



Information Bulletin

REDUCING THE RISK OF WILDFIRE IN WASKESIU

Waskesiu Community Fuel Break Prescribed Fire

WASKESIU LAKE, SASKATCHEWAN, April 26, 2024 – Parks Canada is conducting a prescribed fire in the Waskesiu Community Fuel Break (CFB) in Prince Albert National Park beginning April 26, 2024. The CFB is south of the Waskesiu townsite. Parks Canada oversees annual prescribed fires in the CFB, which help reduce the risk posed by potential wildfires to the townsite.

Parks Canada takes wildfire preparedness seriously, including risk reduction activities like prescribed fire. Safe and effective fire management reduces the risk wildfires pose to the public, infrastructure and neighbouring lands while improving the ecological health of forests and grasslands. Fire management personnel follow standard operating procedure throughout the prescribed fire, including measures to ensure the safety of all involved.

Parks Canada prioritizes the safety of people, infrastructure, and neighbouring lands in these operations. The prescribed fire takes 10 to 12 fire personnel one half-day to complete. Then, they monitor the area for several days to be sure the fire is extinguished. The prescribed fire results in a green belt that grows quickly after the fire, which becomes a defendable line to work from should a wildfire threaten Waskesiu. Prescribed fire is key to maintaining an effective CFB.

Smoke will be visible in and around Waskesiu, and there may be road closures when work is conducted along roadsides.

An area closure is in effect south of the Waskesiu townsite during the prescribed fire. Check the Important Bulletins page for updates and more information.

Interested in learning more about prescribed fire? Watch this video: <u>Waskesiu: reducing the risk of wildfire</u>.

Where: Community Fuel Break, south of the Waskesiu townsite

When: April 26, 2024

-30-

Contacts:

Daisy Ramsden Information Officer Prince Albert National Park Parks Canada (306) 914 6289 Glenn Rupert Fire Management Officer Prince Albert National Park Parks Canada (306) 961 1267