
WHITECOURT FOREST AREA HAZARD REDUCTION BURN

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A hazard reduction burn is a planned, controlled burning of high-hazard vegetation by highly trained professional firefighters. They are typically conducted in grassy areas such as right-of-ways and areas around communities. This burn will be approximately 8.5 hectares in size and is located 1.1 kilometers east of the Town of Whitecourt, Alberta. In preparation for the hazard reduction burn, municipal and provincial firefighters planned extensively to ensure public safety. Burning will only begin when conditions are right. Firefighters will manage and monitor the burn until it is fully extinguished.

GOAL

- Strategic removal of hazardous grass around the town of Whitecourt, reducing the risk of wildfire.
- Reduce the risk of a wildfire igniting from the use of Off-Highway Vehicles in the area.
- Increase firefighting cooperation between the Whitecourt Fire Department and Agriculture and Forestry wildland firefighters.

BENEFIT

- Enhance community protection by safely removing high risk areas of grass.
- Reinforce pre-planned wildfire containment lines around the town.

TIMELINE

The hazard reduction burn is scheduled for the spring of 2018. Ignition will only occur when weather conditions are conducive to burning and when it is safe to do so.

ROAD CLOSURES

All public roads and highways are expected to remain open; minor delays may be experienced due to smoke. Smoke notification signs will be placed on major road ways. The area immediately adjacent to the hazard reduction burn will be closed to public access.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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