

Natural. Valued. Protected.

Background

Managing Fire on the landscape is consistent with provincial Fire and Land-use policy in Ontario. The West Fire Region has been proactive since the late 1990's in using an integrated planning approach to reintroducing fire throughout the region. By applying the appropriate fire response in designated areas has contributed to improving the landscape mosaic and ecological integrity across Ontario's West Fire Region.

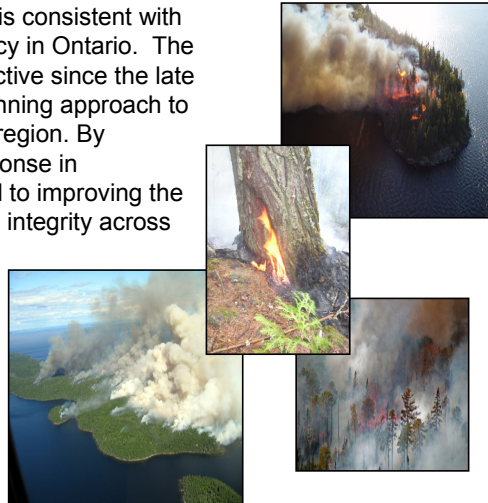
Goal

To balance the ecological role of fire on the landscape with the need to protect human life, property and other values

Applications

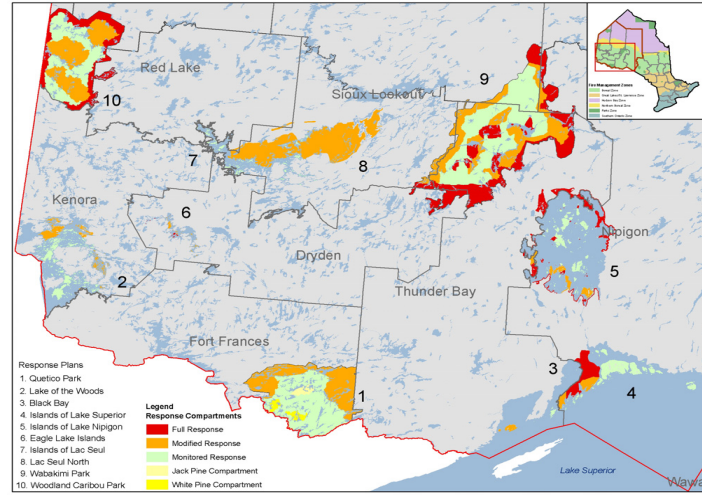
Applying an appropriate response to managing fire on the landscape has many applications including:

- Ecosystem renewal;
- Hazard reduction;
- Wildlife Habitat (e.g. Woodland Caribou); and,
- Ecological integrity.



Managing Fire in the West Fire Region

An Integrated Approach to Fire on the Landscape



Integrated Planning Process

Strong partnerships between local land and resource managers, local and regional fire managers, aboriginal peoples and affected stakeholders is a key component to the success of managing fire in the West Fire Region.

Follows:

- Standard Operating Procedures;
- *Response and Preparedness Guidelines*
 - equipment and personnel resource availability
- *Fire Management Strategy for Ontario*
 - *Modified Response and Monitoring Guidelines*

Education/Outreach

- Cottage/Property Owner Associations
- Posters – outpost camps, lake access
- Signage during fire events
- Communication Plans
- Handouts



Benefits	Constraints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides flexibility to resource and fire managers; • Promotes healthier forests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanism to renew habitat for wildlife and species at risk; • Assist in hazard reduction efforts; and, • Promotes ecological integrity in protected areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unpredictability of fire occurrence – weather dependent; • May not meet specific management objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific fire type is not being targeted; and, • Relies on equipment and resource availability which may limit application.

