Yukoners deploy to Alberta with international incident management team

On June 26, Wildland Fire Management sent three staff to Alberta as part of an Incident Management Team (IMT) made up of Canadian and American staff. The IMT is made up of members of the Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement, which is commonly known as the Northwest Compact.

An IMT is a specialized leadership team assigned to coordinate responses to large wildfires. Yukoners will serve on the team as Planning Section Chief trainee, Facilities Unit Leader and Radio Operator. They will work alongside staff from Saskatchewan, Oregon, Montana, Idaho and Alaska.

This innovative approach to IMT staffing means a team can still be deployed when no agency is able to form its own team. This creative solution is a valuable contribution to this record-breaking fire season since IMTs are in high demand in several provinces.

The Northwest Compact is a collaborative agreement like the Canadian mutual-aid system organized through the Canadian Inter-agency Forest Fire Centre. The Northwest Compact's membership includes Alaska, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Montana, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

There are 32 Yukon wildland fire staff currently performing mutual-aid duties in Alberta, British Columbia and Quebec. A total of 101 staff have been assigned to such work so far in 2023. Wildland Fire Management continues to maintain a high level of initial-attack readiness across the Yukon <u>as the territorial fire season continues</u>.

Contact:

Fire Information Officer

867-393-7415 or yukonfireinfo@yukon.ca