



Category 2 Open Burning Prohibitions 2011

COASTAL FIRE CENTRE

Q: What is a Category 2 open fire?

A: A Category 2 open fire is a fire burning woody debris up to 2 meters in height by three meters in width, that is not a campfire. This category also covers burning stubble or grass over an area less than 2,000 square meters (0.2 hectares).

Q: When will the Category 2 prohibition take place in 2011?

A: The Coastal Fire Centre implemented a fire prohibition that covers backyard open burning of yard cleanup debris, grass etc between May 16 and October 3, 2011, or until further notice. This covers the entire Coastal Fire Centre area, except for Haida Gwaii.

Large open fires for land clearing that require burn registration numbers, and campfires under 0.5 x 0.5 metres in size, were not restricted at this time.

Please visit bcwildfire.ca for up to date information on additional burning prohibitions.

Q: What other devices or activities will be subject to restrictions?

A: The use of burn barrels will be considered a medium sized open fire and be restricted during the Category 2 prohibition.

High risk activities such as the use of fireworks or high risk devices that produce sparks or use open flames such as Tiki torches will most likely be restricted at the same time as campfires, should the fire danger rating warrant restricting smaller open fires.

Q: Why are large land clearing piles allowed when smaller fires are prohibited?

A: Current procedures require all land clearing piles to be registered. This makes it relatively easy to revoke or re-instate these registration numbers as local weather impacts fire danger. The Coastal Fire Centre encourages the reduction of wildfire hazard from land clearing debris and has found the flexibility of the fire registration process useful to allow safe burning of large piles when weather is favourable.

Q: What is the jurisdictional area of the Coastal Fire Centre?

A: The Coastal Fire Centre has jurisdiction over all public or private land not governed and enforced by an existing burn bylaw that administers open fire, within its area. 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, including South Tweedsmuir Park in the north, the Sunshine Coast, the Lower Mainland, all of Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands and Haida Gwaii.

Campfire Open Burning Prohibitions 2011

COASTAL FIRE CENTRE

Q: When will Campfire prohibitions take place in 2011?

A: The Coastal Fire Centre will implement campfire prohibitions should the fire danger climb into high for a period of time, and if the weather outlook is for continued hot and dry weather. Campfire prohibitions are not implemented every year, and will be removed as soon as weather and fire danger permits.

Please visit bcwildfire.ca for up to date information for current burning prohibitions.

Q: What is the Coastal Fog zone, and why is this area and Haida Gwaii usually not restricted during Campfire Prohibitions?

A: The Coastal Fog Zone is a two kilometre wide band of land stretching northward from Owen Point near Port Renfrew to Port Hardy municipal boundary along the exposed outer coast of Vancouver Island. The Coastal Fog Zone and Haida Gwaii experience dense sea fog during dry summer periods which results in a unique micro climate that substantially reduces the risk of fires escaping from campfires within these areas.

Q: Will a campfire prohibition apply to gas fuelled portable campfires and other devices?

A: When the Coastal Fire Centre enacts a campfire prohibition it will not be restricting the use of gas fuelled portable campfire devices that burn with a maximum flame height of less than 15 centimetres and are conducted in the same safe manner as wood burning campfires. The campfire prohibition will focus on wood burning campfires.

To use the portable campfire device safely, it should be placed on mineral soil, a reasonable distance from flammable materials such as logs, stumps, snags, standing trees and wooden structures. The portable campfire should never be left unattended, and should be turned off when you leave the area. Flammable material should never be thrown on the portable campfire.

When a campfire prohibition is in place, open stoves that use liquid or gaseous fuel or briquettes will also be permitted.

Q: What is the jurisdictional area of the Coastal Fire Centre?

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