GUIDELINES FOR A MUNICIPAL FOREST FIRE EMERGENCY PLAN

Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

SCHEDULE E TO BY-LAW
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Purpose

The purpose of this Plan is to develop a Municipal Forest Fire Emergency Plan. This Plan is only a general guide, as the first responders at the forest fire site will have command of the site, unless a higher authority takes command of the site area. Forest fires can pose a significant threat to public safety, health, the environment, property, and the economy. The impact of forest fires may be localized or widespread. The development and implementation of a forest fire plan is voluntary since it exceeds the requirements of the current legislation program. While municipalities currently have emergency response plans that are designed to address all hazards, recommended practices suggest that hazard-based emergency management programs are more robust.

This Forest Fire Emergency Plan was developed in collaboration with a representative from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) Fire Program.

Aim and Scope

The aim of this Plan is to allow for a coordinated initial tactical response by a municipality and its partners to an emergency arising from a forest fire (e.g., dealing with smoke, structural and infrastructure protection, etc.). The scope of this Plan is to identify and detail lead agencies in the municipal response to forest fires, their roles and responsibilities, human and other resource requirements, emergency information needs, and financial and legal considerations.

Authority and Maintenance

This Plan is published as Schedule E to the Emergency Response Plan, as established under By-law 2020-62, and the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, RSO 1990.

The custodian of this Plan shall be the Corporation of the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) and Community Management Program Committee (CEMPC), who are responsible for annual review, revisions, and testing of the Plan.

Description of Hazard and Risk

The advice of a representative from the MNRF Fire Program was invaluable in determining the threat and risk to the Municipality from forest fires. The characteristics of hazard and risk should be reviewed regularly (e.g., annually or if significant changes occur) to ensure that changes in fire occurrences (e.g., whether the number of fires are increasing or decreasing, locations of fires, responsible groups, etc.) and actions taken to address the risk (prevention, litigation, etc.) are incorporated. It is also important to

consider any significant changes in land use, which may affect the hazard and risk due to forest fires.

Characteristics of Hazards

A forest fire hazard is the threat posed by natural fuels in forested areas within and adjacent to the Municipality ad can be worsened by human activity (land clearing, forest, or industrial operations) with regards to the accumulation of slash (coarse and fine woody debris generated during logging operations or through wind, snow or other natural forest disturbances), or other human made flammable materials. The level of threat can vary, dependent of the composition and health of the forest, time of year, weather (moist or dry/drought conditions) and available sources of ignition. Forest fires removed from a municipality may also pose a threat due to smoke conditions and/or damage to critical infrastructure such as power lines.

Broadleaf tree species are less susceptible to fire than conifers because they generally contain more moisture in the leaves and less flammable resins; however, under dry to drought-like conditions even these types of forests can be extremely flammable. Healthy forests are more resistant to fire than areas that have a large number of dead trees, which burn readily due to a lack of moisture. Forest fires can be ignited by nature, through lightning or by human sources. A growth in population and industrial activity in and around forested areas may increase the threat of forest fires.

Fires in conifers can sometimes jump from crown to crown quickly, far outpacing a ground fire and adding to the urgency of the situation. Fires can also occur at interfaces between forest and agricultural land – often starting as grass fires and spreading to the forest, or vice versa. Ignition of wooded areas or grasslands from wind dispersed burning embers can occur kilometres ahead of the fire and smoke generated from fires can contribute to the complexity.

With the amount of forest in and around our Municipality, the intensity of the fire and the prevailing winds, a forest fire could impact a portion or all of a community. Smoke from even a small fire could affect vulnerable populations. The former St. Edmunds Township region is an area of great concern, due to limited evacuation routes north of Johnsons Harbour Road and Hidden Valley Road. The lead time a municipality has to prepare for a forest fire can vary from almost zero if the fire starts within a built-up area, to hours or days if it ignites kilometres away and grows to impose a threat.

Areas of Protection within MNBP

Lindsay Tract is Bruce County's largest managed forest >7,000 acres, Lion's Head Provincial Nature Reserve, BPNPFFNMP, Smokey Head/White Bluff Provincial Nature Reserve, Ira Lake Provincial Nature Reserve, Black Creek Provincial Reserve, Cabot Head Provincial Nature Reserve, and Hope Bay Forest Provincial Nature Reserve.

Characteristics of Risk

A forest fire may bring inside or outside the boundary of the Municipality differing legal and cost recovery implications. The Municipality may be threatened by smoke from distant forest fires or by flames as the fire gets closer.

The Municipal Community Risk Profile determined the risk that a forest fire hazard poses the Municipality, was ranked third as a result of very dry weather conditions in 2020. According to the Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (HIRA) Protocol, it has been determined that our Municipality would likely be subject to the following hazards in order of likelihood:

1. Infectious disease (pandemic)
2. Winter weather (blizzards/snowstorms)
3. Wildland fire (forest fire)
4. Electrical energy (power failure)
5. Tornado (windstorm)
6. Extreme temperatures (heat)
7. Extreme temperatures (cold)
8. Flooding

Across the Province, the forest fire season varies in timing and duration. In our Municipality, the normal forest fire season runs from April 1 to October 31. It should be remembered that spring and fall grass fires could pose many of the same threats as forest fires. The population that may be impacted may be a mix of permanent and seasonal residents and commercial and industrial businesses. In the event of a forest fire in our area, it could greatly affect a vast number of people. Since this is a high seasonal transient area for cottage rentals, B & Bs, private rentals, and visitors, it is very difficult to determine the 'domino effect' that could impact our whole municipality.

The critical infrastructure of a municipality may be impacted by a forest fire. A map of the Municipality's critical infrastructure components that could be lost or disrupted in the short or the long-term by a forest fire has been developed. Preservation of critical infrastructure may help drive some of the site suppression priorities.

In the even of a forest fire in our Municipality, the economic impacts could be devastating to our area. Since Bruce Peninsula National Park and Fathom Five National Marine Park is a large employer to some permanent residents, a forest fire could affect employment of these employees. Suppliers of firewood, mulch and other wood products from area forest lots could be impacted. Due to the area being a huge tourist destination, this could affect a lot of people. In addition, it would depend on the extent of damage; however, the M.S. Chi-Cheemaun ferry service to Manitoulin Island would also be impacted.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)

This layer stores the boundaries of fire management agreement areas negotiated by the Crown and on file with the Aviation Forest Fire and Emergency Services (AFFES) Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

The Forest Fire Prevention Act, R.S.O., 1994, Sec. 21(1) indicates that Inside the Fire Region (IFR) municipalities are responsible to suppress grass, brush, or forest fires within their municipal boundaries.

By policy, AFFES must ensure that every fire in Ontario receives a response and every response is governed by the predicted behaviour of the fire; the potential impacts on people, property, or other values; and the estimated cost of each response. Consequently, the MNRF enters into fire management agreements with municipalities in the IFR to ensure that municipal and MNRF responsibilities are met, and fires are suppressed in a timely fashion.

Fire management agreements divide the land into four areas including:

1. Crown Protection Area (CPA): The Crown is responsible for responding to incidents and the suppression of all fires in the CPA.
2. Municipal Protection Area (MPA): The municipality is responsible for responding to incidents and suppression of all fires in the MPA.
3. Federal Protection Area (FPA): The Federal Government is responsible for responding to incidents and the suppression of all fires in the FPA.
4. Northern Fire Protection Area (NFPA): The local fire department (mostly in unorganized areas) is responsible for responding to all incidents and the suppression of fires in the NFPA.

Response

Implementation of Plan

This Plan may be implemented in whole or in part, as required, by the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula, and the Incident Management System (IMS) would be instituted:

- The Mayor or alternate,
- Chief Administrative Officer (CAO),
- Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) or alternate,
- Fire Chief, or
- The Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Community Control Group with or without the declaration of an emergency by the mayor or alternate.

This Plan may be activated through the notification of the Mayor or alternate, CAO, CEMC or Fire Chief.

Upon implementation, all participating departments and agencies will respond in accordance with the guidelines described within this Plan.

Functional Roles and Responsibilities

The Municipality will work with partners to determine functional roles and responsibilities. Departments and agencies that may be involved in a response include, but are not limited to, fire, police, emergency medical services, emergency social services, volunteer agencies, Provincial ministries (e.g., Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry), Bruce Peninsula National Parks, Owen Sound Transportation Company (M.S. Chi-Cheemaun) and business representatives. The bullets below provide a sample of responsibilities that may need to be assigned by the MECG; however, this would depend on the location of the forest fire:

- Act as head of the Municipal Emergency Control Group
- Declare an emergency and order a partial or total evacuation of the Municipality
- Liaise with Bruce Peninsula National Park and Fathom Five National Marine Park
- Ensure rapid and accurate transmission of information to the media in cooperation with the partners (e.g., Ontario Provincial Police, MNRF)
- Gather, process, and disseminate information from emergency services and agencies
- Provide communications in support of emergency or disaster operations as required – WEBEOC may be utilized as a communication source
- Control movement within the evacuated area (could involve Tobermory Airport)
- Provide security in and around the evacuated area
- Public Works Department provide barricades to close off access to evacuated areas
- Public Works Department arrange for the MNRF to access water sources, if required, for suppression
- Provide water tanks to the MNRF and the fire department as another source of water
- Arrange for transportation of evacuees who require assistance to evacuate
- Provide initial fire suppression on forest fires that start within or near the Municipality
- Cooperate with the MNRF on fire suppression and in providing requested resources
- Provide assistance to the police in conducting an evacuation of the Municipality
- Arrange for shelter and/or housing of evacuees
- Provide advice and direction on air quality and the need to evacuate the vulnerable populations with assistance from Grey Bruce Health Unit
- Enact Mutual Aid plans if required
- Rescue and firefighting services
- Control panic in firefighting area
- Establish routes for emergency vehicles

- Notify hospital of casualties, including the number and type
- Establish traffic and crowd control
- Eliminate hazards from damaged utilities
- Warning of spread of fire
- Business continuity
- Emergency lodging of pets/livestock

Every municipality in the 'Fire Region', as defined by the Forest Fires Prevention Act, is responsible for the suppression of grass, bush, and forest fires within its limits (Section 21 of the Forest Fire Prevention Act). Under an Order in Council, the MNRF has the responsibility for any provincial response to forest fires and each Fire District has a District Emergency Response Team available to help municipalities address such an event. Under the Forest Fires Prevention Act, the MNRF Fire Program has the responsibility for forest fire management on Crown Land in Ontario. Additionally, the MNRF may suppress forest fires in municipal areas if the local fire department is not able to respond due to the location or size of the fire.

Many municipalities have agreements with the MNRF for suppression of forest fires. The agreements set rates for suppression services and an annual fee called a Comprehensive Protection Charge (CPC). The CPC is based on land ownership (private or Crown) and which partner looks after more of the other partner's area of responsibility. In some cases, the MNRF pays the municipality and in others the municipality pays the MNRF. In the absence of an agreement, the MNRF will charge full cost recovery rates for its forest fire response services. The suppression costs for air and ground attacks on forest fires can escalate quickly and a municipality will be responsible for their payment, whether or not an emergency is declared under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA).

Therefore, the lead agency for forest fire suppression will either be the MNRF or the municipality, and the lead agency may change over the duration of the emergency. Many fire situations begin with an inter-agency response where both the Municipal Fire Service and the MNRF work together to bring the fire under control. Factors such as fire location, fire behaviour, resource availability, during of the event, and the size will determine who takes the lead. The Municipality will be the lead for the municipal emergency response (e.g., evacuation) with the MNRF providing support if requested.

The MNRF manages large and dangerous forest fires with an Incident Management Team (IMT) drawn from anywhere in the Province or across North America. The IMT and suppression and support staff are usually based near the forest fire, often far way from a municipality; however, they could be located in a municipality with staff focusing on values protection and other fire management priorities within the municipality with regards to the incident.

Specific responsibilities the MNRF may be assigned include:

- Determining the location of an Incident Command Post, which could be for the MNRF alone or developed as an Interagency Command Post depending on the situation
- Providing forest fire suppression
- Protecting values on a priority basis
- Liaising with the District Emergency Response Team and the Municipal Emergency Control Group

Specific arrangements will need to be made in those areas not included in the MNRF's fire protection area (for inhabited areas this applies to much of southern Ontario). Municipalities in this circumstance need to discuss the MNRF's role, if any, in fires.

Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place

Although a fire may be relatively small, its location can pose an immediate risk to people and property and a swift evacuation of all, or part of the Municipality may be necessary. A forest fire that ignites several kilometres away from a municipality may pose a threat as it grows in size. Initially, smoke from the fire may cause health problems in vulnerable populations forcing their evacuation. The smoke may hamper firefighting operations and traffic where visibility is impacted. Later, as the fire moves toward a community, it may threaten people and property and cause the evacuation of more of the population.

A MNRF District Emergency Response Team may assist a municipality with evacuations, if requested. The MNRF contacts are attached to this guideline as a confidential page. The evacuation is usually directed by police and municipal fire emergency services.

The evacuation of vulnerable populations may require special resources and the Bradley Davis Apartments (Tobermory) and Golden Dawn Nursing Home (Lion's Head) are areas of vulnerable populations. These facilities would be contacted to see what arrangements are in place and what equipment is needed to evacuate these people quickly.

Our Municipality already has an Evacuation Plan that is Schedule B to By-law 2020-62.

Evacuation should be considered when other response measures are insufficient to ensure public safety. Factors influencing the decision to evacuate include:

1. The level of threat to lives and well-being of the population
2. The urgency of the evacuation
3. Environmental safety (i.e., whether the environmental poses a threat to the safety, health, and welfare of the population – e.g., smoke conditions)
4. Meteorological conditions (e.g., precipitation, and wind speed and direction)
5. The scale of the incident (i.e., the number of people and/or communities to be evacuated
6. The timeframe required to move the population

7. The availability of reliable information
8. The capacity of the community to address the threat or its impact
9. Damage to community infrastructure such that:
   - Food, water, and shelter are not immediately available,
   - Debris restricts movement,
   - Electrical power is or will be unavailable for an extended period of time,
   - Local emergency or public communications is or will be unavailable,
   - Health services, medical facilities, and medical transport are or will be unavailable.

The urgency of an evacuation is determined based on the immediacy of the threat to the community (life, safety, health and welfare), the resilience of the community, and, depending on the nature of the threat, the availability of resources for evacuation or shelter-in-place.

Evacuation Plan

Objective

The objective of the Evacuation Plan is to provide a vehicle through which a timely and effective evacuation and reception of people can be achieved. The Plan has been developed in order that all residents can be moved to safety with a minimum amount of delay and confusion. The purpose of the Plan is to ensure the following:

1. Everyone in the affected area is notified,
2. Assistance and transportation are provided for those in need of these services, and
3. Food and shelter are provided for the residents.

Steps for Activation of the Evacuation Plan

The Plan will be activated as soon as it becomes apparent that, due to an emergency of such magnitude as to warrant its implementation, evacuation and relocation of people is necessary. The areas to be evacuated and escape routes to use will be determined upon the fire's location, behaviour, winds, terrain, etc.

Should a major forest fire incident occur in the Municipality, the Mayor, CAO, Fire Chief or Community Emergency Coordinator, on the advice of the first response agency, will activate the Emergency Plan. The Emergency Operations Control Group (EOCG) will activate the notification procedure set out in the Emergency Plan so members of the EOCG are alerted and instructed to report to the Emergency Operations Centre.

If the need to evacuate and relocate residents of the affected area(s) is apparent, the provisions of the Evacuation Plan shall be implemented. In such events, the Mayor alternate shall declare a state of emergency before a mandatory evacuation is carried out.

Residents will be alerted of an evacuation by continuous sounding of fire sirens within more populated areas. On hearing the alert, residents are asked to tune their radios to one of the following radio stations:

- AM 560 CFOS
- FM 93.7 Country
- FM 106.5 MIX
- FM 90.7 Parks
- FM 92.3 The Dock

The Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Fire and Emergency Services will have the primary responsibility for implementation of an evacuation consistent with their operating procedures. All other services and agencies will be prepared to support evacuation activities.

Alerting the population at risk of an impending forest fire in cottage country is very difficult; however, possible methods of warning may include door knocking, media broadcasts, mobile public address, telephone call and electronic media. The alert would identify the forest fire zone(s) and travel route(s), identify the evacuation centre locations, and advise of the method of declaring evacuation and relocation. The movement of disabled persons, transient population, including vacationers and, in some cases, school population, any voluntary evacuees would be a priority.

The exception to the above is where an evacuation site is under the management of a department other than fire services, (i.e., ruptured gas line or toxic spill due to marine accident). In this instance, the Emergency Site Manager has the responsibility for the evacuation of people within the danger area.

Steps for Activation

Step 1:   Incident occurs

Step 2:   Emergency services responds

Step 3:   Situation assessed

Step 4:   Precautionary evacuation order by emergency services

Step 5:   Emergency Plan activated required

Step 6:   Emergency Operations Control Group convened

Step 7:   Request aid from support groups

Step 8:   Assess need for mandatory evacuation if situation escalates

Step 9:   If evacuation necessary, follow Evacuation Plan in conjunction with Emergency Plan

If the evacuation of any residents of the Municipality is necessary, the following

locations will be used as registration areas and temporary shelters:

1. St. Edmunds Community Centre, 7420 Highway 6, Tobermory
2. Fire Station 10, 7 Nicholas Street, Tobermory
3. Lion's Head and District Community Centre, 4 Tackabury Street, Lion's Head
4. Fire Station 20, 90 Main Street, Lion's Head

From the registration areas, residents will be directed to appropriate municipal facilities.

The residents of the Municipality who have been relocated to temporary shelters will require a wide range of support services. The Bruce County Human Services Administration has the primary responsibility for the provision of all such services, with the assistance of volunteer agencies such as the Canadian Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, and the Salvation Army.

Planning for Your Pet in the Event of Forest Fire Evacuation

If considering moving animals to a safer place, do so early to avoid unnecessary risk. It may not be possible to take your pet with you to a temporary evacuation shelter – plan ahead and be prepared.

- Secure animals inside before an emergency event, so that they do not take flight or run away.
- Use a secure pet carrier/cage, leash, or harness to move any animals to safety.
- Ensure all vaccinations remain current.
- It may be possible for your pet to be boarded in a safe environment away from the forest fire emergency zone.
- If you are able to house your animal in a temporary foster home, ensure your pet's medical and feeding information, food, medicine, and other supplies accompany them to the foster home.
- Ensure all pets are properly identified. Remember – during times of disaster, telephones may not be available, and it is important that any registered method includes your current address.
- Have a current photograph. This may assist in easily identifying you as the legal owner.

Arrangements with Neighbouring Communities

A reciprocal agreement with the Town of South Bruce Peninsula is in place in the event further evacuation centres are required. The following facilities in the Town of South Bruce Peninsula can be utilized:

1. Wiarton and District Community Centre and Arena, 526 Taylor Street, Wiarton
2. Sauble Beach Community Centre, 30 Community Centre Drive, Sauble Beach

School Board Responsibilities During Evacuation

Bruce Peninsula District School in Lion's Head and St. Edmunds Public School in Tobermory are governed by the emergency plans and policies that are applicable to the Bluewater District School Board.

Emergency Information and Communications

Communications can be pre-scripted for potential forest fire emergencies or can be drawn from existing sources. If no emergency information plan exists, the Emergency Information Officer may be asked to develop pre-written news releases.

The Municipality's public education program does include information on forest fires as part of the annual emergency management program. Our Emergency Plan is located on the Municipal website to assist residents and visitors to our area with regards to preparedness and response measures.

The CEMC has established campground, newspaper, radio, and ratepayers email contact listings, that will be a great assistance in the dissemination of emergency information prior to the emergency, especially the local media. Media contacts for both business and after hours are listed to help reach as many people as possible with messaging.

Throughout the forest fire season, Bruce Peninsula National Parks daily fire weather report provides information on the current fire ratings. The Municipal CEMC ensures that the latest information is released to the public in a consistent fashion through the Municipal Information Officer for the fire rating on the Municipal website, if applicable. These updates help to relieve anxiety and to address misinformation and rumours about the fire rating situation.

Resources

During a forest fire emergency, the Northern Bruce Peninsula Fire and Emergency Services and/or the MNRF will supply most of the resources to address the situation. The Municipality has Mutual Aid agreements with other municipalities and the County of Bruce. Other assistance, such as the Office of the Fire Marshal, can be accessed through the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre.

The items below indicate resources that may be required in a forest fire emergency:

- Firefighting and rescue equipment
- Ambulances
- Water tankers
- Relay pumps
- Communications equipment
- Auxiliary lighting
- Auxiliary power
- Blankets and food

- Mobile public address system
- Emergency feeding facilities
- Barricades
- Equipment to repair utilities
- Heavy equipment (e.g., backhoes)
- Transportation vehicles
- Mobile generators
- An airport

The contact information for these resources can be found in the Emergency Plan directory area.

Finance

The Municipal Treasurer will be responsible for ensuring the following items can be dealt with:

- Pre-existing contracts with 24/7 suppliers
- Extraordinary expenditures
- Expenditure authorities (e.g., who can sign a purchase order)
- Human resources considerations (e.g., tracking of over-time, volunteers, collective agreements)
- Potential cost and recovery (e.g., third-party liability)
- Location and procedure for accessing emergency petty cash
- Donations management
- If applicable, contact Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (see ODRAP guidelines at http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page237.aspx)

Many of the finance points are addressed and included in the Municipal Emergency Plan. For quick reference, please refer to this Plan.

In addition, there may be a number of considerations specific to a forest fire emergency:

1. The MNRF may recover costs from the Municipality where no previous agreement exists for fires on private land or in accordance with the terms of the Municipal Forest Fire Management Agreement.
2. As a natural disaster, the Municipality may be eligible for ODRAP funds. If the fire is human caused there may be cost recovery if third-party liability can be established.
3. Mutual assistance agreements with neighbouring municipalities, where they exist, will determine the responsibility for appropriate expenses.

Support/Supplemental Plans

The Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula has the following plans already established:

- Emergency Plan
- Evacuation Plan
- Pandemic Influenza Plan
- Warming/Cooling Centre Guidelines
- Animal Care Emergency Response Plan
- Flooding and/or High-Water Planning Guide

Prevention

Many factors influence the risk of wildland fires occurring and the way they will behave:

- Ecological factors are the main influences, such as forest type, tree age, topography, and weather.
- Human factors play a part in developed forest areas. For example, the risk of fire rises when forestry operations take place in dry conditions, and where logging roads give recreationists increased access to forested back country.
- Education for Bruce Trail hikers with regards to proper campfire use.
- Campers on Flowerpot Island need to know the risks of improper use of fire pits on the island.

Awareness of all of these factors improves a Municipality's ability to reduce the fire risk around it, and to prepare for and recover from fires. Bruce Peninsula National Park and Bruce County Forestry Unit may have sophisticated tools for measuring ecological risk factors.

With the implementation of "The Fluent Information Management System" (Fluent IMS) that is part of the "Who's Responding" program, fire permits will be easier to control. This will further enhance the overall response performance of the Fire Department by making all firefighters aware of all permitted burns and their locations. This system was implemented on April 1, 2019.

Public awareness programs such as FireSmart are helping communities manage and reduce fire risk.

The FireSmart manual and website provide homeowners, landscape planners and forest managers with advice on how to protect homes and communities located in forest areas. These resources also provide tools to help increase public safety, protect structures, and reduce evacuation and firefighting costs.

Fire danger rating signage was installed just north of Swan Lake on Highway 6 in 2017. During a fire ban, the area below the current fire rating symbols stores an additional area that will display the fire ban signage information, if necessary. This large sign will assist the residents and visitors to the area with the status of the current fire ratings and/or the fire ban warning. It is anticipated this signage will encourage forest fire safety awareness.

Campfire safety tips are published in the Bruce Peninsula Press along with other fire prevention articles on a monthly basis.

Mitigation

The Municipality has taken mitigation actions such as fire-resistance maintenance standards with a building and broader land use planning like buffer areas.

The Northern Bruce Peninsula Fire and Emergency Services conducts and/or supervises fire suppression burns to reduce the amounts of ground fuels.

In addition, the Northern Bruce Peninsula Fire and Emergency Services Department has assisted Bruce Peninsula National Park with supervision of suppression burns, in the past. Controlled burns must continue to reduce fire risks. Limited fuel means limited fires.

Preparedness

To ensure preparedness initiatives are instigated for forest fire awareness, the Municipality must promote training, public education, and communicate the message to staff and the general public.

Recovery

The goal is for the Municipality, residents, and businesses to recover from the event. This includes restoring the physical infrastructure where possible or desirable, as well as addressing the emotional, social, economic, and physical well-being of those involved. Actions to facilitate this may occur during the response such as donations management or notifying the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing that the Municipality would like to apply for ODRAP. Consideration for the formation of an ODRAP committee and providing training should be investigated.

Consider mitigation actions during recovery operations to lessen the impact of future reoccurrences of similar events such as fire-resistant infrastructure.

Consider establishing a recovery information centre where the impacted individuals can obtain additional information on the recovery process.

Post Event Activities – Debriefs

- Quick tactical debriefing (hot wash)
- More detailed operational debriefing
- Questionnaire (to volunteers, contractors, media, owners of facilities used, etc.) in order to identify gaps and future considerations for improvement
- Development of an after-action report, a financial report, and a report to Emergency Management Program Committee and Council

As soon as possible, a debriefing will be held and any lessons learned will be incorporated into this Plan.

Contact Information

MNRF

Fire indices and weather station	http://www.ontario.ca/page/fire-intensity-codes
Sarah Allen, Regional Fire Advisor	sarah.allen@ontario.ca (705) 564-9250 (office) (705) 945-5875 (alternate)
Forest Fire Management Centre	(705) 564-6033 (fax) (705) 690-0756 (cell)

Other

Fires/Emergencies on National Parks lands/waters	(519) 596-2702
Fires on Provincial Crown lands	1-888-239-4565
Fires/Emergencies on private lands	911
Fires on First Nations lands	(519) 534-1001 (Cape Croker) (519) 797-3366 (Saugeen)
Duty Warden Bruce Peninsula National Park	(519) 596-2702 (24/7)

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