

Unprecedented Arctic wildfires

Wildfires ravaging parts of the Arctic are threatening to accelerate the melting of ice and permafrost – the permanently frozen ground layer – releasing greenhouse gases stored for thousands of years

Alaska: 700,000 hectares burnt – one of worst fire years on record

Siberia: 2.4 million hectares burnt – more than 140 million tonnes of carbon dioxide released

Northwest Territories: At least 45,500 hectares burned

