
ATTENTION: REPLACEMENT MAPS RELATED TO FUEL HAZARD
ABATEMENT, OPEN FIRE TRACKING SYSTEM (OFTS) BURN
REGISTRATIONS AND WEATHER STATIONS

To: BC Wildfire Service industry partners and stakeholders

From: BC Wildfire Service (Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development)

Date: Oct. 29, 2019

Re: *Replacement maps related to fuel hazard abatement, open fire tracking system (OFTS) burn registrations, and weather stations*

Topic

On Oct. 31, 2019, the BC Wildfire Service will be updating its fire-related mapping architecture. The current fuel hazard abatement, open fire tracking system registered burns and weather stations maps will be retired and this information will be moved to the [B.C. Wildfire Dashboard \(https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/f0ac328d88c74d07aa2ee385abe2a41b\)](https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/f0ac328d88c74d07aa2ee385abe2a41b)

The new maps will be accessible via separate tabs at the bottom of the B.C. Wildfire Dashboard. There will be no changes to the types of information that is provided on the maps. Links to the new B.C. Wildfire Dashboard tabs are below and they will be live at noon on Oct. 31, 2019.

- Fuel hazard assessment and fuel hazard abatement fire risk map:
<https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9bb5372c65464f0bab178907a5c39947>
- BC Wildfire Service map of open fire tracking system (OFTS) registered burn locations:
<https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7c6b5180663f443ba0115114264b0620>
- Interactive map showing locations of BC Wildfire Service weather stations:
<https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=c36baf74b74a46978cf517579a9ee332>

Further details about the mapping architecture that's being retired (and about the updated BC Wildfire Service webpages and links) are below. On Oct. 31, 2019, the existing links on these webpages will be automatically redirected to the B.C. Wildfire Dashboard tab and the old mapping architecture will no longer be accessible.

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Fuel hazard assessment and fuel hazard abatement fire risk map:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/for-industry-commercial-operators/hazard-assessment-abatement>

Tools to Help Determine Fire Risk

- [B.C. Fuel Hazard Assessment and Abatement Fire Risk Map](#)
- [B.C. Fuel Hazard Assessment and Abatement Fire Risk Map \(KMZ format\)*](#)
*Note: To use this map you will need to have downloaded Google Earth.
- [B.C. Fuel Hazard Assessment and Abatement Fire Risk ARCGIS Geodatabase](#)

The existing link will be automatically redirected to the “British Columbia Fuel Hazard Assessment and Abatement” tab on the B.C. Wildfire Dashboard.

This information is also available at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/for-industry-commercial-operators>

Hazard Assessment & Abatement

Use the British Columbia Fire Risk Map to determine the location of a potential fire hazard.

[View Fire Risk Map](#)

The existing link will be automatically redirected to the “British Columbia Fuel Hazard Assessment and Abatement” tab on the B.C. Wildfire Dashboard.

BC Wildfire Service map of open fire tracking system (OFTS) registered burn locations:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/fire-bans-and-restrictions/ofts>

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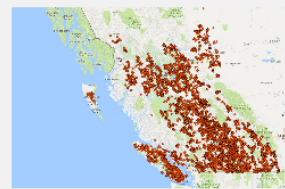
Open Fire Tracking System (OFTS)

Anyone lighting a [Category 3](#) fire must first obtain a burn registration number by calling 1 888 797-1717.

These numbers are logged into the Open Fire Tracking System (OFTS) along with details about the registered burn. This system allows the BC Wildfire Service to track regulated burning across B.C., manage firefighting resources, and minimize false reports of wildfires.

The data collected in OFTS allows the BC Wildfire Service to run reports that detail all of the active open fires in a specified area. The Ministry of Environment and local fire departments are also entitled to read-only access of OFTS data. This allows for shared information and improved fire management.

Map of Registered Burns



[Map of Registered Open Burns](#)

Map of Registered Open Burns

An interactive map exists with details and locations for all active Category 3 burn registrations, as well as any that expired in the last seven days. This map is available to be viewed by the public.

▫ [Map of Registered Open Burns](#)

The existing link will be automatically redirected to the “OFTS Registered Burn Locations” tab on the B.C. Wildfire Dashboard.

Interactive map showing locations of BC Wildfire Service weather stations:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/wildfire-situation/fire-danger/fire-weather>

Weather Stations

The BC Wildfire Service operates approximately 260 hourly weather stations. These hourly weather observations, supplemented by data from other agency stations, also listed, are used to support fire weather forecasting and the [Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System \(CFFDRS\)](#).

The computer-based CFFDRS is the primary fire management decision aid in Canada. With it, fire managers can assess the potential for ignition, spread and burning intensity. This information is used for making fire prevention, preparedness and suppression decisions, as well as other general fire management decisions.

Temperature, relative humidity, precipitation, wind speed and wind direction are recorded by the fully automated stations. This data is transmitted to BC Wildfire Service headquarters, every hour from April through October but less frequently and from fewer stations during the winter months. Data from other agencies' weather stations is also utilized and transferred electronically to headquarters.

The locations of the weather stations are listed below, all coordinates are given in degrees/minutes/seconds. Alternatively, view an [interactive map of the weather station locations](#).

The existing link will be automatically redirected to the “Active Weather Stations” tab on the B.C. Wildfire Dashboard.

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Contact information

If you have any questions about the new mapping architecture and how it relates to a specific fire centre, please contact the appropriate information team listed below. The boundaries of British Columbia's six fire centres are indicated on the map below.



Cariboo Fire Centre:

CARINFO@gov.bc.ca

Coastal Fire Centre:

BCWS.COFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Kamloops Fire Centre:

KFCINFO@gov.bc.ca

Northwest Fire Centre:

BCWS.NWFInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Prince George Fire Centre:

INFOPG@gov.bc.ca

Southeast Fire Centre:

BCWS.SEFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca



<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status>



<https://www.facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo/>



<https://twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo>



<https://firesmartbc.ca/>