

Forest and Prairie Protection Act and Regulations Part I and Part II Amendments

“WHAT WE HEARD”

Report from Online Engagement

May 2016

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2016, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's Wildfire Management Branch sought public and stakeholder input on proposed amendments to the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act* (the Act) and associated regulations. The two primary associated regulations are the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations, Part I and the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations, Part II.

The goals of the proposed legislative and regulatory amendments are to:

- Update the fine levels and structure to align with other similar provincial legislation;
- Clarify wording to better reflect and support current operational practices in the field; and
- Complete any required consequential administrative amendments (e.g., terminology and form updates).

An online survey was open for feedback to all Albertans from March 2nd to April 15th, 2016. The survey was distributed to key stakeholders, including industry representatives, municipalities, Indigenous communities, hunter and trapper associations and nonprofit groups. The general public was informed through Wildfire Alberta and Alberta Government Public Consultation websites.

Respondents were asked to state their level of support with the amendments for three main areas: Fines, Operational Amendments and Administrative Amendments. Respondents were given the option to provide comments to substantiate their answers. In total, 538 respondents provided feedback representing a wide array of interests and industries across the province.

Key Highlights

Most of the respondents indicated their support of the proposed amendments. In particular, there was general consensus that the amendments would lead to wildfire risk reduction, more accountability and compliance across Alberta.

Fines: Support of the amendments pertaining to "Fines" ranged from 85 percent to 96 percent. Those who supported the amendments attributed their support primarily to fines being a deterrent, while those who did not support the amendment indicated the proposed fines increase for individuals is too high.

Operational Amendments: Support of "Operational Amendments" ranged from 70 percent to 95 percent. The amendment pertaining to the "Debris or brush piles to be disposed of within 12 months – for logging operations" received the lowest level of support at 70 percent. Those who did not support the amendment indicated more time may be required for debris disposal.

Administrative Amendments: Respondents provided general comments and suggestions pertaining to the proposed amendments to the Act and Regulations Part I and Part II. They also voiced their agreement or disagreement with specific details about the amendments. Key comments included general agreements with commencing the fire season on March 1st, and changing "flare pit" to "flare facility".

INTRODUCTION

The "What We Heard" report is a summary of the feedback received as a result of an online survey on the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act* and associated regulations amendments. The report is organized into three main sections:

- **Overview** – describes the research process, the data collection methodology and data analyses used to derive the results of the survey.
- **Summary of Responses** – details the results for each of the main sections of the survey instrument, namely:
 - Fines;
 - Operational Amendments; and
 - Administrative Amendments.
- **Appendix** – contains:
 - the survey instrument used for this engagement;
 - a listing of stakeholders who were directly invited to participate in the engagement; and
 - overall results for Indigenous based community or groups and forest industry.

OVERVIEW

■ BACKGROUND

In March 2016, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's Wildfire Management Branch sought stakeholder input on proposed amendments to the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act* and associated regulations. The goals of the proposed legislative and regulatory amendments are to:

- Update the fine levels and structure to align with other similar provincial legislation;
- Clarify wording to better reflect and support current operational practices in the field; and
- Complete any required consequential administrative amendments (e.g., terminology and form updates).

The online survey was open for feedback to all Albertans from March 2nd to April 15th, 2016. The survey was distributed to key stakeholders, including forest, rail, oil and gas industries as well as utility producers, municipalities, Indigenous communities, hunter and trapper associations and nonprofit groups. The general public was informed through the Alberta Government Public Consultation webpage, Wildfire Management Branch webpage and Wildfire HubSpot updates. The HubSpot updates were also distributed through the Alberta Wildfire applications. The HubSpot update actively emails out update to stakeholders that have subscribed to the service. There are ten areas across the province which distribute regular updates to these stakeholders.

The survey instrument was developed by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry in collaboration with Pivotal Research Inc. The survey asked respondents to state their level of support to each proposed amendment. Respondents were also given the opportunity to provide comment as to why they selected the specific level of support to each of the amendments listed in the survey.

A discussion paper was attached to the survey that provided further detail on the proposed amendments.

■ SURVEY STRUCTURE

The survey consisted of four major sections. Section one contained a privacy statement asking for respondents' agreement with voluntarily proceeding and acknowledging the use of the data collected in the engagement survey. This was followed by a question asking respondents to identify the specific activities (including industries), they were involved in. The remaining three sections dealt with Fines, Operational Amendments, and Administrative Amendments respectively.

In the Fines and Operational Amendments sections respondents were asked to choose one of four possible answers:

- Support
- Support with some changes
- I do not support
- Uncertain

Respondents were also able to leave the question blank and proceed to the next item. For each selection, survey participants were asked to expand on why they chose their particular answer in a free text format.

In the Administrative Amendments section respondents had the opportunity to provide comments to three open ended questions.

■ DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

Respondents who were directly invited to participate in the survey received an email invitation from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. Invitees represented a wide range of stakeholders which included industries, internal Government of Alberta employees, municipal government personnel, and Indigenous based community leaders, among others. A complete listing of the organizations external to the Government of Alberta that received direct invitations is in Appendix B of this report.

The survey link was placed on the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's external website, and on the Government of Alberta Public Consultation's website. It was also distributed through department's HubSpot updates (a Government of Alberta website dedicated to informing the public about active fires in the province). Any member of the public could participate in the consultation by clicking on the survey link placed on any of the aforementioned websites.

IP addresses were not tracked during the data collection process. We do not know whether the same individual answered the survey multiple times, or whether the same computer was accessed to complete the survey by different respondents.

For that purpose, each response is treated as a unique participant whether it came from the individual's personal perspective or the organization which they represent. As such, the statistical margin of error could not be derived for this study.

■ DATA ANALYSIS

In total, 625 individuals accessed the survey and 609 agreed to voluntarily participate in the survey. Of those who agreed to proceed, 538 provided feedback.

Quantitative results from the survey were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequencies and percentages. We report quantitative data in one of two ways: as a raw number expressed as 'Number' in a table as well as a percentage. Graphical charts are also provided for a visual representation of the results. The number of responses received per question varied from 358 to 505.

Pivotal Research summarized qualitative data from open-ended questions into themes. The complete theme analyses are provided in a separate file.

Important note about the results: It is important to note that this survey was designed as an open online public engagement. As such, those who participated in the survey were likely to have a specific interest in this subject.

■ PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

Respondents were asked to identify various activities they participated in (industries or groups they belonged to) from a list of 13 items (see Table 1).

'Other' category options (group, industry or other) were provided for survey participants to add additional categories. Respondents were able to select as many categories as were applicable. Table 1 shows the number and percentage of respondents who selected each area.

Table 1. Activities, industries or groups participants belong to

	Number	% ¹
Outdoor recreation such as camping, hiking, fishing	318	59.1
Forestry	249	46.3
Government	183	34.0
Agriculture	110	20.4
Off-highway vehicle group or industry	89	16.5
Oil and gas exploration or extraction	82	15.2
Traditional trapping, fishing or hunting	80	14.9
Transportation sector	36	6.7
Commercial recreation industry	33	6.1
Indigenous based community or groups	25	4.6
Utilities sector	23	4.3
Commercial trapping, fishing or hunting	20	3.7
Mining	14	2.6
Other group(s)	32	5.9
Other	13	2.4
Other industry	9	1.7

¹ Percentages are based on the total number of respondents who participated in the survey (n = 538) and therefore do not total to 100 percent.

■ HOW TO READ THE RESULTS

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

■ FINES

In recent years, several of the largest wildfires in Alberta were the result of human activity. All human-caused wildfires are preventable. These wildfires threatened human lives and communities, required the evacuation of local residents and cost millions of dollars to extinguish.

Currently, maximum fines in the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations Part I are set at \$5,000 for burning an outdoor fire without due care and attention and \$1,000 for other offences.

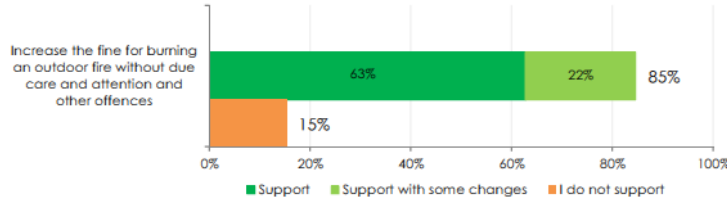
Proposed amendments to the Regulations Part I would increase the maximum fine for burning an outdoor fire without due care and attention from \$5,000 to \$100,000 for an individual and from \$5,000 to \$1,000,000 for a corporation. The maximum fine for other offences (for further details please see the Act) would increase from \$1,000 to \$50,000 for an individual and from \$1,000 to \$500,000 for a corporation. The proposed fines will align with maximum fines for comparable offences under other Alberta legislation.



The background material (if any) that was provided to respondents. This material outlined the current legislation/regulation and proposed amendments.

What is your level of support? →

Figure 1. Increase fine for human-caused wildfires and other offences



The question

A visualization of the responses received. "Support" and "Support with some changes" are displayed as one bar. The combined percentage of both categories is also shown (i.e., 85% in this example).

Level of support	Number	%
Support	317	63
Support with some changes	110	22
I do not support	78	15
Total	505	100
Uncertain	18	
No response	15	



A table including the number and percentage of responses received for each level of support.

Analysis

The majority of respondents (85%) either supported the proposed amendment (63%) or supported the amendment with some changes (22%) (See Figure 1). Those who supported the amendment felt that higher fines will act as a deterrent, increase accountability and awareness and aide cost recovery to wildfire damage. The main argument for not supporting the proposed amendment is that the proposed fine increase to individuals is too high.

The most frequently mentioned reasons for supporting or not supporting the amendment, along with sample comments are displayed in the following page (Figure 2).



A brief narrative of the results.

The top themes identified in respondents' comments are provided in a Figure following the brief narrative about the results. The example below contains only the results of respondents who selected "Support" to the proposed amendment. Figures in the report contain a theme analysis for each level of support (Support, Support with some changes and I do not support).

The 'n' represents the number of respondents who provided comment. The percent reflects the portion of respondents who provided comment (n = 265) out of all who selected "Support".

Top themes

Figure 2. Comments - Increase fine for human-caused wildfires and other offences

Support	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
Support Number = 265 (84%)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase compliance/ Greater deterrent 	85	32	"Need a good strong deterrent" "I think the threat of really high fines will help people think before leaving fires unattended."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase accountability/take responsibility for consequences 	76	29	"People must be responsible for their actions; and accountable."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aid with suppression and remediation cost 	40	15	"Fines are currently too low and do not reflect the costs of extinguishing fires or manning-up to prevent reoccurrence."

Displays sample comments from respondents for each of the top themes.

Displays the number of times a theme was mentioned

Reflects the percentage of respondents who mentioned the theme

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

■ FINES

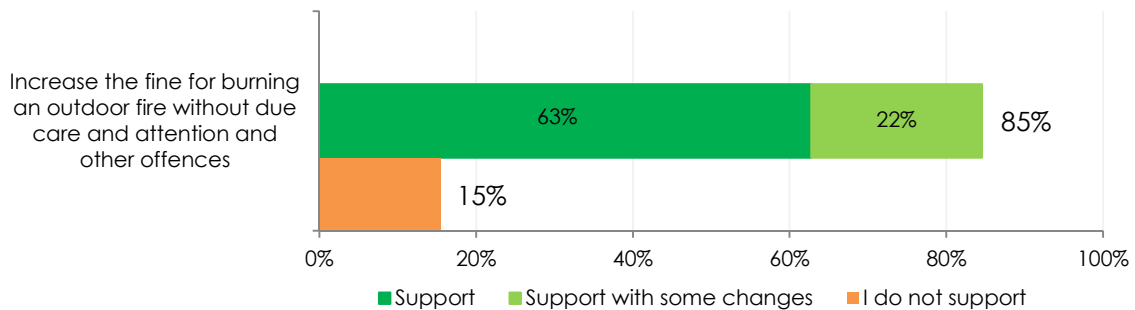
In recent years, several of the largest wildfires in Alberta were the result of human activity. All human-caused wildfires are preventable. These wildfires threatened human lives and communities, required the evacuation of local residents and cost millions of dollars to extinguish.

Currently, maximum fines in the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations Part I are set at \$5,000 for burning an outdoor fire without due care and attention and \$1,000 for other offences.

Proposed amendments to the Regulations Part I would increase the maximum fine for burning an outdoor fire without due care and attention from \$5,000 to \$100,000 for an individual and from \$5,000 to \$1,000,000 for a corporation. The maximum fine for other offences (for further details please see the Act) would increase from \$1,000 to \$50,000 for an individual and from \$1,000 to \$500,000 for a corporation. The proposed fines will align with maximum fines for comparable offences under other Alberta legislation.

What is your level of support?

Figure 1. Increase fine for human-caused wildfires and other offences



Level of support	Number	%
Support	317	63
Support with some changes	110	22
I do not support	78	15
Total	505	100
Uncertain	18	
No response	15	

Analysis

The majority of respondents (85%) either supported the proposed amendment (63%) or supported the amendment with some changes (22%) (See Figure 1). Those who supported the amendment felt that higher fines will act as a deterrent, increase accountability and awareness and aide cost recovery to wildfire damage. The main argument for not supporting the proposed amendment is that the proposed fine increase to individuals is too high.

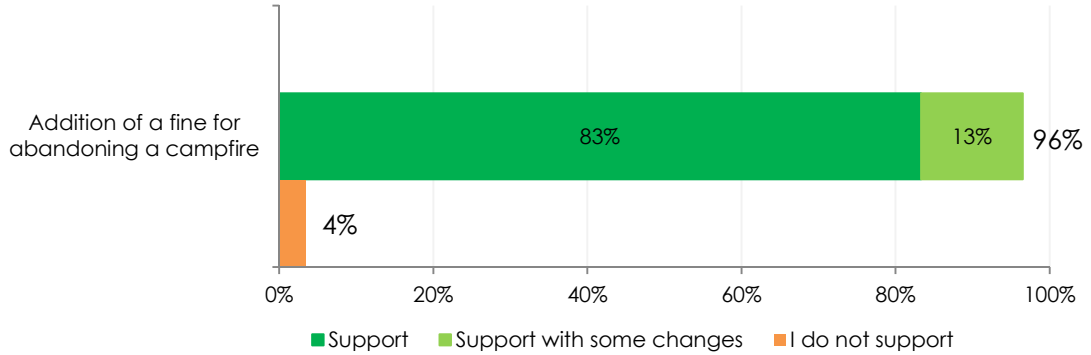
The most frequently mentioned reasons for supporting or not supporting the amendment, along with sample comments are displayed in the following page (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Comments - Increase fine for human-caused wildfires and other offences

Support Number = 265 (84%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase compliance/ Greater deterrent 	85	32	"Need a good strong deterrent" "I think the threat of really high fines will help people think before leaving fires unattended."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase accountability/take responsibility for consequences 	76	29	"People must be responsible for their actions; and accountable."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aid with suppression and remediation cost 	40	15	"Fines are currently too low and do not reflect the costs of extinguishing fires or manning-up to prevent reoccurrence."
Support with some changes Number = 88 (80%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fine increase is too high for individuals 	34	39	"I think \$100,000 is too much for an individual. It could bankrupt them for life." "Individual fines are too high. 5,000 to 100,000? Maybe 5000 to 20,000 for individual, who can afford 100,000 its not realistic. Corporation fine amount is fine."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase is too high 	19	22	"I think the fines should be increased but the proposed increases seem to be a huge jump. Maybe they could be increased by a smaller percentage?"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fines should be specific to the situation 	9	10	"Fines should be based on outcome of the fire and not for fires with no environmental damage. People leaving unattended fires should face full fine."
I do not support Number = 66 (85%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fine increase is too high 	26	39	"The 20 fold and 200 fold increase in fines are not justifiable or reasonable increases to the fine structure."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fine increase is too high for individuals 	19	29	"I believe a potential \$100,000 fine for an accidental fire would be devastating to an outdoorsmen."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Require more clarity/guidelines on when fines are applicable 	7	11	"Process for determining blame is unclear and at government discretion."

In the future, would you support the addition of a fine to the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations for abandoning a campfire?

Figure 3. Addition of a fine for abandoning a campfire



Level of support	Number	%
Support	384	83
Support with some changes	61	13
I do not support	16	4
Total	461	100
Uncertain	21	
No response	56	

Analysis

More than nine in ten respondents (96%) either supported the proposed amendment (83%) or supported the amendment with some changes (13%) (See Figure 3). Supporters indicated that the amendment would increase accountability/responsibility for negligence and compliance and would reduce human caused wildfires.

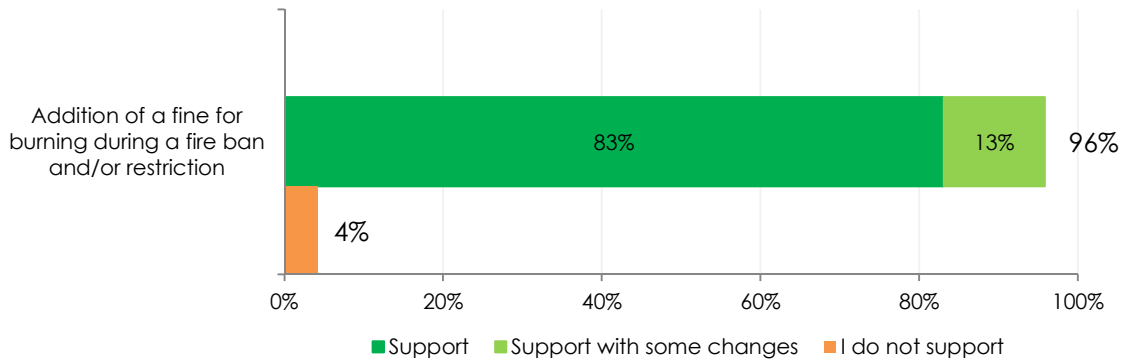
The most frequently mentioned themes are summarized in Figure 4.

Figure 4. Comments - Addition of a fine for abandoning a campfire

Support Number = 317 (83%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase accountability/ Responsible for negligence 	96	30	"Because it is an obvious irresponsibility to leave a fire unattended and there should be consequences as such." "There has to be some accountability."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce human-caused wildfires 	68	21	"I have seen too many smoldering after campers have left." "Abandoned campfires are completely preventable. There is some public perspective that someone else will come to clean up after them. Unfortunately people won't care unless it directly affects them either because the wildfire got away and burnt their property or through their wallet."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase compliance/ Act as a deterrent 	39	12	"No one should leave a campfire unattended. A reasonable fine of a several hundred dollars would be in order as a deterrent for those caught doing so." "It should be the campers due diligence to put out a fire. Without a fine or regulation people will neglect to do this."
Support with some changes Number = 56 (92%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need more clarity on what abandon means 	12	21	"The definition of 'abandon' should be clearly defined. Not ambiguous and up to interpretation."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Should be context specific 	11	20	"I would only support it if the campfire was in a location that was causing risk (If it is located in a safe location, then it should not be finable)."
I do not support Number = 11 (69%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Difficult to enforce 	3	27	"Very hard to place blame on someone who had a fire in the bush who's to say someone else didn't come and use the site."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emphasis should be education 	2	18	"I used to fight forest fires and I saw many people leave fires because they didn't know any better. They actually thought it was out. Education works better than punishment."

In the future, would you support the addition of a fine to the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations for burning during a fire ban and/or fire restriction?

Figure 5. Addition of a fine for burning during a fire ban and/or fire restriction



Level of support	Number	%
Support	378	83
Support with some changes	58	13
I do not support	19	4
Total	455	100
Uncertain	17	
No response	66	

Analysis

Almost all (96%) respondents supported this proposed amendment fully (83%) or with changes (13%). The most frequently mentioned themes to support the amendment were people should comply with the ban/law and increased accountability/ responsibility for negligence. Respondents who supported the amendment with changes indicated that certain situations might have to be treated at an individual basis.

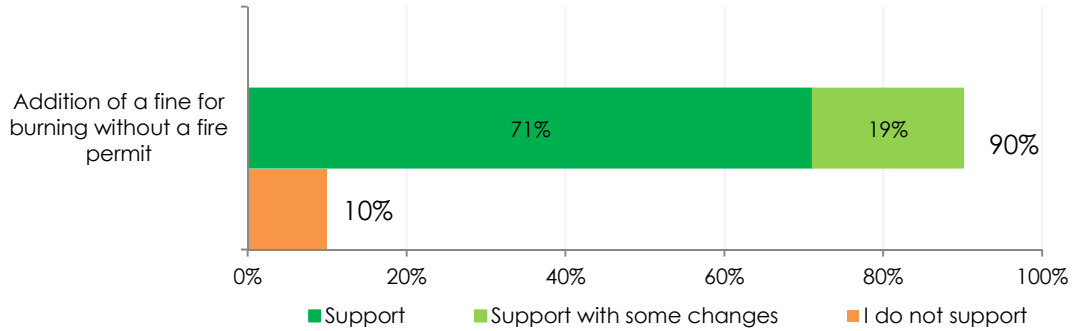
Additional themes can be found in Figure 6.

Figure 6. Comments - Addition of a fine for burning during a fire ban and/or fire restriction

Support Number = 296 (78%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People should comply with the ban/law 	67	23	"It is a law and needs to be followed." "Fire ban = no fire"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase accountability/Responsible for negligence 	62	21	"Burning while there is a fire ban is in direct contravention of a safety initiative and is negligent. This act puts countless lives and property in jeopardy."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase compliance/ Greater deterrent 	53	18	"Increasing the penalty amounts will provide increased monetary incentive to comply with legislation."
Support with some changes Number = 53 (91%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Should be context specific 	21	40	"Individual assessment of each situation." "Need to have some flexibility depending on the situation."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Restrictions need to be communicated 	7	13	"Need to ensure communication and awareness campaigns are in place and addresses issues of restrictions when burning."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Party must be aware of ban to receive a fine 	6	11	"As long as it is proven that the individual was aware of the ban."
I do not support Number = 12 (63%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Too much confusion around when bans are in place 	5	42	"We live in the forest and are often not aware of fire bans until a few days after they start."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Should be context specific 	3	25	"Fire bans are too large of a coverall designed to capture the lowest common denominator and do not account for local conditions or individual care."

In the future, would you support the addition of a fine to the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations for burning without a fire permit?

Figure 7. Addition of a fine for burning without a fire permit



Level of support	Number	%
Support	286	71
Support with some changes	76	19
I do not support	40	10
Total	402	100
Uncertain	55	
No response	81	

Analysis

A majority of respondents supported the proposed amendment (71%). About one-in-five (19%) respondents supported the amendment with some changes. Suggested changes by respondents indicated that specific situations should be evaluated individually and that more clarity and information regarding permit requirements are needed.

Additional themes are summarized in Figure 8.

Figure 8. Comments - Addition of a fine for burning without a fire permit

Support Number = 203 (71%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support safe burning 	43	21	"Permits allow for better control of fire hazard situations and better ensures that individuals are aware of safety issues."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase compliance/Greater deterrent 	36	18	"To deter people from breaking the law!"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase accountability/Responsibility 	34	17	"Due diligence is necessary in all aspects of life. If there is a permitting process that should ensure that care has been taken to address all hazards and that someone can be held accountable."
Support with some changes Number = 70 (92%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Situations should be evaluated individually 	18	26	"Support the fine for some situations such as blatant disregard or intentional burning. Should be room for discretion for unexpected or accidental occurrences where a fine may not be warranted."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More clarity on permit requirements 	10	14	"Need more specifics on what fires would require a burn permit. Campfires should not be included."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness and communication 	10	14	"I would support this if the proper out reach for letting people know they need a permit is implemented. I think rurally many people don't realize they need a permit."
I do not support Number = 33 (83%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Permits should not be required 	10	30	"Don't think fires should require a permit."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Permit regulations too vague 	5	15	"Because you are not specifying burning does it mean campfire, cooking fire, heat fire."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Situations should be evaluated individually 	4	12	"A fire permit should not be required for all burning, just burning when the risk is high. Fire permits for all fires will create excessive and needless paper work."

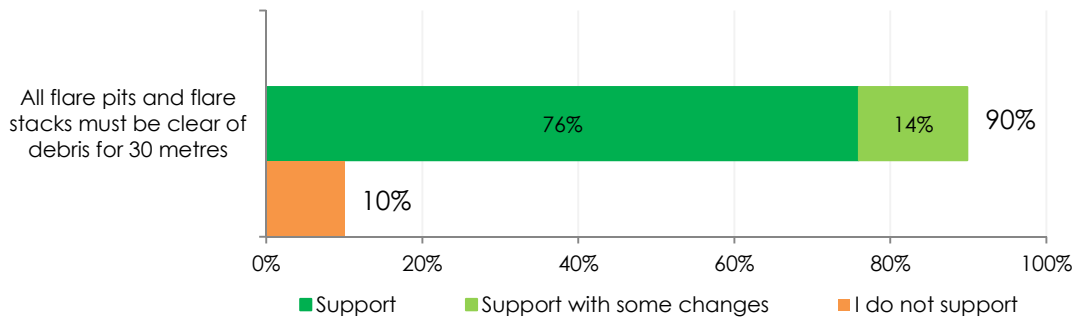
■ OPERATIONAL AMENDMENTS

The current regulations state that flare pits must not have combustible debris within 30 metres. Sour gas flare stacks must be clear of debris for a distance of 2.5 times the height of the stack.

A proposed amendment to the regulations would require that all flare pits and flare stacks be clear of debris for 30 metres. This amendment is intended to ensure consistency and ease for both industry and government to administer.

What is your level of support?

Figure 9. All flare pits and flare stacks must be clear of debris for 30 metres



Level of support	Number	%
Support	278	76
Support with some changes	51	14
I do not support	37	10
Total	366	100
Uncertain	88	
No response	84	

Analysis

Nine-in-ten respondents either supported the amendment (76%) or supported the amendments with changes (14%). Those who supported the amendment attributed their support to the consistency that would result from applying the amendment and the level of reasonableness, clarity and simplicity of the amendment. Those who supported with amendments indicated that specific circumstances should be considered where the 30 metre rule may not apply.

Additional comments provided by respondents are themed in Figure 10.

Figure 10. Comments - All flare pits and flare stacks must be clear of debris for 30 metres

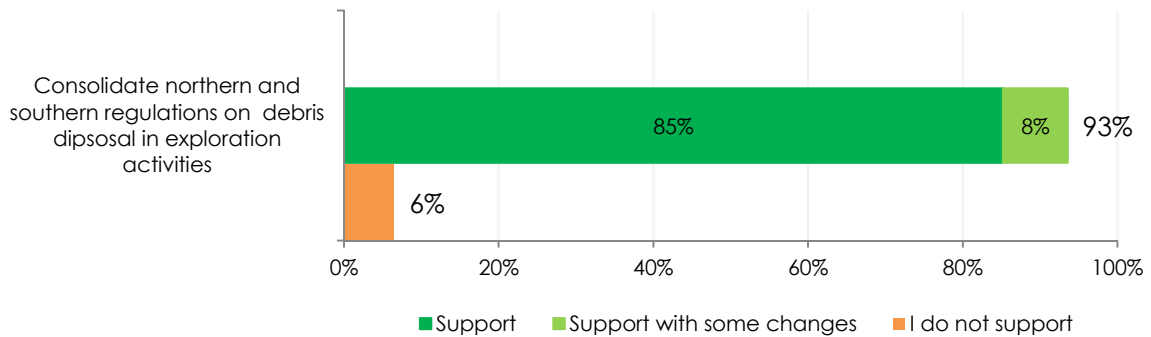
Support Number = 191 (69%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistency of requirement 	56	29	"Allows for consistency and easy implementation." "Standardizing is always good to keep things consistent."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logical 	42	22	"The alignment makes sense." "Simple straight forward regulations are almost always better."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easy to understand 	42	22	"Clear rules are easier to enforce."
Support with some changes Number = 50 (98%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should depend on specific environment/30 metres may not be sufficient 	38	76	"There needs to be an acknowledgement of landscape fragmentation and a hazard rating system based on topography and fuel typing around the flaring systems."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General comments 	6	12	"Agriculture and Forestry has had a long history of poor enforcement and compliance monitoring."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flare pits are no longer used 	4	8	"Flare pits are all but gone in the oil industry."
I do not support Number = 34 (92%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No need to change existing regulation 	11	32	"I believe the guidelines are correct now." "There is no reason for this amendment, flares aren't a big problem"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 30 metres clear of debris distance 	9	26	"Precautionary principle should apply – if a stack is 20m tall, I'd be more in favour of a 50m radius around it than a 30m radius."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depends on other factors 	5	15	"This will likely create a bigger impact for oil and gas sites. Better to look at risk on each site as opposed to blanket legislation." "Clearing of a flare stack area needs to be sensitive to the fuel type surrounding it and risk associated and needs to have some flexibility that incorporates"

The current regulations for debris disposal in exploration activities are different for northern and southern parts of Alberta. The application of this section is no longer valid within current practices for both industry and government.

The proposed amendment for debris disposal in exploration activities would consolidate the regulation into one section, removing the northern and southern distinctions make it consistent and more reflective of the current practices throughout Alberta.

What is your level of support?

Figure 11. Consolidate northern and southern regulations on debris disposal in exploration activities



Level of support	Number	%
Support	305	85
Support with some changes	30	8
I do not support	23	6
Total	358	99*
Uncertain	86	
No response	94	

*adds up to 99 due to rounding.

Analysis

The majority of respondents (93%) supported the proposed amendment. Those who fully supported the amendment (85%) mentioned "consistency" most frequently for their decision of support. Those who did not support the amendment cited that regional differences are too important to ignore and not consider.

Additional themes are summarized in Figure 12.

Figure 12. Comments - Consolidate northern and southern regulations on debris disposal in exploration activities

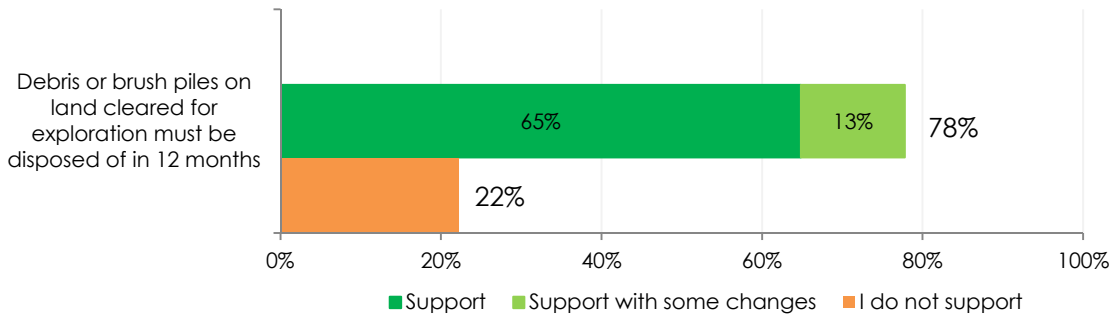
Support Number = 218 (71%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistency/less confusion 	163	75	"Consistency would allow for easier enforcement/compliance/education."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendment makes sense 	26	12	"This makes sense."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other 	11	5	<p>"Don't create programs that require constant interpretation."</p> <p>"Time to update the regulations for what is actually happening on the landscape."</p> <p>"Let's get irresponsible back country campers shooting at flammable targets made responsible and accountable. Please!"</p>
Support with some changes Number =29 (97%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should be environment/location specific 	14	48	"In many cases a greater distance is not practical on leases due to space considerations."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional considerations should be looked at before proceeding 	9	31	<p>"Ensure that this is done in lock-step with industry stakeholders."</p> <p>"There is no allowance in the amendments for the safe use of coarse woody materials for reclamation and access management. If there are no allowances built into the regulations then this strategy will not be allowed for restoration and access management. A task group had been struck to resolve this but it would appear that these discussions did not result in any changes in the regulations to allow for this in the future."</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debris is loosely defined 	5	17	"What is the definition of debris? The differentiation of North and South should not happen. we are all one province, follow and set the same rules for everyone."
I do not support (n = 21) Number =21 (91%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional differences 	21	100	"North and south Alberta have major population, geographical and industrial differences. One size does not fit all."

Currently, debris or brush piles on land cleared for exploration must be disposed of within 18 months. Approval from a Forest Officer is required to extend this time period.

The proposed amendment would require debris to be disposed of within 12 months. A Forest Officer may approve an extension to a maximum one year period with an approved plan. This change is intended to reduce the fire hazard caused by long standing debris piles sooner and will lead to consistency with all debris disposal.

What is your level of support?

Figure 13. Debris or brush piles on land cleared for exploration must be disposed of in 12 months



Level of support	Number	%
Support	260	65
Support with some changes	52	13
I do not support	89	22
Total	401	100
Uncertain	35	
No response	102	

Analysis

Just over three-quarters (78%) of respondents support the amendment (65%) or support the amendment with some changes (13%) (see Figure 13). Those who supported the amendment alluded to the benefit of fire risk reduction as a result of the proposed change. Those who opposed the amendment had particular concerns over the proposed 12-month period.

Additional themed comments are summarized in Figure 14.

Figure 14. Comments - Debris or brush piles on land cleared for exploration must be disposed of in 12 months

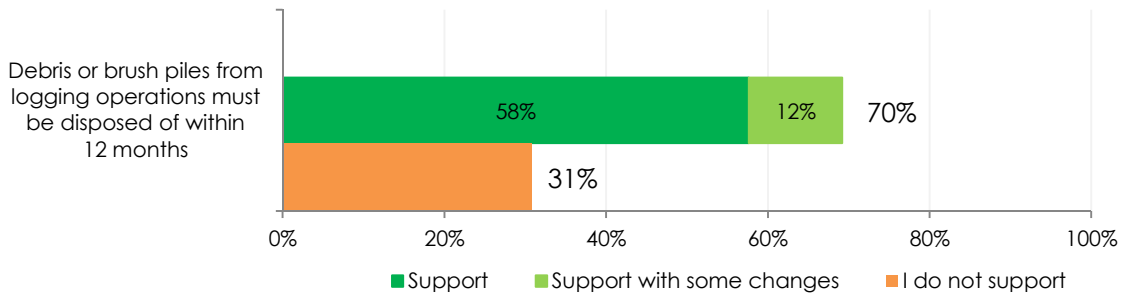
Support Number = 178 (68%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces risk and fire hazard 	60	34	"Removing those fuels in a safe and timely manner should only prove to reduce wildfire risk and hazard."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed time is sufficient 	50	28	"12 months is long enough to clean these up."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair and reasonable amendment 	35	20	"This seems reasonable." "Sounds like it makes everyone's job easier." "It's fair its reasonable, sometimes unforeseen circumstances set it and it cannot be burned in one year (no snow), the extra years grace can make the difference and shows that we are working with the company/individual. Strive for 12 months for sure, but be reasonable and grant a one time, one year extension if required."
Support with some changes Number = 48 (92%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern with proposed 12-month timeline 	17	35	"I'm unsure if 12 months is enough time for debris disposal, considering this has traditionally been done during the winter months."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns with the possibility of allowing extensions 	6	13	"No approval for extensions. Every company will eventually want extensions, and we always give extensions if it's an option. If we do for one, we do for all. That will negate the point of the amendment."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexibility is needed 	6	13	"May need some discretion in some circumstances."
I do not support Number =77 (87%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns with proposed 12-month timeline 	41	53	"Green debris takes two summers to dry here before it can be easily burned. 18 months makes more sense to allow for that."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficult to implement 	10	13	"Difficult to burn some piles until they are cured. May end up with some incomplete pile burning which may be a bigger problem."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not enough science /evidence to support amendment 	7	9	"Would need to see empirical evidence that exploration debris have been direct causes of previous forest fires." "What does science say on time to dry by fuel type ex conifer vs decide??" "Again, no statistics implies you have none to back up the need for change."

Currently, debris or brush piles from logging operations must be disposed of within 24 months. Approval from a Forest Officer is required to extend this time period.

The proposed amendment would require debris to be disposed of within 12 months. Approval from a Forest Officer would be required to extend this time period. This change is intended to reduce the fire hazard caused by long standing debris piles and will lead to consistency with all debris disposal.

What is your level of support?

Figure 15. Debris or brush piles from logging operations must be disposed of within 12 months



Level of support	Number	%
Support	234	58
Support with some changes	47	12
I do not support	125	31
Total	406	101*
Uncertain	22	
No response	110	

* adds up to 101 due to rounding.

Analysis

Just over two-thirds (70%) of respondents supported the proposed amendment either as is (58%) or with some changes (12%). Respondents who voiced their support to the amendment indicated the amendment would contribute to fire hazard reduction while those who opposed the amendment mentioned that more than the proposed 12 months is often required.

Additional themes are summarized in Figure 16.

Figure 16. Comments - Debris or brush piles from logging operations must be disposed of within 12 months

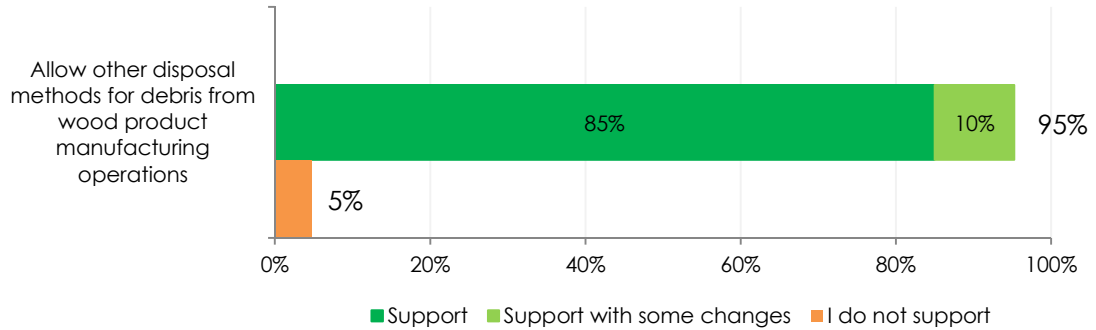
Support Number = 145 (62%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduces risk/fire hazard 	40	28	"Let's minimize the risk."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposed amendment creates consistency 	31	21	"The logging industry needs to have the same regulations as oil and gas."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Proposed time is sufficient 	26	18	"Again 12 months is long enough without undue burden. If they do not have time then they should not be logging so quickly. This debris poses a serious risk for fires, as well as slowing the rate of regeneration in the logging area."
Support with some changes Number = 37 (79%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concerns with proposed timeline/extensions 	20	54	"12 month maximum time, no extensions allowed at all."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concerns with regulation enforcement 	8	22	"Need to ensure that district offices are applying conditions and interpreting the regulation consistently."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General comments 	8	22	"Chip and spread or salvage."
I do not support Number =97 (78%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More time is required 	51	53	"Strict adherence to the 12 month rule would cause forest companies to dispose of green slash for fall harvested logs or take out permits to burn during September and October. Nothing wrong with the current rules. Need for more administration if logs become trapped - looking for extensions."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Difficult to enforce due to weather variations and other environmental factors 	12	12	"With weather and snow conditions being so variable it will be extremely challenging to achieve the 12 month window. This will result in many extensions being applied for and a lot of extra administration and in efficiency."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fire risk is overstated 	9	9	"I don't believe that brush piles increase fire risk."

Currently, regulations require that debris piles from wood product manufacturing operations are completely cleared. Fence post and power pole manufacturing operations are only permitted to burn debris piles.

The proposed amendment would allow for other disposal methods, such as mulching, that are currently employed by the industry and acceptable to government.

What is your level of support?

Figure 17. Allow other disposal methods for debris from wood product manufacturing operations



Level of support	Number	%
Support	323	85
Support with some changes	39	10
I do not support	18	5
Total	380	100
Uncertain	42	
No response	116	

Analysis

Overall, ninety-five percent of respondents either supported the amendment (85%) or supported with some changes (10%). Supporters indicated that the amendment allows for flexibility and that they are in favour of other debris disposal methods and that they do not generally support burning of debris.

Additional themes are found in Figure 18.

Figure 18. Comments - Allow other disposal methods for debris from wood product manufacturing operations

Support Number =212 (66%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
▪ Allows for flexibility/options	49	23	"More options at discretion of officer produce more intelligent results."
▪ Support mulching	48	23	"Mulching is an acceptable practice."
▪ Do not support burning	47	23	"Less burning, less risk."
Support with some changes Number =33 (85%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
▪ Mulching requires a disposal plan	10	30	"Mulching requires a disposal plan also to avoid creating another fire hazard. How would small operators dispose of their mulch"
▪ Environment should also be protected	7	21	"No mulching near water, flood areas etc. Or mulching of chemically treated power poles etc."
▪ General/other comments	6	18	"Create greater ability to choose other options without getting approval. GOA has limited capacity to grant approvals."
I do not support Number =13 (72%)	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
▪ Do not approve mulching	12	92	"Mulching does not dispose of the debris, it simply rearranges it. In more severe fire danger periods, the chips from mulching will dry and contribute to fire behaviour."
▪ Forest Officer related	1	8	"Due to the inexperience in FO's this would not be a sound decision to leave this (potentially very costly) in their hands. This decision would only increase cost, to industry already struggling in today's economy."

■ ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS

Several administrative amendments have been proposed to the regulations. These include:

- Changing “flare pit” to “flare facility” to be more inclusive.
- Starting the wildfire season on March 1 which is one month earlier than currently legislated.
- Other minor wording changes (see the discussion paper for details)

If you would like to comment on any of these items please do so here.

Figure 19. Comments – Comments pertaining to Administrative Amendments

Themes Number =170	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
▪ Agree that fire season should commence March 1	79	47	“March 1 is logical given our current dry conditions and future climate considerations.”
▪ Agree that “flare pit” should change to “flare facility”	39	23	“No one uses flare pits (very dangerous and lots of toxic residue on the ground) anymore - but flare facility is fine.”
▪ Agree with other minor wording changes	27	16	“Minor changes are supported.”
▪ Other/General	42	25	“Human wildfire needs to be avoided at all cost. When dealing with the public enforcement, fines and public humiliation are the only tools that will be effective. “

If you have any other comments about the Act, regulations, or the proposed amendments, please provide them in the space below.

Figure 20. Comments – Theme analysis of comments about the Act, regulations, or the proposed amendments

Themes Number =111	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additional proposed amendments to Forest and Prairie Protection Regulation Part I 	30	28	<p>“There is a correlation in the forests between explosive devices used in an area and fires started in that area. The B.C. Government has outlawed exploding targets and explosive devices on crown land because of the history of fires started by them. I hope Alberta follows B.C.'s direction to be fire safe and ban these explosives.”</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additional proposed amendments to the Act 	16	14	<p>“This Act focuses mostly on forest zones and only generally discusses prairie fire prevention and protection. This discrepancy needs to be addressed. Also, the requirements for fire prevention (e.g. what you need to carry in your vehicle) are quite different in prairie zones versus forested zones.”</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additional proposed amendments to Forest and Prairie Protection Regulation Part II 	15	14	<p>“The need to have firefighting equipment while travelling through the FPA is a bit out dated...I'm sure people on hwy 1 and 16 don't have any. why is pollution and erosion control in Part II of the regs? Should be EPEA.”</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General comments 	52	47	<p>“Enforce the current regulations that adequate. Oh yeah, I forgot, that would cost the government money and bureaucracy and interference in people's lives is what freedom is all about. Not actual results.”</p>

If you have any other comments or concerns about the Forest and Prairie Protection Act, please share them here.

Figure 21. Comments – Theme analysis of comments about the Forest and Prairie Protection Act

Themes Number =47	Number of responses	Percent	Individual Sample Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additional proposed amendments to FPP Regulation Part I 	13	28	"Get tougher on OHV use, target shooting. Also, make logging follow same tough guidelines as other industries in the area."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additional proposed amendments to FPPA 	6	13	"Yes ! Get off the pot and do something about fireworks ! Guys can buy pyrotechnic targets and shoot them in an FPA legally! ! True. Nearest municipal fire department has nothing to say. Nice ! This Act is to protect the forest, not to make it easy to burn down !"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additional proposed amendments to FPP Regulation Part II 	2	4	"I recommend cleaning up the name of the regulations to align better with provincial legislation, by getting rid the 's' on Regulations and maybe combining the Part I and II (or coming up with a name that better describes the topic-based separation of the two regs)."
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Comments 	29	62	"I didn't want to pay to download the legislation." "Very happy to see this survey happening. May the powers to be continue down this path to protect Alberta lands for all user groups to make a living and enjoy for pleasure. A fair balance will be the challenge. All the best."

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Forest and Prairie Protection Act and Regulations Amendments

Introduction

We are seeking your input to inform the update of the Forest and Prairie Protection Act and associated regulations. You do not need to be familiar with this legislation and regulations to complete the survey.

The survey questions are divided into three categories:

- Fines
- Operational amendments
- Administrative changes

This survey closes on Friday, April 15, 2016. Your survey response needs to be completed and submitted by the closing date to be included in the summary that will be posted online.

If you have additional questions, contact information is provided in the attached discussion paper and at the end of the survey. Thank you for your support and input.

- [FPP Act and Regulations Parts I and II - Legislative Review and Regulatory Reform Discussion Paper](#) - Feb 26, 2016 (5 pages, <1 MB)

If you require more information about the Act and regulations, the current version is available here:

- [Laws Online Results: Forest and Prairie Protection Act and Associated Regulations](#)
http://www.qp.alberta.ca/570.cfm?frm_isbn=9780779784301&search_by=links

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Personal information you provide to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry for the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act* and Regulation Amendments Survey is collected under the authorization of Section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP) and is managed in accordance with Part 2 of the *FOIP Act*.

Your name and email address will be used by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry for the purpose of providing survey participants with a copy of the "What we Heard" report following the survey. Personal information will not be used or disclosed for any other purpose than stated, without written consent or unless required to do so by law.

Should you wish to have your personal information removed, corrected or have questions pertaining to the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act* and Regulations Amendments Survey, please contact us at the Provincial Forest Fire Centre (780) 427-6807.

Yes, I agree to voluntarily participate in this survey and understand how my responses will be used.

- Agree to participate
- Do not agree to participate

If agree – go to question 2

If do not agree – go to end thank you message (end of survey)

2. To help us understand how these amendments may affect you, please tell us if you participate in the following activities. Please check all that apply.

I participate in...

<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forestry	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mining	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oil and gas exploration or extraction	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commercial trapping, fishing or hunting	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Traditional trapping, fishing or hunting	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation sector (e.g. rail, trucking)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilities sector (e.g. power companies, telecommunications)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commercial recreation industry	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outdoor recreation such as camping, hiking, fishing	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Off-highway vehicle group or industry	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Indigenous based community or groups	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other group(s), please specify:	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other industry, please specify:	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please specify:	

Fines

In recent years, several of the largest wildfires in Alberta were the result of human activity. All human-caused wildfires are preventable. These wildfires threatened human lives and communities, required the evacuation of local residents and cost millions of dollars to extinguish.

Currently, maximum fines in the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations are set at \$5,000 for burning an outdoor fire without due care and attention and \$1,000 for other offences. Proposed amendments to the regulations would increase the maximum fine for burning an outdoor fire without due care and attention from \$5,000 to \$100,000 for an individual and from \$5,000 to \$1,000,000 for a corporation. The maximum fine for other offences (for further details please see the Act) would increase from \$1,000 to \$50,000 for an individual and from \$1,000 to \$500,000 for a corporation. The proposed fines will align with maximum fines for comparable offences under other Alberta legislation.

3. What is your level of support?

- Support. **(go to question 4)**
- Support with some changes. **(skip to question 5)**
- I do not support. **(skip to question 6)**
- Uncertain. **(skip to question 7)**

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Fines

4. Support. Why?

(Skip to question 8)

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Fines

5. Support with some changes. What are your recommended changes?

(Skip to question 8)

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Fines

6. I do not support. Why not?

(Skip to question 8)

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Fines

7. Uncertain. Why?

(Skip to question 8)

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Fines

8. In the future, would you support the addition of a fine to the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations for abandoning a campfire?

- Support. **(go to question 9)**
- Support with some changes. **(skip to question 10)**
- I do not support. **(skip to question 11)**
- Uncertain. **(skip to question 12)**

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Fines

9. Support. Why?

(Skip to question 13)

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Fines

10. Support with some changes. What are your recommended changes?

(Skip to question 13)

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Fines

11. I do not support. Why not?

(Skip to question 13)

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Fines

12. Uncertain. Why?

(Go to question 13)

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Fines

13. In the future, would you support the addition of a fine to the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations for burning during a fire ban and/or fire restriction?

- Support. **(go to question 14)**
- Support with some changes. **(skip to question 15)**
- I do not support. **(skip to question 16)**
- Uncertain. **(skip to question 17)**

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Fines

14. Support. Why?

(Skip to question 18)

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Fines

15. Support with some changes. What are your recommended changes?

(Skip to question 18)

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Fines

16. I do not support. Why not?

(Skip to question 18)

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Fines

17. Uncertain. Why?

(Go to question 18)

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Fines

18. In the future, would you support the addition of a fine to the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulations for burning without a fire permit?

- Support.(go to question 19)
- Support with some changes. (skip to question 20)
- I do not support. (skip to question 21)
- Uncertain. (skip to question 22)

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Fines

19. Support. Why?

(Skip to question 23)

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Fines

20. Support with some changes. What are your recommended changes?

(Skip to question 23)

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Fines

21. I do not support. Why not?

(Skip to question 23)

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Fines

22. Uncertain. Why?

(Go to question 23)

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Operational Amendments

The current regulations state that flare pits must not have combustible debris within 30 metres. Sour gas flare stacks must be clear of debris for a distance of 2.5 times the height of the stack.

A proposed amendment to the regulations would require that all flare pits and flare stacks be clear of debris for 30 metres. This amendment is intended to ensure consistency and ease for both industry and government to administer.

23. What is your level of support?

- Support.(**go to question 24**)
- Support with some changes. (**skip to question 25**)
- I do not support. (**skip to question 26**)
- Uncertain. (**skip to question 27**)

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Operational Amendments

24. Support. Why?

(Skip to question 28)

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Operational Amendments

25. Support with some changes. What are your recommended changes?

(Skip to question 28)

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Operational Amendments

26. I do not support. Why not?

(Skip to question 28)

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Operational Amendments

27. Uncertain. Why?

(Go to question 28)

Back Next

Operational Amendments

The current regulations for debris disposal in exploration activities are different for the northern and southern parts of Alberta. The application of this section is no longer valid within current practices for both industry and government.

The proposed amendment for debris disposal in exploration activities would consolidate the regulation into one section, removing the northern and southern distinctions make it consistent and more reflective of the current practices throughout Alberta.

28. What is your level of support?

- Support. **(go to question 29)**
- Support with some changes. **(skip to question 30)**
- I do not support. **(skip to question 31)**
- Uncertain. **(skip to question 32)**

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Operational Amendments

29. Support. Why?

(Skip to question 33)

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Operational Amendments

30. Support with some changes. What are your recommended changes?

(Skip to question 33)

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Operational Amendments

31. I do not support. Why not?

(Skip to question 33)

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Operational Amendments

32. Uncertain. Why?

(Go to question 33)

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Operational Amendments

Currently, debris or brush piles on land cleared for exploration must be disposed of within 18 months. Approval from a Forest Officer is required to extend this time period.

The proposed amendment would require debris to be disposed of within 12 months. A Forest Officer may approve an extension to a maximum one year period with an approved plan. This change is intended to reduce the fire hazard caused by long standing debris piles sooner and will lead to consistency with all debris disposal.

33. What is your level of support?

- Support.(go to question 34)
- Support with some changes. (skip to question 35)
- I do not support. (skip to question 36)
- Uncertain. (skip to question 37)

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Operational Amendments

34. Support. Why?

(Skip to question 38)

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Operational Amendments

35. Support with some changes. What are your recommended changes?

(Skip to question 38)

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Operational Amendments

36. I do not support. Why not?

(Skip to question 38)

Back Next

Operational Amendments

37. Uncertain. Why?

(Go to question 38)

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Operational Amendments

Currently, debris or brush piles from logging operations must be disposed of within 24 months. Approval from a Forest Officer is required to extend this time period.

The proposed amendment would require debris to be disposed of within 12 months. Approval from a Forest Officer would be required to extend this time period. This change is intended to reduce the fire hazard caused by long standing debris piles and will lead to consistency with all debris disposal.

38. What is your level of support?

- Support. **(go to question 39)**
- Support with some changes. **(skip to question 40)**
- I do not support. **(skip to question 41)**
- Uncertain. **(skip to question 42)**

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Operational Amendments

39. Support. Why?

(Skip to question 43)

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Operational Amendments

40. Support with some changes. What are your recommended changes?

(Skip to question 43)

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Operational Amendments

41. I do not support. Why not?

(Skip to question 43)

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Operational Amendments

42. Uncertain. Why?

(Go to question 43)

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Operational Amendments

Currently, regulations require that debris piles from wood product manufacturing operations are completely cleared. Fence post and power pole manufacturing operations are only permitted to burn debris piles.

The proposed amendment would allow for other disposal methods, such as mulching, that are currently employed by the industry and acceptable to government.

43. What is your level of support?

- Support. **(go to question 44)**
- Support with some changes. **(skip to question 45)**
- I do not support. **(skip to question 46)**
- Uncertain. **(skip to question 47)**

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Operational Amendments

44. Support. Why?

(Skip to question 48)

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Operational Amendments

45. Support with some changes. What are your recommended changes?

(Skip to question 48)

Operational Amendments

46. I do not support. Why not?

(Skip to question 48)

Operational Amendments

47. Uncertain. Why?

(Go to question 48)

Administrative Amendments

Several administrative amendments have been proposed to the regulations. These include:

- Changing “flare pit” to “flare facility” to be more inclusive.
- Starting the wildfire season on March 1 which is one month earlier than currently legislated.
- Other minor wording changes (see the discussion paper for details)

48. If you would like to comment on any of these items, please do so here.

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49. If you have any other comments about the Act, regulations, or the proposed amendments, please provide them in the space below.

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50. If you have any other comments or concerns about the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act*, please share them here.

Thank you for responding to this survey!

If you like to provide additional feedback, please contact:

Provincial Forest Fire Centre
9th floor, Great West Life Building
9920 108 Street
Edmonton, AB T5K 2M4
(780) 427-6807

APPENDIX B – STAKEHOLDERS LIST

I. GENERAL PUBLIC

The general public is informed through Alberta Government Public Consultation webpage, Wildfire Management webpage and HubSpot updates.

II. STAKEHOLDERS

A list of stakeholders who were informed about the survey through an email:

- 1) Forest industry:
 - Alberta Forest Products Association
 - Forest Industry Alliance of Alberta
 - Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta
 - Alberta Forest Industries
 - Alberta Pacific Forest Industries
 - Alpac Forest Products
 - Tolco Industries
 - Blue Ridge Lumber
 - Boucher Bros. Lumber
 - Brisco Wood Preservers
 - Crestview Sawmills
 - Crowsnest Forest Products
 - ED Bobocel Lumber
 - Evergreen Lumber
 - Foothills Forest Products
 - Fortis Alberta
 - J.H. Neilson Forest Products
 - Manning Diversified Forest Products
 - Medicine Lodge Timber Products
 - Red Rock Sawmills
 - Red Willow Timber
 - Spruceland Millworks
 - St. Jean Lumber
 - Ainsworth
 - Tall Pine Timber
 - Askee Development
 - Lone Pine Financial
 - Netaskinan Development Corporation
- 2) Oil and gas industry and regulators:
 - Canadian Association of Petroleum Producer
 - Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
 - Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors
 - Alberta Energy Regulator
 - Alberta Monitoring Evaluating and Reporting Agency
 - In Situ Oil Sands Alliance
- 3) Utility producers:
 - FortisAlberta
 - AltaLink

- ATCO Electric
- Equis
- 4) Rail industry:
 - Canadian National Railways
 - Canadian Pacific
- 5) Other Provincial Ministries:
 - Municipal Affairs
 - Energy
 - Environment and Parks
 - Aboriginal Relations
- 6) Municipalities:
 - Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties
 - Alberta Urban Municipalities Association
- 7) Hunters and Trappers:
 - Alberta Trappers Association
 - Alberta Outfitters Association
- 8) Recreation:
 - Alberta Off-Highway Vehicle Association
- 9) Non Profit
 - Pembina Institute
 - Alberta Fish and Game
 - Alberta Federation of REAs
 - Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies
 - Canadian Land Reclamation Association
- 10) Others
 - College of Alberta Professional Forest Technologists
 - Foothills Research Institute
 - Foothills Landscape Management Forum
 - Joint Environmental Professional Practices Board
 - FP Innovations
 - NAIT Forest Technology
 - Office of the Fire Commissioner
 - Alberta Fire Chiefs Association
 - Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
 - Western Partnership for Wildland Fire Science
 - Alberta Grazing Leaseholders Association
 - Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors
 - Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association
 - Environmental Services Association of Alberta
 - Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
 - EDFOR Co-operative

III. INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

The survey was distributed through an email to the following Indigenous communities:

- 1) Treaty 6 First Nation
 - Alexander First Nation
 - Beaver Lake Cree Nation
 - Cold Lake First Nation
 - Enoch Cree Nation #44
 - Ermineskin Tribe

- Frog Lake First Nation
 - Heart Lake First Nation
 - Kehewin Cree Nation
 - Louis Bull Tribe
 - Montana First Nation
 - O'Chiese First Nation
 - Onion Lake Cree Nation
 - Paul First Nation
 - Saddle Lake Cree Nation
 - Samson Cree Nation
 - Sunchild First Nation
 - Whitefish Lake Indian Reserve #128 (Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation)
- 2) Treaty 7 First Nation
- Blood Tribe
 - Piikani Nation
 - Siksika Nation
 - Stoney (Bearspaw) Band
 - Stoney (Chiniki) Band
 - Stoney (Wesley) Band
 - Tsuut'ina Nation
- 3) Treaty 8 First Nation
- Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
 - Beaver First Nation
 - Bigstone Cree Nation
 - Chipewyan Prairie First Nation
 - Dene Tha' First Nation
 - Driftpile First Nation
 - Duncan's First Nation
 - Fort McKay First Nation
 - Fort McMurray #468 First Nation
 - Horse Lake First Nation
 - Kapawe'no First Nation
 - Little Red River Cree Nation
 - Loon River First Nation
 - Lubicon Lake Band
 - Mikisew Cree First Nation
 - Peerless Trout First Nation #478
 - Sawridge First Nation
 - Smith's Landing First Nation
 - Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation
 - Sucker Creek First Nation
 - Whitefish Lake First Nation
 - Woodland Cree First Nation
- 4) Métis Settlements
- Buffalo Lake
 - East Prairie
 - Elizabeth
 - Fishing Lake
 - Giff Lake
 - Kikino
 - Paddle Prairie
 - Peavine

APPENDIX C –INDIGENOUS BASED COMMUNITY OR GROUPS AND FORESTRY STAKEHOLDER RESULTS

■ INDIGENOUS BASED COMMUNITY OR GROUPS

Table 2. Fines – Indigenous based community or groups

Fines	Support		Support with some changes		I do not support		Total ²		Uncertain	No response
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	Number
Increase the fine for burning and outdoor fire without due care and attention and other offences	11	50	5	23	6	27	22	100	1	2
Addition of a fine for abandoning a campfire	15	71	5	24	1	5	21	100	1	3
Addition of a fine for burning during a fire ban and/or fire restriction	13	65	5	25	2	10	20	100	1	4
Addition of a fine for burning without a fire permit	13	72	3	17	2	11	18	100	2	5

Table 3. Operational Amendments – Indigenous based community or groups

Operational Amendments	Support		Support with changes some		I do not support		Total ²		Uncertain	No response
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	Number
All flare pits and flare stacks must be clear of debris for 30 metres	8	53	6	40	1	7	15	100	4	6
Consolidate northern and southern regulations on debris disposal in exploration activities	10	63	5	31	1	6	16	100	3	6
Debris or brush piles on land cleared for exploration must be disposed of within 12 months	14	82	2	12	1	6	17	100	1	7
Debris or brush piles from logging operations must be disposed of within 12 months	12	75	2	13	2	13	16	100	1	8
Allow other disposal methods for debris from wood product manufacturing operations	11	73	3	20	1	7	15	100	2	8

² Due to rounding not all totals will sum to 100 percent

■ FORESTRY

Table 4. Fines - Forestry

Fines	Support		Support with some changes		I do not support		Total ³		Uncertain	No response
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	Number
Increase the fine for burning and outdoor fire without due care and attention and other offences	147	63	54	23	34	14	235	100	7	7
Addition of a fine for abandoning a campfire	186	84	29	13	6	3	221	100	10	18
Addition of a fine for burning during a fire ban and/or fire restriction	187	84	26	12	9	4	222	100	4	23
Addition of a fine for burning without a fire permit	150	76	36	18	12	6	198	100	21	30

Table 5. Operational Amendments - Forestry

Operational Amendments	Support		Support with some changes		I do not support		Total ³		Uncertain	No response
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	Number
All flare pits and flare stacks must be clear of debris for 30 metres	146	77	27	14	16	9	189	100	28	32
Consolidate northern and southern regulations on debris disposal in exploration activities	144	82	16	9	16	9	176	100	39	34
Debris or brush piles on land cleared for exploration must be disposed of within 12 months	104	52	31	16	65	33	200	100	13	36
Debris or brush piles from logging operations must be disposed of within 12 months	81	40	23	11	99	49	203	100	6	40
Allow other disposal methods for debris from wood product manufacturing operations	153	83	23	12	9	5	185	100	19	45

³ Due to rounding not all totals will sum to 100 percent