



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR FOREST FIRE STATISTICS

REPORTING YEAR: 2015

VERSION: 040416

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Forestry and Agrifoods Agency
Forestry Services

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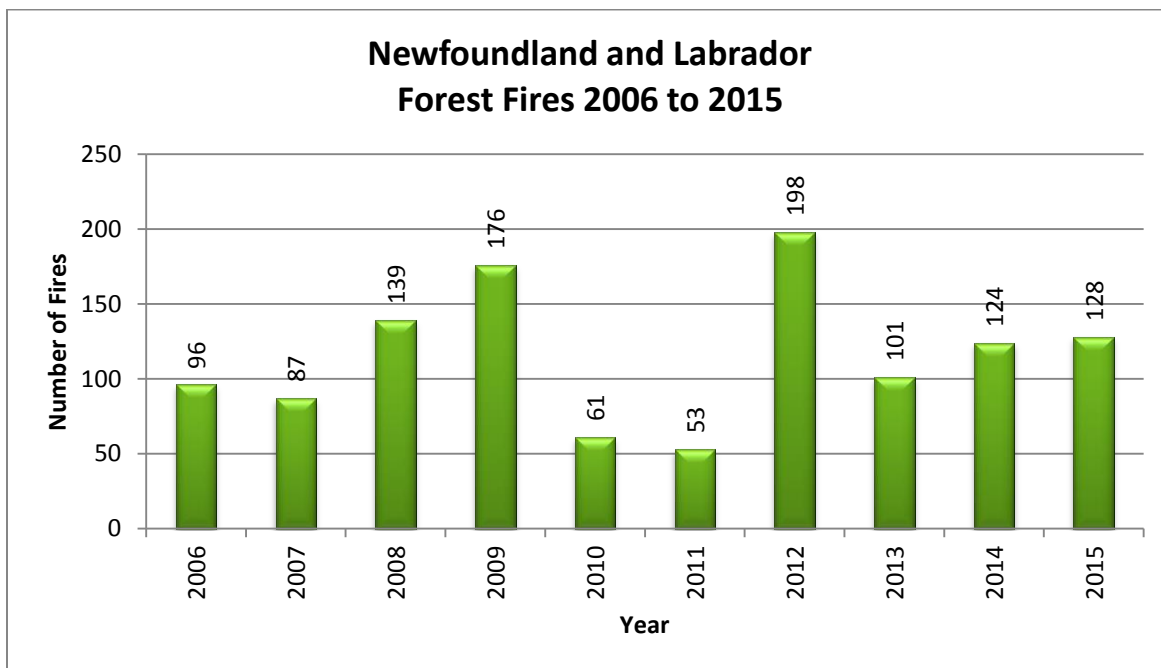
INTRODUCTION

REPORTING YEAR: 2015

In 2015, the fire season began on the island portion of the Province on May 1 and in Labrador on May 15. The season remained in effect on the Island portion of the Province until October 15 and in Labrador until September 30. Although the official season ran from May until September, data collected by Forestry Services, and presented in the following statistics, are for the entire year.

HISTORIC FIRE TOTALS - 10 YEAR AVERAGE

The 2015 Forest Fire Season saw 128 fires burning a total of 3958.1 hectares, and was slightly above the 10-year average of 116 fires per year.



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR FOREST FIRE STATISTICS

TOTAL FIRES

REGION	TOTAL
Eastern	71
Western	32
Labrador	25
Total:	128

AREA AND FOREST TYPE IN HECTARES (HA)

REGION	TOTAL AREA	PRODUCTIVE	NON-PRODUCTIVE
Eastern	329.7	6.8	322.9
Western	38.6	0.1	38.5
Labrador (full response)	485.6	0.2	485.4
Labrador (modified response)	3,104.2	0.1	3,104.2
Total:	3,958.1	7.1	3,951.0

FIRE OCCURRENCE

CAUSE	NUMBER	AREA BURNED (HA)
Lightning	20	3,580.9
Resident	70	23.55
Forest Industry	4	0.0
Other Industrial Operations	2	0.4
Incendiary	3	9.1
Railroad	0	0.0
Recreation	11	94.2
Garbage Dump	3	0.5
Miscellaneous Known	15	37.5
Total:	128	3,958.1

STANDARD CAUSE CLASSIFICATIONS (3 CATEGORIES)

Cause of Fire (Known or Suspected)

	EASTERN	WESTERN	LABRADOR	TOTAL
Lightning	0	0	19	19
Resident	44	21	2	71
Forest Industry	0	4	0	4
Other Industrial Operations	0	1	1	2
Incendiary	1	0	2	3
Railroad	0	0	0	0
Recreation	9	2	0	11
Garbage Dump	2	0	1	3
Miscellaneous Known	11	4	0	15

RESPONSIBLE GROUP (KNOWN OR SUSPECTED)

	EASTERN	WESTERN	LABRADOR	TOTAL
Resident	44	22	4	70
Mischance	18	2	1	21
Recreation	5	2	0	7
Mining Operation	0	0	0	0
Forestry Industry	0	4	0	4
Government Activities	0	0	0	0
Children	4	1	0	5
Industrial Operation	0	1	1	2
**				

** There were 19 lightning fires during the 2015 forest fire season – all of which occurred in Labrador.

MEANS OF IGNITION (KNOWN OR SUSPECTED)

	EASTERN	WESTERN	LABRADOR	TOTAL
Match and/or Lighter	39	17	2	58
Cigarette, Cigar, Pipe	9	3	2	14
Camp Fire	4	0	0	4
Chimney Spark	0	0	0	0
Explosions	0	0	0	0
Power Saw	0	0	0	0
Hydro Wire	2	2	0	4
Vehicle Fire	2	0	0	2
Structural Fire	0	0	0	0
Slash and/or Debris Fire	2	1	0	3
All-Terrain Vehicle	3	1	0	4
Heavy Equipment	0	5	1	6
Lightning	0	0	19	19
Spontaneous Combustion	0	0	0	0
Other	10	3	1	14

FIRES BY MONTH

MONTH	NUMBER OF FIRES	AREA BURNED (HA)
January	0	0.0
February	0	0.0
March	0	0.0
April	1	1.6
May	59	255.7
June	42	3,339.5
July	10	9.9
August	8	259.3
September	6	92.0
October	2	0.1
November	0	0.0
December	0	0.0
Total:	128	3,958.1

AREA BURNED BY SIZE

FIRE SIZE (HA)	NUMBER	AREA BURNED (HA)
Less than or equal to 0.1	81	4.5
0.11 – 1.0	26	12.8
1.1 – 10.0	12	56.1
10.1 – 100.0	4	164.7
100.1 – 1,000.0	3	882.0
1000.1 – 10,000.0	2	2,838.0
Greater than 10,000.0	0	0.0
Total:	128	3,958.1

GLOSSARY

Productive Forest Type: Area of Forest capable of producing at least 35 cubic meters per hectare (m^3/ha) at rotation.

Non-Productive Forest Type: Area of Forest that is not capable of producing at least 35 cubic meters per hectare (m^3/ha) at rotation.

Hectare (ha.): The metric unit of area measurement and can be measured as follows:

- 1 hectare = 100 metres by 100 metres or 0.01 km^2
- 1 hectare = 2.47 acres

Full Response Fire: A wildfire which requires immediate, aggressive initial attack and/or sustained suppression action until the fire is declared out.

Modified Response Fire: A wildfire that is allowed to burn within set policy and management guidelines or may be actioned in such a manner as to bring the wildfire back within those guidelines.