

# Fort McMurray Forest Area Situational Report

22 April 2024

#### Contacts

Main Office: 780 743 7125 Information Officer: 780 743 7341 Industry Liaison: Mike Gadde 403 880 9296

**Current Wildfire Danger:** 

Fort McMurray – VERY HIGH

Fort Chip/Fort Smith – MOD

Fire Ban System Level:



Effective April 09<sup>th</sup>, the Fort McMurray Forest Area will be under a Fire Advisory. Under this advisory new fire permits will be issued on a case-by-case basis. All existing permits remain valid; however, renewals may not be granted. Safe wood campfires are not affected by this advisory. Advisory will remain in effect until mid-term hazard subsides.

| Weather Forecast    | Fire Weather conditions expected for: 22 April 2024 |        |                        |                       |                          |                   |  |
|---------------------|---|--------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Forecast<br>Zone    | Maximum<br>Temp                                     | Low RH | Precipitation Covg/Amt | Precipitation<br>Type | Lightning<br>Probability | Afternoon<br>Wind |  |
| Fort McMurray (MM)  | 17  | 20     | -                      | -                     | L                        | N15               |  |
| Fort Chipewyan (PY) | 16  | 25     | -                      | -                     | L                        | N15               |  |
| Lac La Biche (LLB)  | 17  | 20     | -                      | -                     | L                        | NW15G35           |  |

For tomorrow, upper low will depart eastward into SASK and a weak upper ridge rebuilds over Alberta. Tapering off RW may be seen in the southern province early in the day. Near or slightly below seasonal temperatures are forecast across the province. Low RH values of 20-35% will be expected in most zones, with some localized 15% in the north. W-NW winds will be in range of 10-20 with some gusts of 35 km/h in the boreal and northern slopes, and 25-30G40-50 km/h in the south may be expected.

## Fire Weather Index

| FFMC | DMC | DC   | ISI       | BUI     | FWI |
|------|-----|------|-----------|---------|-----|
| 93   | 21  | 151  | 14        | 31      | 22  |
| LOW  | MOD | HIGH | VERY HIGH | EXTREME |     |

Classification: Protected A

| <u>r</u> |      |   |   |   |  |   |  |  |   |   |   |
|----------|------|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|
|          |      |   | Rate of Spread meters / minute                      |   | Fire Type S-<br>Surface, T-Torching, C-Crown   |   | Fire Size in 60 min (in hectares) starting at 1700   |  |   |   |   |
| Spruce   | Pine | Grass                                   | Spruce  | Pine  | Grass  | Spruce  | Pine   | Grass  | Spruce  | Pine  | Grass   |
| 6        | 3    | 5                                       | 15  | 9   | 40   | С   | S  | S  | 42  | 11  | 151   |
| 1        | 2    | 2                                       | 1   | 5   | 6  |   |  |  |   |   |   |
|          | Inte | Fuel Typ Intensity Cl  Spruce Pine  6 3 | Fuel Type Intensity Class  Spruce Pine Grass  6 3 5 | Fuel Type Intensity Class  Spruce Pine Grass Spruce  6 3 5 15 | Fuel Type   Rate of Spread / minute  Spruce   Pine   Grass   Spruce   Pine    6   3   5   15   9 | Fuel Type Intensity Class  Rate of Spread meters / minute  Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine Grass  6 3 5 15 9 40 | Fuel Type Intensity Class  Rate of Spread meters Fire Type Surface,  Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine Grass Spruce  6 3 5 15 9 40 C | Fuel Type Intensity Class  Rate of Spread meters Fire Type Surface, T-Torching  Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine  6 3 5 15 9 40 C S | Fuel Type Intensity Class  Rate of Spread meters Fire Type Surface, T-Torching, C-Crown  Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine Grass  6 3 5 15 9 40 C S S | Fuel Type Intensity Class  Rate of Spread meters Fire Type Surface, T-Torching, C-Crown  Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine Grass Spruce  6 3 6 15 9 40 C S S 42 | Fuel Type Intensity Class  Rate of Spread meters Fire Type Surface, T-Torching, C-Crown  Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine Grass Spruce Pine  6 3 6 15 9 40 C S S 42 11 |

## Wildfire Situation Report

|                          | Out of Control | Being Held | Under Control | Extinguished | Total |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------|---------------|--------------|-------|
| New Fires in Last 24 hrs | 1              | 0          | 0             | 1            | 2     |
| Current Wildfires        | 1              | 0          | 0             | 9            | 10    |

#### Wildfire of Note: MWF012

New wildfire of note MWF012 is 4.5 km to the east of the community of Saprae Creek. The community is currently under an evacuation alert, along with the CN rail yard south of Saprae. The fire is currently 67ha. Overnight heavy equipment created a dozer guard along the western flank of the wildfire. Dozer operations will continue today along with air tanker, helicopters, and ground firefighting resources. Please see below for list of resources. Nigh-time operations were conducted last night with tanking operations being performed on the west flank.

Two wildfires from 2023 (Rocky River Fire near Fort Chipewyan and Wood Buffalo Complex near Fort Fitz Gerald, AB remain in an "Under Control" status until snow is gone from the area and infra-red scanning can conducted to confirm over-winter extinguishment. Remaining 7 wildfires that have been extinguished in 2024 have predominantly been a result of abandoned campfires or recreational vehicles.

| Resources          | for 22 April 2024 |   |  |
|--------------------|-------------------|---|--|
| Helitad            | k Crew            | 2 |  |
| Firetac            | ck Crew           | 4 |  |
| Unit               | Crew              | 1 |  |
| Doze               | r Units           | 2 |  |
| Water <sup>-</sup> | Tenders           | 3 |  |
| Rotar              | y Wing            | 9 |  |
| Air Ta             | ankers            |   |  |

### **Useful Links**

Alberta Wildfire homepage: http://wildfire.alberta.ca/

Wildfire Status: <a href="http://wildfire.alberta.ca/wildfire-status/default.aspx">http://wildfire.alberta.ca/wildfire-status/default.aspx</a>

Wildfire Status Map: https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/3ffcc2d0ef3e4e0999b0cf8b636defa3

Wildfire Weather: http://wildfire.alberta.ca/wildfire-status/fire-weather/default.aspx Canadian Wildland Fire Information System: <a href="http://cwfis.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/home">http://cwfis.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/home</a>

FireWeb: http://wildfire.alberta.ca/firesmart/firesmart-industry/alberta-wildfire-system-and-

fireweb.aspx

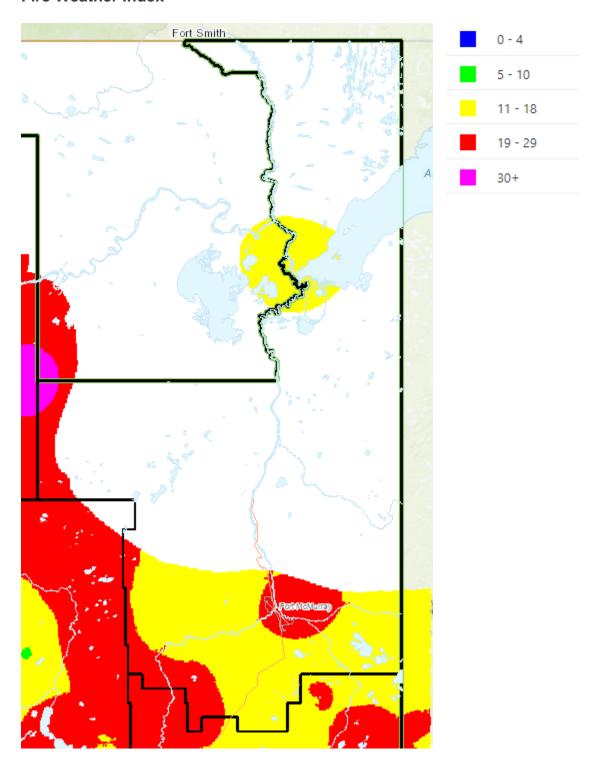
Alberta Fire Bans: https://albertafirebans.ca/

FireSmart Canada: https://www.firesmartcanada.ca/

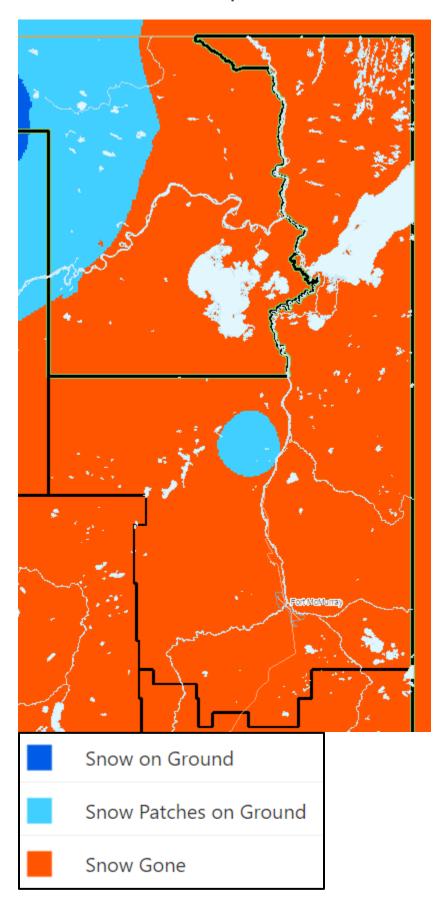
Fire Smoke Canada: http://firesmoke.ca/

Classification: Protected A

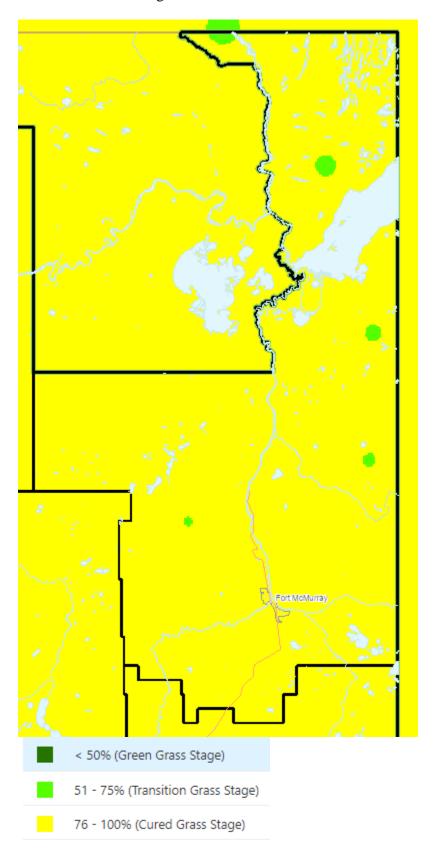
## **Fire Weather Index**



# **Snow Gone Conditions - Map**



# Cured Grass Percentage



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