



Wildfire Operations in Sector 1 (Haliburton)



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Redstone Lake Cottage Association

Presentation Overview

- Aviation, Forest Fire and Emergency Services (AFFES) branch
- Haliburton Fire Management Headquarters
- Water bombers and drones
- Fireworks
- FireSmart



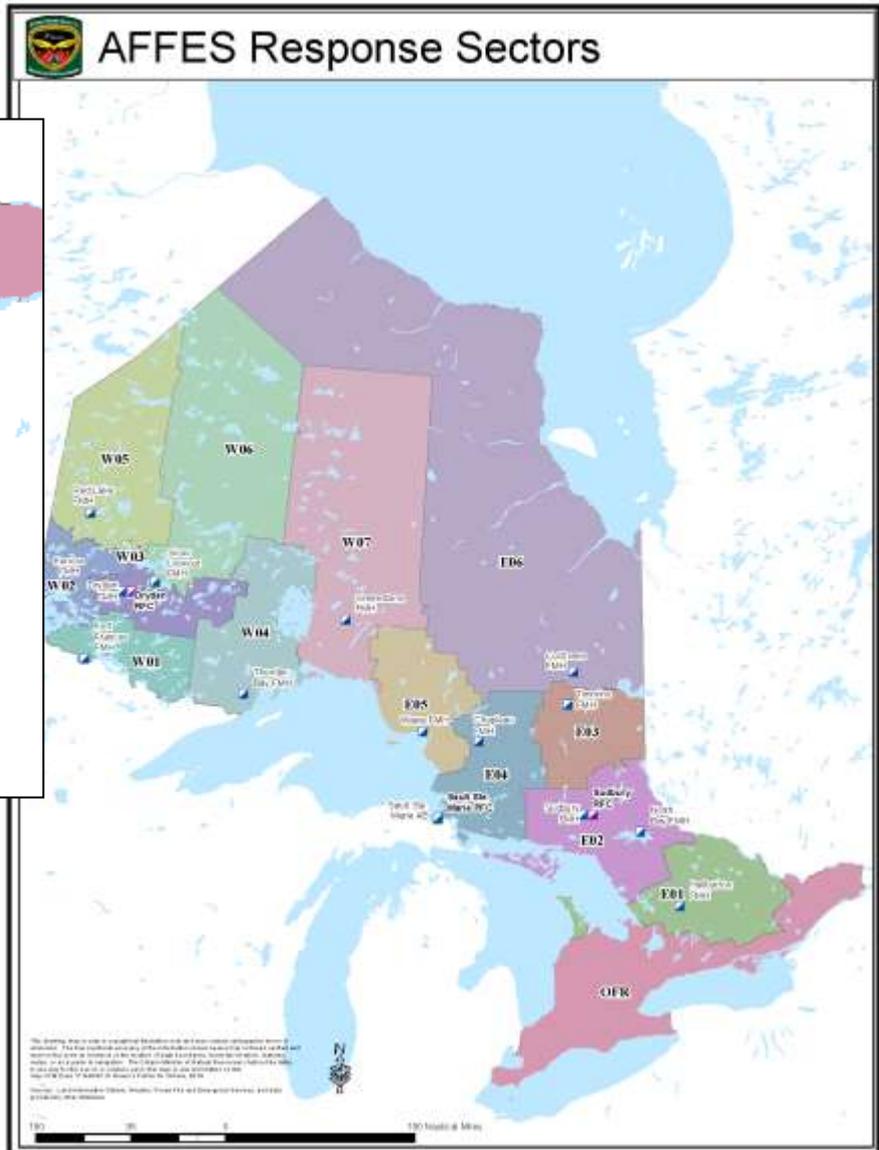
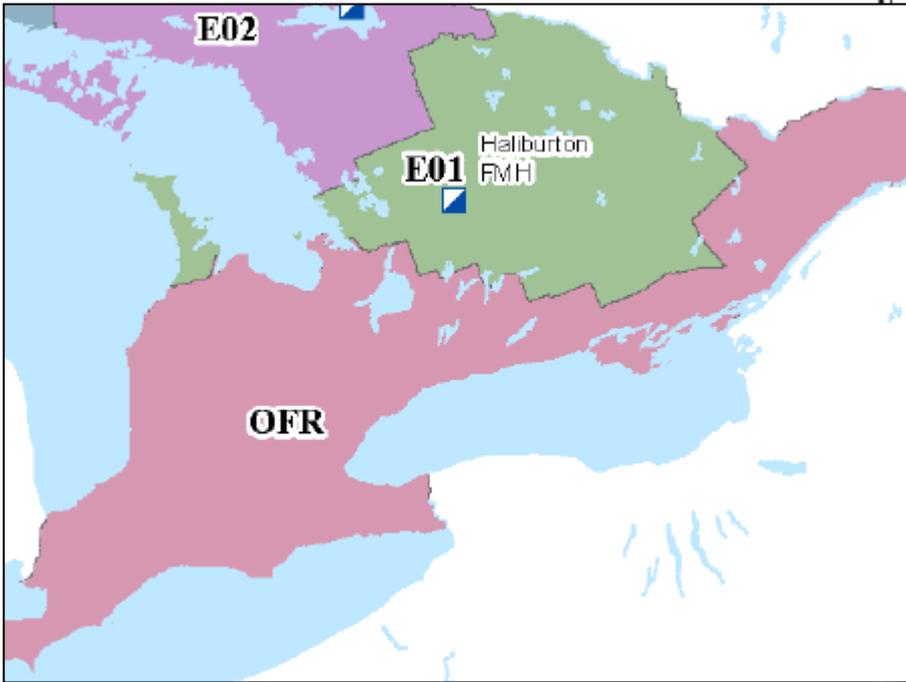
Aviation, Forest Fires and Emergency Services (**AFFES**)

The **AFFES Response System** carries out fire operations and coordinates the response to incidents (incidents may include forest fires, threats to MNRFB business continuity, or threats to public safety). This System includes staff in the Response and Operations section and other AFFES, MNRFB, OPS, and non-OPS staff and contractors, as required.

MNRFB assigned emergencies include:

- Forest Fires;
- Floods;
- Drought/low water;
- Dam Failures;
- Crude oil and natural gas exploration and production, natural gas and hydrocarbon underground storage and salt solution mining emergencies;
- Erosion;
- Soil and bedrock instability.





AFFES operates 14 Fire Management Headquarters, with 3 Attack Bases and 11 Forward Attack bases. Haliburton is the southernmost sector in the province.



Haliburton Fire Management Headquarters



In 2016, Ontario moved the original Haliburton Fire Management Headquarters out of a residential area and consolidated services at the Stanhope airport. The project included construction of new equipment storage and warehouse area, along with proper facilities for fire staff. The new facility provides a barrier-free work environment for firefighters and support staff and allows for increased capacity for aircraft at the site during fire season. The facility houses 12 four-person crews during the fire season and another 15-20 overhead and support services staff and can be expanded during periods of escalated activity.

Statistics 2016-2017



2016 Sector 1

Dist	Fires	Ha
APK	27	54.1
BAN	24	33.0
KEM	4	1.3
MID	1	0.2 (IFR)
MID	1	61.0 (OFR)
PAR	50	81.3
PEM	9	2.7
PET	3	1.6 (IFR)
PET	1	5.0 (OFR)
GUE	1	6.4 (OFR)



Total: 121 246.6 ha



Water Bombers and Aircraft



CL-415 Heavy Water Bombers: CL-415 is a Canadian-built amphibious aircraft built specifically for aerial firefighting. The CL-415 can scoop up to 6,130 litres of water from a nearby water source and drop it on a fire..

Twin Otter Medium Water Bombers: The DHC-6 Twin Otter is a Canadian-built STOL (Short Take-off and Landing) utility aircraft. In the current configuration it can drop up to 2000 litres of water from a nearby water source and drop it on a fire.

Intermediate Helicopters: Ontario owns 4 intermediate class helicopters (Eurocopter EC130) that are specifically assigned to fire response during the summer. Operationally this class of helicopter can transport 4 personnel with an internal load of 1600 lbs. When used to drop water the average volume is 1000 litres of water.

Fixed Wing: CL-415 Heavy Water Bomber	9
Twin Otter	3
Helicopters: Intermediate (EC130)	4





When waterbombers approach a body of water, move close to the shore so they can perform their scoop safely.

A water bomber will not scoop from a lake or river if encroaching watercraft pose a safety hazard.





**THE AREA AROUND A
FOREST FIRE IS A
NO DRONE ZONE**

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles around Forest Fires (Drones)

In Canada, the official designation for unmanned aircraft is Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV's)

Flying UAV's around forest fires is both dangerous and illegal. When you fly a UAV or drone near a forest fire you can put the lives of pilots, firefighters and other emergency workers at risk. The delays and distractions associated with having one of these aircraft in the area could also put the lives of the public and the safety of their homes at risk when a forest fire is being actioned. Always think safety first and keep your UAV or drone away from forest fires.



UAV's Continued

The following are the airspace restrictions for all aircraft over forest fires:

Section 601.15 of the Canadian Aviation Regulations (CARs) states that the airspace around forest fires is restricted to forest fire suppression aircraft only.

No person shall operate an aircraft

(a)over a forest fire area, or over any area that is located within five nautical miles of a forest fire area, at an altitude of less than 3,000 feet AGL; or

(b)in any airspace that is described in a NOTAM issued pursuant to section 601.16.

Transport Canada is responsible for regulating the use of UAV's and keeping the public and airspace safe. If an incident is reported to the department, one of Transport Canada's inspectors will verify that the operator followed the rules and whether the UAV safety guidelines were followed. Fines could be as much as \$25,000 dollars or imprisonment. Local police may also be involved if other laws were broken, including the *Criminal Code* and privacy laws.

Safe operation of UAVs information can be found on Transport Canada's [Website](#).



Fireworks and the Forest Fires Prevention Act

The Forest Fires Prevention Act addresses fireworks in Section 30. This section states, “No person who discharges a firearm, a flare, fireworks or explosives in or within 300 metres of a forest area shall leave any residue from the discharge unextinguished.”

Therefore, any person who set off fireworks is responsible if any hot residue results in a fire. Also, there may be municipal by-laws regarding the use of fireworks.

While there are no additional restrictions during a Restricted Fire Zone, we hope that people will consider that:

- During periods of hot dry weather, sparks and embers can start forest fires
- All forest fires are investigated to determine the cause
- A person can be charged under the Forest Fires Prevention Act and may be held responsible for the cost of putting a forest fire out.



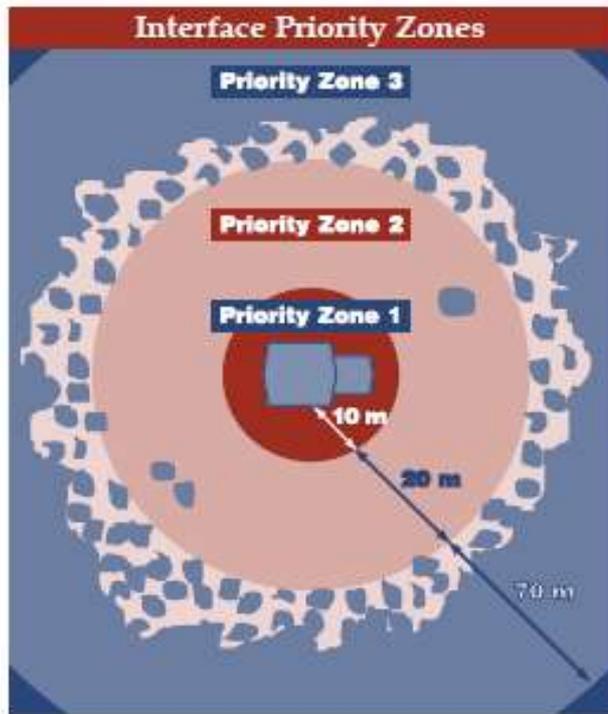


Fireworks

Suggested measures to promote safe use of fireworks (voluntary):

- Attend an organized fireworks venue instead of setting off your own
- Choose a fire safe area to ignite fireworks that is free of flammable materials
- Always supply adult supervision
- Launch fireworks over an area free of flammable material, i.e., gravel, body of water
- Have fire suppression equipment on hand
- When completed, check the area for any hot residue and ensure it is put out.

FireSmart



Any kind of vegetation is combustible. Mature trees, shrubs, dead grass, even your woodpile, are fuels to a wildfire. Managing the space around your house and buildings is of prime importance.

Homeowners can play a key role in fire protection strategies. Some prevention measures cost very little and reduce fire danger by a great deal: others require planning and a long-term commitment to change. More importantly, the work you do can slow a fire and provide valuable time for fire crews to respond and begin extinguishing a fire when it occurs. Properly preparing your home and community doesn't guarantee that you will not incur fire damage, but it does reduce the risks.

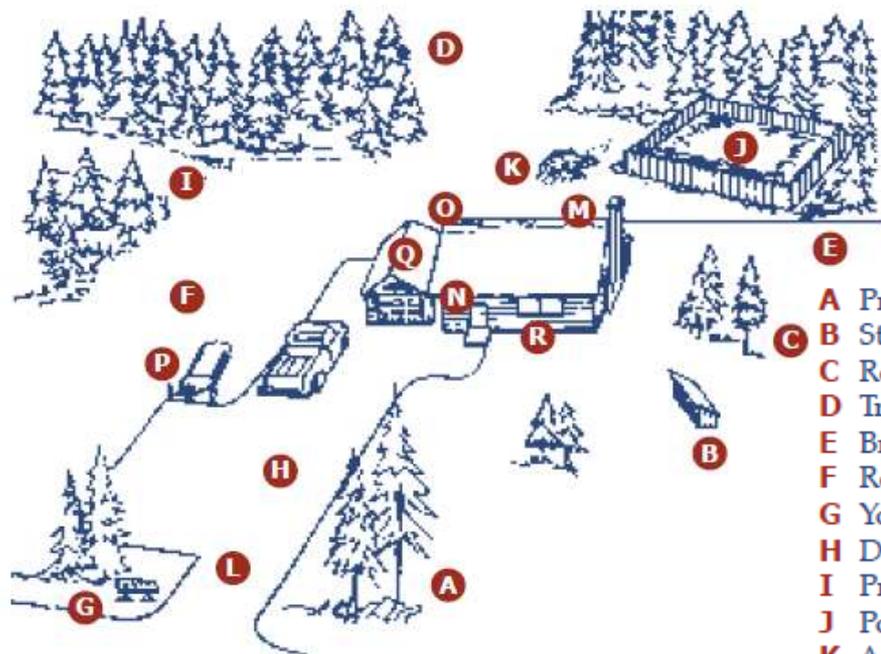
Zone 1: Prune or trim shrubs and trees, remove deadfall or woodpiles and keep grass mowed and watered. Consider changing conifer trees to hardwood species.

Zone 2: Thin trees and remove debris or "ladder fuels" that would support the crowning of a spreading fire. Reduce the number of evergreen trees in the area. The crowns of individual trees shouldn't touch.

Zone 3: Thin the area so fires will be of a low intensity and more easily extinguished. Thin or remove shrubs and trees making up the understory and retain fire resistant deciduous trees.



A Well Thought Out FireSmart Protection Plan



- A Prune tree branches to a height of 1 or 2 metres
- B Store fire wood well away from the house
- C Remove trees within 10 metres of house
- D Trees thinned (crowns don't touch) for at least 30 metres from the house
- E Branches are clear of power lines (if possible bury power service)
- F Remove brush, mow and water lawn
- G Your name and lot number clearly visible for quick identification
- H Driveway is wide enough to accommodate emergency vehicles
- I Provide additional emergency exit
- J Pond or cistern with emergency water supply
- K A FireSmart ash pit or burning barrel
- L Driveway clear of trees to a distance of at least 3 or 4 metres
- M Chimney installed to code complete with spark arrestor screens
- N All soffit vents and gutters should be screened
- O Porches and balconies screened, crawl spaces enclosed
- P Position propane tank with valve pointing away from house
- Q Fire resistant exterior roof and walls
- R Protective drapes and or shutters on windows to protect interior from radiant heat



REPORT FOREST FIRES SIGNALEZ LES FEUX DE FORÊT



For more information about protecting your home and community from wildfire, contact your local fire department or Ministry of Natural Resources, Fire Management office. Or visit us at:
ontario.ca/fireprevention

Any questions?

Thank-you!
Kevin Kerkhof



Northwestern Ontario
Northeastern Ontario

310 FIRE(3473)

Southern
Region

Call 911 or your
local municipal fire service