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Logan Lake  
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## Collaborative Community Forest Project Leads to Unique Prescription Recommendations

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**Logan Lake, B.C.:** The management of wildfire risk is increasingly important to British Columbians. A collaborative planning project funded by the Forest Enhancement Society of B.C. (FESBC) in the Logan Lake Community Forest (LLCF) brought together First Nations, registered professional foresters, and key stakeholders to develop an implementation plan focusing on areas of highest risk to ensure work done is strategic and priority-based.

“Thanks to a grant from FESBC, the Logan Lake Wildfire Risk Management Plan (WRMP) was initiated in January of 2018,” said Garnet Mierau, RPF, Senior Planning Forester with Forsite and Management of the LLCF. “The plan involved many steps including documenting internal and external considerations with respect to wildfire risk management, conducting a risk assessment, and then developing management strategies in response to the risks identified. The final report highlights the areas of most significant risk to wildfire, and we’ve already begun work on the ground to mitigate this risk to an incredibly important asset, our community forest.”

The risk management process was directed by the management team of the LLCF and a planning team which included internal B.C. government specialists from the BC Wildfire Service and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

“The risk of fire was analyzed using a modified burn probability,” said Mierau. “This probability was combined with a strategic review of values on the landscape that are threatened by fire and values that may benefit from fire. Important to the process was alignment with the four provincial Resource Strategic Wildfire Allocation Protocols (RSWAP): Human Life and Safety, Critical Infrastructure, High Environmental and Cultural Values, and Resource Values.”

The planning work resulted in the identification of a range of wildfire risks and values across the landscape. The findings revealed key areas of higher wildfire risk, including corridors of human presence and development surrounding Logan Lake and along the Coquihalla Corridor. High value areas were identified based on concentrations of homes, businesses, schools, civic water, power, emergency evacuation routes, communications and such, as well as wildlife habitat, timber, recreation and important environmental attributes.

“The engagement and collaboration of this planning project was outstanding,” said Logan Lake Mayor, Robin Smith. “This kind of advanced planning gives our community forest management team the opportunity to proactively and strategically plan our next steps to not only mitigate wildfire risk to protect our important asset, but to also do this in stages starting with areas that pose the greatest risk. Our community is very grateful to FESBC for funding this project which will create additional employment, save important wildlife habitat, and protect both transportation corridors and infrastructure, like cabins, resorts, and homes.”



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The risk response report outlines eight management strategies developed for high risk areas and the management strategies include recommendations in the LLCF general forest area, Coquihalla corridor, Face-Paska Lake, District of Logan Lake, and others.

“Our team was pleased to see how highly collaborative this project was,” said Gord Pratt, Operations Manager, FESBC. “The LLCF included input and guidance received from BC Wildfire Service from their Provincial headquarters and the Kamloops Fire Centre, Thompson Rivers Natural Resource District, BC Timber Sales, First Nations, the community of Logan Lake, and more. This high level of collaboration and engagement led to the comprehensive and well outlined report we have today and will be a significant document the LCCF will follow to ultimately mitigate wildfire risk today and in the future. It was a great investment which will guide the Community Forest in the years to come.”

As for the future, Mierau said, “this plan was developed with a term of five years and a plan renewal process should be initiated in 2023. We thank FESBC for being the catalyst to get this initial work started.”

**For an Interview and Additional Information on the Logan Lake Community Forest:**

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