SLAVE LAKE
MAY 14 & 15 2011
In November of 2011 the RCMP’s initial investigation concluded the cause of this wildfire was ARSON.
## FIRE WEATHER MAY 14, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station ID</th>
<th>Max Temp</th>
<th>RH</th>
<th>Wind Speed</th>
<th>Gust</th>
<th>FFMC</th>
<th>DMC</th>
<th>DC</th>
<th>ISI</th>
<th>BUI</th>
<th>FWI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CY</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td><strong>36.9</strong></td>
<td>49</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>42</td>
<td><strong>109.2</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>193</td>
<td><strong>80.3</strong></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>213</td>
<td><strong>37.4</strong></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fine Fuel Moisture Code

FFMC May 15 AM
Build Up Index

BUI May 15 AM
Rate of Spread

ROS May 15 AM

Deployment 1
- Manned
- Unmanned
- Roads
- LSA
- Lakes

Rate of Spread 15 May 11 (RF)
- 0-1 (m/min)
- 2-4
- 5-8
- 9-14
- 15+
- No Data
Head Fire Intensity

HFI May 15 AM
15 minutes May 14, 2011
MAY 15 Evening
Air Tanker Action
EVACUATION
Government Centre
Immediate Needs

- Fire Closed All Three Highways Out of Town
- Evacuation of 14,000 people
- Temporary Staging of Evacuees with in Town
- Power, Gas, Telephone and Cellular Services Outage
- Evacuation of Seniors, Hospital Patients and those without transportation
- Shelter for displace people
Burn Area
Consequences of Fire

• Landfill Use
• Temporary Housing
• Infrastructure Damage
• Tax Roll
• Volunteer Fire Fighter Recruitment
• Social Problems
• Loss of Professional Staff
• Reconstruction Efforts (Structures)
• Vegetation Loss
• Loss of Regional Library
• Loss of Government Centre
• Loss of RCMP members
• Loss of 20 teachers
• Loss of 5 Doctors
• Loss of Municipal Workers
• Loss of Families
OVERALL GOAL

• To return Slave Lake to the same condition, with the same population, as before the fire.
• Estimated time frame – 5 years
• Estimated infrastructure redevelopment 7 years
Temporary Housing
9 MONTHS LATER

SOCIAL ISSUES

– Family Violence Crimes up 400%
– Youth Social Worker Intervention up 200%
– Increased alcoholism and mental health issues
– Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
– Loss of 2 churches
– Homeless (720 Families Displaced)
– Over 10,000 people evacuated in area
Financial Cost

- Insurance Bureau of Canada estimates payout by insurance companies to be over $700 million
- Funding from Alberta Government $289 million
- Donations Rotary - $1.5 million plus
- Donations Red Cross - $3.2 million
- Private Donations - $12 million (est.)

Overall cost will be over $1 billion!!
Re-construction Zoning

- Town divided into 4 zones based on the level of damage to infrastructure (roads, gas lines, water lines, sewage, electrical)
- All Zones cleared for re-construction
- 170 building permits handed out
- 74 houses under construction
Housing Challenges

• Families needing housing down from 370 to 200.
• October 31 all families requiring housing under a roof
• 4 areas being developed
  – Phoenix (hwy 88 east) 140 trailers
  – Fournier (ball diamonds) 78 trailers
  – Area 78 (across from ball diamonds) 72 trailers
  – SRD trailers – 14 trailers
Structural Losses

- 389 structures destroyed (town only)
- Includes
  - 2 churches
  - 1 bar
  - 6 apartment buildings
  - 1 library
  - 1 government centre
  - 5 businesses
CURRENT RECONSTRUCTION

• Of the 389 structures lost:
  – 309 houses have been through demolition
  – 6 lots have been abandoned
  – 74 Houses now are under construction
  – 170 Building Permits as of March 1, 2011
BURNED HOMES
BASEMENTS
SITE DEMOLITION
SITE ABANDONMENT
BURNED VEHICLES
METAL RECOVERY
Fire Smart Initiatives

- Hazard Identification in Region
- Vegetative Management
- Additional Fire Suppression Equipment
- Construction of Additional Egress Routes
- Home Owner Initiatives
- Hiring of Fire Smart Crew Cross Trained in Structural and Wild Fire
- Public Education
- Creation of Fire Smart and EOC Training Centre
- Back Up Generators
Fire Boss and Asphalt Siding
CEMENT BOARD
CHALLENGES

• Accommodation for population
• Accommodation for workers
• Tax Role and Long Term Costs
• Infrastructure Re-development
  – Utilities
  – Roads
  – Sidewalks
• Social Services
• Improving Public Communications
• High Intensity Residential Fire Building Code
The Positives

- Replacement of Recreational Facilities
- Establishment of Evacuation Centre
- Improved Infrastructure (roads, water, utilities)
- Establishment of the Fire Smart Regional Action Team (FRAT)
- Formation of Tri-Council (Town, MD and First Nation)
- Road Intersection Re-development
- Identification of Best Practices
THANK YOU

• Sustainable Resource Development
• Air Attack Officers and Tanker Pilots
• All Wildland Firefighters
• RCMP
• Response Fire Departments
• Alberta Emergency Management Agency

In Memory of Jean-Luc Deba