

Category 2 & 3 open fire prohibitions planned for the entire Northwest Fire Centre

June 25, 2025

SMITHERS – Effective at 12:00 p.m. (noon) PDT on Friday, June 27, 2025, Category 2 and Category 3 open fires will be prohibited across the Northwest Fire Centre. This includes the Nadina Forest District, the Coast Mountain Forest District and the Skeena Stikine Forest District.

A [Category 2](#) open fire is a fire that burns:

- Material in one pile not exceeding 2 metres in height and 3 metres in width
- Material concurrently in 2 piles, each not exceeding 2 metres in height and 3 metres in width
- Stubble or grass over an area that does not exceed 0.2 hectares (2,000 square metres)

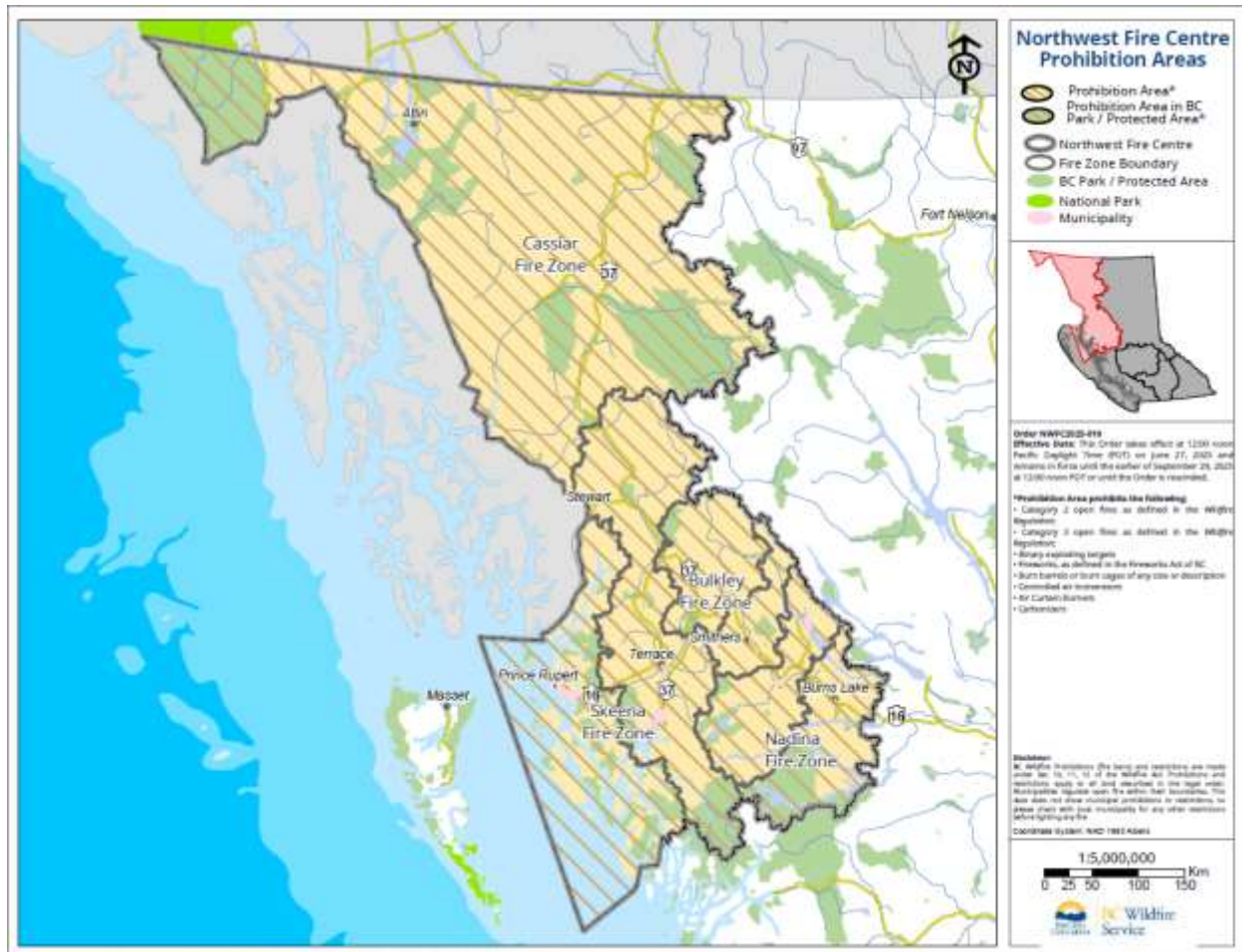
A [Category 3](#) open fire is a fire that burns:

- Material concurrently in three or more piles, each not exceeding 2 metres in height and 3 metres in width
- Material in one or more piles each exceeding 2 metres in height or 3 metres in width
- One or more windrows each not exceeding 200 metres in length or 15 metres in width
- Stubble or grass over an area exceeding 0.2 hectares

In addition to Category 2 and Category 3 open fires, the following activities will also be prohibited:

- Binary exploding targets
- Fireworks, as defined in the [Fireworks Act](#) of BC
- Burn barrels or burn cages of any size or description
- Controlled air incinerators
- Air curtain burners
- Carbonizers

Please view a map of the affected areas below.



This prohibition applies to all areas that are outside of municipal boundaries. In addition, this prohibition applies to the following types of Crown land within municipal boundaries:

- Parks, conservancies and recreation areas (*Park Act*)
- Recreation sites, recreation trails, interpretive forest sites and trail-based recreation areas (*Forest and Range Practices Act*)
- Ecological reserves (*Ecological Reserve Act*)
- Wildlife management areas (*Wildlife Act*)
- Private managed forest land (*Private Managed Forest Land Act*)

This prohibition also applies to the Village of Hazelton and the District of Stewart.

Municipalities may align with BC Wildfire Service prohibitions or impose their own prohibitions based on local conditions. If you are within a municipality, be sure to check if

local prohibitions are in place. If you are within a regional district or improvement district, this prohibition applies as well as any local prohibition issued by the regional district or improvement district. BC Parks follows BC Wildfire Service prohibitions.

This prohibition does not include [Category 1](#) campfires.

Anyone conducting a Category 2 or Category 3 open fire within these regions must extinguish any such fire by 12:00 p.m. (noon) PDT, June 27, 2025. This prohibition will remain in place until 12:00 p.m. (noon) PDT, Sept. 29, 2025, or until the public is otherwise notified.

Offences and fines

Anyone found in contravention of an open fire 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 for up to one year in jail.

If your fire causes or contributes to a wildfire, you may be fined up to \$1 million and/or sentenced to up to 3 years in jail, as well as be responsible for all firefighting and associated costs.

Report a wildfire

Be safe this summer and always report smoke, wildfire and unattended campfires.

The public is one of our greatest resources when it comes to reporting wildfires. Approximately 40% of wildfires are reported by members of the public. There are a number of ways to report:

- Call 1-800-663-5555 toll-free
- Call *5555 from a cell phone
- Submit directly through the BC Wildfire Service mobile app

Stay informed

Make a plan before you go, and check for:

- [The latest road conditions](#)
- [Smoke forecasts](#)
- [Air quality advisories](#)
- [Evacuation alerts and orders](#)

Stay up-to-date on the latest BC Wildfire news on:

- [Facebook](#)
- [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- The BC Wildfire Service mobile app (download it now on [Apple](#) or [Android!](#))

Contact:

Information Officer

Northwest Fire Centre

BC Wildfire Service

[250-876-6844](tel:250-876-6844)

BCWS.NWFCInfo@gov.bc.ca

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

[Area Restriction in effect for the Alces River \(G80497\) area](#)