







- Total number of fires is decreasing
- Number of hectares burned increasing
- Number of extreme fire seasons increasing
- Cost is increasing





Trends are attributed to the following:

- Increasing Wildland Urban Interface
- Expanded industrial activity, most notably oil and gas operations in the northeast
- Climate change
- Changing forest stand conditions
- Escalation of fire risks in other provinces and jurisdictions

Forest Fire Fighting Strategy BCWS Resources

BCWS Resources

- 138 Initial Attack Crews
- 30 Unit Crews
- Contract Fire Crew
- Air Tankers and Helicopters on contract
- TEAMS members



Forest Fire Fighting Strategy Resource Exchange

Traditional agreements currently in place include:

- Pan Canadian resource sharing facilitated by the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre
- The North West Fire Compact which consists of Canadian and American jurisdictions



Forest Fire Fighting Strategy Past & Future

PAST

- Limited response to build-up of hazardous fuels
- Passive approach to ecological benefits of fire
- Limited inter-agency management of wildland fire
- Escalating costs and impacts

FUTURE

- Proactive management of fuel build up
- Active management for ecological benefits of fire
- Collaborative inter-agency land management
- More efficient response to wildfire outbreaks





Suppression, Prevention and Mitigation Funding/Programs

Suppression activities must be coupled with strong prevention and mitigation programs

- Wildfire suppression is funded through the Fire Prevention Vote which includes a statutory appropriation to expend funds required to suppress wildfires
- Prevention and mitigation through funding of:
 - Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia
 - Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative
 - BC Wildfire Service Prevention Program

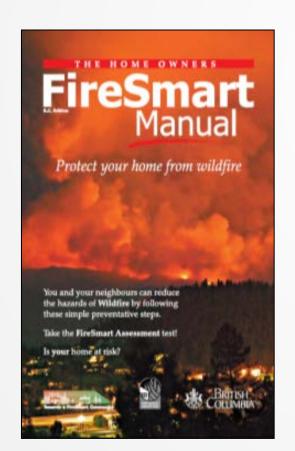


Prevention and mitigation of wildland fires is a shared responsibility:

- The risks and impacts of wildland fires are more than a forestry issue; they are public safety and economic sustainability concern
- All partners and stakeholders have a role to play: all levels of government, industry, and the general public



3 E's of Prevention









Canadian Wildland Fire Strategy Strategic Objectives

- Public education/awareness and policy/risk analysis;
- A Canadian FireSmart initiative;
- Preparedness and response capability; and
- Innovation





Canadian Wildland Fire Strategy Actions

- Enhance Horizontal Collaboration and Integration
- Enhance Prevention and Mitigation Capability
- Increase Investment in Innovation
- Enhance Commitment to FireSmart
- Increase Preparedness Capacity

