



Municipal Emergency Response – Request for Wildfire Assistance

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OFC Ops

Purpose: This Bulletin outlines how municipal fire departments request provincial assistance to support wildland firefighting efforts.

Scope: This applies to all requests from the municipal fire services or other local emergency services, in cooperation with the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) and the Manitoba Wildfire Service (MWS). This includes:

- Air support (air tankers or helicopters)
- Large, complex wildfires beyond the capacity of mutual aid
- Wildland Urban Interface threats (value protection)
- Fires moving to, or coming from, Crown Lands, Provincial Parks and Forests
- Requirement for specialized equipment such high-volume water supply

Procedure: Requests for assistance from municipal fire services or other local emergency services or authorities are to be directed through the OFC Duty Officer as the primary point of contact as follows:

Contact for Assistance:

- **OFC Duty Officer 1-888-389-3473 (24 Hours)** – preferred
- **E911 Dispatch via PSCS Request-To-Talk**
 1. Request the OFC Duty Officer to make contact.
 2. Requests for provincial assistance will be received from the Incident Commander (IC).
 3. The Incident Commander on scene must provide the following information:
 - a. Name of the department or agency requesting assistance
 - b. Callers name
 - c. Location of the incident; (GPS location if available)
 - d. Location of the Incident Command Post (ICP)
 - e. Contact phone numbers, VHF & PSCS radio channels if applicable
 - f. Nature of the incident and exposures threatened

The IC must determine the current or impending hazards and risks as part of size-up. This includes the fire spreading beyond control, risk to exposures and personnel, and resources requested.

The OFC and/or Manitoba Wildfire Service representative will work with the IC to determine need, type and availability of additional resources to support the request.

Communication

Options for fireground communication, decided by IC and OFC Duty Officer.

VHF PROV FIRE	Provincial Fire	
VHF PROV EMO	Interagency	Multiple Provincial Agencies
PSCS PROVINCIAL OPS	IAGE 1-6	Interagency
PSCS PROVINCIAL OPS	IAGE 7 & 8 (MWS Contact)	Interagency
PSCS PROVINCIALFIR2	WILDFIRE 1 & 2	Interagency Fire Operations

Air Attack

If warranted, the birddog aircraft leading any air tankers will look to establish air-to-ground communications on **VHF Provincial FIRE FM frequency 158.925 - Simplex**

An OFC or MWS staff member will be dispatched to the incident based on availability.

