Little Red River Cree Nation has an evacuation order in place for the community of Fox Lake.
- For evacuation information, please visit the Little Red River Cree Nation's Facebook page and [Alberta Emergency Alert | Alberta.ca](https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-emergency-alert-alberta.ca)

Background

The Paskwa fire was detected on May 2, 2023. It extends along the south side of the Peace River from the community of Fox Lake into Wood Buffalo National Park and is approximately 8 km south of the community of Garden River. The wildfire is estimated at 94,172 hectares. This fire is classified as out of control (OC).



Weather Forecast | Paskwa Fire (HWF030)

Today, a daytime temperature of 25°C is expected with west winds of 15-20 km/h with gusts of 35 km/h.

Current information on wildfires in Alberta:

- [Wildfire.alberta.ca](https://wildfire.alberta.ca) or download the [Alberta Wildfire Status App](#)
- **High Level Forest Area** Updates: srd.web.alberta.ca/high-level-area-update
- Follow Alberta Wildfire on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.
- For fires in **Wood Buffalo National Park**: [wildfire updates](https://parks.canada.ca/woodbuffalo) (parks.canada.ca\woodbuffalo)

To Report a wildfire, call 310-FIRE (3473)