

5.—Forest Fire Losses, 1963 and 1964, compared with Ten-Year Average 1954-63

Item		Average 1954-63	1963	1964
Totals, Fires	No.	6,142	7,670	6,944
Fires under 10 acres.....	"	5,036	6,545	5,784
Fires 10 acres or over.....	"	1,106	1,125	1,160
Area Burned	acres	2,388,025	470,001	2,993,290
Merchantable timber.....	"	566,824	97,733	633,826
Young growth.....	"	609,557	114,336	634,179
Cut-over lands.....	"	317,216	63,465	32,082
Non-forested lands.....	"	994,428	194,417	1,643,203
Average Size of Fire	acres	389	61	431
Merchantable Timber Burned—				
Saw timber.....	M ft. b.m.	1,358,301	124,059	78,291
Small material.....	cords	2,921,547	743,150	3,209,499
Estimated Values Destroyed¹	\$	13,605,475	4,265,920	6,522,947
Merchantable timber.....	\$	9,401,355	2,640,283	4,715,002
Young growth.....	\$	2,655,960	785,651	1,222,675
Cut-over lands.....	\$	429,083	221,464	96,766
Other property burned.....	\$	1,119,077	618,528	483,504
Actual Cost of Fire Fighting	\$	5,661,610	4,772,714	4,430,041
Totals, Damage and Fire Fighting Cost	\$	19,267,085	9,038,640	10,952,988
Area under protection.....	sq. miles	..	1,402,185	1,514,924

¹ Figures do not include such values as damage to soil, stream-flow, wildlife, recreation and tourist facilities.

6.—Forest Fire Losses, by Province or Area, 1963 and 1964, compared with Ten-Year Average 1954-63

Province or Federal Lands	Average 1954-63			1963			1964		
	Fires	Area Burned	Fire Fighting Cost and Damage	Fires	Area Burned	Fire Fighting Cost and Damage	Fires	Area Burned	Fire Fighting Cost and Damage
	No.	acres	\$	No.	acres	\$	No.	acres	\$
Province—									
Newfoundland.....	196	121,471	939,446	109	5,196	26,922	131	358,215	1,758,489
Prince Edward Island.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nova Scotia.....	374	7,553	106,909	376	2,299	22,552	562	8,739	59,204
New Brunswick.....	272	12,647	206,967	376	2,388	38,885	512	5,770	96,729
Quebec.....	811	158,947	2,446,850	1,172	98,220	3,566,242	1,157	71,118	1,989,570
Ontario.....	1,408	205,197	5,362,601	1,885	56,138	1,831,430	1,829	28,124	1,243,675
Manitoba.....	356	503,029	1,194,138	443	70,477	188,912	581	836,278	1,182,812
Saskatchewan.....	228	283,758	809,893	255	141,507	772,746	460	1,174,174	1,893,394
Alberta.....	380	159,471	2,729,676	554	17,609	1,466,334	361	18,007	1,141,877
British Columbia.....	1,922	453,737	4,741,443	2,345	46,346	975,166	1,120	7,746	298,776
Federal Lands—									
Yukon Territory.....	62	191,194	276,392	44	11,679	55,615	25	480	4,019
Northwest Territories.....	78	284,413	410,050	69	19,897	89,194	162	470,484	1,102,737
National Parks.....	36	5,999	40,325	29	186	3,854	25	12,319	49,702
Indian lands.....	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Other federal lands (incl. military areas).....	19	609	2,595	13	59	798	19	1,336	32,004

¹ Not reported.

² Included in provincial figures.

In 1964, lightning accounted for 29 p.c. of all forest fires and 80 p.c. of the total area burned. Thus, almost three quarters of the fires but only one fifth of the area burned were ascribed to human error. Recreationists were responsible for the greatest proportion of man-caused fires.