



FOREST FIRE UPDATE

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR **JUNE 9, 2025**
KENORA 020/KENORA 014

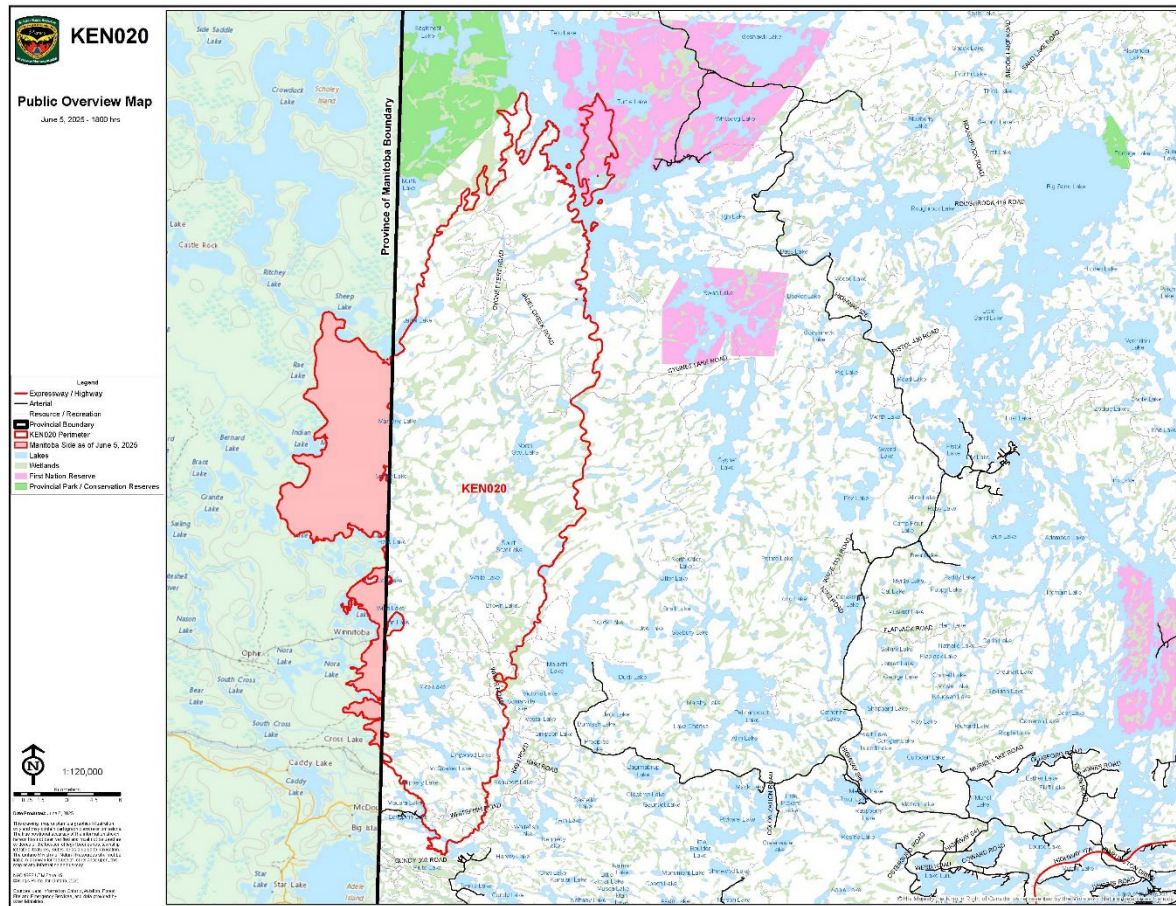


Division supervisors consult a map of the Kenora 20 fire.

Current Fire Situation

- The Kenora 20 fire area received approximately 4-6mm of overnight rainfall on June 8.
- The 'jump fire' area close to the community of Wabaseemoong has shown a second clean infra-red scan with no hotspots detected.

- Crews are removing sprinkler systems that were set up to protect Wabaseemoong.



Kenora 14

- Kenora 14 is now under control at 1,607 hectares in size.
- This fire has now received sufficient suppression to prevent any further spread.
- Kenora 14 has received a third clean infrared scan, showing no hotspots.
- Travel restrictions associated with Kenora 14 fire area are revoked as of 0800 June 9.

Information Contacts

Northwest Region – Fire Information Officer (fire updates, media inquiries)
Chris Marchand – AFFES-Communications@ontario.ca / 807-323-1851

AFFES Community Liaison Officer (Wabaseemoong, area Indigenous communities)
Krista Prosser – Krista.Prosser@ontario.ca / 807-407-9675

Kenora District IMT – Information Officer (road closures, travel restrictions)
Conor Lee Kam – conor.leekam2@ontario.ca / (807) 620-7883

Drought conditions persist in area

The lack of significant rainfall throughout the month of May in Northwestern Ontario is a significant driver of the wildland fire situation in the region and the Manitoba boundary area in particular. Forest fuels can quickly become dangerous before spring green-up. If there's little rain for a long time, the soil can lose moisture at different depths.

Drought conditions in the soil allow fires to 'dig-in', burning deeper and requiring more resources and time to properly extinguish. Dry soils also make an area more receptive to lightning fires, allowing them to smoulder for days following a lightning strike and emerge as surface conditions dry out.

Presently, the entire Northwest Fire region is experiencing a moisture deficit that it is estimated would require 20-80 mm of rainfall to moderate depending on the location.

Be aware of dangerous trees

Forest areas that have been impacted by fire activity can hold unseen hazards.

Tree roots are often compromised by fire, or the organic soil in which they are anchored is burned away leaving them more likely to fall unexpectedly, especially in high winds. Avoid lingering in burned areas if possible and be extra cautious of potential hazards if



This picture show how organic soil can be burned away, destabilizing tree roots.

travelling through these areas.



A fallen tree as a result of a root system destabilized by a wildland fire.

How can sprinklers stop a forest fire?

Wildland Fire Management uses terms such as 'values protection' to describe the sprinkler systems that are often deployed throughout a community as a protective measure against approaching fires.

If deployed at least a few hours in advance of the arrival of a fire, these systems have proven to be effective at preventing structure loss. The overlapping sprinklers create a humidity zone around buildings that prevents burning embers transported by wind from transferring onto flammable building materials.

A values protection setup during training at Kenora Fire Management Headquarters.

FireSmart building practices and landscaping is also another great way to remove flammable fuels around building to prevent a fire's ability to approach your home.



A values protection setup during training at Kenora Fire Management Headquarters.



Kenora area firefighters train to erect sprinkler lines as fire barriers.

Do you have concerns about wildland fire smoke?

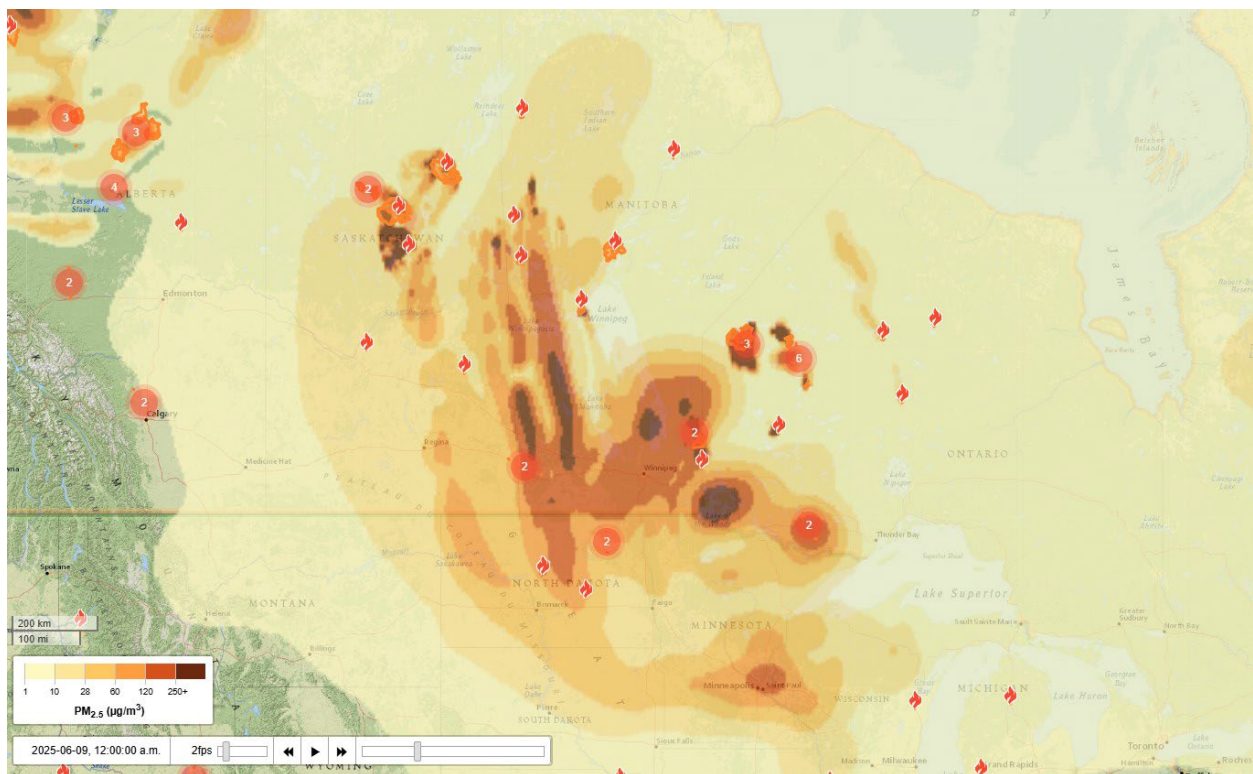
Given the present wildland fire situation across Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, smoke drift will likely continue to be an issue for local communities for several weeks to come.

Here are a few tips to reduce your exposure to smoke:

(Source Ontario Ministry of Health)

- Pay attention to the [Air Quality Health Index](#) (AQHI), special air quality statements or other indicators of smoke levels in your community. If necessary, **limit outdoor activity and strenuous physical activities**. If you feel unwell have difficulty breathing, stop altogether.
- Stay **indoors and keep windows and doors closed**. If it is too warm, turn on the air conditioning if possible. If you do not have air conditioning and it is too warm to stay inside with the windows closed, seek out local cooling or [cleaner air spaces](#).
- Use the **best quality air filter** that your ventilation system can handle based on manufacturers' recommendations. Be sure to run the fan mode and put the system on recirculate.

- Use a **portable air purifier to filter particles** from wildfire smoke. For more information on selecting a portable air purifier that is appropriate for your needs, refer to the "[Using an air purifier to filter wildfire smoke](#)" factsheet.
- Reduce sources of indoor air pollutants and protect your indoor air from wildfire smoke infiltration.
- If you need to work outdoors, check with your provincial occupational health and safety associations or your employer.
- If you need additional support during a wildfire event, contact your local jurisdiction for information on local cooling or cleaner air spaces. Community centres and other public spaces can also provide a break from the smoke.
- **Take care of your mental health** during a wildfire smoke event. Anyone who is having trouble coping with symptoms of stress, anxiety or depression should seek help from a health professional. These resources are available free of cost to anyone experiencing mental health problems. Don't be afraid to reach out if you need help:
 - [Health 811](#)
 - [Mental Health Support](#)
 - [Kids Help Phone](#)
 - [Hope for Wellness Helpline for Indigenous peoples](#)



To find out how smoke is drifting across North America, consult [FireSmoke.ca](https://firesmoke.ca) to access an interactive fire map showing current active fires and smoke forecast conditions.

Extreme fire hazard and restrictions

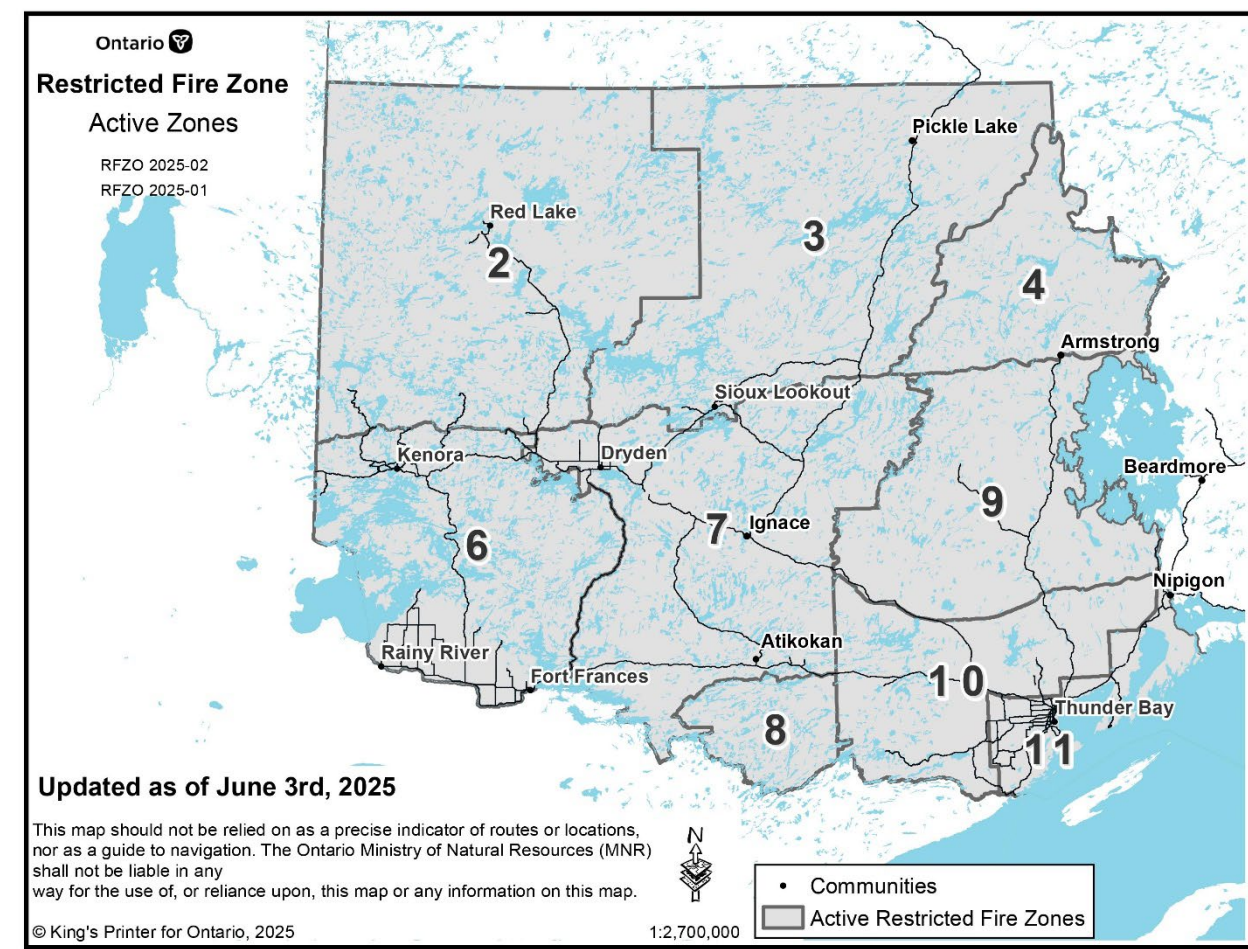
While the fire situation with Kenora fires 20 and 14 has improved to a degree that it has been deemed safe to return to the community, please be advised that the potential for very active fire behaviour can return to the area with fair weather and high winds.

A restricted fire zone remains in place for the majority of the Northwest Region.



A CL-415 waterbomber at work on Kenora 20's western perimeter on May 22.

Restricted Fire Zone in effect



Due to the extreme forest fire hazard, the Ministry of Natural Resources will be declaring a Restricted Fire Zone effective Friday, May 16 at 12:01 am local time for a portion of the Northwest Region (zones 2, 3, 6, 7, 8). The area impacted will be from the Southwest corner of the USA, Manitoba and Ontario border, North along the Manitoba border to West of the midway point of Weeskayjahk Ohtahzhoganeeng Provincial Park, East to North of Wabakimi Provincial Park, South along the Western border of Wabakimi Provincial Park to the Eastern border of Quetico Provincial Park until the USA border, then back West along the USA/Canada border to the Manitoba Border.

No open air burning, including campfires, is permitted within the boundaries of a Restricted Fire Zone. Portable gas or propane stoves may be used for cooking and warmth BUT must be handled with extreme caution. All burning permits are suspended. [Learn more about the fire restrictions here.](#)

Travel restrictions in fire area

KENORA 20

New Implementation orders are now in effect around wildland fires in the Kenora Sector to protect public safety and facilitate effective fire suppression.

Effective June 5, 2025 @ 8:00am CST, the new implementation orders will allow residents and cottage owners in the Ingolf area, including Broderick and Gundy townships to return to the area.

Multiple restrictions and road closures are still in effect in the Kenora area, including directly north of Broderick and Gundy township.

All travel and use of roads including Werner Lake Road; the area 500m west of Cygnet River on the Cygnet Lake Road, Malachi Lake Road and White Road network remains prohibited unless authorized by a travel permit.

All use of lakes and waterways within the area including the Winnipeg River and Cygnet River north of Swan Lake, including Eaglenest Lake, Tetu Lake, Musk Lake, Jadel Lake, White Lake, Rice Lake, North Scot Lake, South Scot Lake, Malachi Lake, Otter Lake and Duck Lake, is prohibited.

All use of lakes and waterways within the area East of the Manitoba border, North of the Winnipeg River and west of the English River and Umfreville Lake, including Shinewater Lake, Huston Lake, Calvary Lake, Davidson Lake, Reynar Lake, Bain Lake, Burton Lake and Wilson Lake is prohibited.

All use and occupation of Crown Land, identified on the map available at [Ontario.ca/fireupdates](https://ontario.ca/fireupdates), are prohibited.

All persons are prohibited from entering the area indicated in hatched areas on the map below unless authorized by a travel permit issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Following direction from the Ministry of Natural Resources Kenora District, an evacuation order is also in effect for above-mentioned areas that remain restricted.

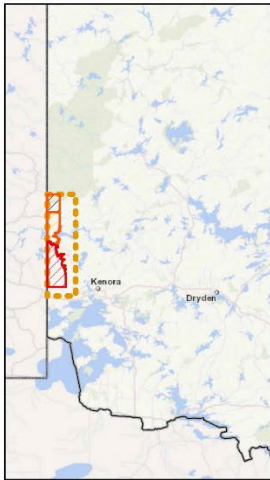
Inquiries about the Implementation Orders and area restrictions can be directed to the Kenora District Information Officer:

Conor Lee Kam – conor.leekam2@ontario.ca / (807) 620-7883.

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Active Implementation Orders
EAO 2025-003

**KENORA
NORTHWEST REGION**



Legend

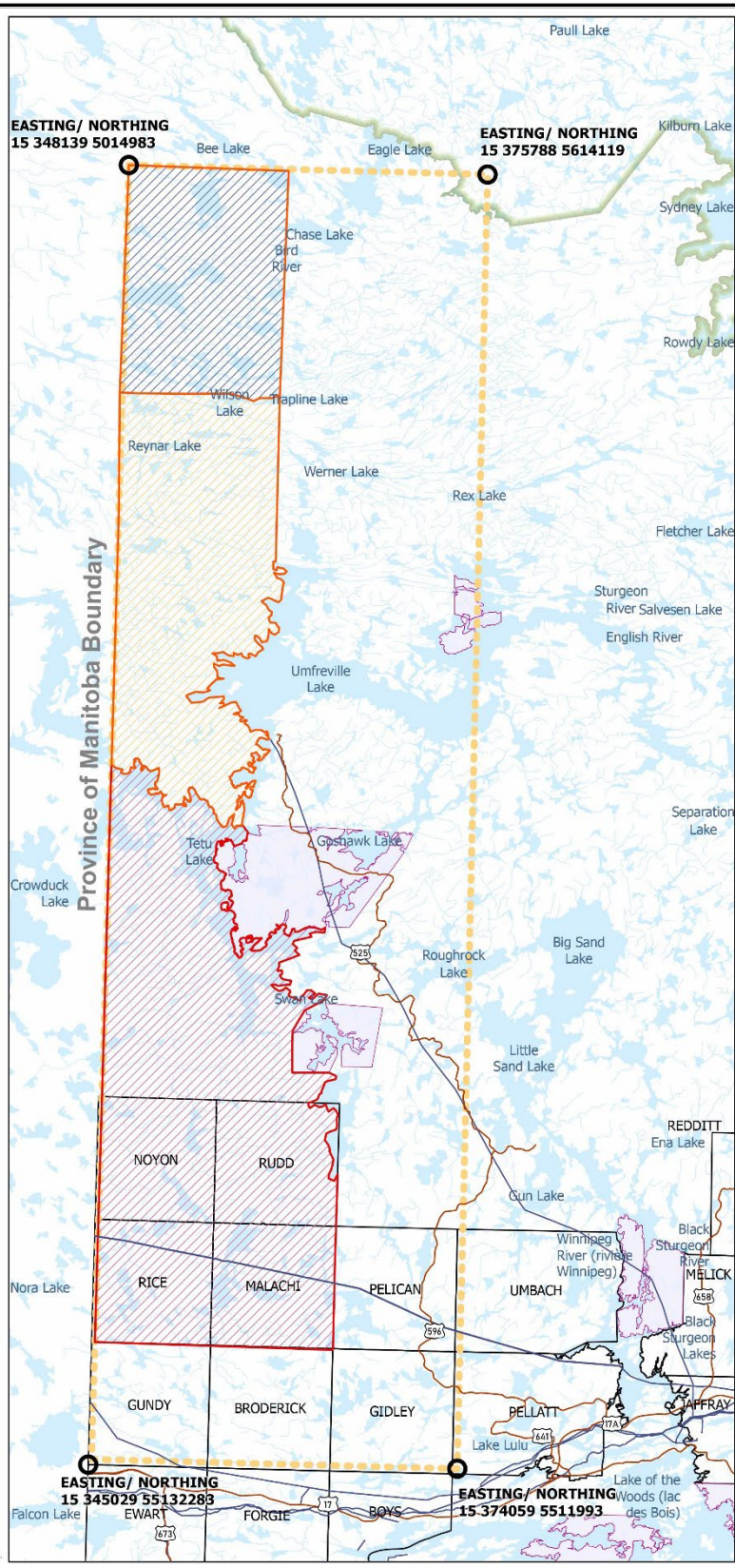
- Coordinate Location
- IO-2025-003-KEN006, KEN007
- IO-2025-003-KEN010, KEN011
- IO-2025-003-KEN012, KEN013
- Emergency Area Order
- Utility Line
- Highway
- Geographic Township
- First Nation Community
- Provincial Park
- Waterbody
- Watercourse

0 5 10 Kilometers

1:300,000



The boundaries and features shown on this map are approximate and for general reference only. The Ministry of Natural Resources makes no warranties or representations regarding the accuracy, completeness, or reliability of the information provided. Users are advised to consult official sources for precise data. King's printer for Ontario, produced by the Ministry of Natural Resources.



Weather outlook – June 8-June 15



Weather overview for June 9

Overcast with showers and a risk of thunderstorms giving amounts 2 to 6mm with locally higher amounts in the 10 to 15mm range as yet another frontal system works into the west. Winds will be out of the south southeasterly shifting to the north northeast behind the frontal system as it moves southwards 5 to 15km/h, gusting to 30km/h. Temperatures will reach into the mid teens to the low 20's.

Restricted Fire Zone in effect

A Restricted Fire Zone is currently in effect in the Northwest Region for:

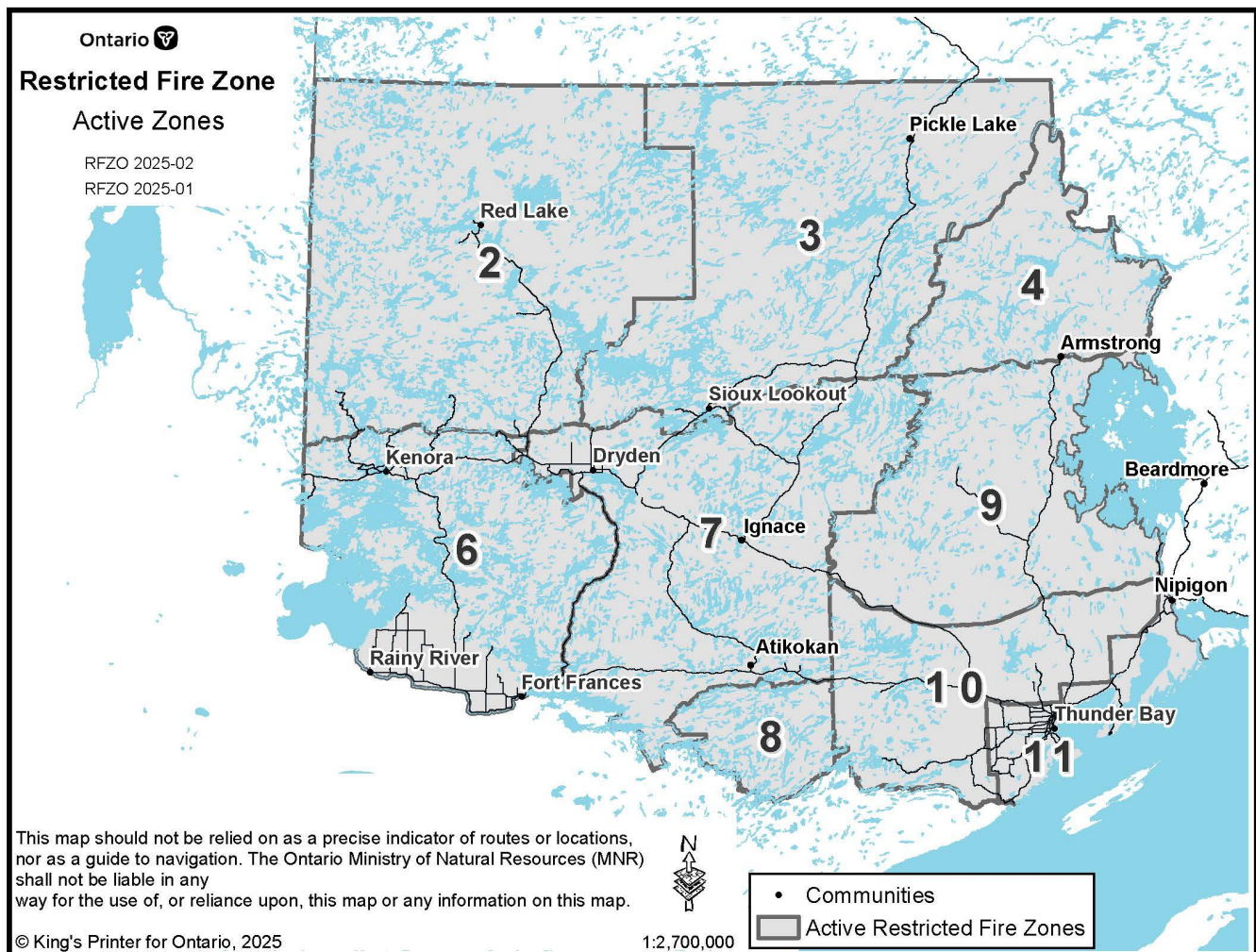
Zones 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

Due to the extreme forest fire hazard conditions and to reduce the number of human-caused fires, the Ministry of Natural Resources has declared a Restricted Fire Zone for Zones 2, 3, 6, 7, 8 on May 16, and expanded the RFZ to include zones 4, 9, 10, 10, 11, effective Friday, May 30, at 12:01 a.m. local time.

The area impacted is from the Southwest corner of the USA, Manitoba and Ontario border, North along the Manitoba border to West of the midway point of Weeskayjahk Ohtahzhoganeeng Provincial Park, East to the western boundary Wabakimi Provincial Park, heading north and along the boundary of Wabakimi Provincial Park, south along the eastern side of the Little Jackfish River system, to the north end of Lake Nipigon, following the western shore of Lake Nipigon south to

the west side of the Nipigon River system heading south to Red Rock and along the northeast boundary of Black Bay continuing south along the west side of St. Ignace Island to the Canada – USA border, then west along the Canada USA border to the Southwest corner of the USA, Manitoba and Ontario border.

No open air burning, including campfires, is permitted within the boundaries of a Restricted Fire Zone. Portable gas or propane stoves may be used for cooking and warmth BUT must be handled with extreme caution. All burning permits are suspended. [Learn more about the fire restrictions here.](#)



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Visit our website

English - www.ontario.ca/page/forest-fires

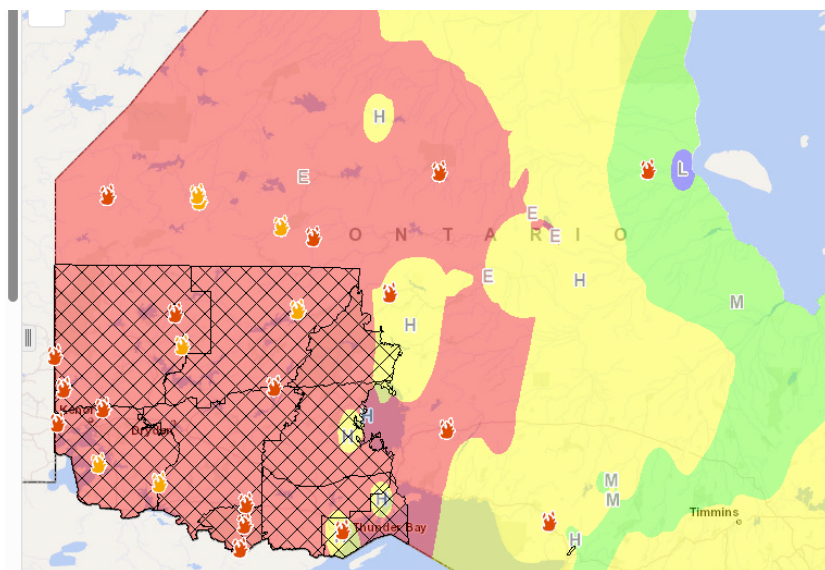
French - www.ontario.ca/fr/page/incendies-de-foret

View our interactive fire map

To view our interactive fire map - featuring active fires, fire perimeters, and detailed boundaries of the Restricted Fire Zone - please visit:

<https://www.liaapplications.lrc.gov.on.ca/ForestFireInformationMap/index.html?viewer=FFIM.FFIM>

- ☒ New
 - ☒ Active
 - ☐ Out
- Fire Perimeters**
- ☐ Perimeter - Visible at 10 km
- Restricted Fire Zones**
- ☒ Current Restrictions
- Forest Fire Danger Ratings**
- ☒ Forest Fire Danger Ratings
 - ☐ Low/Faible (L)
 - ☐ Moderate/Modéré (M)
 - ☐ High/Élevé (H)
 - ☐ Extreme/Extrême (E)
 - ☐ Not Available/Indisponible



Ontario's interactive fire map, June 7, 2025, 07:00. The interactive fire map provides the forest fire danger rating as calculated by over 130 weather stations across Ontario's Fire Region. This changes throughout the day to reflect up to date weather information.