

Wildfires on Community Forests: Preparedness, Management and Recovery

Williams Lake, B.C.
March 11-13, 2019

SETTING THE CONTEXT: THE
UNPRECEDENTED WILDFIRE
SEASONS OF 2017 & 2018

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Photo: Ken Day

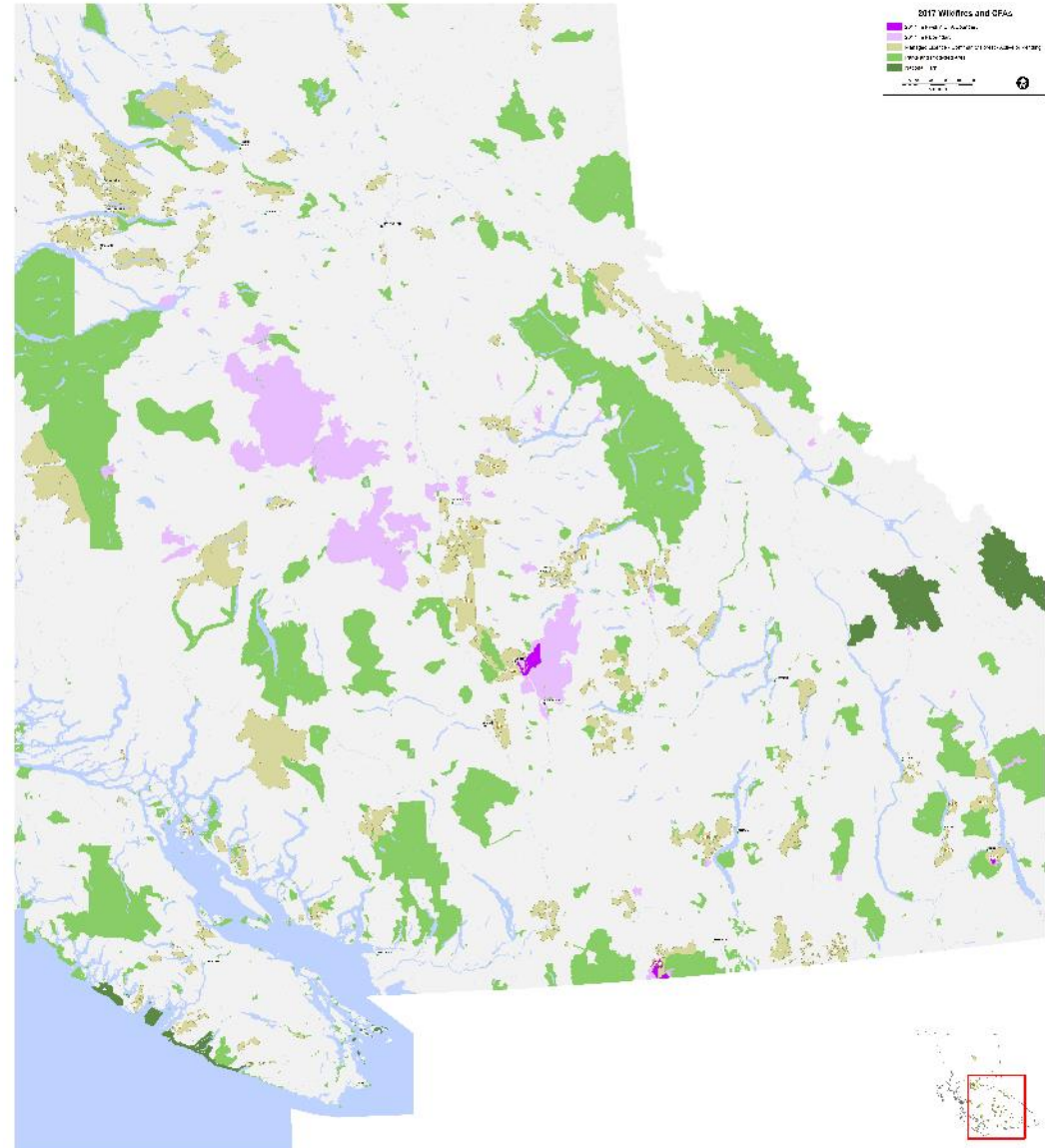
Community forests are a powerful tool

- Protecting communities from catastrophic wildfire and adapting to climate change;
- Building partnerships with Indigenous communities;
- Energizing rural development.



2017 Wildfires

- ❖ Wildfires burned 1.2 million hectares
- ❖ 65,000 people evacuated
- ❖ Suppression costs of more than \$568 million
- ❖ Fires burned on 8 Community Forests
- ❖ Total of 25,000 Hectares





2017 After Action Review



BC Wildfire
Service

The 2017 After Action Review



A Report for Government
and British Columbians

Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia

BC Flood and Wildfire Review

10 Km WUI Analysis

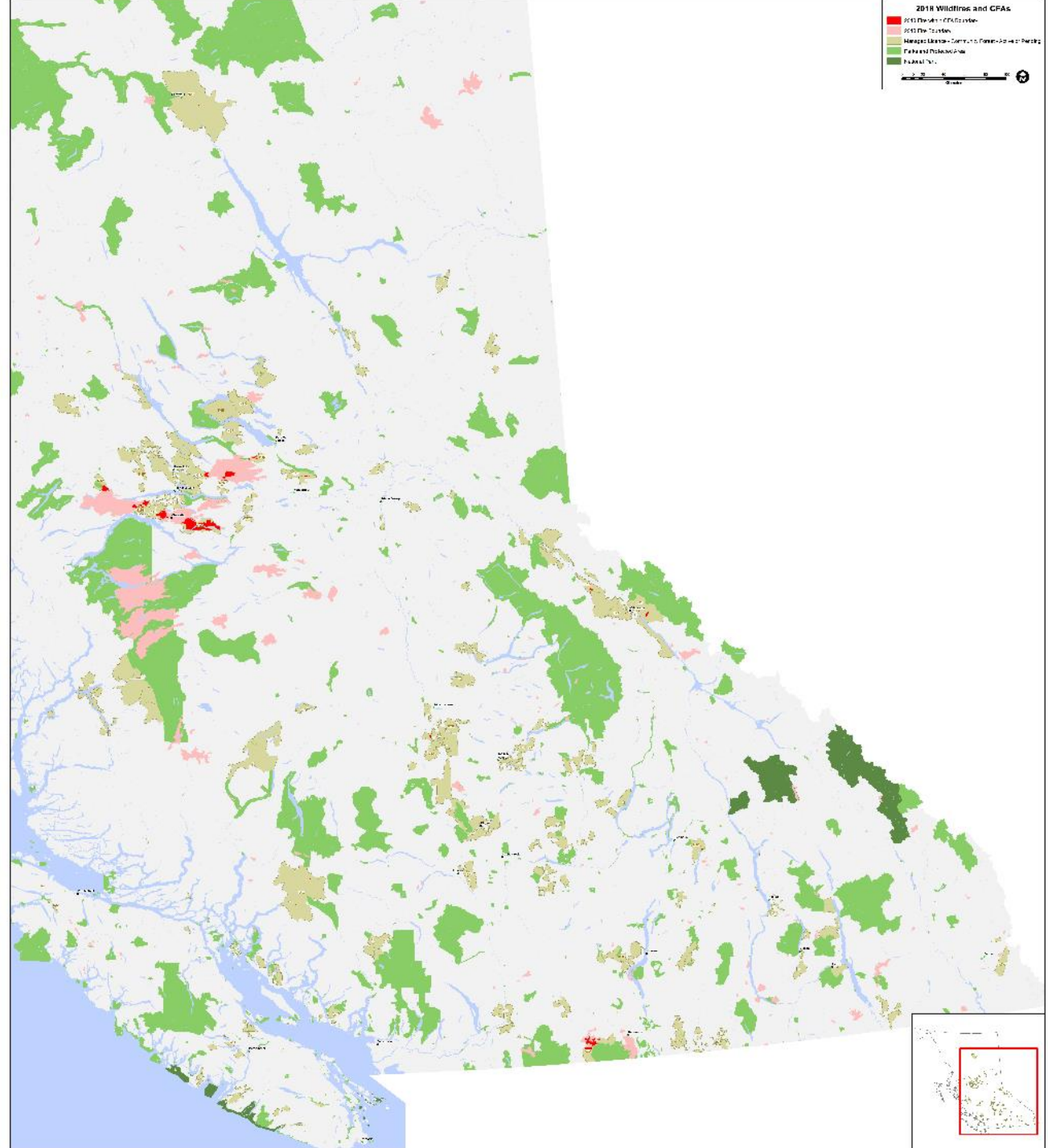
| Class | Analysis Area | |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Area | % of Analysis Area |
| Lakes and Wetlands | 710,393 | 5.2% |
| Parks and Protected Areas, Federal lands | 590,212 | 4.3% |
| Private Land | 2,947,838 | 21.6% |
| First Nations Reserves | 245,679 | 1.8% |
| Tree Farm Licences | 1,115,720 | 8.2% |
| FN Woodland Licences | 101,296 | 0.7% |
| Woodlot Licences | 388,481 | 2.8% |
| Community Forest Agreements | 780,239 | 5.7% |
| Timber Supply Area - Volume-based licenses | 6,713,195 | 49.2% |
| Other | 51,490 | 0.4% |
| Total Area: | 13,644,542 | 100% |

Forestry tenures only

| Class | Analysis Area | |
|--|------------------|--------------------|
| | Area | % of Analysis Area |
| Tree Farm Licences | 1,115,720 | 12.3% |
| FN Woodland Licences | 101,296 | 1.1% |
| Woodlot Licences | 388,481 | 4.3% |
| Community Forest Agreements | 780,239 | 8.6% |
| Timber Supply Area - Volume-based licenses | 6,713,195 | 73.8% |
| Total Area: | 9,098,931 | 100% |

2018 Wildfires

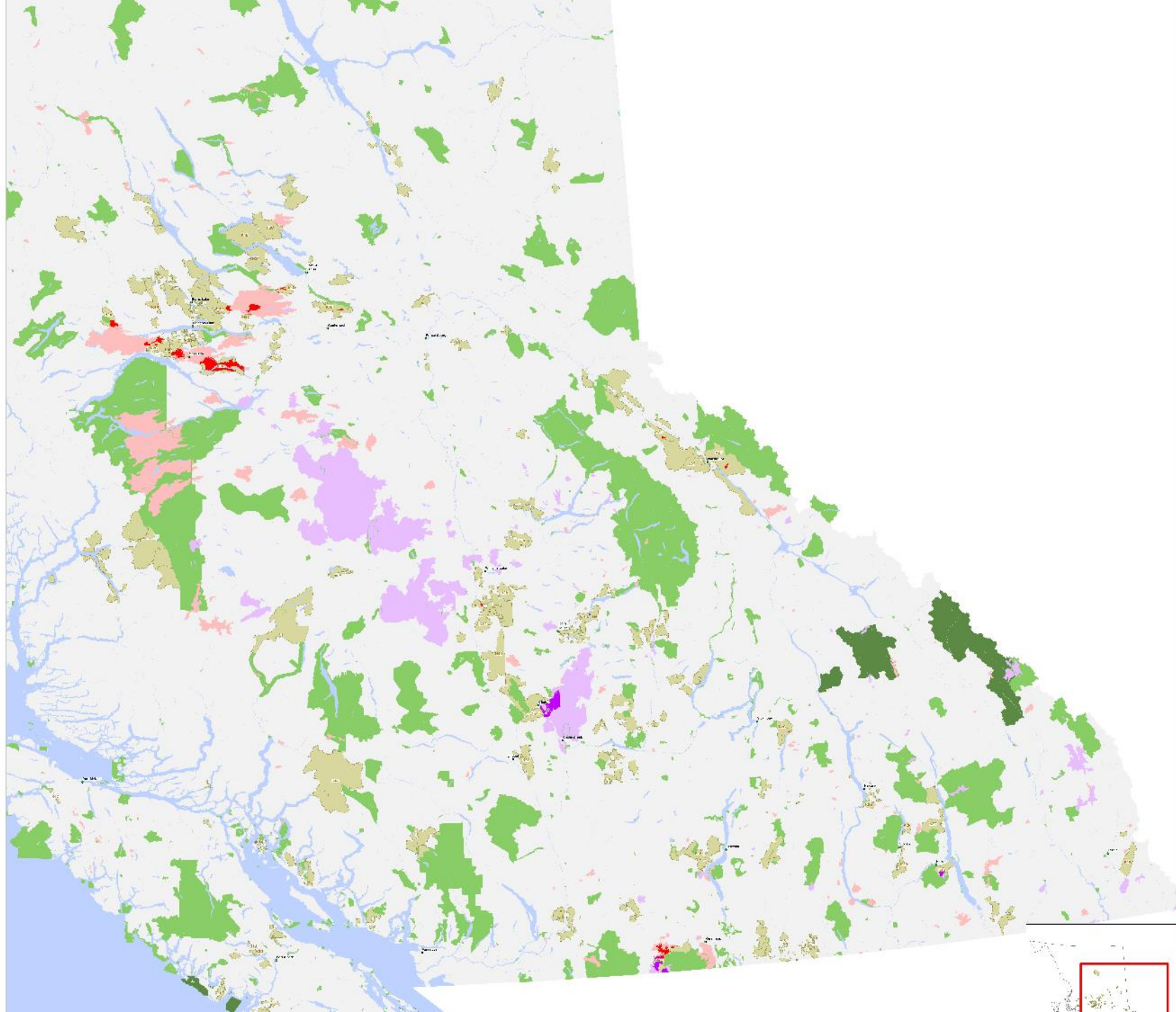
- Over 1.3 million hectares burned
- \$466 Million
- 15 Community Forests impacted
- 3 with significant impacts



| Management Unit | Community Forest | CFA Area (Ha) | 2018 Fire Perimeter (Ha) | % of CFA Area Impacted | THLB Area Impacted |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| K1M | Cheslatta Carrier Nation | 35,729 | 20,850 | 58% | 11,420 |
| K4R | Chinook | 90,658 | 8,572 | 9% | 7,359 |
| K2U | Lower Similkameen | 26,804 | 6,051 | 23% | 50 |
| K1D | Fort St James | 15,131 | 822 | 5% | 7 |
| K5P | Vanderhoof | 23,181 | 253 | 1% | 1 |
| K4B | Tanizul Timber | 49,111 | 2 | 0% | 1 |
| K1C | Esk'etemc | 21,906 | 112 | 1% | 0 |
| K1P | Westbank First Nation | 46,603 | 35 | 0% | 0 |
| K1W | Nupqu Dev Corp | 20,234 | 16 | 0% | 0 |
| K2D | Alberni Valley | 3,231 | 1 | 0% | 0 |
| K2S | Nakusp | 9,149 | 25 | 0% | 0 |
| K2T | Valemount | 70,182 | 757 | 1% | 0 |
| K3O | Dunster | 20,009 | 486 | 2% | 0 |
| K4C | Klahoose | 160,122 | 84 | 0% | 0 |
| K5E | Fraser Lake | 21,120 | 1 | 0% | 0 |
| Total | | 613,170 | 38,066 | 6% | 18,838 |

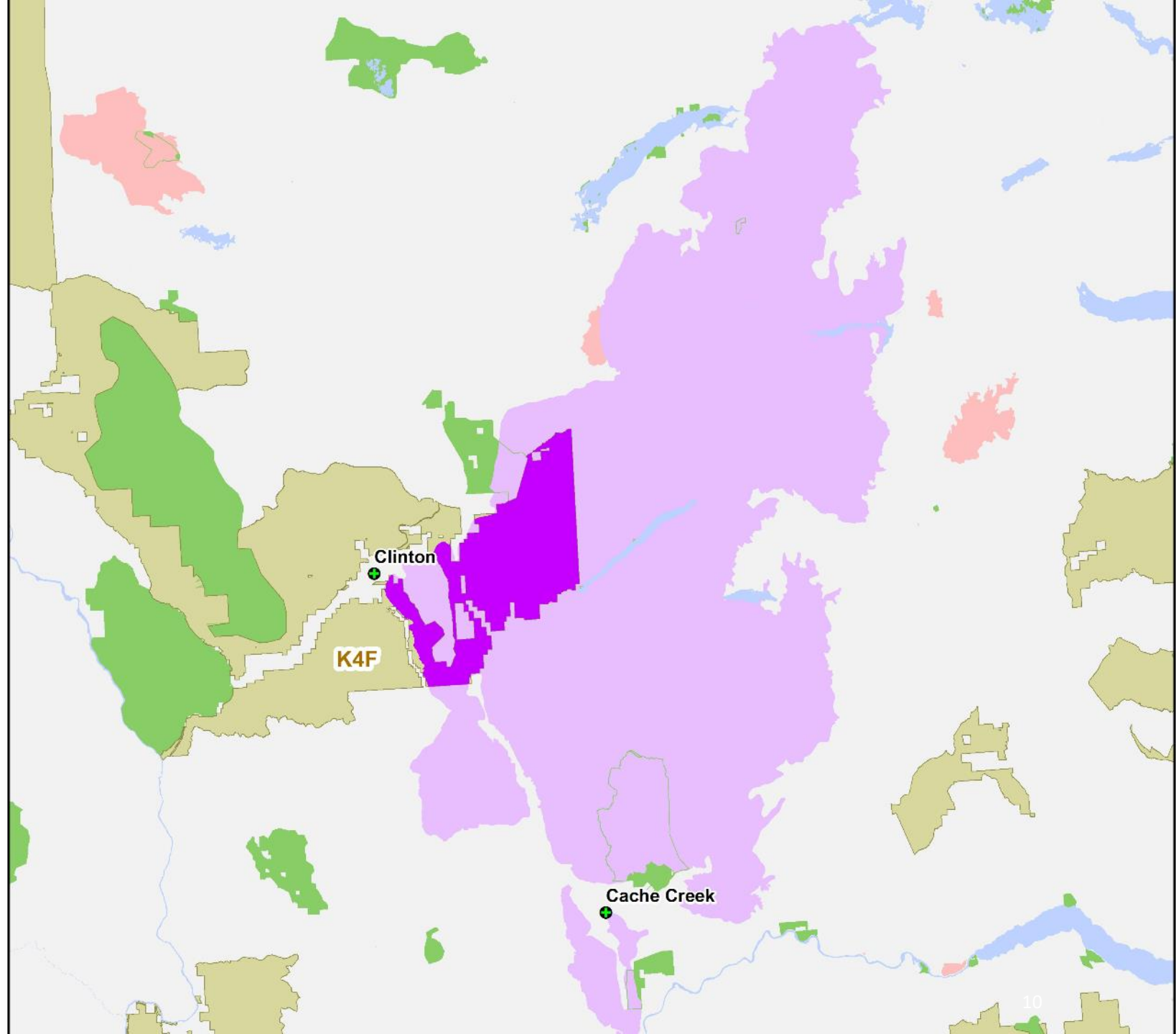
2017 & 2018

- ❖ Wildfires burned 2.5 million hectares
- ❖ Over \$1Billion in suppression



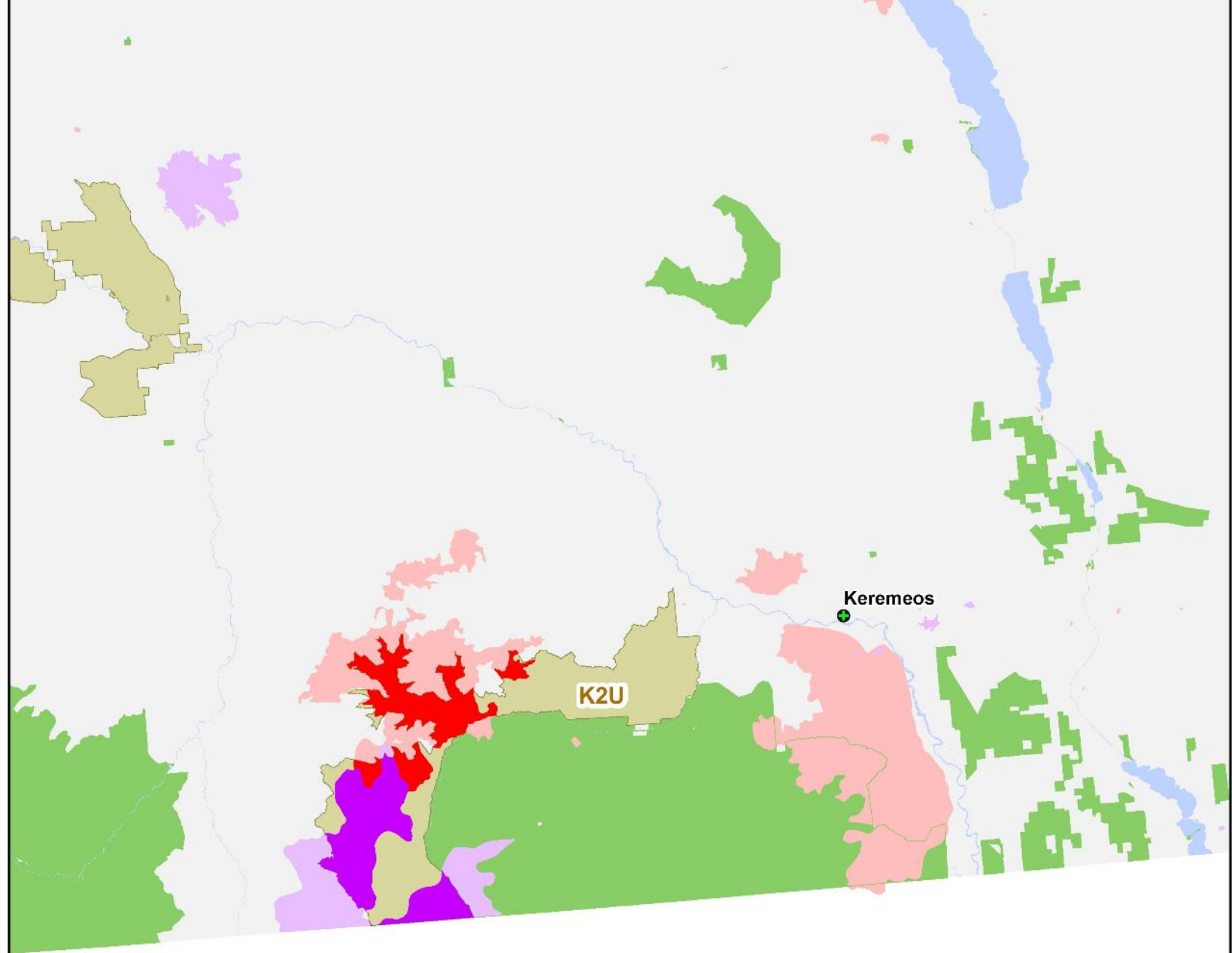
Clinton Community Forest

- 2017 wildfire
- 24% of CFA area burned



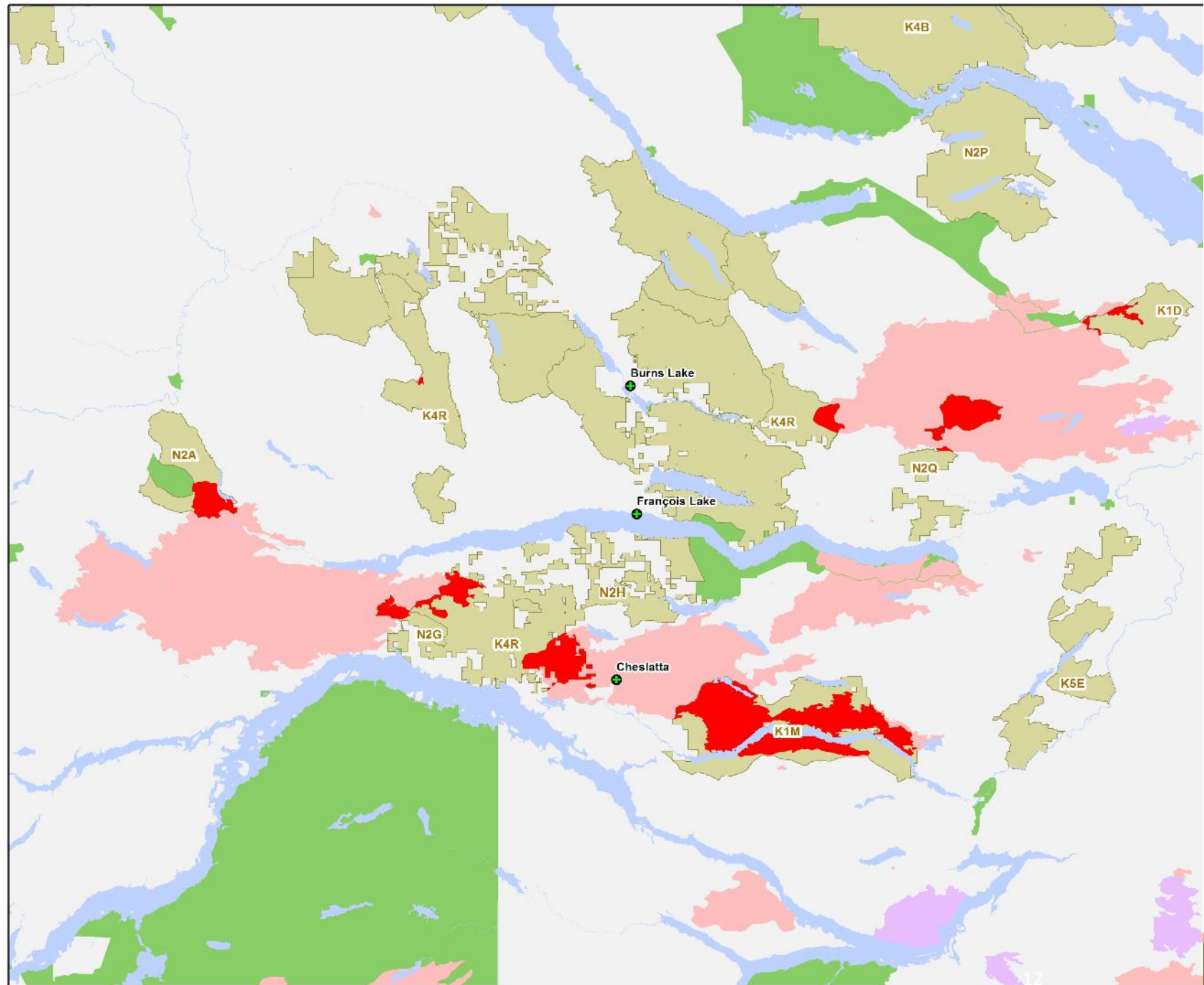
Lower Similkameen Community Forest

- 2017 and 2018 wildfires



Cheslatta and Chinook Community Forests

- Cheslatta: 58% of area within the fire perimeter
- Chinook: 9% of area within fire perimeter





COMMUNITY FOREST INDICATORS 2018

MEASURING THE BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY



Community Forest Indicators Survey

Last Year's Results:

- CFs created 65% more jobs/m³ than industry average in their forestry operations.
- Generated on average \$1.3 million/year in economic activity.
- Contributed an average of \$359,000 in community donations.





Proactive Wildfire Management

Collectively to date:

- Treated 3,522 hectares
- Invested \$1.8 million
- Managed additional \$6.5 million from outside sources
- 70% have collaborated with their local government on SWPI



Thank you

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