



CALL FOR TENDER
FireSmart Vegetation Management Project

The Town of Whitecourt, with funding support from the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA), is treating approximately **19.5 hectares** per FireSmart principles and practices. This is located in Block 23 in the Whitecourt Forest Area FireSmart Map. Perform required maintenance, including mulching, removal of dead standing and downed materials, and removal of ladder fuels in key stands. Alberta Wildland Hazardous Fuels Management Prescriptions have been provided for this work. There is a requirement for the candidate to coordinate with other contractors performing active projects in the area (i.e., Fireguard project).

Startup is required in 2025; completion will be no later than December 31st, 2025.

A field visit by interested proponents is strongly recommended.

There are two components to this project:

1. Project Management:

The successful candidate must manage the project and work with the Town of Whitecourt throughout the project's planning, implementation, and completion. The contractor must be, or provide, a Forestry Professional registered in Alberta (Registered Professional Forest Technologist – RPFT; or Registered Professional Forester – RPF). Project Management duties include:

- Developing the overall treatment plan for presentation and approval by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and the Whitecourt Fire Department before the commencement of treatment work.
- Preparing a Safety Plan and acting as the primary contractor to meet all Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) requirements.
- Obtaining required access approvals and permits.
- Completing all necessary reporting documents, including grant reporting per requirements outlined by FRIAA FireSmart and the Whitecourt Fire Department.

2. FireSmart Treatment:

The project will provide treatment as per FireSmart principles and practices.

Pricing:

Detail the project's total cost and the cost per hectare.

SEALED TENDERS, marked “2025 – FRIAA FIRESMART PROGRAM” will be accepted until 1:00 p.m. on Friday, April 25, 2025.

The tender will be awarded under the Town of Whitecourt Purchasing Policy 13-003.

Town of Whitecourt
Box 509, 5004 52nd Avenue
Whitecourt AB T7S 1N6

Whitecourt Forest Area FireSmart

Legend

Whitecourt FireSmart

-  Private
-  Provincial



1:25,000

Alberta

Informatics Team, Alberta Ministry of Environment
and Sustainable Resource Development
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Base Map Data provided by the Government of Alberta
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WILDLAND HAZARDOUS FUELS MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

There are four parts to the Wildland Hazardous Fuels Prescription.

- I. Project Identification – Basic information regarding the project.
- II. Plot Data Sheet – To be completed for each plot.
- III. Prescription Summary – This is to be completed once for the entire project area.
- IV. Prescription Sign-Off and Submission – To be completed for the entire prescription and requires the sign-off of the registered forestry professional who has supervised or completed the prescription.

Note: Completion and submission of this form does not constitute approval of the prescribed activity. All approvals from the appropriate land and natural resources management agencies must be obtained prior to the commencement of any hazardous fuels management activities. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all approvals are in place.

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name	
Date	
Latitude/Longitude	
Distance (km) and Azimuth (degrees) from Project Boundary to Nearest Occupied Dwelling	
Total Area Treated (ha)	

PLOT IDENTIFICATION

1. Plots are to be marked with a stake and ribbon.
2. GPS coordinates are to be taken at plot centre.
3. To allow future data gathering at the plot location, a minimum of two trees in the plot are to be marked with a vertical stripe of fluorescent paint. These trees must be ones which will be left standing post treatment.
4. If the prescription involves 100 percent canopy removal, the above (3) does not apply.

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II. PLOT DATA SHEET (COMPLETE FOR EACH PLOT)

PROJECT NAME: _____ PLOT _____ OF _____ PLOTS

1. PHOTOS

Photographs North, South, East and West are to be taken from the plot centre. A representative photograph of the forest floor in the plot is to be taken. Photos are to be labelled with the project name, date, plot number and direction. Photos are to be tagged with their latitude and longitudes and have an accuracy of +/- 3 metres from the plot centre.

2. PLOT TALLY

A 3.99 metre plot cord tally of all trees that fall within the plot boundary are to be recorded. One representative height, live crown base height and one representative diameter (DBH) for each tree species in the plot is to be taken.

Tree Species	Tally	Height (m)	Live Crown Base Height (m)	Diameter (cm)	Tree species	Tally	Height (m)	Live Crown Base Height (m)	Diameter (cm)
Trembling Aspen (Aw)			N/A		Jack Pine (Pj)				
Balsam Poplar (Pb)			N/A		Lodgepole Pine (Pl)				
White Birch (Bw)			N/A		Balsam Fir (Fb)				
Black Spruce (Sb)					Subalpine Fir (Fa)				
White Spruce (Sw)					Douglas Fir (Fd)				
Tamarack (Lt)					Engelmann Spruce (Se)				
Other:					Other:				

* 4 dead Lt and 1 dead Sb

Note: Tally is to be in dot format. Height is to the nearest metre. Live crown base height is to the nearest 0.5 metre for coniferous species only. Diameter is to be in centimetres to the nearest 2 cm class (If trees are 10 cm or under, to the nearest 0.1 cm) and taken at DBH (1.3 metres) from ground level.

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II. PLOT DATA SHEET CONTINUED

PROJECT NAME: _____ PLOT _____ OF _____ PLOTS

3. PLOT AVI (Include understory if present.) AND CANADIAN FOREST FIRE BEHAVIOUR PREDICTION (FBP) FUEL TYPE.

AVI: _____ FBP Fuel Type: _____

Example: mB21Sw9Aw1
87-M

*The fuel type would be a combination of M1/M2. There was significant ground cover of vegetation (1 m tall raspberry everywhere). Dead Lt was the leading tree species and would behave like leafless deciduous).

Where moisture regime (m), crown closure (B), height (21 metres), Sw species composition is 9 = 90% and AW species composition is 1 = 10%, stand origin 87 = 1870-79 and timber productivity rating = M.

See: <http://esrd.alberta.ca/lands-forests/vegetation-inventory-standards.aspx>

To review documents on AVI type calls.

See: The Field Guide to the Canadian Forest Fire Behavior Prediction (FBP) System for fuel types.

4. GROUND COVER DATA

Estimate percent ground cover for coarse woody ≥ 7 cm in diameter. Tally the number of pieces within the 3.99 metre plot which are ≥ 7 cm in diameter.

≥ 7 cm _____ % Tally _____ Pieces

If a coniferous understory layer is present, provide the percent ground coverage of the understory layer.

Dominant Species _____ Ground Coverage _____ %

Forest floor / litter, upper duff and lower duff layers – Provide the depth of each layer.

Forest Floor / Litter Layer (fine woody debris, undecomposed matter, green moss) _____ cm

Upper Duff (brown moss layer, partly decomposed matter) _____ cm

Lower Duff (decomposing/organic layer to a maximum of 20 cm) _____ cm

5. ECOSITE CLASSIFICATION AND SITE EVALUATION

Based on the appropriate Field Guide to Ecosites of Southwestern Alberta, Northern Alberta or West-central Alberta. These guides are available at <http://cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/publications>.

Natural Sub Region	
Ecosite Plant Community Type and Name (example: i1, b3, h1)	

This ecosite did not match anything found in the Field Guide to Ecosites of Northern Alberta. This is likely due to nearby construction which has likely altered the hydrology of the area. A majority of the Lt in and around the plot have died and there is a Sb understory present. Along with this is thick raspberry cover along with stinging nettle with a feathermoss ground cover. The raspberry was a dominant shrub with 80% cover.

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II. PLOT DATA SHEET CONTINUED

PROJECT NAME: _____ PLOT _____ OF _____ PLOTS

Rutting Hazard, Soil Compaction Potential and Comments:

Potential Watercourse/Water Table Issues:

General Forest Health (Insects, Diseases and Weeds) Comments:

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III. PRESCRIPTION SUMMARY

1. RECOMMENDED TREATMENT

To include type of treatment (logging, thinning, pruning, mulching, selective harvest, etc. and mechanical or non-mechanical) Include suggested equipment (mechanical) and recommended ground conditions for treatment (frozen or non-frozen).

2. DEBRIS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Include debris management method (mulch, pile/burn, haul off site, lop/scatter, etc. and recommended post treatment debris levels (percent ground cover).

3. EXPECTED POST TREATMENT VEGETATION RESPONSE

Comment on potential regeneration (deciduous and coniferous) as well as grass/shrubs/forbs.

4. PROPOSED MAINTENANCE STRATEGY AND SCHEDULE

Hazardous fuels management treatments will at some point require maintenance. Identify the maintenance method and the approximate time intervals for the maintenance.

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IV. PRESCRIPTION SIGN OFF AND SUBMISSION

ATTACHMENTS (Check)

- ☐ Map (mandatory)
- ☐ All plot data sheets completed (mandatory)
- ☐ Photographs (mandatory)
- ☐ Land titles search (mandatory if not previously completed and submitted to)
- ☐ Other (specify): _____

SIGN-OFF AND SUBMISSION

Prescription Completed By (print name)	
Signature	
Registered Professional Forester or Registered Professional Forest Technologist Registration Number or Stamp (signature required if different from the individual who completed the prescription).	
Date	

Please submit this prescription to:

FireSmart Community Protection Specialist
 Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
 10th Floor, 9920-108 Street,
 Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2M4
 Email: Geoffrey.Braid@gov.ab.ca

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DISCLAIMER

This Wildland Hazardous Fuels Management Prescription was prepared or supervised by a Registered Professional Forester or Registered Professional Forest Technologist.

The users of this information acknowledge that it is impossible to eliminate all of the risks. Wildfire conditions are highly variable and can rapidly change with little to no warning. This Wildland Hazardous Fuels Management Prescription does not guarantee safety or that a wildfire will not spread.

The accuracy and reliability of this Wildland Hazardous Fuels Management Prescription is not guaranteed or warranted in any way and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry disclaims liability of any kind whatsoever for damages including but not limited to discomfort, injury, death or loss of property.