

For Immediate Release  
September 9, 2009

Ministry of Forests and Range  
Cariboo Fire Centre

## **OPEN FIRES PERMITTED IN MOST AREAS OF THE CARIBOO FIRE CENTRE**

WILLIAMS LAKE - Effective at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday September 9, 2009 and until further notice, campfires and Category 1, 2 and 3 open fires are no longer prohibited throughout much of the Cariboo Fire Centre. All open fires remain prohibited in the Chilcotin Forest District (see attached map).

The lifting of this open fire ban applies within BC Parks and to all public (Crown) and private land. It does not apply within municipalities or regional districts that have their own burning bylaws or bans. Please check with your local authorities before lighting a fire.

A Category 1 open fire means an open fire that burns piled material no larger than one metre high and one metre wide. A Category 2 open fire means an open fire that burns piled material no larger than two metres high and three metres wide, or grass over an area less than 0.2 hectares (2000 square metres) in size. A Category 3 open fire means an open fire that burns material in piles larger than two metres high and three metres wide, windrows, or grass over an larger than 0.2 hectares (2000 square metres) in size.

Anyone who lights a Category 2 or 3 open fire must comply with the Ministry of Environment's Waste Management Act and Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation. More information is available at [www.bcairquality.ca](http://www.bcairquality.ca). Individuals who fail to meet these requirements may be subject to fines.

A registration number is required for all open burning categories. This number can be obtained at 1-888-797-1717. Anyone considering a Category 2 or 3 burn should also be aware of local conditions.

The Cariboo Fire Centre encompasses the area extending from Clinton in the South, north to Cottonwood River just north of Quesnel, east to the Western boundary of Wells Gray Provincial Park, and west to the western boundary of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park. This includes all of the Chilcotin, 100 Mile House, Quesnel and Central Cariboo Forest Districts.

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