



PUBLIC NOTICE

For Immediate Release
June 24, 2008
09:00 Hours

Ministry of Forests and Range
BC Forest Service
Coastal Fire Centre

OPEN FIRE RESTRICTED IN COASTAL FIRE CENTRE

PARKSVILLE ~ Effective at noon on June 25, 2008 and until further notice, Category 1 and 2 open fire is prohibited throughout the Coastal Fire Centre (see attached map).

Category 1 open fire means an open fire that burns piled material no larger than one metre high and one metre wide. This Category 1 open fire ban does not prohibit the use of campfires.

A Category 2 open fire means an open fire that burns piled material no larger than two metres high and three metres wide, or grass over an area less than 0.2 hectares (2000 square metres) in size.

This open fire ban applies within BC Parks and to all public (Crown) and private land outside of organized areas. This fire ban does not apply within municipalities or regional districts that have their own burning bylaws. Please check with your local authorities before lighting a fire this summer.

This open fire ban is in effect to protect public safety and to limit the risk of person-caused wildfires. This ban does not restrict campfires or fires in stoves using gas, propane, or briquettes.

The public is urged to use caution while engaging in forest activities this summer. Although the spring has been cool, rainfall is below normal and the forest fuels are dry.

The Coastal Fire Centre covers all the area west of the height of land on the Coast Mountain range from the U.S./Canada border at Manning Park to Tweedsmuir Park in the north, the Sunshine Coast, the lower mainland, all of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

To report a wildfire or unattended campfire call 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on most cellular networks. For more information on open fire restrictions or for updates on current wildfire activity, visit www.bcwildfire.ca.

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