

**Ministry of Natural
Resources**

Assistant Deputy Minister's
Office
Provincial Services Division

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Date: March 31, 2026

From: Amanda Holmes, Assistant Deputy Minister, Provincial Services Division,
Ministry of Natural Resources

Subject: **New regulations under the *Wildland Fire Management Act* (WFMA)**

We are writing to let you know that the Ministry of Natural Resources posted a regulation decision notice on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) today (see notice number [025-1041](#)) to support the modernization of wildland fire management.

Ontario is building stronger and more resilient communities by addressing the growing risks of wildland fires through regulatory changes that will enhance prevention, mitigation and response efforts across the province.

A decision was made to implement the following regulatory proposals:

- to establish a framework for issuing administrative monetary penalties (AMPs), and
- to make updates to the Outdoor Fires regulation.

On March 13, 2026, O. Reg. 44/26 ([Administrative Penalties](#)) was filed and takes effect April 1, 2026. This new regulation sets out the framework for issuing AMPs under section 35.2 of the *Wildland Fire Management Act* (WFMA). Under this regulation, an AMP may be issued for contraventions of the WFMA and its regulations.

On March 13, 2026, O. Reg. 43/26 ([Wildland Fire Management](#)) was filed and takes effect April 1, 2026. The changes to O. Reg. 207/96 (Outdoor Fires) were made by revoking the regulation and replacing it with the Wildland Fire Management regulation. The changes were made to help the ministry continue to safeguard public safety and the sustainable management of natural resources.

The ERO notice also included a proposal to prescribe the rates, terms and conditions for when equipment and operators are summoned to support wildland fire emergencies. The ministry is continuing to consider feedback received on this proposal. The ERO notice will be updated when a decision has been made.

If you have any questions about the Administrative Penalties regulation or the Wildland Fire Management regulation, you can reach out directly to the team at the Ministry of Natural Resources at wildlandfire@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Amanda' in a cursive style.

Amanda Holmes
Assistant Deputy Minister, Provincial Services Division
Ministry of Natural Resources