



# FOREST FIRE

News July 29, 2018 – 20:30

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## River Valley Cluster Fire Update

\*\*\*\*This will be the *last River Valley Cluster Fire Update*. In the future, please visit the [Ontario.ca/forestfire](http://Ontario.ca/forestfire) website for all the latest wildfire information. \*\*\*\*

The River Valley cluster has been managed by the Rick Moore Incident Management team from Alberta since July 18. Command will be transferred to an Ontario Incident Commander tomorrow. This cluster includes North Bay 62 which is UNDER CONTROL, North Bay 42, which is BEING HELD and NOR 25 which is 176 hectares.

There are 129 people working on these fires including fire fighters from Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and Mexico. The crews from BC, along with the incident management team from Alberta will be leaving these fires tomorrow.



Equipment ready to be recovered from the fireline. It will be cleaned, refurbished and redeployed to another wildfire.

### North Bay 42:

- Location: North of Red Cedar Lake
- Size: 350 Hectares
- Status: Being Held

### North Bay 62:

- Location: Southwest of Hand Lake
- Size: 2,500 Hectares
- Status: Being Held

Crews continued to work on the north side of Fire 42 today, with support from a bucketing helicopter. Crews continued to remove gear from Fire 62. Work on Fire 25 is complete.



### Monday's Forecast

Generally clear skies in the morning will give way to instability into the afternoon. Scattered rain showers with isolated lightning is possible. We're expecting a high of 27 degrees, humidity of 30-50%, winds SW 5-10 km/hr.

Unsettled conditions should continue for the rest of the week.

***Note: SW winds are bringing smoke from other wildfires into the River Valley area. There are no new wildfires in this area.***

Between July 1 and July 28, 2018 there were 230,000 lightning strikes in Ontario. Some of those lightning strikes ignited forest fires in the North East region.

## Did you know?

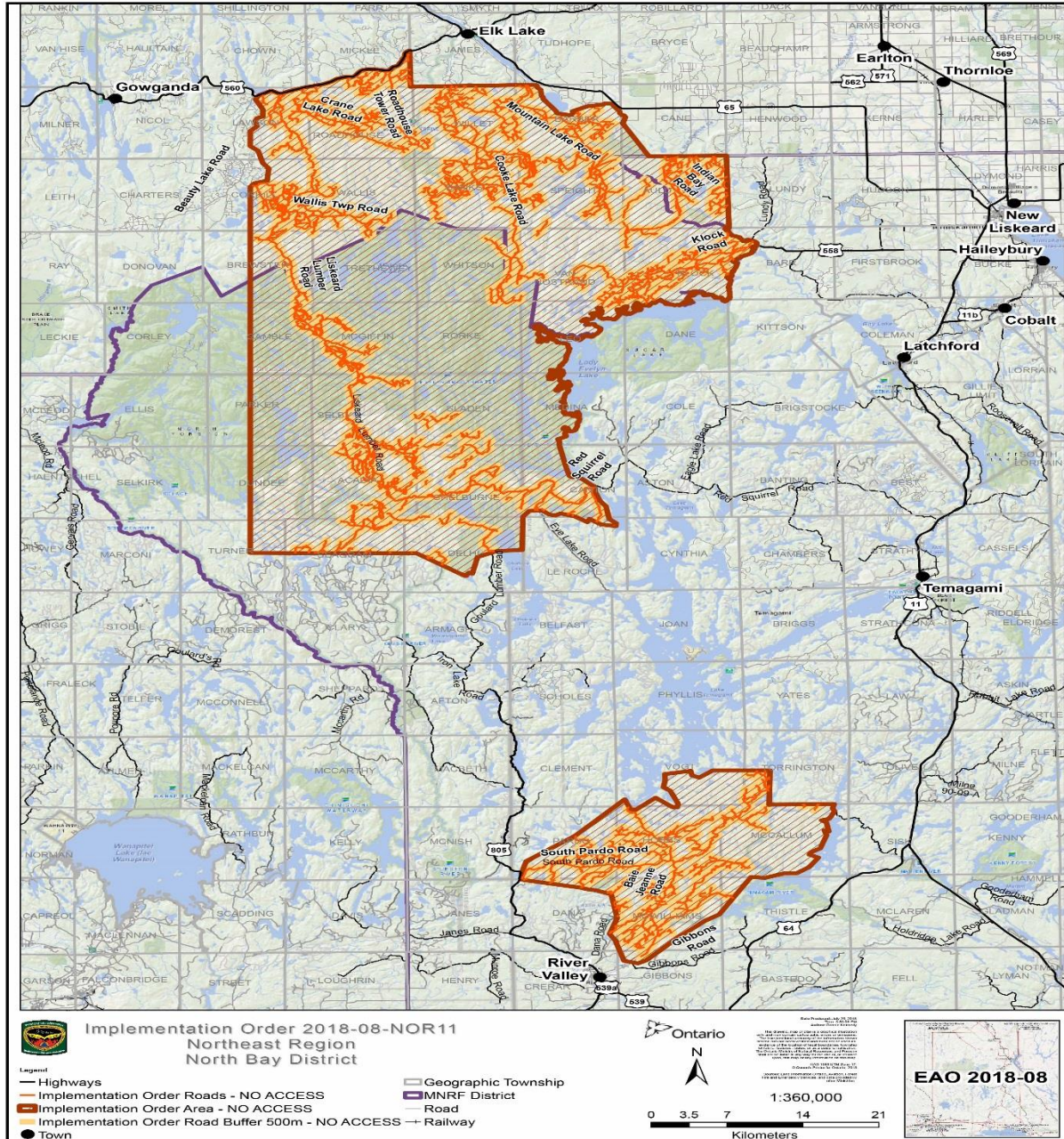
- ⚡ Forest fires caused by lightning may not be detected for days or weeks. These fires are called “holdover fires”.
- ⚡ There are different reasons why a fire may not be discovered right away. For instance, creeping fires often burn slowly through a tree, possibly even spreading into the root system before becoming a full-blown wildfire. Rainfall or high humidity may also keep a fire smoldering.
- ⚡ The smoke from a fire may only be visible once it begins to rise above the tree tops on a sunny day. High humidity may also keep the smoke closer to the ground.
- ⚡ Lightning is an electrical current mostly caused by warm air mixing with cold air masses during a thunderstorm. However, lightning can also be caused by dust storms, forest fires and volcanic eruptions.
- ⚡ There are three types of lightning: lightning that occurs within a cloud, lightning that occurs between two clouds, or lightning that occurs between a cloud and the ground. Cloud-to-ground lightning is the most dangerous and damaging form of lightning because it strikes physical objects (for example, trees and buildings); but lightning inside a cloud or between clouds are the most common types of lightning. For every cloud-to-ground strike, there can be three to five cloud-to-cloud strikes. ([www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change](http://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change))
- ⚡ Thunder is caused by lightning. The reason we see lightning before we hear thunder is because light travels faster than sound.
- ⚡ The science of lightning is called *fulminology*, and the fear of lightning is called [astraphobia](#).



Photo taken by Pilot Ken Irvine at the Sudbury Fire Management Centre, July 2018

# Travel Restrictions

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is prohibiting access in portions of North Bay, Sudbury and Kirkland Lake Districts where there are public safety hazards resulting from increased fire activity. Crown land camping, boating, day-tripping, hiking, ATViing as well as accessing private or commercial camps or cottages are not permitted in the area covered by the travel restrictions. **For inquiries about the travel restrictions, please call: 705-475-5546**



## Restricted Fire Zone

A Restricted Fire Zone 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 by calling 310-FIRE. 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

## 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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**CALL:** Fire Updates 1-705-564-6165 Travel Updates 705-475-5546