



BRITISH
COLUMBIA



Overview of Kootenay Boundary Regional Programs, AKBLG Conference- April 2019

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Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD)

Topics

- **Integrated investment planning**
- **Wildfire risk reduction**
- **Grand Forks flood recovery**
- **First Nations reconciliation**
- **Interior forest sector revitalization**
- **Wildlife enhancement**

Integrated Investment





Integrated Investment

Right projects. Right funders. Right time. Right place.

February 2019

OBJECTIVES

Wildfire Risk Mitigation

Habitat Enhancement

Forest Carbon Management

Public Safety

Forest Rehabilitation

Enhanced Timber Supply

Improved Fish & Wildlife Inventory

Fish & Wildlife Recovery

Fibre Recovery

Range Restoration

Rural Economic Benefits

Reforestation

Reconciliation

Current Challenges:

- Waste
- Climate Change
- Wildfire
- Insects & Disease
- Habitat
- Changing Rural Communities

Future Healthy Forests:

- Revitalization
- Carbon Management
- Reduced Wildfire Risks
- Spruce Beetle Mitigation
- Wildlife Habitat Recovery
- Economic Benefits
- Diversification of Rural Economies

INTEGRATED INVESTMENT

Low Carbon Economy Fund

Habitat Conservation Trust Fund

Rural Dividend Fund

Community Resiliency Investment Program

Forests For Tomorrow

Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC

Forest Enhancement Society

Environmental Stewardship Initiative

Forest Carbon Initiative

Columbia Basin Trust

Land Based Investment Fund

Strategic Forestry Envelope

Caribou Recovery

Wildlife & Habitat Modernization

FUNDING

Working together to build a healthy, sustainable & resilient natural resource sector

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development



Integrated Investment (locally)

- Collaborating in identifying land manager priorities and matching investment opportunities.
- Establishing district & division contacts to solicit and shape community funding applications
- Coordinating investment opportunities among communities, First Nations, clients and other partners

Wildfire Risk Reduction



- Reduce the risk and impact of wildfire in communities
- An estimated \$15M has been invested in the region over the last ten years.
- 2017/18 – Invested \$ 4.5M on wildfire risk reduction
- 2019 - \$20M in applications received.
- Community level engagement sessions
 - RDCK -Nelson- April 23rd
 - Kimberley – May 1st
- Key message – partnerships and collaboration.



WILDFIRE &
CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE

June 27 28, 2018
ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCY, COMMUNITY PROTECTION
AND LANDSCAPE LEVEL MANAGEMENT



CALL to ACTION

ACTION IS URGENT – IT'S NOT *IF* but *when* wildfires will burn:

- **Wildfire risk reduction is a community safety and ecosystem resilience issue, not *just* a forest management issue.**
- **Collaboration, relationship building and leadership at the community and landscape scales are essential, across jurisdictions and interests.**



CALL to ACTION

Swift actions are needed to remove identified policy barriers:

- Legal forest management objectives should be expanded to include wildfire risk reduction and community safety
- Reform of forest tenures adjacent to communities should be considered to fully incorporate wildfire risk reduction priorities
- Modification of reforestation stocking standards should be allowed and encouraged to align with the goal of wildfire risk reduction
- Liabilities and other issues associated with prescribed burning should be addressed to allow for an expansion of the prescribe burning program.

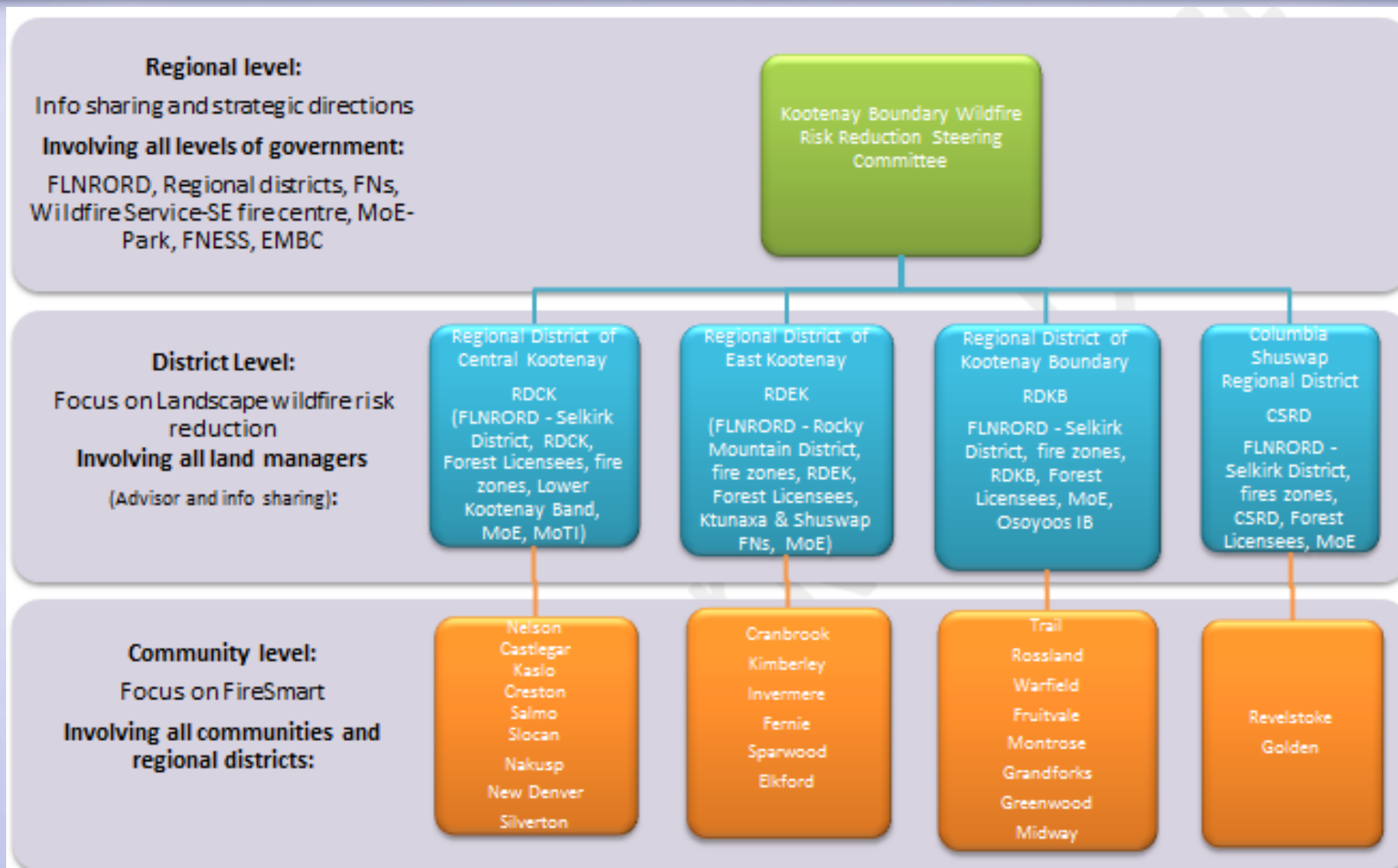


CALL to ACTION

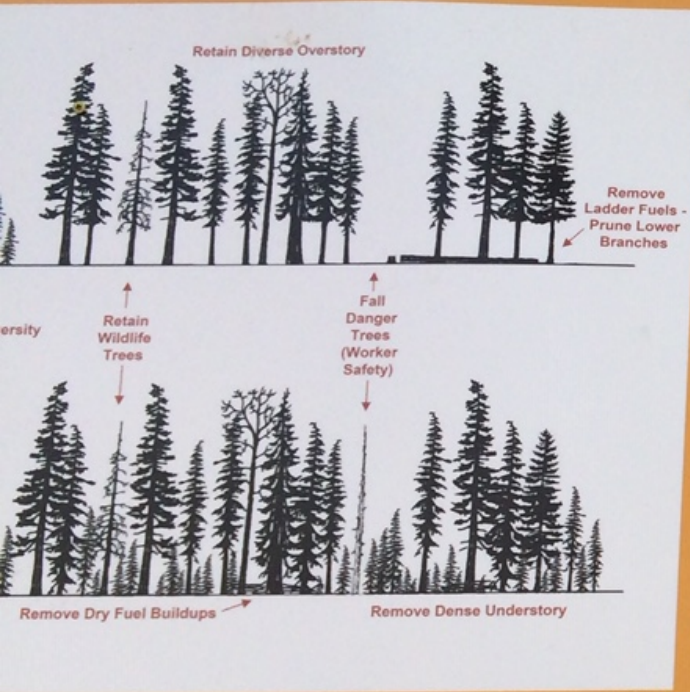
WHAT CAN WE ALL DO NOW?

- **Develop** practicably implementable **Operational Landscape Level Strategic Wildfire Risk Reduction Plans** that aim to mitigate the effects of climate change, reduce wildfire risks, ensure ecosystem resilience and beneficially manage forest carbon.
- **Prepare for natural disasters** with home and business emergency plans; critical infrastructure protection; right-sized community protection equipment and sprinkler units; and community-based emergency and evacuation plans.
- **Focus** operational funding in areas that have a clear community and landscape plan to maximize value of each dollar spent. Support community develop these if they do not have one.
- And finally, **[Fire Smart](#) our homes, our communities our critical infrastructure and private lands** by implementing community wildfire risk reduction activities and building **Fire Smart** community knowledge and capacity . Let's all become Fire Smart Communities!

Wildfire risk reduction regional delivery model



Slocan Valley Landscape Level Wildfire Protection Plan



The area chosen for this project is strategically located in a Wildfire Protection Zone; this is an area located within an identified major fire movement corridor.

Project Goals:

- Reduce wildfire intensity and rate of spread within fuel managed areas.
- Increase opportunities for fire suppression and community protection.
- Reduce chance of wildfires spreading up Lemon Creek valley and transitioning to a landscape scale fire.

Climate Change Adaptation goals:

- Reduce water needs of forest and reduce summer moisture stress on large forest trees.
- Retain a forest of large trees that will survive low intensity forest fires.
- Create a more resilient forest ecosystem and retain ecological and social values.

What is the timeline for project completion?

- We aim to have the project completed in this area by November 2017



Post-Treatment Look





Grand Forks Recovery



- Regional staff will continue to be resourced and directed to Grand Forks flood recovery with partners in EMBC.
- Watershed Assessment Protocol is being developed for the Kettle River Watershed via cumulative effects work.
- A public advisory group is being developed to participate in the process- include Regional district/industry and FN participation.

First Nations Reconciliation



- The province is training staff on the principles of UNDRIP and the Truth and Reconciliation report.
- Collaborative stewardship is a forum to advance reconciliation with Indigenous governments by identifying shared values
- The region is promoting integration of traditional and cultural values into planning and resource decisions.



Forest Sector Revitalization

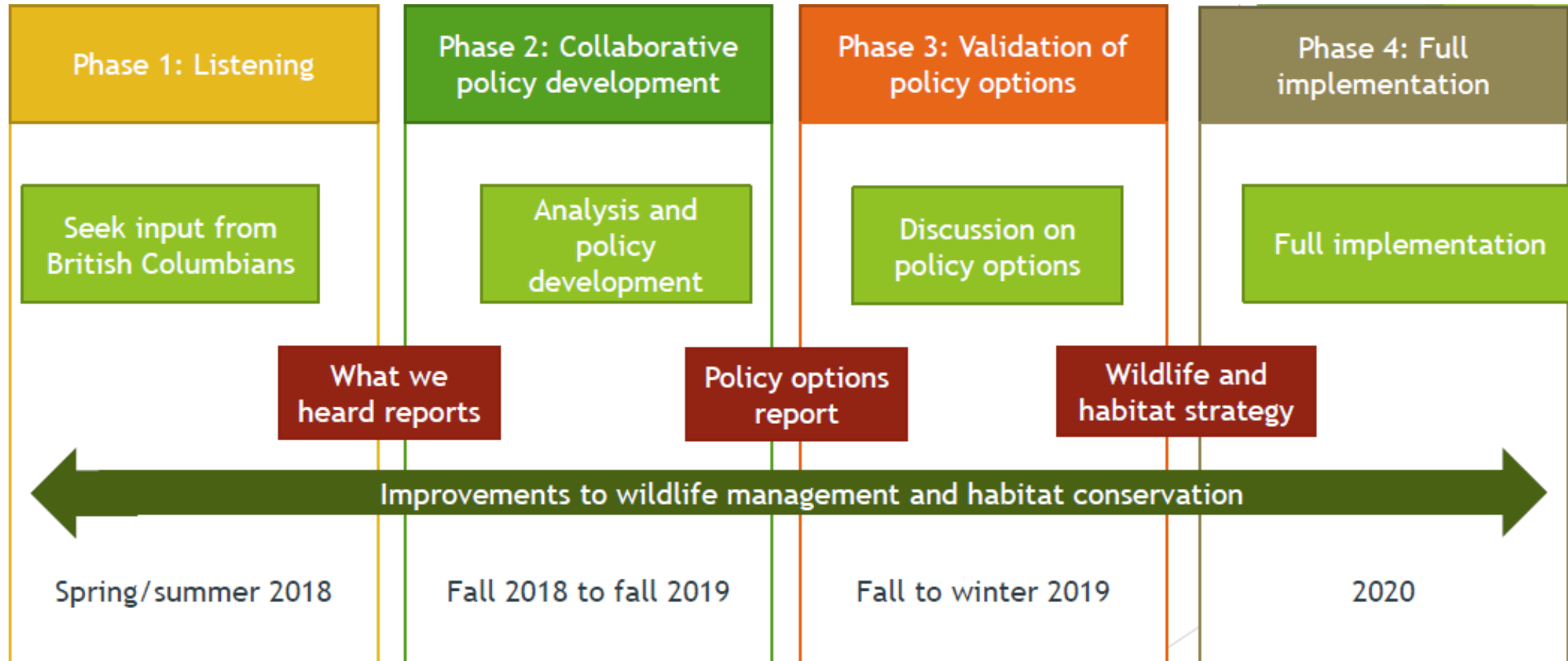
- Announced by Premier Horgan April 5 at COFI
- Declining timber supply driving the need,
- Maximize utilization of fibre, value added , climate change, wildfire resiliency.
- First Nations /community interests incorporated.
- TSA led processes, engagement sessions, FRPA amendments

Wildlife Enhancement

The top banner of the slide features the British Columbia flag on the left, which is a red field with a white saltire and a gold crown. To the right of the flag is a photograph of the British Columbia Parliament Building, a large, ornate structure with a prominent green dome, set against a clear blue sky.

- Provincial initiative – Improving Wildlife Management and Habitat Conservation in BC.
- Improve public trust and confidence, support reconciliation, advance wildlife management.
- Modernized wildlife management allows greater engagement of stakeholders into management planning and decision.

Wildlife Enhancement





THANK YOU