

This week in fire

This Week in Fire

By Norm Gladish
Fire Prevention Technician

Every year in Ontario, hundreds of forest fires break out across the province. Most are quickly extinguished. A small percentage of these fires escape early suppression to become monsters beyond the technical ability of men to stop. Why is this?

Weather is a major factor. It determines if a forest fire will start and how quickly it will grow. Wind, relative humidity, temperature, and precipitation all play a part in how weather affects fire.

Wind can speed up the rate at which fuels dry by keeping air in constant motion, particularly when the air is dry. Wind can also carry sparks and embers, rapidly spreading an existing fire.

Relative humidity affects the amount of moisture in fine fuels, such as grasses, dead needles or leaves and moss. When the relative humidity is low, the air actually draws moisture from fine

fuels making them more susceptible to fire.

It is obvious that sunlight dries forest fuels as well. But it also raises their surface temperatures. This means that a fire will need less heat to raise these fuels to the ignition point. It will therefore spread more rapidly than in unexposed fuels.

Of course, precipitation has a very direct effect on the condition of forest fuels. A long dry spell will result in a greatly reduced moisture content in most fuels which increases their flammability. Large fires may be beyond man's control until a good rain slows them down.

We have seen that weather is the primary agent in determining fuel condition. The others are fuel type and size. The large surface area of fine fuels, such as grass, leaves, needles, and small twigs permits rapid evaporation of moisture.

Larger diameter fuels have less surface area for the same volume. As a result, they dry out more slowly than fine fuels after

wet periods. They are more difficult to ignite. Fine fuels will more readily catch fire and burn more intensely. An example of this is fire burning through logging slash.

Just as important as size, is the type of fuel. Coniferous trees (evergreens) are much more readily flammable than deciduous. Blown down trees will burn more readily than standing timber. Dead trees, such as budworm killed balsam fir, will burn better than live "green" trees.

Topography is another important determinant as to how a forest fire will behave. Fuels on slopes facing the sun will dry out more thus igniting more easily than those in the shade. Also, snow disappears earlier in spring, creating a potential fire hazard sooner.

This brings us to seasonal changes. Fine fuels are dead in early spring, green in summer and often cured in fall. Dead and curing fuels are much more flammable than green ones. Daylight slowly increases each

day in spring until June 21, when it begins to decrease. The length of sunlight each day affects the drying time of fuels, the temperature and relative humidity of the air, all important to fire behaviour, as we have seen.

A final factor in how forest fires burn is the time of day. Daytime is usually associated with lower relative humidity, higher temperatures, and stronger winds than is night. The result is

more rapid drying and easier ignition of fuels during the day, peaking between twelve noon and six p.m.

We have seen many reasons why forest fires vary so widely in behaviour and each factor has an influence on all the others. This may help explain why some fires blaze while others just fizzle out. To be on the safe side, always be careful with matches, smokes and any kind of fire.

SCHREIBER MIXED SLOW PITCH PLAY-OFF DANCE
to be held
Saturday, August 25th
Schreiber Recreation Centre
9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Music by Randall Kushnieryk
admission \$5.00 each
Sorry no minors.



Tequila Sunrise the Ladies the Slowpitch Champs are: front row (l - r)- Shannon Long, Brenda Figliomeni, Marilyn Thompson, Marlene McParland, Jennifer O'Reilly, and Nancy Zaporzan. Back row- Siobhan Brown, Jennifer Martin, Cecile Borutski, Rose Halonen, Pat McIntyre, Sylvia Figliomeni, and Edythe Cosgrove.
Photo by Angie Saunders

Ladies Slowpitch Champs

By Angie Saunders
The News

The Tequila Sunrise Ladies Slow-pitch team were very victorious last weekend.

A Ladies Slow-pitch Tournament was held August 11-

12. Four teams participated with over 80 girls registered. The four teams were called Tequila Sunrise, Manhattan, Pina Colada and Velvet Hammer.

Tequila Sunrise won both trophies and are now the Schreiber

Ladies Slowpitch League Champs as well as the Play-off Champs.

The winning ladies won 20 - 4 against Manhattan in the final game of the Round Robin.

Third place went to Pina Colada and fourth went to Velvet Hammer.

Mon Cherie
Creative Dimensions in Hair Design
Mountainview Plaza, Schreiber

We now have hair extensions, Focus 21 products Splash 8oz. \$8.00 refills \$6.00 Sea plasma 8oz. \$7.00 refills \$5.50 Paul Mitchell products, mousse, sculpting spray plus facial mud packs, barbering and other services.

CFNO'S DAN VALKOS
is finally returning to the Terrace Bay/ Schreiber area.
He will be doing psychic readings one day only at
Villa Bianca Motel in Schreiber,
on AUGUST 29th.
To book an appointment call 824-2172
Visa & Mastercard accepted.



The Lake Superior Board of Education

Requires a classroom teacher for September, 1990 as follows:

Schreiber Public School
- 0.75 FTE Teacher for SPECIAL EDUCATION*
*Minimum qualifications **Special Education Part 1 APPLICATIONS**

Candidates who hold the necessary qualifications to teach in Ontario in the areas specified above are invited to submit written applications which contain details re qualifications held, experience and the names of at least three (3) references by **Monday, August 27th, 1990 to:**

Gail Conrad Davey, Principal
Schreiber Public School
P.O. Box 129
Schreiber, Ontario POT 2S0
Phone No. 807 - 824- 2082
Fax No. 807- 824-2157

P. Richardson
Chairman

D.I. McQuarrie
Director of Education

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Canadian Pacific Limited intends to apply to the National Transportation Agency pursuant to Section 119 of the Railway Act for exemption from the requirement to submit a plan, profile and book of reference showing the proposed removal of the Station building at Terrace Bay, Ontario at mile 109.9 of its Heron Bay Subdivision

Inquiries with respect to this matter may be addressed to Mr. J. D. Champion, Superintendent, CP Rail, 233 Elgin Street, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 3N7

Any party having objections to the company's proposal should contact Ms. S. Clement, Secretary, National Transportation Agency, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N9, with a copy forwarded to Mr. H. C. Wendlandt, General Solicitor, Canadian Pacific Limited, Law Department Room 234, Windsor Station, Montreal, Quebec H3C 3E4

J.D. Champion
Superintendent
C.P. Rail