



Forest Enhancement  
Society of BC

# FESBC 2025-27 Wildfire Risk Reduction Funding Program Guide





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## 1.0 Introduction

In the BC 2024 budget, FESBC was allocated \$30 million for the next three years to assist the province of British Columbia (BC) reduce wildfire risk on provincial crown land and increase community resiliency to wildfire.

### The FESBC 2025-27 Service Plan states the following:

**Objective 1.1:** Enhance wildfire risk reduction activities for BC communities.

#### Key Strategies:

- Work with the Ministry of Forests (FOR) to implement strategic wildfire risk management priorities and opportunities,
- Coordinate and support the effective delivery of funds for wildfire prevention planning and fuel management treatments near higher-risk communities and critical infrastructure,
- Optimize the recovery and utilization of low-value residual fibre resulting from wildfire risk reduction treatments, and
- Support the delivery of the Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program in cooperation with existing agencies including FOR, Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), and the First Nations' Emergency Services Society of British Columbia (FNESS).

FESBC will be accepting applications to fund projects to deliver on this objective and these key strategies.

This document serves as the FESBC 2025-27 Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRR) Funding Program Application Guide. It provides prospective applicants with key information related to funding eligibility, selection criteria, application information requirements, the submission and review process, and project implementation.

FESBC is committed to ensuring wildfire risk reduction projects approved by FESBC senior management will be aligned with the FOR, BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), BC Parks, and Mountain Resorts Branch (MRB) priorities and standards.

## 2.0 Roles and Responsibilities

### Applicant

- a. Is responsible for providing a complete, accurate, clear, and concise application with enough information for FESBC to make a funding decision. Incomplete or ambiguous applications may delay the review or disqualify the application,
- b. Must ensure all First Nation consultations will be completed as required,



- c. For WRR proposed treatments, be able to complete all other requirements to obtain the authorization(s) to complete the proposed activities from the applicable Land Manager,
- d. Reach out to FESBC staff when requirements are unclear, and
- e. Must confirm their project aligns with FOR wildfire risk reduction priorities as per the following guidance, below.

Planning for fuel management treatments requires a collaborative approach between proponents, funding agencies, land managers and the FOR integrated fuel management planners:

- a. The FOR is the lead agency for fuel management planning on provincial crown land outside of Parks and Mountain Resorts Branch (MRB). FOR develops an Annual Operating Plan (AOP) that inform three-year fuel management plans for all areas of the province,
- b. The AOP is the tool to prioritize and guide government investments in fuel treatments on provincial crown land. Consistency with the plan will be considered in adjudicating final funding decisions,
- c. To the fullest extent possible, Eligible Applicants should participate in the strategic planning process with FOR and other applicable Ministries. AOP Planning is scheduled to take place annually during the fall (September to December), and
- d. Through meaningful engagement with the Land Manager, an applicant must have their support for the project prior to applying for FESBC funding.

**Provincial Land Manager Organizations include the Ministry of Forests and BC Parks and Mountain Resorts Branch.**

### **Land Managers**

- a. Are responsible for all planning, permitting and monitoring activities on provincial Crown land,
- b. May review proposals for consistency with land management priorities and provide comments to FESBC,
- c. May specify requirements or conditions associated with proposed activities to ensure they align with the stated priorities and communicate them to FESBC, and
- d. Provides the required legal authorization before activities on crown land can proceed.

### **FESBC**

- a. Operations Managers provide guidance to applicants,
- b. Review applications, including Land Manager and BCWS input and comments when applicable,
- c. When possible, may conduct site visits of proposed projects and meet with potential proponents prior to approval, and
- d. After review, Operations Managers provide funding recommendations to FESBC senior management,



- e. FESBC senior management, in consideration of the evaluation criteria, alignment with land manager priorities and with FESBC purposes, makes the final funding decisions and establishes any applicable conditions, and
- f. Conduct audits and site visits on approved projects.

### **PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)**

- a. Are contracted by FESBC staff for administering projects and funds on approved projects and proponents,
- b. Check to ensure applicant meets all requirements such as minimum insurance, Safe Company status, standing with WorkSafeBC, etc., and subsequently enters into recipient agreement with applicant,
- c. Manages the FESIMS portal, work with proponents to ensure all required info and data is uploaded in timely and satisfactory manner,
- d. Receives and pays invoices, and
- e. May conduct audits and site visits on approved projects.

## **3.0 Application Information and Eligibility**

The online application process will remain open throughout the term of the funding window. FESBC staff are available to explain application requirements and answer any questions during the development of your proposal.

### **3.1 Eligible Applicants**

Eligible applicants seeking funding consideration are limited to the following:

- a. First Nations (bands, Treaty First Nations and Indigenous Governments with authority for lands and resources) in BC,
- b. Companies owned in full or in part by First Nation governments or Indigenous entrepreneurs,
- c. Small area-based tenures including:
  - i. Community Forest Agreement holders
  - ii. Woodlot Licensees,
- d. Other forest tenure holders that do not own or control a primary forest product manufacturing facility (as determined by FOR),
- e. FOR and other provincial agencies,
- f. Local governments (municipalities or regional districts),
- g. Irrigation and Improvement Districts,
- h. All season resorts on crown land,
- i. BC Heritage Properties,



- j. Unincorporated community or rural fire departments that are a legally incorporated society in good standing in BC, or
- k. Not-for-profit organizations that are a legally incorporated society in good standing in BC with a mandate to reduce wildfire risk reduction acceptable to FOR.

Eligible applicants may authorize a third party to submit an application on their behalf and administer approved projects. FESBC requires written authorization from a person with appropriate authority within the organization of the eligible applicant to allow the third party to work on their behalf.

### 3.2 Eligible Projects

WRR eligible projects must:

- a. Be located on BC provincial crown land,
- b. Align with provincial and local land managers regional and/or district priorities on provincial crown land,
- c. Be consistent with the Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction (CLWRR) program standards which are available on the [BCWS Tools for Fuel Management](#) website,
- d. Use relevant best practices from local land managers for all activities,
- e. Not be funded by Community Resilience Investment (CRI) program or other funding programs, including FOR Crown Land WRR projects, and
- f. Be completed by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027, or sooner as approved.

### 3.3 Eligible Activities

WRR eligible activities can include:

- a. WRR planning and treatment prescription development,
- b. WRR treatments, and/or
- c. Recovery and utilization of uneconomical residual fibre resulting from wildfire risk reduction treatments funded by FESBC.

### 3.4 Eligible Project Costs

WRR eligible project and activity costs may include:

- a. Planning activities required to identify treatment areas,
- b. Information sharing and meetings with Agencies, First Nations and stakeholders,
- c. Prescriptions, layout and other activities required to acquire authorization,
- d. Treatments,
- e. Incremental costs to utilize uneconomical residual fibre,
- f. Project supervision, and
- g. Administration costs.



### 3.5 Ineligible Project Costs

- a. Costs committed to meet objectives outside of FESBC purposes,
- b. Expenses or costs paid or committed to by others,
- c. Costs that are considered tenure obligations or cost allowance(s) included in the Interior Appraisal Manual or Coast Appraisal Manual, and
- d. Costs that are incurred prior to receiving project plan approval.

## 4.0 Application Process and Requirements

To facilitate an effective and timely review of your application, it is important that proponents provide clear and concise information.

### 4.1 How to Apply

Prior to commencing an application, it is critical that proponents review all application requirements well in advance. Potential applicants should contact FESBC to obtain any needed clarity on application requirements. In addition, applicants should consult with the applicable land managers staff to ensure alignment with local priorities and consistency with legislation. Written endorsement from the applicable land manager is required with the application.

Applications are to be submitted using the FESBC online application portal [Forest Enhancement Society Information Management \(FESIMS\)](#). The portal has specific sections that need to be completed and sections requiring additional documents to be attached including: maps of the area to be treated, kmz's of the project area, a well-defined cost estimate, projected timelines, and intended results.

In addition to this guide, there is a companion document, FESBC Information Management System (FESIMS) [https://fesims.outcome-plus.com/FESIMS Guide for Submitting a Proposal](https://fesims.outcome-plus.com/FESIMS%20Guide%20for%20Submitting%20a%20Proposal). This document will provide additional information to assist with the application submission in FESIMS.

FESBC and PwC conducted an information webinar on June 25, 2024, to provide guidance on how to use FESIMS and go over the application requirement. The link to the recorded webinar is on the [FESBC Funding Application page](#).

#### Important Application Information:

- All applicants must be a registered user or create an account in FESIMS,
- Business entities or individuals may submit applications on behalf of an eligible applicant **ONLY** if appropriate authorization in writing is provided from the applicant,
- FESIMS will be open for applications until September 30, 2026 for eligible projects that will be completed by March 31, 2027, and
- If required, any amendments to the information in this guide will be posted on the [FESBC website](#). If you have commenced an application, you will be notified of any changes by email.



## 4.2 WRR application requirements

FESBC funding applications must:

- a. Involve reduction of wildfire risk near higher-risk communities and critical infrastructure (including community watersheds),
- b. Provide written support from the applicable land manager(s) for proposed project area,
- c. Clearly demonstrate that the proposed project activities do not include any activities that are part of existing legal tenure obligations AND/OR recognized costs in the Interior Appraisal Manual and Coast Appraisal Manual,
- d. Provide clear description of works proposed (planning, prescription(s), treatment(s) and volume estimate of residual fibre utilization),
- e. Provide a detailed budget for each activity:
  - i. In the FESIMS homepage information tab, see the sample budget template, this table must be included,
  - ii. Cost details need to be uploaded in application to enable evaluation of cost-effectiveness. The financial tab in the FESIMS application must mirror the cost details from the budget template,
  - iii. If applicable, summarize contributions from proponent, other funding sources or in-kind partnerships that are expected to contribute to the project,
  - iv. Funding requests will be net of revenue generated from the sale of all fibre, and
  - v. Activities completed over multiple FESBC fiscal years should have separate cost estimates for the same activity for each fiscal year, and
- f. Provide a description of the site including location, Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinate,
- g. Submit map(s) in (pdf) and associated spatial files (KML or KMZ) that clearly identifies location of the proposed activities that meets or exceeds industry standards acceptable to FESBC,
- h. For treatment activities, submit fuel management prescription(s) signed by a forest professional for treatment projects,
- i. Identify BCWS WUI Risk Class for proposed project area. More information is available on the [BCWS Provincial Threat Analysis \(PSTA\) site](#) and Appendix 3,
- j. Demonstrate how the project will optimize the recovery and utilization of low-value residual fibre to minimize burning.
- k. Provide details that demonstrate that a project can and will be completed within the proposed timelines,
- l. See Appendix 2 for FESBC guiding principles for WRR proposals, and
- m. If available at the time of the application, correspondence from the local Fire Prevention Officer (FPO) that the treatment will meet the intended objectives in the prescription or evidence that the applicant has engaged with BCWS FPO.



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## 5.0 Application Assessment

### 5.1 FESBC Project Evaluation Criteria and Considerations

- a. Project evaluation will initially be adjudicated against key selection criteria that include the following elements:
  - i. Identified priority WRR treatment area in FOR District/Region/BCWS WRR Annual Operating Plans or other WRR treatment plans acceptable to FESBC,
  - ii. First Nations involvement,
  - iii. Overall cost effectiveness, including proposed administration cost,
  - iv. Treatment activities may be given higher priority over planning activities,
  - v. Optimizing the recovery and utilization of low-value residual fibre,
  - vi. Timeline of project delivery,
  - vii. Quality of submission, and
  - viii. Clear demonstration of experience in delivering FESBC or similar forest management projects
    - a. Successful contract completion, budgetary performance, efficient and effective results.
- b. FESBC places a high priority on proposed projects that satisfy multiple FESBC purposes:
  - i. Preventing and mitigating the impact of wildfires,
  - ii. Improving damage or low value stands (Forest Rehabilitation),
  - iii. Improving habitat for wildlife,
  - iv. Supporting the use of fibre from damaged and low value forests (Fibre Recovery), and
  - v. Treating forests to improve the management of greenhouse gases (Utilization/Avoided Carbon emissions).

## 6.0 Application Review and Timing

Eligible applications will be subject to a comprehensive review and assessment process by FESBC and ranked against selection criteria. If additional information is required to support the review and assessment, applicants may be contacted for additional information. The selection process will be objective and unbiased.

- a. Application reviews will take place as applications are received,
- b. Applicants will not be notified of the ongoing status of their application during the review and assessment process,
- c. FESBC targets to have all funding approvals communicated by October 2026,
- d. Funding decisions are final; however, applications that are not funded in one approval period, may be re-considered in a future approval period,
- e. All approved funds must be expended within the designated fiscal year, and



## 7.0 Project Approval

- a. FESBC staff will provide verbal and written notification of FESBC senior management funding approvals:
  - i. The written notifications may include funding terms and/or conditions.
- b. For multi-year projects FESBC Operations Managers will assess and approve updated WRR cost models as informed by completed funded Prescriptions,
- c. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by telephone,
- d. FESBC staff will notify PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), FESBC funding delivery partner, responsible for the oversight of the project implementation, and
- e. FESBC funding approval does not convey approval for works to commence.

## 8.0 Project Implementation

### 8.1 Recipient Agreement Requirements

- a. All applicants or their designate must be able to enter a FESBC Recipient Agreement with PwC to deliver an approved FESBC project:
  - i. Projects to be administered by a Provincial Ministry may be exempt from this requirement, and
  - ii. Other parties may be exempted from this requirement for extenuating circumstances.
- b. Applicants should carefully review the entire Recipient Agreement and ensure that the terms of the Agreement can be met prior to submitting their application. An example can be found in the FESIMS portal on the home screen under:  
*Template – Proponent – PwC Recipient Agreement-FESBC-2017*  
Particular attention should be focused on the following sections:
  - i. 5.0 Duties of the Recipient,
  - ii. 7.0 Subcontracting, Tendering, Assignment and Pooling,
  - iii. 9.0 Audits and Financial Statements, and
  - iv. 10.0 Indemnification and Insurance.
- c. Recipient must be safe certified or have a safety plan acceptable to FESBC and PwC.

### 8.2 Provincial Government Delivered Proposals

The following apply to Ministry delivered projects:

- a. Provincial Government agencies are eligible to apply for funding as lead proponents,
- b. Provincial proposals will be reviewed within the same framework as all other proposals received during the call,
- c. Approval letters will specify funding amounts. Investment Schedules will be managed by FESBC, and project plans will be administered by lead Ministry staff,



- d. Provincial Government proposals that are approved or approved in principle will require FESBC Investment Schedules. Subsequently, the Ministry lead will be required to prepare and submit specific project plans with mutually agreed upon milestones in FESIMS,
- e. Ministry leads will initiate and submit project amendments required by FESBC,
- f. FESBC will pay the Ministry on approved project plan milestones on claims submitted,
- g. Project implementation of approved project plans will be the full responsibility of Ministry staff, and
- h. Ministry may name a recipient to deliver the project on their behalf.

### **8.3 Project Plans**

- a. Recipients are required to submit Project Plans (PP) into FESIMS,
- b. Project Plans must identify milestones that describe the activities, costs and the timing of the works to be completed,
- c. Funding for any activities are not approved until PwC or FESBC approves the Project Plan. Any activities that commence prior to Project Plan approval are not eligible for reimbursement, and
- d. Activities will follow established Provincial work standards, guidance and/or Best Management Practices (BMPs). For activities where there are no established work standards, a detailed work plan describing the implementation of the project must be provided for review and approval by PwC.

### **8.4 Land Manager Authorization**

- a. No activities are to commence prior to obtaining the required authorization(s) from the applicable statutory decision maker on crown land,
- b. First Nations information sharing and stakeholder referral processes must be completed as required by the Land Manager if authorizations are required, and
- c. FESBC will not waive or assume any legal obligation for any activities.

## **9.0 Project Tendering and Direct Awarding Requirements**

- a. FESBC Contract Tendering and Cost Guidelines are to be followed for project implementation. Appendix 1 below or available under the Information Tab in FESIMS,
- b. FESBC senior management may specify direct award limits or special requirements,
- c. FESBC may waive the above tender requirements as part of the FESBC's approval process or during project implementation. A rationale must be provided, which may include but is not limited to the following:
  - i. Existence of a comparable contract,
  - ii. Applicant has existing contractors established through their own internal selection process,
  - iii. Limited capacity of skilled contractors or professionals,
  - iv. Operating areas where beneficial to use or build local expertise, or
  - v. Use of local First Nation contractors.



## **10.0 Changes, Extensions & Reporting**

### **10.1 Proposal Changes and Extensions**

Approved proposal funding is specific to the project as proposed in the application. Funds are not transferable to other proposals. Any significant variation from the approved proposal will need to be reviewed and approved with PwC and FESBC prior to being implemented.

All approved activities are to be completed within the term specified in the original proposal approval.

Funds that are not spent in the projected timing windows of the schedule provided in the original proposal may be reverse allocated (funds removed from the proposal and reallocated for another proposal). Where the Operations Manager deems significant progress has been achieved, they will work with the proponent to allocate funds for the following fiscal year, if funds are available. When significant changes to plans are encountered by the proponent, timely communications with FESBC staff must take place and an updated schedule must be provided for approval.

### **10.2 Project Reporting Requirements**

Complete all reporting as required by FESBC and PwC, including the following:

- a. Milestone claims:
  - I. Volume delivered by end product type when applicable,
  - II. Invoice with supporting documentation,
  - III. Proof of milestone completion when applicable,
  - IV. Measured post-treatment reduction in fuel levels, and
  - V. Map of completed works when applicable.
- b. RESULTS submission when required,
- c. Certificate of Project Completion (Administrative, Financial and Technical sign off), and
- d. Other reports as identified by FESBC and PwC prior to Project Plan approval.

## **11.0 Additional Information**

### **11.1 Audits and Site Visits**

Funding recipients may be subject to audit or site inspections at any time during the term of the funding agreement, and for up to three years following the distribution of Society funds to the recipient. Audits and site inspections enable FESBC to examine project progress and confirm documentation. FESBC or PwC staff may conduct site visits during, or post-operations as part of an overall proposal coordination and effectiveness evaluation.



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## 11.2 Events and Communications

The funding agreement may require the following:

- a. The Forest Enhancement Society of BC and, as appropriate, the Government of BC be acknowledged in project communications, events and signage; and
- b. Consent for FESBC to publish project details in reports and in promotion of the Society (on websites and in public materials).

## 11.3 Confidentiality

All documents received by the Society will be treated as confidential; however, FESBC is subject to the requirements under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

## 11.4 Application Support

If you have any questions about preparing your application, contact an FESBC Operations Manager. [FESBC Staff Contact Information](#)

Further support is available from FESBC staff: [office@fesbc.ca](mailto:office@fesbc.ca)  
Phone: 1.877.225.2010 or 778.765.0980



## Appendix 1: Guiding Principles on Tendering and Direct Award

FESBC wishes to undertake all funding of approved projects in a manner that is transparent and seeks the best value for money. For most projects, the competitive tendering of contracts by the recipient will be required.

The following provides guidance for proponents and administrators in creating, managing, implementing and administering projects.

### The PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Recipient Agreement contains the following wording:

Where Investment Funding has been allocated to the Recipient in an Investment Schedule for the Year:

- The Recipient will ensure that, in respect of its Projects:
  - all subcontracts greater than \$50,000 for a given Project will be tendered through a competitive bidding process;
  - subcontracts greater than \$100,000 for a given Project will be tendered through open invitation and such tendering must conform with the guidelines as provided on the Administrator's website;
  - subcontracts less than \$100,000 for a given project may be tendered through open invitation or select invitation to a minimum of three qualified potential bidders and such tendering must conform with the guidelines as provided on the Administrator's website. Click on Additional information>Contract Tendering: [FESBC Contract Tendering and Cost Guidelines](#)
- The Recipient acknowledges and confirms that the Administrator, at its discretion and with prospective effect only, may amend or change the tendering requirements from time to time on direction of the FESBC.
- Prior to project approval, the Administrator may relieve the Recipient from tendering requirements under section 9(c), where the Recipient can demonstrate to the Administrator that tendering was not possible, practical, efficient or for any other bona fide reason. Such relief may be given on a Project-by-Project basis or for a specified class of Project.

Exemption from the above may be considered by the FESBC Board as part of the approval process or during project implementation if acceptable rationale is provided. Rationale may include, but is not limited to the following:

- Existence of a comparable contract,
- Capacity of skilled contractors or professionals,
- Operating areas where local expertise is sought, and
- Use of local First Nations contractors.



## Appendix 2: Guiding Principles for FESBC Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRR) Proposals

### General Wildfire Risk Reduction Principles

- To qualify for funding, applicants must demonstrate their level of engagement with the FOR district, region, or relevant Land Manager and BCWS Fire Centre, to ensure project alignment with the Land Manager's and BCWS WRR priorities. For more information on the planning process and identified projects please see the [Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction webpage](#).
- WRR projects must be consistent with principles outlined in this appendix and should meet government objectives for wildfire risk reduction.

### Wildfire Risk Reduction Fuel Management Activities Proposal Principles

- Fuel management activities may include prescription development, burn plans and operational fuel reduction treatments, including prescribed burning.
- Fuel management activities must be identified as a priority in an existing plan such as the District WRR Annual Operating Plan, CWRP, WRR or Fire Management Plan that identifies WRR treatment priorities with appropriate rationale and be supported by FOR.
- In cases where no plan exists, proposed fuel management activities will require support from FESBC, local forest district and fire center.
- Fuel management objectives will drive the rationale for treatment area placement and treatment method selection.
- When specifying objectives for a fuel treatment, a rationale for the necessity of the fuel treatment (e.g., *improved suppression opportunities along main access corridor*) must be provided.
- Objectives must be clearly defined, demonstrate a reduction in risk, and include fuel reduction loading targets and measures for expected fire behavior outcomes post treatment.
- Outcomes must be specified (e.g., *reducing crown fire initiation potential by XX and spread by XX from the adjacent stand by reducing surface fuel loading to XX and increasing height to live crown to XX*). These outcomes should support a cost effective and measurable reduction in expected fire behavior.
- Proposals should evaluate existing resource value objectives within the area of interest and describe how the wildfire risk reduction objectives should seek to balance those resource values while maximizing fuel treatment efficacy.
- Provide any relevant supporting details such as fire history, probability of ignition, weather trends, and prevailing winds that support the treatment as a priority to mitigate negative impacts to the identified values at risk.



## Appendix 3: WUI Risk Class & Risk Class Maps

Applicants are required to identify the WUI Risk Class to provide evidence of wildfire risk in their community. In the fall of 2021 new WUI, WUI Risk Class and PSTA products were released. Please check the updated information on the links below.

### WUI Risk Class

The level of risk (“risk class”) reflects the analysis of weighted PSTA threat components within the individual WUI Risk Class polygons. Five risk class ratings were applied to the WUI polygons, with “1” being a higher relative risk and “5” being the lowest relative risk. The application of relative risk does not imply “no risk” since the goal is to identify areas where there is higher risk.

### WUI Risk Class Assessment & Maps

Once defined, the WUI layer is combined with the PSTA wildfire threat layer (Crown land) to highlight a coarse scale spatial pattern of risk area using certain criteria, such as density and threat ratings. The WUI risk class assessment is driven by structure location (not by administrative boundaries) to reflect the actual location of structures that exist on the land base in relation to wildfire threat. This creates WUI polygons that may include multiple jurisdictions (e.g. regional district, municipal or First Nations land) that are linked by the continuity of structure density.

Currently the province only has data available to support fire threat analysis on Provincial Crown land. There are large tracts of private land that exist within the WUI where no data is available. The amount of private land is an important component in the risk analysis due to the lack of data to inform fire risk identification across jurisdictional boundaries. Therefore, the buffer was expanded to 2.75-kilometres around structure classes with a density of >25 for the analysis in order to create separate WUI polygons. A subsequent analysis of the PSTA data was performed to allocate polygons to one of five Risk Classes.

The eligible WUI one-kilometre buffer has been added to the WUI RC maps to aid applicants in designing fuel breaks and CWRPs. Spatial data for WUI Risk Class maps, including the one-kilometre buffer, are available at any time for local authorities by sending a request to [BCWILDFIREGEO@gov.bc.ca](mailto:BCWILDFIREGEO@gov.bc.ca)

### Identifying your WUI Risk Class (1-5) and Associated Polygon Name

Applicants are required to identify the WUI Risk class to provide evidence of wildfire risk in the proposed project area by locating their general area of interest on the [Wildland Urban Interface Risk Class Maps](#) or Google Earth compatible KML files. In cases where local assessments provide additional evidence of higher wildfire risk (than the WUI Risk Class), applicants can provide this information in their application in support of their proposed activities.

Google Earth compatible KML files have been created for each Fire Centre with the WUI Risk Class Maps information. An additional layer has been provided for the WUI Risk Class Maps and the Google Earth KML files with completed fuel treatments including treatments funded through the Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative, Forest Enhancement Society of BC, FireSmart Community Funding & Supports and Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction programs to date.



### **Provincial Strategic Threat Analysis**

At a provincial scale, the wildfire risk framework starts with an analysis of the WUI. Quantification of wildfire threat components, including likelihood (fire occurrence) and severity (head fire intensity, which is calculated using the 90th percentile weather conditions and fuel type) and wildfire propagation potential (spotting) at the provincial scale, is represented by the [Provincial Strategic Threat Analysis \(PSTA\)](#).

The PSTA assesses and maps potential threats to values on the landscape, including communities, infrastructure and natural resources.

This identifies areas for wildfire risk reduction in order to minimize negative impacts to human life and safety including first responders, public health and the infrastructure required to maintain business continuity and support recovery efforts.

The resulting WUI Risk Class Map highlights patterns and trends in the WUI in a simplistic and easy to understand way. This is available as a high-level analysis to support the initial identification of areas for FireSmart Community Funding & Supports applications.

Subsequent activities or inputs are required to determine the most effective risk control options, including developing a Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (or update) or other plan that includes assessment of local threat on the ground, and identification of FireSmart priorities, ground truthing the area to determine local threat, and developing a site level plan for treatments.

### **Private Land**

In some areas of the province the private land percentage is still too high for the analyses to provide a meaningful risk class rating. For the northeast area of the province around Fort St. John and Dawson Creek, extensive tracts of private land surround the smaller WUI polygons. A manual process was used to assign the risk class to these areas. Additional PSTA map extents are provided for the map sheets around the Vanderhoof, Kettle Valley and Prince George areas as well, for information only, as the risk classes were assigned for these additional WUI polygons. Please contact your local Fire Centre contact for further information regarding these specific areas.