

Spot forecast for Fire: SM013

FIRE WEATHER ADVISORY – RAPIDLY CHANGING FIRE WEATHER; BLOW UP FIRE CONDITIONS THIS EVENING

Issued by True North Weather at 2:20 pm Thursday July 24, 2008. Valid for Today, Tonight and Tomorrow with an outlook for the next 3 days.

Synopsis

A solid deck of cloud will continue to provide momentary relief over the fire through much of the afternoon. The cloud will keep temperatures and RH values at bay, and help to keep winds at modest levels.

Severe fire weather conditions are looming however, as clearing occurs late this afternoon and early evening. **Crews are cautioned to prepare for a very abrupt change in fire weather conditions, with RH values plummeting, temperatures soaring and wind speeds rapidly increasing in the evening burning period. Blow up conditions are possible.**

Winds will start the burning period relatively light out of the southwest, but rapidly gain strength once skies clear and allow strong heating to mix down a jet-maximum that will be located right over the fire site by this evening. Winds will shift to westerly this evening.

Winds will gradually shift to northwest by midnight, as a deep low over Manitoba changes the orientation of the isobars across the South Slave region. North to northwest winds will dominate across the fire area Friday. This will likely help to suppress temperatures a bit over the fire Friday as cooler air from Great Slave Lake slips into the area. RH values, however, will be very low Friday.

Forecast

TODAY: CLOUDY AT FIRST. CLEARING STARTING TOWARD EVENING

MAX TEMP	27 – reached at 7 or 8 pm
MIN RH	24% - reached at 7 or 8 pm
PRECIP	NIL
3 pm Values	21 50% SW 10G15
6 pm Values	24 40% SW 15G20

TONIGHT: BECOMING SUNNY WINDY AND DRY THIS EVENING. CLEAR OVERNIGHT

MIN TEMP	13
RH RECOVERY	75%
PRECIP	NIL
7 pm Values	27 24% WLY 25G35
9 pm Values	26 27% WLY 20G30
Midnight	23 30% W-NW 15G20

TOMORROW: SUNNY. HOT AND DRY

MAX TEMP	26
MIN RH	27%
PRECIP	NIL
1 pm Values	24 29% NW 10G15
3 pm Values	25 29% NW 15G20
6 pm Values	26 27% N-NW 15G20

Atmospheric Stability, Inversions, and Visibility

The deck of cloud is limiting daytime heating and making it difficult for this morning's inversion to break. Conditions will slowly improve throughout the afternoon as the inversion continues to erode.

The change in air mass will be very dramatic once skies clear as all atmospheric elements change at once. Caution.

Low Level Jets and Winds

Winds will be fueled by an upper level jet maximum as opposed to a text-book low level jet. Nonetheless, this feature created significant upheaval in the North Slave last night/

Confidence

Good.

Outlook for the Next 3 Days

Winds will shift to a southeasterly orientation on Saturday and Sunday as the Manitoba system pulls out of the area. Hot, dry, and windy conditions will grip the fire site throughout the weekend.

Upper ridge break down conditions are likely Monday, but our models are at odds as to how this will pan out over the region. Monday's forecast is highly subject to change.

DAY	MAX TEMP	MIN RH	AVE WIND	WEATHER
SAT	29	20%	SE 15G25	SUNNY
SUN	31	30%	SE 20G30	CHNC EVE THUNDERSTORM
MON	24	40%	SLY 20G30	SHWRS/TSHWRS

END/ARCHIBALD