How does the BC Wildfire Service predict the severity of a fire season?

This forecast was assessed by meteorologists and fire behaviour specialists who considered a range of environmental factors and observed weather data. This includes accounting for conditions that affect soil moisture, fine fuel dryness, and vegetation growth, which influence the amount of fuel available to burn.

What factors influence this prediction?

The severity of a fire season is highly dependent on local weather patterns, such as: timing and amount of precipitation, length of dry periods, thunderstorms, and wind events. Long-term weather models are useful to indicate trends and patterns over time, but daily weather cannot be reliably forecast much beyond a few days in advance. The BC Wildfire Service maintains its levels of preparedness by studying forecasts, referencing previous seasons, and analyzing trends to get a good indication of what to expect in the upcoming season. We will continue to collect data and utilize forecasting models to produce monthly updates of our seasonal outlooks.

What can people do to prepare for an upcoming fire season?

For information on how to promote wildfire resiliency within our forests and communities, visit:

www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention or www.FireSmartBC.ca