

# JFR Crew Locations

## 2022 Locations and Descriptions

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In order to give applicants a better idea of where they may be stationed this summer, we have put together a list of the locations for the upcoming summer.

All JFR crews will take part in a core group of projects surrounding forestry and wildfire such as trail building, mill tours, learning about wildfire operations, invasive species and a few others. However, each forest area has a different set of projects, educational opportunities, recreational activities, firebase and landscape that make them unique to one another. No matter where you are stationed, you will have an incredible summer!

As indicated on the application, we take your top three choices into consideration; but this is not a guarantee. We also have to take into consideration the needs of the program to make sure we run a successful summer for all members and leaders.

Here is the list of areas you may be stationed at during the summer:

### Calgary

**JFR Base Name:** Blairmore Firebase (The Gap)

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** 20 minutes from town of Blairmore

**Brief Description:** The JFR cabins at the Blairmore FireBase were built in 2019 to provide the JFR crew with a space that is all their own. The members reside in one larger cabin while the crew leaders share another cabin. The leader cabin offers a shared-use space where the crew can participate in evening learning sessions or hang out. The firebase itself is VERY remote as it is nestled in the Livingstone Gap region of the southern Rocky Mountains. There are a variety of weekend recreation opportunities in the area including hiking, camping, and swimming. While the scenery and location is unique, participants applying to this region should be prepared for poor cell reception at the firebase!

### Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- Culture Camp on Blood Reserve
- Trail Building on Great Divide Trail
- Waterton Lakes National Park Seed Collection
- Work Exchange for Canoe/Kayak certification
- Wildfire Tower Climb and Tour

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## Fort McMurray

**JFR Base Name:** Grayling Firebase

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** 46km South of Fort McMurray

**Brief Description:** Grayling Firebase boasts easy access to nature with forest surrounding the base on all sides. There are trails through these forests that lead to Grayling creek. For those who enjoy soccer, Grayling has two nets on a smaller pitch. The kitchen facility and JFR cabins at Grayling are all new and modern (construction occurred in 2019). Additional room requirements are met using a sleeper trailer. All rooms are air-conditioned and comfortable. The base has a gym and a recreation room. The “rec room” has a ping pong table, pool table and TV. Nearby attractions include Macqua Lake Provincial Recreation Area, Gregoire Lake Provincial Park, and many other sights to see in Fort McMurray. Some highlights in Fort McMurray are the Oil Sands Discovery center, Macdonald Island Park (which has everything a sports enthusiast could want), two disc golf courses, and a fantastic network of hiking and biking trails in the Birchwood Trails. One hour north of Fort McMurray lies the Richardson Back Country and beyond that Fort Chipewyan – Alberta’s first European settlement. Come explore Northeastern Alberta and share a summer with us in Fort McMurray.

### Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- Weeklong Fort Chipewyan Trip
- Wildfire Pump Lab
- Syncrude Trail Maintenance
- Bird Banding with Owl Moon Environmental
- Northlands Woodland and Mill Tour

## Fox Creek

**JFR Base Name:** Fox Creek Firebase

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** 1km east of Fox Creek

**Brief Description:** The Fox Creek Firebase is tucked right off the highway just east of the town site. The unique JFR cabins were built in their own area on one side of the base where there is easy access to a campfire ring, equipment shed, and volleyball net. The town of Fox Creek offers an amazing leisure center and is in close proximity to many lakes for evening fishing/swimming. This crew spends a lot of time visiting neighboring towns for project work, so be prepared for longer car rides.

### Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- Mock Fire
- PAL/ATV License
- FireSmart with Whitecourt Fire Department
- Fish and Wildlife Officer Shadow Day
- Slave Lake Out-Trip

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## Grande Prairie

**JFR Base Name:** Graham Firebase

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** 38km south of Town of Grande Prairie

**Brief Description:** The Grande Prairie JFR Crew will be stationed at the Graham Firebase where they stay in small cabins and have their own area set aside for their use. Grande Prairie is home to several wonderful recreation areas including Muskoseepi Park, Kleskun Hills and Crystal Lake Waterfowl Refuge. Additional recreational opportunities include Saskatoon Island and the local farmers market.

### Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- A 2-4 day Tree Planting Trip with overnight camping component
- Various wildfire activities - FireSmart, Air Tanker Base Tour, Tower Lookout and other projects
- Forest Health and Wildlife Educational opportunities – Conservation officer ride-along, songbird data collection, invasive species removal
- Dinosaur Dig at the Philip J Currie Museum
- Indigenous Culture Camp

## High Level

**JFR Base Name:** High Level

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** <5 min from High Level

**Brief Description:** The High Level Firebase has ATCO style trailers and cabins set aside for the JFR crew. Tranquility, peacefulness, and the vast boreal forest that is truly Canadian are what is so impressive about High Level. The JFR crew might be treated to dazzling displays of the Northern Lights and a chance to see some of Canada's most spectacular wildlife.

### Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- Trail Maintenance with Rocky Land Agricultural Society
- FireSmarting in Fort Vermillion
- Wildfire Mop-up
- Margaret Lake Out-trip
- MARA Experimental Farm

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## High Prairie

**JFR Base Name:** High Prairie Firebase

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** 5km south of High Prairie Town site

**Brief Description:** The High Prairie Firebase has been retrofitted so that every room is rated for single occupancy (this includes an air conditioner in every room!). There is a recreation room and fitness room on base, as well as lots of lawn space to play volley ball, horseshoes, Frisbee, or bocce ball. The helipad is right next to the base so there will be ample opportunity to learn about helicopters and talk to pilots. The base is very quiet and you will have beautiful prairie scenery and sunsets to view. The town of High Prairie is only a 5 minute drive away where you can find a movie theatre and many lakes are a short drive away for weekend recreation.

### Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- Wildfire experience and helicopter ride
- Bird Banding at the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation in Slave Lake
- Fire tower and air tanker base tour
- FireSmarting with the Slave Lake Fire Department
- Invasive species identification and removal

## Hinton

**JFR Base Name:** Cache Percotte

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** 7km south of Hinton

**Brief Description:** Cache Percotte is located south of the town of Hinton and less than 30 mins from the Jasper border. Accommodations include individual cabins with a wash house. Meals are provided in town at the Hinton Training Centre. Nearby you'll find amazing mountain bike trails, hiking trails and a disk golf course. Only 20 mins away, Jarvis Lake has a swimming area and you can find great fishing holes all around Hinton.

### Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- Horse pack trip & trail clearing in the Willmore
- Mountain Pine Beetle helicopter flight
- White water rafting & trail building
- Butterfly counts and mushroom walks with AB Parks
- ATV/UTV training

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## Lac La Biche

**JFR Base Name:** Beaver Lake Fire Base

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** Lac la Biche 5 min away

**Brief Description:** The crew stays on the base in two bunkhouses specifically for the JFR crew. Beaver Lake Fire Base has a beautiful view of Beaver Lake with lake access for canoeing and beach activities. Close by is the Bold Center with indoor and outdoor recreation facilities such as a gym, indoor/outdoor basketball and courts, tennis courts, soccer field, ice rinks, curling rink, running track and more.

### Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- Paddle Canada Canoe Certification
- Visit to an Active Wildfire
- Tower Training and visit to Cowpar Tower via Helicopter
- Shaw Lake Legacy Trail project
- Fish and Wildlife Tour

## Peace River

**JFR Base Name:** Peace River Firebase

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** 5km from Peace River Town site

**Brief Description:** The Peace River firebase is near the Airport and is in close proximity to the town of Peace River. All facilities are provided at the base including a kitchen, rec room, and small gym. The town site boasts beautiful lakefront parks, farmer's markets, and the best thrift stores in rural Alberta. Weekend activities include paddling on lakes and rivers in kayaks, hiking up 'Misery Mountain', and enjoying local ice cream treats in Grimshaw.

### Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- Sulphur Lake Legacy Trail
- Mock Environmental Investigation
- Wildfire Mop-up and Tanker Tour
- Owl/Kestral Banding
- NAIT Boreal Research Institute Tour and Seed Collection

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# Rocky Mountain House

**JFR Base Name:** Shunda Firebase

**Distance from Nearest Town/City:** 36km from Nordegg

**Brief Description:** Each JFR member shares a small cabin with another member, tucked away in the woods beside the main initial attack fire base for the area. It is close to the mountains, famous Abraham Lake, Crescent Falls and many other natural attractions. There is a basketball court/hockey rink, full gym, large field for soccer and ultimate Frisbee, many close by hikes and fishing lakes and national historic sites.

## Top 5 JFR Crew Projects\*

- Assist Raven Brood Trout hatchery with fire smarting projects
- Participate in mop-up of a wildfire
- Assist Alberta Parks in construction projects
- Work with Fisheries to capture and collect data from lake fish
- Tour a forestry sawmill and learn how trees are utilized from log to board

\*Note that these projects are not guaranteed. Participation and scheduling of all projects is subject to staff availability, safety considerations, and budgets.

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