
INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release
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Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations
and Rural Development
BC Wildfire Service

Campfires to be allowed again in parts of the Prince George Fire Centre

PRINCE GEORGE – Effective at noon on Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2017, campfires will once again be allowed in some areas of the Prince George Fire Centre: the Prince George, Fort St. James, Mackenzie, Peace and Fort Nelson forest districts.

The combination of precipitation and a return to cooler, seasonal temperatures has reduced the wildfire danger in these northern and eastern portions of the Prince George Fire Centre.

However, some parts of the region remain dry and the wildfire risk in some areas is still high, so the campfire prohibition will remain in effect within the Vanderhoof Forest District.

A map of the affected areas and their associated prohibitions is available online at:

<http://ow.ly/oOX530eCNya>

- In the Prince George, Fort St. James, Mackenzie, Peace and Fort Nelson forest districts, the following activities will remain prohibited:
 - Category 2 and Category 3 open fires
 - the use of sky lanterns, binary exploding targets, and burning barrels or burning cages of any size or description
- In the Vanderhoof Forest District, the following activities will remain prohibited:
 - campfires
 - Category 2 and Category 3 open fires
 - the use of sky lanterns, binary exploding targets, and burning barrels or burning cages of any size or description
 - the use of tiki torches, fireworks and firecrackers
 - the use of outdoor stoves
 - the use of stoves and other portable campfire apparatuses that are not CSA-approved or ULC-approved

These prohibitions do not apply to CSA-rated or ULC-rated cooking stoves or portable campfire apparatuses that use briquettes, liquid or gaseous fuel, so long as the height of the flame is less than 15 centimetres.

These prohibitions cover all B.C. Parks, Crown lands and private lands, but do not apply within the boundaries of a local government that has forest fire prevention bylaws and is serviced by a fire department. Always check with local authorities to see if any other burning restrictions are in place before lighting any fire.

Anyone found in contravention of an open burning prohibition may be issued a ticket for

\$1,150, required to pay an administrative penalty of \$10,000, or, if convicted in court, fined up to \$100,000 and/or sentenced to one year in jail. If the contravention causes or contributes to a wildfire, the person responsible may be ordered to pay all firefighting and associated costs.

A poster explaining the different categories of open burning is available online:

<http://ow.ly/zny309kV5>

For more information on fire-related fines and penalties, visit: www.gov.bc.ca/wildfirefines

To report a wildfire or open burning violation, call 1 800 663-5555 toll-free or *5555 on a cellphone. For the latest information on current wildfire activity, burning restrictions, road closures and air quality advisories, visit <http://www.bcwildfire.ca>

You can also follow the latest wildfire news on:

- Twitter at <http://twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo>
- Facebook at <http://facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo>

Contact:

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Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect