



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR FOREST FIRE STATISTICS

REPORTING YEAR: 2017

VERSION: 013118

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Fisheries and Land Resources
Forestry and Wildlife

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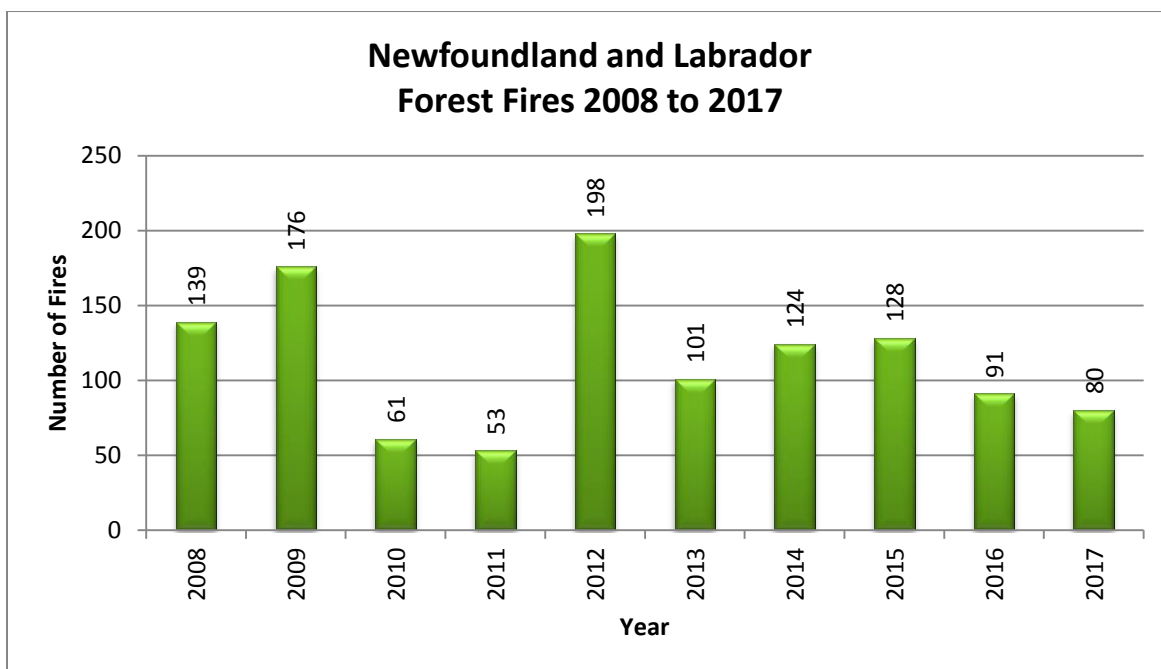
INTRODUCTION

REPORTING YEAR: 2017

In 2017, 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 until September 30. Although the official season ran from May until September, data collected by the department and presented in the following statistics, are for the entire year.

HISTORIC FIRE TOTALS - 10 YEAR AVERAGE

The 2017 Forest Fire Season saw 80 fires burning a total of 699.8 hectares, and was below the 10-year average of 115 fires per year.



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR FOREST FIRE STATISTICS

TOTAL FIRES

REGION	TOTAL
Eastern	58
Western	14
Labrador	8
Total:	80

AREA AND FOREST TYPE IN HECTARES (HA)

REGION	TOTAL AREA	PRODUCTIVE	NON-PRODUCTIVE
Eastern	45.9	12.0	33.9
Western	41.5	3.1	38.4
Labrador (full response)	609.4	600.1	9.3
Labrador (modified response)	3.0	0.0	3.0
Total:	699.8	615.2	84.6

FIRE OCCURRENCE

CAUSE	NUMBER	AREA BURNED (HA)
Lightning	3	637.5
Resident	48	46.8
Forest Industry	1	0.9
Other Industrial Operations	4	0.2
Incendiary	1	0.1
Railroad	0	0.0
Recreation	14	11.0
Garbage Dump	2	0.5
Miscellaneous Known	7	2.8
Total:	80	699.8

STANDARD CAUSE CLASSIFICATIONS (3 CATEGORIES)

Cause of Fire (Known or Suspected)

	EASTERN	WESTERN	LABRADOR	TOTAL
Lightning	1	1	1	3
Resident	33	11	4	48
Forest Industry	1	0	0	1
Other Industrial Operations	2	0	2	4
Incendiary	1	0	0	1
Railroad	0	0	0	0
Recreation	12	1	1	14
Garbage Dump	2	0	0	2
Miscellaneous Known	6	1	0	7

RESPONSIBLE GROUP (KNOWN OR SUSPECTED)

	EASTERN	WESTERN	LABRADOR	TOTAL
Resident	41	11	3	55
Mischance	3	0	0	3
Recreation	5	1	1	7
Mining Operation	0	0	0	0
Forestry Industry	1	0	0	1
Government Activities	0	0	2	2
Children	4	0	1	5
Industrial Operation	3	1	0	4
**				

** There were 3 lightning fires during the 2017 forest fire season – of which 1 occurred in Eastern region, 1 in Western region and 1 in Labrador.

MEANS OF IGNITION (KNOWN OR SUSPECTED)

	EASTERN	WESTERN	LABRADOR	TOTAL
Match and/or Lighter	23	4	1	28
Cigarette, Cigar, Pipe	4	2	1	7
Camp Fire	9	1	1	11
Chimney Spark	0	0	0	0
Explosions	0	0	0	0
Power Saw	0	0	0	0
Hydro Wire	1	0	2	3
Vehicle Fire	1	0	0	1
Structural Fire	0	0	0	0
Slash and/or Debris Fire	3	3	0	6
All-Terrain Vehicle	11	2	0	13
Heavy Equipment	3	0	0	3
Lightning	1	1	1	3
Spontaneous Combustion	0	0	0	0
Other	2	1	2	5

FIRES BY MONTH

MONTH	NUMBER OF FIRES	AREA BURNED (HA)
January	0	0.0
February	0	0.0
March	0	0.0
April	0	0.0
May	18	18.1
June	22	622.5
July	18	38.8
August	8	2.7
September	4	2.4
October	4	15.1
November	6	0.2
December	0	0.0
Total:	80	699.8

AREA BURNED BY SIZE

FIRE SIZE (HA)	NUMBER	AREA BURNED (HA)
Less than or equal to 0.1	44	2.3
0.11 – 1.0	19	8.9
1.1 – 10.0	15	53.6
10.1 – 100.0	1	26.0
100.1 – 1,000.0	1	609.0
1000.1 – 10,000.0	0	0.0
Greater than 10,000.0	0	0.0
Total:	80	699.8

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.