



# Wildfire Workshop

## Williams Lake March 12, 13 2019

Presentation by: **Khowutzun Forest Services**

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# Williams Lake Wildfire





# Khowitzun Forest Services (KFS) contract firefighting crews

- Est. 1999, partnership with Cowichan Tribes





# Cowichan Tribes

- Most populous First Nation in BC; pop 5000







Centred in the Cowichan valley,  
SE Vancouver Island







## Cowichan Tribes: young population

... looking for opportunities



## Socioeconomic profile:

- majority of population < 34 years of age
- high unemployment
- high reliance on social assistance
- still low rates of high school graduation

Median incomes significantly lower



# Khowitzun Forest Services (KFS)

- ▶ Established 1999, in partnership with Cowichan Tribes:
  - gainful employment for Cowichan Tribes members
  - forest management planning and silvicultural services to the forest sector
- ▶ Most successful company in Khowitzun Group of Companies
  - only company in KDC that has operated continually since 1999
- ▶ Services:
  - manual & chemical brushing
  - tree planting
  - browse guard installation, & removal
  - pile burning
  - pilot car operations
  - logging road traffic control
  - log washing
  - & fire fighting





# Khowutzun Forest Services





# Khowutzun Forest Services





# Fibre Recovery – Interface Areas





## KFS Warriors – Fire fighting crews

2018 – 9 crews sent to fight fires in Interior and North Island



# KFS Community Forest







KFS Community Forest



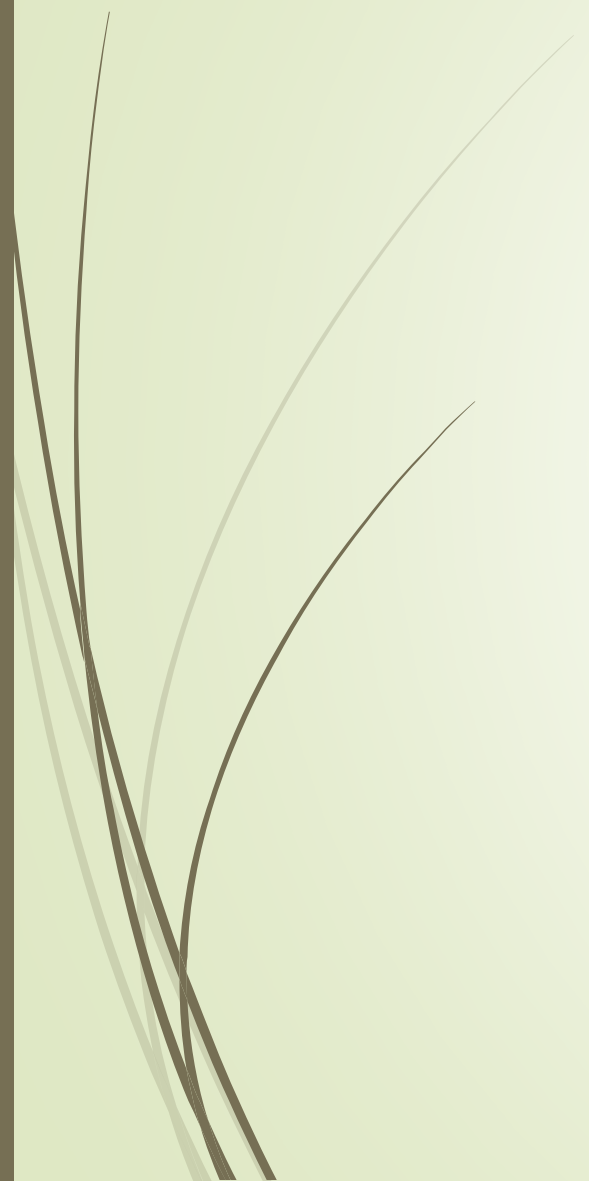




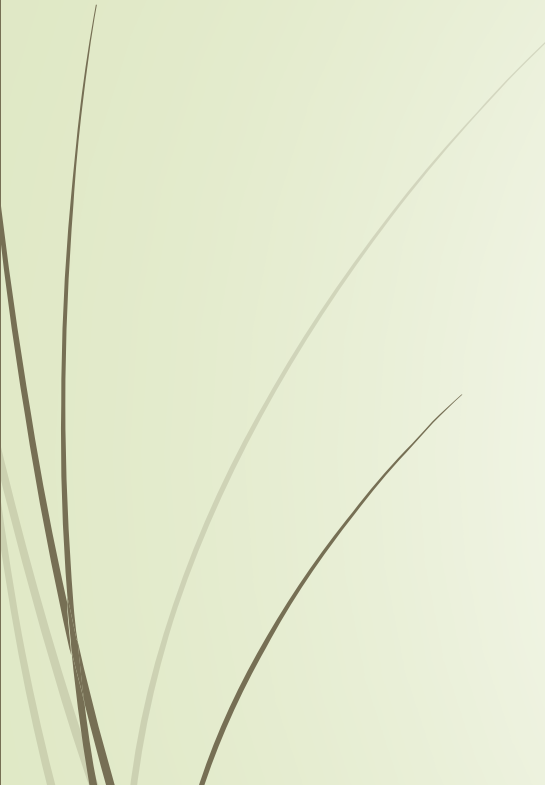




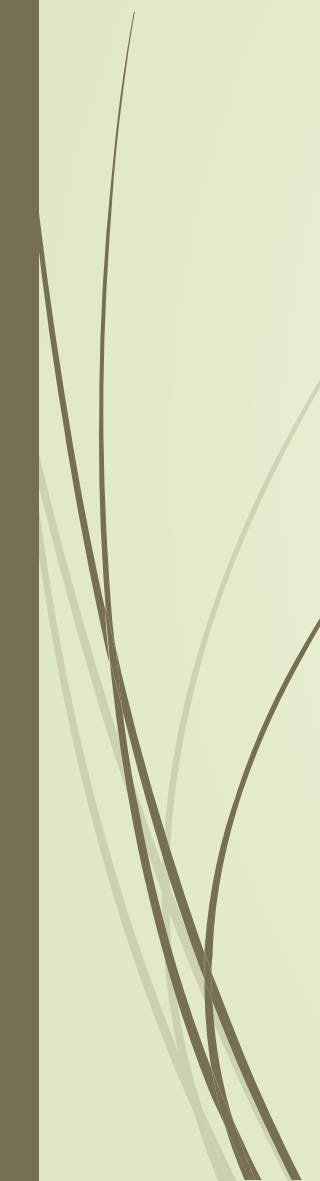




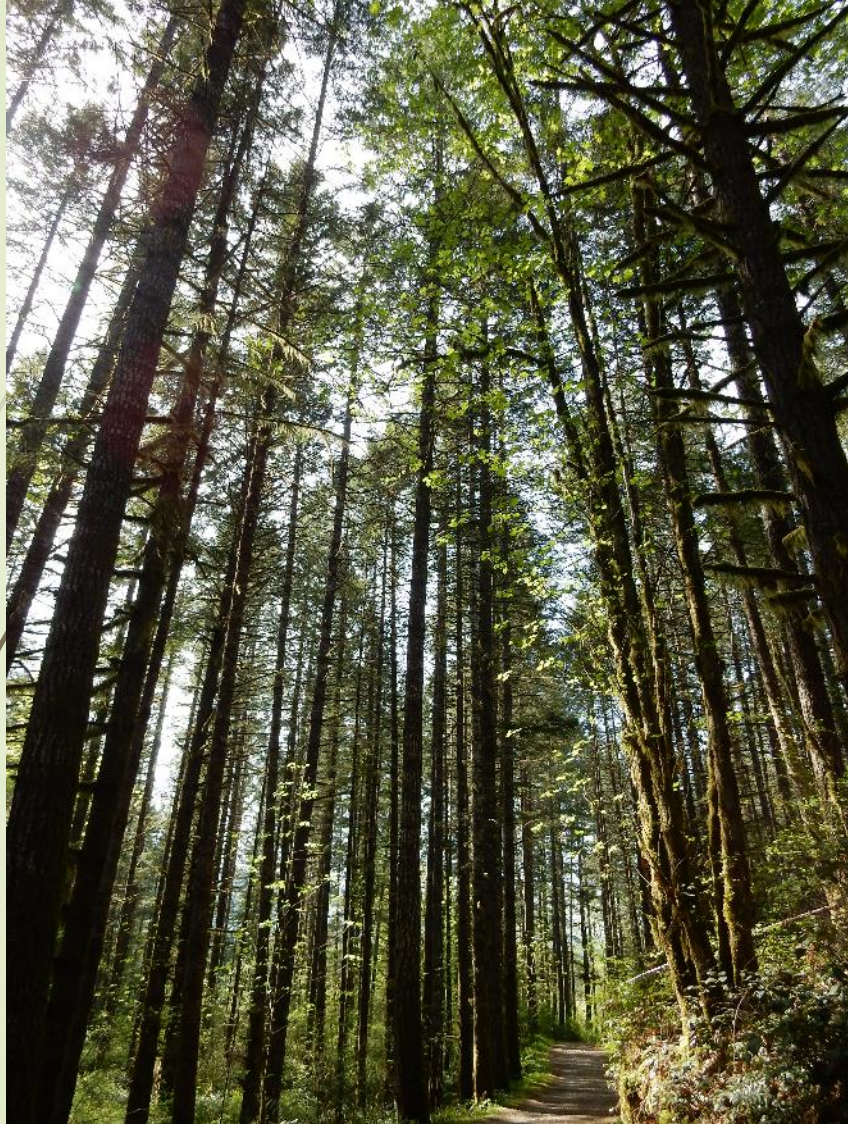




























**COMMUNITY  
FOREST**  
Licence K1K  
Unauthorized  
Wood Cutting  
is Prohibited

BC Timberland 250-740-4555



Fire Departments:  
We've been lucky so far...







Freshly rocks the woods in Cowichan Valley. [Learn more](#)  
Mustangs sneak into garden, political. [Watch page 2](#)

**Cowichan Valley Citizen**

**Aircraft battle Skutz Falls wildfire**

**The hottest paint jobs.**

**craftsman collision**







## KFS Firefighting contract crews

9 crews dispatched throughout province 2018



# Planning and Coordination





# 5 Person Fire Crew

- 1 crew leader
- 4 fire fighters

## Crew will have:

- 1 First Aid Attendant Level 1 w Transport Endorsement
- Power Saw Operator
- Pump Operator
- 1 Certified WDT Assessor





# Fire Fighter

- S100
- S185
- 5 days firefighting experience
- Annual Physical





# Crew Leader

- S100 Basic Fire Suppression
- S 185 Fire Entrapment Avoidance
- S212 Fire Line Communication
- S230 Introduction to Supervision
- S235 Burnoff and Backfires
- ICS 100

Crew Leader – 3 fires or 20 days as firefighter

Annual Physical Fitness





# Strike Team Leader / Task Force Leader

- S100 Basic Fire Suppression and Safety or equivalent (annual re-currency)
- S185 Fire Entrapment Avoidance
- S211 Fire Environment for Firefighters/Dispatchers
- S212 Fire-line Communications or Restricted Radio Operators License
- S213 Use of Bulldozers and Heavy Equipment
- Successful completion basic chainsaw operator's course or demonstrated experience as chainsaw operator
- ICS 100/200
- S230 Introduction to Supervision (Crew Boss)
- S235 Burn-off and Backfiring
- S241 Fire Assessment

Crew Leader 5 projects

Annual Physical Fitness Test







**Costs:** \$900 to suit up  
\$\$\$\$ Training  
\$400-\$2000 Mandatory Drug Testing

Significant Investments



# Stand-by woes



wet summers . . .

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## *Contracts*

new last year: Type 2 crew – w faller requirement







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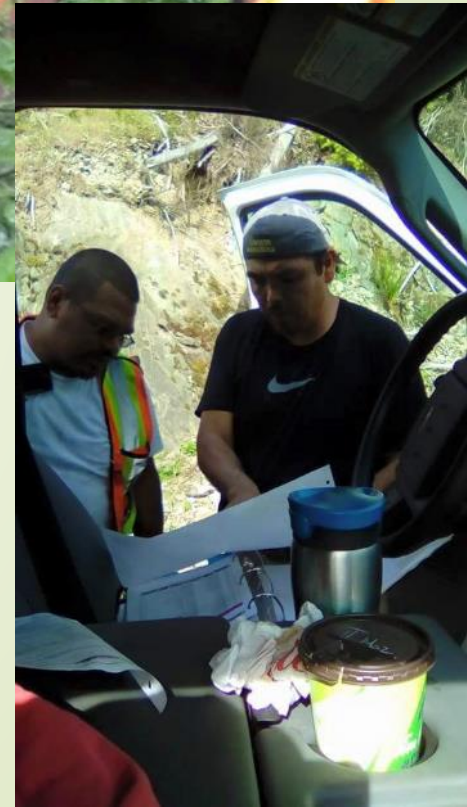
early February





















Hyy ch q'u  
Huy tseep q'u

