

# The future of WUI management



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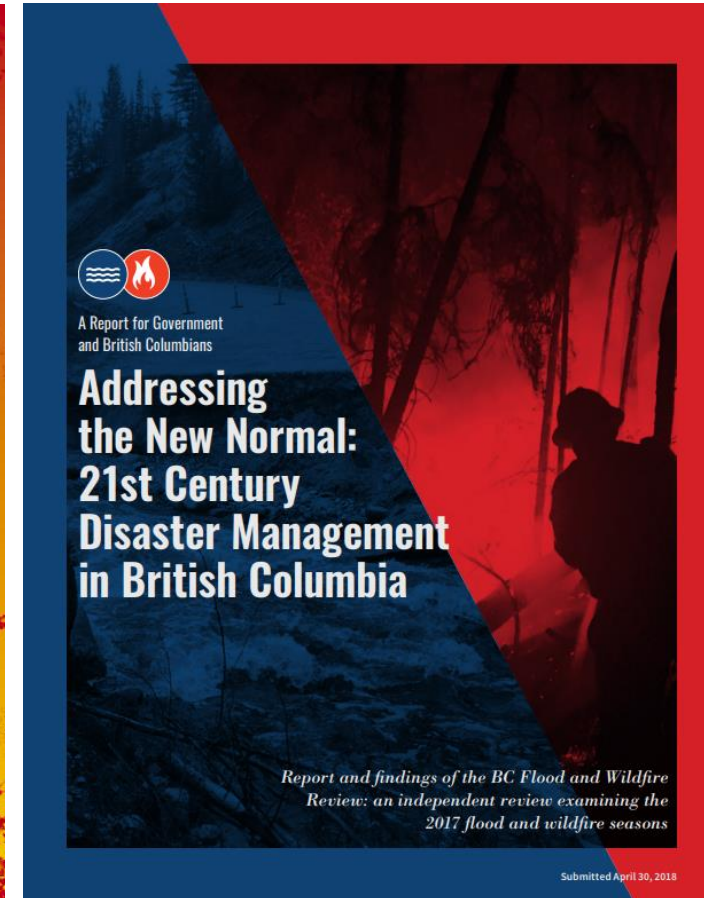
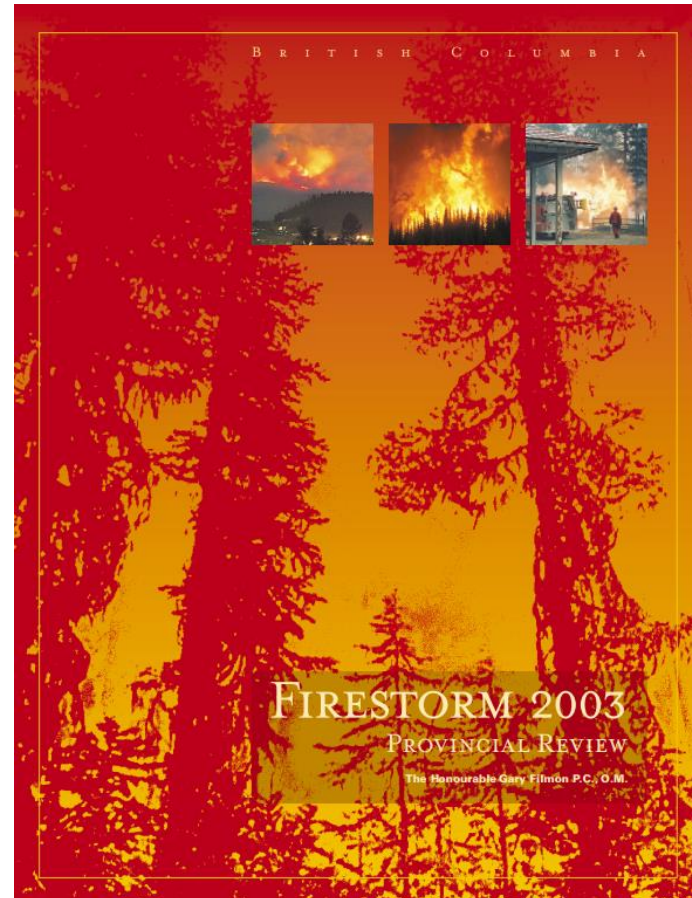
# Summary

- **What are the drivers for changes?**
- **Bill 23 (2021) & Wildfire**
- **Wildland Urban Interface**
- **Potential stand attribute targets**
- **Cost Recognition**

# What are the drivers for changes?



- Filmon Firestorm Report 2003
- Abbott Chapman report – flood and wildfire of 2017
- Climate risk assessment for BC - 2019
- 2017, 2018 and 2021 wildfire seasons
- **Public safety is key**





# *Forest Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (Bill 23)*



Introduce wildfire in  
*Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)*

# Elements being considered for the regulation



**Incorporating wildfire management into forest and range management practices by proposing in regulation:**

- Objective Set by Government (OSBG) for Wildfire
- Practice Requirement related to the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)
- Factors which would relate to WUI Practice Requirement and associated Chief Forester's Standards for wildfire management

# Opportunities for WUI management



Multiple approaches to WUI management



Consistency for WUI management



Everyone has a role to play

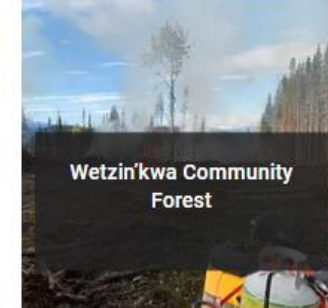
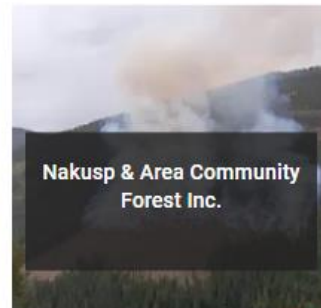
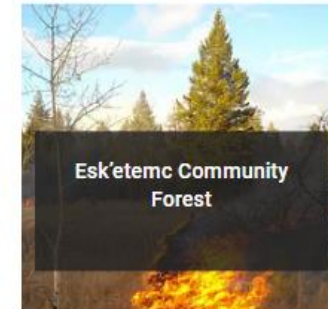
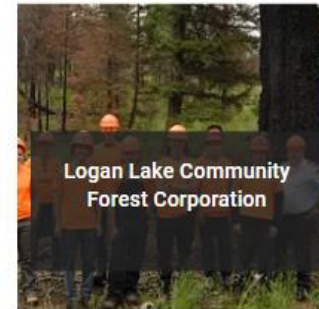
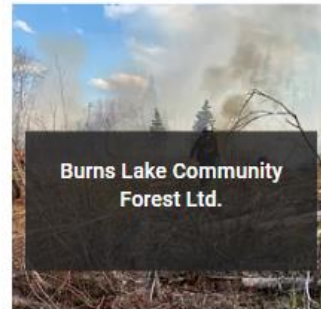
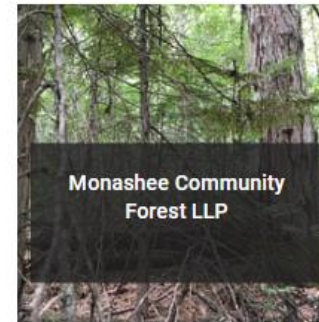
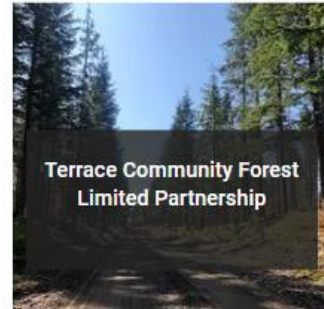


risk based approach for investments



CFAs and WUI overlap with WUI

# The 15 Community Forests with funding support from CLWRR



# Engagement with BCCFA



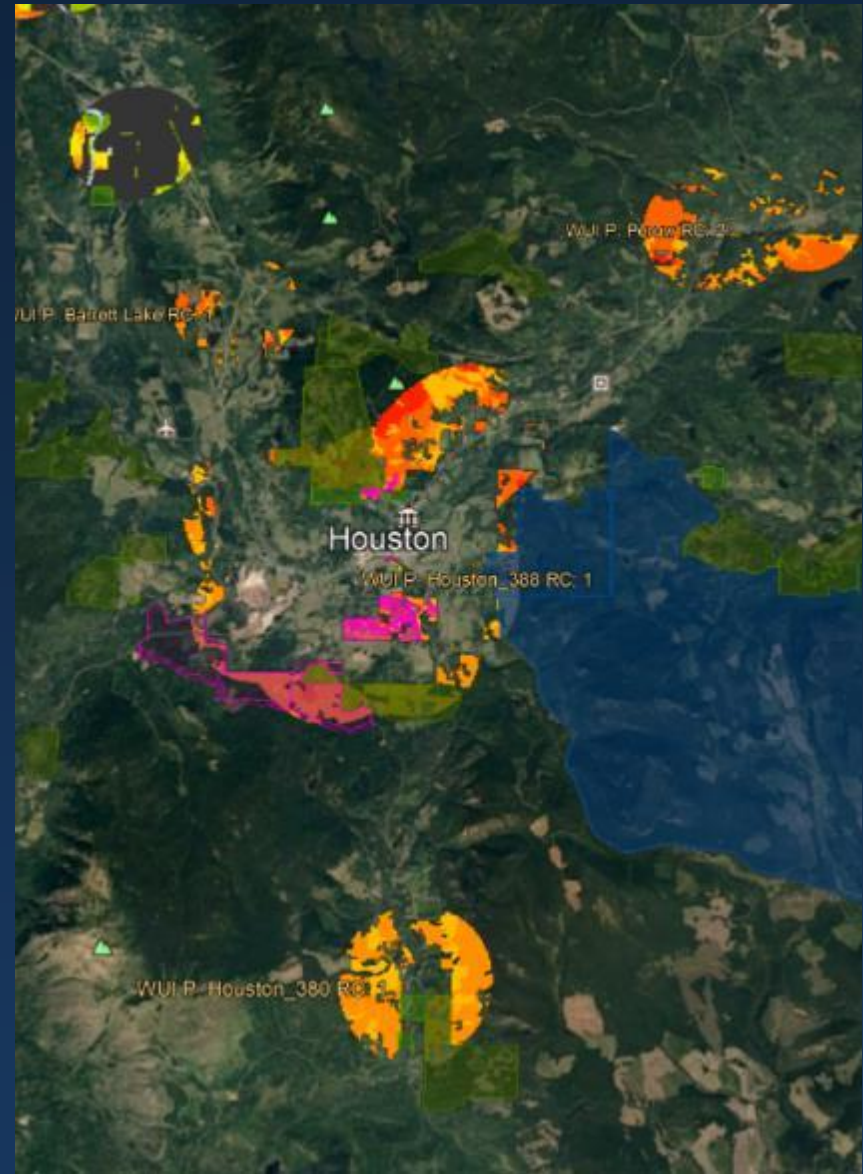
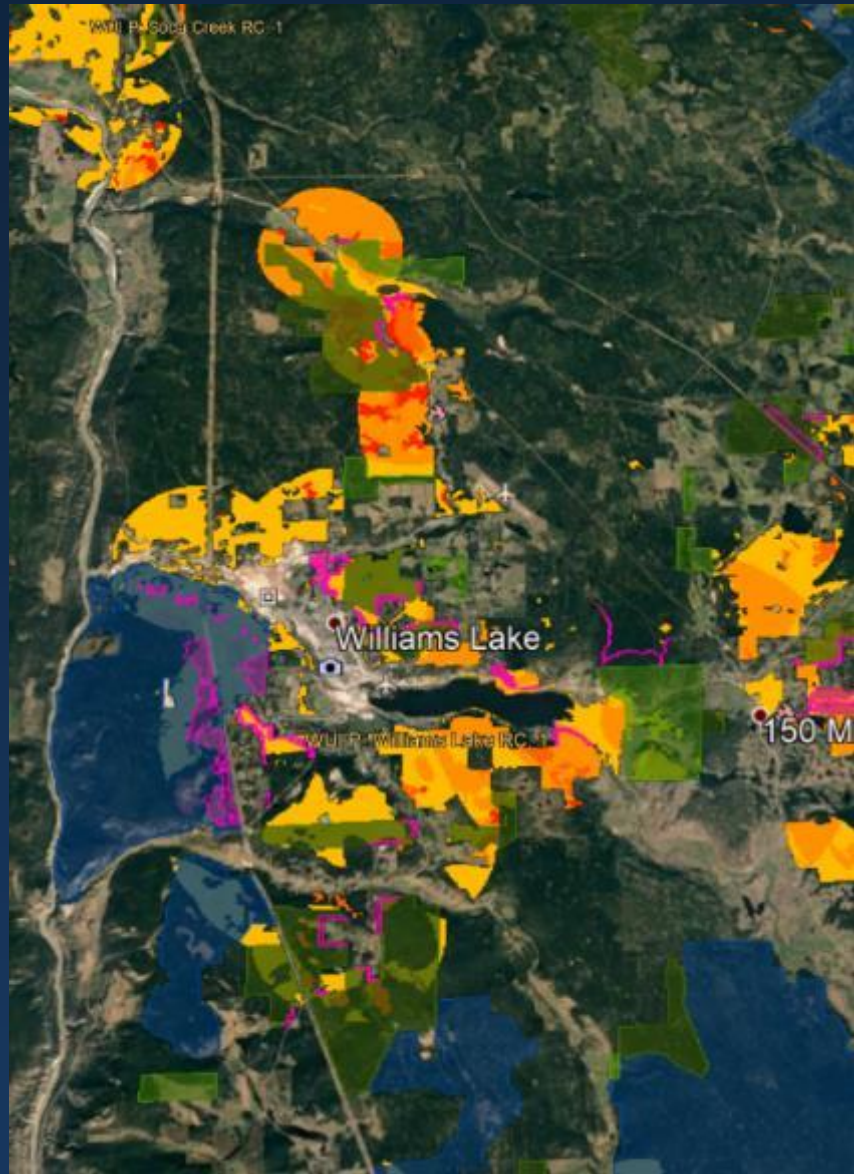
Government engaging with BCCFA subcommittee regularly since November 2022 to seek insight, operational expertise and identify unintended consequences for policy development.



# Wildland Urban Interface Zoning



- Within the WUI, the fire behaviour thresholds established for Zone A & Zone B are intended to achieve commensurate fire behaviour outcomes.
- Fire behaviour thresholds are intentionally progressive, such that the threshold established for WUI Zone A (i.e., the area immediately adjacent to the community) will be lower than the threshold for WUI Zone B (i.e., the transition area between WUI Zone A & the landscape beyond the WUI).
- *Zone A, extending from 0 to 1 kilometer within the buffer and*
- *Zone B, extending from 1 to 2 kilometer within*
- The fire behaviour threshold intent for each Zone is to:
  - Zone A: facilitate the safety of response personnel and suppression efficacy
  - Zone B: facilitate response by aerial resources and the ability to achieve the fire behaviour threshold in Zone A.



# Guiding principles for WUI management



- Guiding fire behaviour principles used to guide regulation development:
- a) reduce surface fire intensity levels and suppression efficacy
  - b) increase the height to live crown to reduce crown fire ignition (understory thinning, pruning)
  - c) encourage crown to surface fire transition



# Potential stand attribute targets - Interior



## 0 – 1 km WUI for IDF (NDT 4)

### **Surface fuels** *Decrease surface fire intensity and lessen likelihood of crown fire initiation*

- Surface fuel (<7cm down dead woody debris) target range 5 – 10 t/ha
- CWD - ensure discontinuous, lying flat to ground and delimb

### **Ladder fuels** *Lessening probability of crown fire initiation and continuous crown fire*

- **Prune** to 2-3m
  - Increase pruning height for slopes, retain >50% of live the crown
- **Thin from below**
  - Remove understory stems , considering co-dominant, (target within drip lines of overstory)
- **Retention clump separation**
  - Clumps of understory stems can be retained if separated from overstory horizontally and vertically

### **Crown fuels** *Lessening the probability of a continuous crown fire*

- In some instances, **overstory** removal is not necessary
- Where overstory thinning required:
  - prioritize remove dead standing (with consideration of snags for wildlife)
  - prioritize retaining Pv and Ed





# Potential stand attribute targets - Coast



## 0 – 1 km WUI for CWH (NDT 1 & 2)

### **Surface fuels** *Decrease surface fire intensity and lessen likelihood of crown fire initiation*

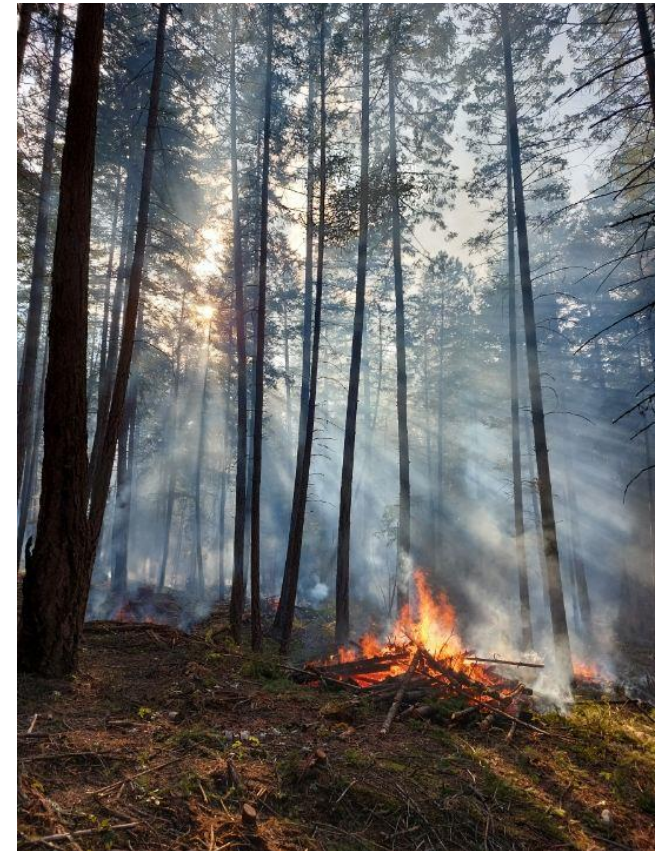
- Surface fuel (<7cm down dead woody debris) target range [7 - 13 t/ha](#)
- CWD - ensure discontinuous, lying flat to ground and delimb

### **Ladder fuels** *Lessening probability of crown fire initiation and continuous crown fire*

- **Prune to 2-3m**
  - Increase pruning height for slopes, retain >50% of live the crown
- **Thin from below**
  - Remove understory stems within drip lines of overstory
- **Retention clump separation**
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### **Crown fuels** *Lessening the probability of a continuous crown fire*

- In [most](#) instances **overstory** removal is not necessary
- Where overstory thinning required:
  - prioritize remove dead standing (with consideration of snags for wildlife)
  - prioritize retaining [stems resilient to fire and windthrow](#)





# Cost Recognition in appraisal system of new practice requirement



# Discussion



- What are the current opportunities for CFAs to operating in WUI?
- How can we continue to build on the CFA's momentum for WUI management?