



The Paskwa Fire (HWF030) | June 20, 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 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 within the community as they're spotted. These crews will be moved to action any surface fire if it arises in other areas of Fox Lake. We're expecting heavy winds again today and this could affect safety on the line, crews will be strategically placed to handle these hazards.

The crews that were working in the oxbow performing mop-up duties on the northeast edge have completed their work and have been moved to the Davidson fire.

The southeast flank of the fire spread into the edge of Ruis Lake creating a natural fire break and extinguishment zone and hasn't moved in the past few days.



Work has been completed in Fox Lake to extinguish 75m (250 ft) perimeters around structures, the removal of danger trees is ongoing. Crews have moved to the roadways to extinguish hotspots 250 ft outwards. Heavy equipment is working around larger hotspot areas where there is still potential for fire spread when conditions are right.

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.

Parks Canada and Alberta Wildfire have come together in Unified Command, allowing these two agencies to work together closely and share resources to protect the community of Garden River.

Paskwa conducted a plan for scanning on the wildfire lastnight and this morning scans will be analyzed for a better understanding of any hot areas on the southwest flank of the fire. Many aerial scans have been completed over the course of this wildfire event and the information we receive from the data gives the operations team a better plan of where the deep burning hotspots in the area are located.



Davidson Lake fire (Wildfires 8, 9, 11, 13, 14) – Wood Buffalo National Park – June 20

Davidson Lake Fires were last estimated at **91,079** hectares and remains **6.2 km from the community**.

The Davidson Lake Fires and Paskwa Wildfire are being managed by both Parks Canada and the province of Alberta, under Unified Command.

Fire behaviour has remained low since yesterday and is expected to be similar today.

Fire behaviour observed yesterday was primarily smoldering ground fire with occasional flare-ups. One small spot fire was observed around Trident Creek near the south end of the fire and will continue to be actioned by crews today – this spot fire poses no additional risk to the community at this time.

The dozer line running north from Peace Point Road (Old Smith Highway) along the western edge of the fire is now only about 300m short of being tied into Trident Creek. We expect to complete this section today, which will help prevent the spread of the fire towards the community of Garden River. No significant growth was observed on the Davidson Lake Fires yesterday and the fire remains approximately 6.2 km from the evacuation trigger line.

The community dozer guard north of Garden River is approximately 90% complete, and we expect this work to be completed today as well.

We expect to see another gusty morning with winds from the northeast at 20km/h gusting to 35km/h. In the afternoon, winds will lower to around 15km/h. evacuation trigger line.

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)

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)

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).

Resources

There are currently 122 personnel supporting the Paskwa/Davidson 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/Davidson fire.



Weather Forecast | Paskwa Fire (HWF030)/ Davidson (Wildfires 8, 9, 11, 13, 14)

Today, a daytime temperature of 21°C degrees with winds out of the northeast at 20 km/h gusting of 35 km/h diminishing to northeast 15 km/h in the late afternoon. Relative humidity will be 30% which is less moisture than we've seen in the last few days and we're preparing to see an increase in fire behavior this afternoon on the wildfires.

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/wildfire-updates) (parks.canada.ca\woodbuffalo)

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