

Liard Complex Fire Behaviour Forecast July 16

Weather Synopsis

Hot and dry conditions will hold across the fire today. There will be light northerly winds in the morning that will shift to light southwesterly winds in the afternoon. The air mass in the area continues to be unstable increasing the possibility of afternoon or evening showers or thundershowers developing.

The max temp today will reach 29C with min RH dropping to 23% resulting in crossover conditions for most of the afternoon and early evening. Winds will be SW 5G15 for the majority of the burning day. There will be a chance of 0.5-3mm or precip should the instability translate into showers or thundershowers.

Fire Behaviour General

Fire behaviour potential today is quite high given the hot and dry, deep crossover conditions. The light winds are the only thing keeping rates of spread and fire intensities from being very extreme. Conifer fuels will still be torching and crowning with solid C-2 stands capable of running crown fire. Expect headfire intensities to be beyond control thresholds.

Safety concerns: Pay particularly close attention to the winds today, if the instability leads to gustier than forecast conditions fire behaviour could ramp up very quickly, potentially doubling rates of spread with 15km/h sustained winds.

Fire Behaviour Specific

Liard Jul 15 indices (FFMC 89, DMC 85, DC 612) Jul 16 1300 Wx 26C, 32% RH, SW 5G15 km/h

FFMC	DMC	DC	ISI	BUI	FWI
91	89	620	8	131	30

Trout Jul 15 indices (FFMC 88, DMC 50, DC 460) Jul 16 1300 Wx 26C, 32% RH, SW 5G15 km/h

FFMC	DMC	DC	ISI	BUI	FWI
91	54	468	8	84	24

Fire Behaviour (Using Fort Liard indices)

Fuel Type	Head Fire Intensity (kW/m)	Intensity Class	Fire Type	Rate of Spread (m/min)
C-2	15000	6	Crown Fire	11
M-2 75	9200	5	Intermittent Crown	8

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