



The Paskwa Fire (HWF030) | June 14, 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. The Paskwa wildfire is currently 96,582 ha.

Smoke is still lingering in the community of Fox Lake and ground crews are still working in the community actioning smokes with bucketing operations. Today, crews will be working to extinguish hotspots and remove danger trees along Prairie Road, Laboucan Road and other priority areas around the community as they work in stages. These crews will be moved to action any flare-ups that will take priority.

Work near 5th Meridian has been completed as much as possible but will continue to be monitored if anything changes. The crews that were working in the 5th Meridian will be assessing new work in Fox Lake as they get their new assignments to begin work in the community. The area of 5th Meridian is still a priority area to watch for and prevent fire spread north across the Peace River and to protect the community of Garden River.

Helicopters will continue bucketing along the southeast perimeter when smoky conditions allow. Today, ground crews will continue with fire suppression in the area. There was some movement on the southeast corner, but it is being managed by helicopter bucketing and has spread into the edge of Ruis Lake.

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



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 140 personnel supporting the Paskwa Fire response consisting of wildland and structural firefighters, incident management staff, and Paskwa Fire Base support staff. There are also 12 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 – June 14, 2023

Yesterday, little growth was observed on **Fire 14** – it grew approximately 400 metres to the west. The Davidson Lake Fires are approximately 22.5 km from Garden River and 7.5 km from the trigger point for community evacuation.

Wood Buffalo National Park has been in contact with Little Red River Cree Nation and provides updates throughout the day. Fire specialists will continue monitoring fire behaviour and weather conditions, which will ensure a timely recommendation for evacuation of Garden River, if needed.

Weather forecasts have been uncertain about precipitation amounts, but some areas of the park may see rain today, including the eastern edge of these fires. Depending on the levels of precipitation the fire may see today, fire specialists are looking at several options to continue limiting the fire, including dozer guards close to the fire's edge (tightlining) and ignition opportunities with retardant drops to try to hold the fire's southwestern edge.

Dozers continued clearing lines along the old Fort Smith highway yesterday to gain better access to the southwestern side of the fire and continue building fuel breaks as required. Improved access to this area will potentially help in the future if direct suppression efforts by crews are possible.

Crews again checked on cabins and infrastructure at risk yesterday and confirmed known values have yet to be impacted by fires in the area – the crews also added structure protection on two more cabins and maintained pre-existing sprinkler systems on other values in the area. They'll continue to maintain structure protection today.

The Davidson Lake Fires are approximately 49,864 hectares combined as of June 11.

For more information on this wildfire please visit [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](#)

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 96,582 hectares. This fire is classified as out of control (OC).

Weather Forecast | Paskwa Fire (HWF030)

Today, a daytime temperature of 20°C is expected with north winds of 15 km/h with gusts of 35 km/h. A relative humidity of 40% will keep moisture in the air and aid in wildfire suppression efforts. Smoky conditions and moisture will lower the wildfire intensity today.

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)