



FOREST FIRE

News July 26, 2018 – 20:30

Lady Evelyn Park Cluster Fire Update

The Lady Evelyn Park Cluster is managed by the Bob Hurley Incident Management Team (IMT) from Ontario. The fire remains at 27,579 hectares and is listed as not under control. The overcast skies and wet weather has allowed FireRangers to consolidate hose lines along the fire perimeter. While there is much work still to be done, progress is made daily.

Fire line staff continue to work with heavy equipment operators to establish dozer guards in areas where this type of suppression is suitable. This helps secure the perimeter of the fire.

The Hurley IMT continues to observe North Bay 18, 19, 46, 59 and 61. While these fires have been quiet, they are not considered out.

North Bay 72

- There are 10 helicopters assigned to fires within this cluster.
- Transitioning of staff is ongoing as personnel depart for their home locations and new staff arrive. Crews arrived from northwestern Ontario today and more are expected from Saskatchewan, tomorrow.
- We continue to have firefighters from British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Northwest Territories and Mexico work on fires in this cluster.



Forecast and weather information



Friday's Forecast

For Friday July 27, 2018 we anticipate mostly cloudy skies with scattered showers throughout the day. RH values will continue to remain above 50%.

Outlook: Over the weekend we expect to see unsettled weather passing through the area bringing scattered showers. Winds will remain out of the west. Temperatures are expected to stay on the cooler side during the day.

Sunday will see some partial clearing with temperatures again in the low 20s. Winds will remain westerly near 10km/h. There is a risk of scattered storms Sunday afternoon.

This type of weather pattern will assist firefighter as they continue to lay hose and extinguish hot spots.

Below Photo: FireRangers from Ontario, Nova Scotia, Alberta and the Northwest Territories line up for a group photo at the Earlton Airport. We wish them all the best as some are just arriving while others are heading home.





Above Photo: Francisco Murphy, Assistant Management Forester for Timmins District MNRF translates the morning operations briefing from English to Spanish for the Mexican FireRangers. Fransico is wearing the grey shirt.



Photo to the left: Heavy equipment working to establish a dozer guard along the fire's edge. This is also known as a Cat guard. FireRangers will then walk the lines and extinguish hot spots with water.

Travel Restrictions

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is advising the public that due to continued active forest fire activity in the River Valley, Elk Lake and Lady Evelyn area, an Implementation Order is in effect that restricts access to certain roads, parks and Crown lands. Access to these areas is restricted and road blocks have been set up to notify the public of the closures. Within the area, Crown land camping, boating, the landing of float planes, day-tripping, hiking, ATVing as well as accessing private or commercial camps and cottages are NOT permitted. Permits are required to travel through the restricted area.

Please visit [Ontario.ca/forestfire](https://www.ontario.ca/forestfire) to view the current restrictions and for more information on how to obtain a permit.

For inquiries about the travel restrictions, please call:

- North Bay MNRF 705-475-5546.
- Kirkland Lake MNRF 705-568-3201.

Restricted Fire Zone

A Fire Restriction remains in effect.

When a Restricted Fire Zone is declared, it is illegal to set a fire within the affected area. Failure to comply could result in a fine of up to \$25,000 and three months in jail, as well as the financial responsibility for any costs incurred in fighting a forest fire caused by the illegal act. If you need heat for cooking and warmth, you must use a portable gas or propane stove. Portable charcoal equipment (ex. BBQs, Hibachis, etc) are illegal for use during a Restricted Fire Zone, except close to a dwelling you legally own or occupy or in an organized campground.

Visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/outdoor-fire-restrictions> for more information.

Smoke Concerns

Many Ontario residents have reported smoke drift in their communities. Smokey conditions are expected to continue when fires are active until weather patterns change.

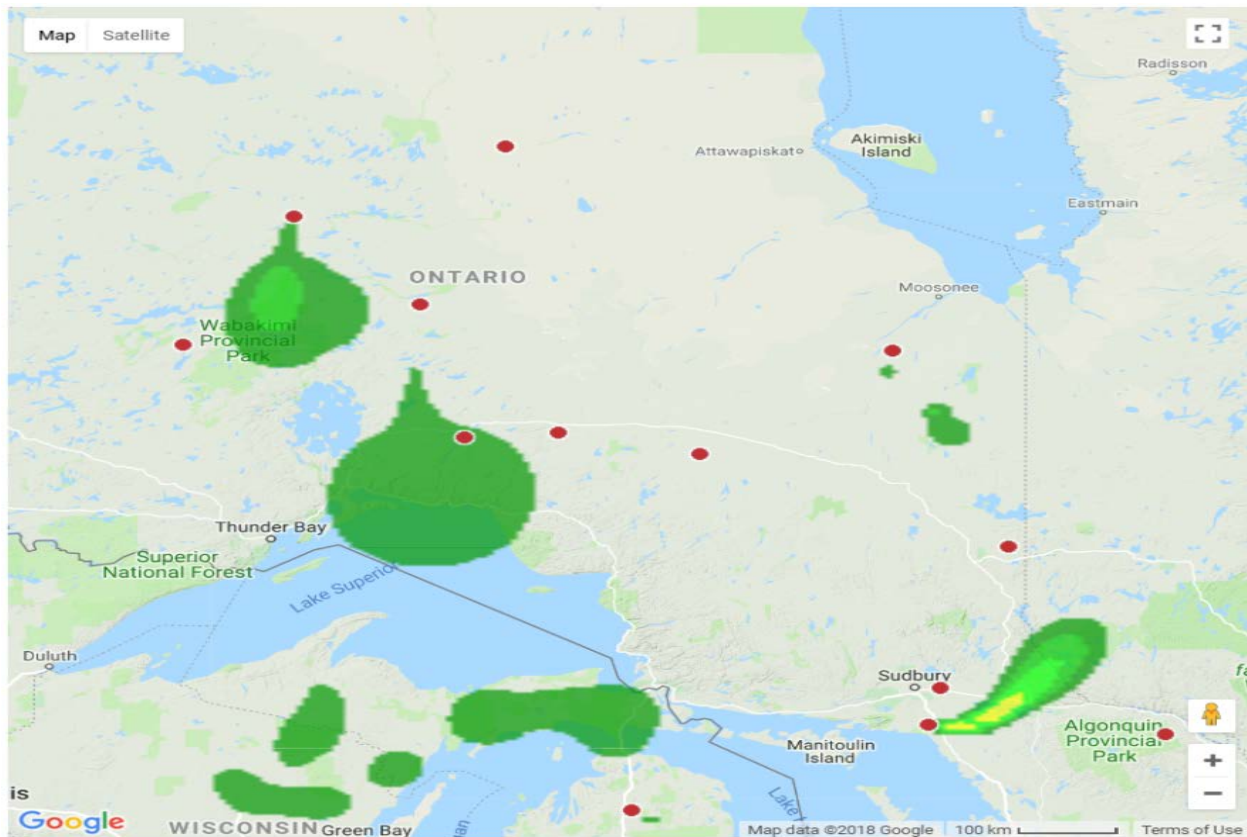
We would like to remind the public that if they do see flames or smoke, please report it. Stay away from the area for public safety.

If you have questions or concerns about smoke and your health, please contact TeleHealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000.

Did You Know?

- Smoke drift from recent large fires in the Northeast Region has been affecting many parts of northeastern Ontario. Hazy smoky skies are expected to be seen as the fires continue to burn. Here are some interesting facts about smoke drift.
- Around the world, ash and thick smoke from wildfires can fill the skies.
- While the smoke seems to disappear with distance from the fires, polluting gases and small particles that are invisible to the human eye can be carried away by global air currents.
- Over the past decade, satellite data helped reveal that pollution transport often occurs over hundreds and even thousands of miles, and long-distance transport has received increased attention due to the potential impact on the air quality of continents downwind.
- Smoke from extremely hot wildfires can rise 4 to 5 miles (7 to 8 kilometers) into the atmosphere, and can be carried even further with the fast winds at higher altitudes.
- The hotter the fire, the higher its smoke can go — and the higher the smoke goes into the atmosphere, the farther it typically travels. The winds are much stronger in the upper atmosphere there, so it gets transported much quicker.

Smoke drift models, like the picture below, are useful tools in predicting where smoke drift will occur over a given period. This can be used to help inform communities about potential smoke drift into their area. This smoke drift prediction tool can be found at <http://firesmoke.ca>.



Contact Numbers and Online Information

For more information about travel restrictions:

- North Bay MNRF 705-475-5546.
- Kirkland Lake MNRF 705-568-3201.

For general information about the fire situation: 705-564-6165

For information about highway closures: 5-1-1

For inquiries regarding Ontario Parks closures and updates:

- Finlayson Point (including Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater, Obabika River, Makobe-Grays, Solace and Sturgeon River): 705-569-3205
- Marten River: 705-892-2200



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