FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

APPLICATION GUIDE 2018 - 2019

Forest Enhancement
Society of British Columbia

Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia

Contents

INTAKE 5 PRIORITIES 3
Applicant Eligibility & How to Apply 3
Application Information & Recommendations 4
General Applications Requirements 4
Project Specific Application Requirements 4
Roles and Responsibilities 5
Applicant 5
FLNRORD Land Managers 6
FESBC 6
Project Eligibility and Selection 6
Key Selection Criteria 6
Additional Selection Criteria and Considerations 7
Application Prioritization Criteria 7
Application Decision Considerations 7
Application Review & Assessment 8
Project Implementation 8
Changes, Extensions & Reporting 9
Project Finance Direction and Guidelines 9
Guidelines on Project Costs and Budget 9
Tendering and Direct Awarding of Project Costs 10
Funding Continuation 10
Eligible Project Costs 10
Provincial Government Delivered Proposals 11
Additional Information 11
Audits and Site Visits 11
Event and Communications 11
Confidentiality 11

Application Support 11
Appendix 1: Guiding Principles on Tendering and Direct Award 12
Appendix 2: Utilization Project Opportunities 13
Appendix 3: Rehabilitation of fire damaged or low value stands 14
Appendix 4: Guiding Principles for FESBC Wildfire Risk Reduction Proposals 15

Photo credit: Dustin Melan

Forest Enhancement
Society of British Columbia

FESBC General Application Guide – 2018 / 2019

This document serves as the Forest Enhancement Society of BC's (FESBC or the Society) 2018 /2019 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. This guide is intended to be used as a companion document to the "Forest Enhancement Society of BC Guide to Submitting a Proposal," on the Forest Enhancement Society Information Management System (FESIMS) website: https://fesims.outcome-plus.com/.

INTAKE 5 PRIORITIES

Intake 5A – Carbon Emissions Reduction – Fibre Utilization

- Proposals resulting in residual fibre utilization

Intake 5B – Wildfire Risk Reduction and Other

- Priority is for proposals focused on Wildfire Risk Reduction Treatments
- Proposals for other FESBC purposes may be considered depending on the availability of funding
- All proposals must be consistent with Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) Integrated Investment Plan Priorities

Applicant Eligibility & How to Apply

Eligible Parties

Eligible parties seeking funding consideration are limited to the following:

- Forest Tenure Holders;
- First Nation Governments;
- Business entities performing or providing forestry services on behalf of the Provincial Government and/or Forest Sector industry;
- Local Governments;
- Conservation organizations; or
- Provincial Government agencies.

How to Apply

- FESBC has established a project intake process with key dates for submissions. These deadlines will be communicated via the website: www.fesbc.ca
- Each intake's priorities may differ based on purposes or strategy at the time of the intake. Intake opportunities may be limited to focus on specific Society purposes or FESBC may require an Expression of Interest first before an invitation is issued to submit a more detailed project proposal. The nature of the intake will be clearly articulated when the intake is advertised.
- Applications are to be submitted using the Forest Enhancement Society Information Management System (FESIMS): https://fesims.outcome-plus.com/. The FESIMS Guide for Applicants, available on the FESIMS site, provides instructions on the information and level of detail required in each application and will assist with the online application process.

Application Information & Recommendations

FESIMS is an online application portal for eligible proponents seeking FESBC funding. The information below is intended to complement and provide context for the information submitted in FESIMS.

The portal has specific areas to be completed and documents required including the objectives of the project, the area to be treated, maps, a well-defined cost estimate, projected timelines and intended results. This is detailed in the "FESIMS Application Submission Instructions" document available on the FESIMS website https://fesims.outcome-plus.com/.

KEY NOTES:

- **FESIMS submission content requirements may vary depending on the primary purpose associated with the project being applied for and will be clearly communicated at the time of the intake call. Applicants are advised to familiarize themselves with those requirements early to avoid unnecessary work in developing their applications.**
- **FESBC may from time to time establish funding maximums for projects and project priority areas.**
- **FESBC may actively solicit applications for priority purposes.**

General Applications Requirements

The following requirements for all FESBC funding applications must:

- Be applications for projects only on Provincial Crown Land;
- Include a summary of First Nations information sharing and stakeholder referral comments, a land status check (clearance) document, and a list of any authorizations and tenure requirements applicable to the project;
- Include a Spatial File (electronic Map) that clearly defines the area of the proposed activities, particularly if project outcomes include treatment areas;
- Clearly demonstrate that the proposed project activities do not include any activities that are part of existing legal tenure obligations;
- Provide details that demonstrate and ensures that a project treatment will occur within the proposed timelines and, if project phasing has been required, a summary of any investments already made;
- Clearly articulate if the proposal is requesting multi-year funding;
- Summarize risks and lost opportunity costs if the project does not proceed; and
- Provide a description of the value created and the efforts planned to create efficiency or to leverage other funds. Descriptions of collaboration with agencies, local governments, or other funding partners will enhance the application.

As the online application process will be open only for a specified duration, it is highly recommended proponents review the project requirements well in advance with FESBC to obtain any needed clarity as well as with applicable Ministry staff to ensure alignment with the land managers priorities.

Project Specific Application Requirements

Projects with certain primary objectives have specific submission requirements as follows:

- Projects that have "Improving Habitat" as a primary objective are to apply directly to the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF). FESBC and the HCTF have entered into a funding agreement where proposed projects primarily focused on improving wildlife habitat are submitted to HCTF's Restoration

and Enhancement Grants application process. These proposals must be submitted using the HCTF online application system by their intake deadline. Projects must meet HCTF criteria and priorities and will be considered as part of HCTF's regular intake cycle, in competition with other Restoration and Enhancement proposals. Detailed Information can be found on HCTF's website: http://www.hctf.ca/apply-for-funding/, with questions directed to staff at HCTF.

- FESBC and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) have entered into an agreement for proposed projects primarily focused on **"Wildfire Risk Reduction/Mitigation"** on Provincial Crown Land within municipal administrative boundaries. Projects proposed within those areas are to be submitted to UBCM - Community Resiliency Investment Programs application process. More information can be found at www.ubcm.ca.

- Wildfire risk reduction project proponents must consult and engage with the BC Wildfire Service local fire center Wildfire Prevention Officer regarding the proposed project prior to submitting an application. The list is here: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/fire-fuel-management/fuel-management

- Projects that propose to deliver on the purpose of **"treating forests to improve the management of greenhouse gases"** must be able to provide sufficient information to determine carbon benefits. These projects should be consistent with the provincial government's Forest Carbon Strategy 2016-2020: http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/nrs-climate-change/mitigation/bc_forest_carbon_strategy_09092016_sept_21.pdf or the most current FLNRORD forest carbon strategy document.

If your project meets multiple FESBC objectives, and the above objectives are secondary, apply directly to the FESBC. If you're uncertain where to apply and would like to discuss your proposal, please contact the FESBC: office@fesbc.ca or phone: 1.877.225.2010 to be directed to the appropriate regional Operations Manager.

NOTE: You may not apply to more than one funding program for the same project.

Applicants must ensure they meet the eligibility criteria, understand the project planning and selection processes and agree that FESBC is not bound to any condition or approval resulting directly or indirectly from the application for funding.

Roles and Responsibilities

Applicant

The Applicant is responsible for providing a complete application with enough information for the FESBC Board to make a funding decision. Incomplete or ambiguous applications may be rejected outright or receive conditional approval only.

Applicants should engage with FLNRORD staff to ensure their project development aligns with the Land Manager's priorities and Integrated Investment Plans.

Proponents must confirm any authorization requirements with local Land Managers.

Project planning should include summaries of the sources of available information that supported development of the project such as, but not limited to, landscape level stewardship initiatives; landscape level wildfire threat and risk assessments and mitigation plans; and Integrated or Type IV Silviculture plans.

See "Project Eligibility and Selection" for more planning related information.

FLNRORD Land Managers

FLNRORD Land Managers are responsible for all planning, permitting and monitoring activities on provincial Crown land.

FESBC Board of Directors have determined that project funding delivery will be most effective if the Land Manager develops a strategic overview of regional priorities in the form of map-based products to enable a coordinated funding approach. Until these strategic coordinated investment plans and maps are available through the province, it is understood that the Land Manager will utilize local knowledge about the following key themes as they participate in ranking project proposals:

- Areas requiring wildfire risk reduction/mitigation;
- Rehabilitation needs of fire damaged or low value stands;
- Wildlife habitat enhancement priorities;
- Fibre utilization opportunities; and
- Reduction of greenhouse gases.

FLNRORD reviews proposals for consistency with land management priorities and provide comments to FESBC.

FLNRORD may specify requirements or conditions associated with proposed activities to ensure they align with the stated priorities and communicate them to FESBC.

The Land Manager provides the required legal authorization for activities.

FESBC

- FESBC staff review land manager input and comments and, with consideration of the selection criteria and FESBC purposes, provide recommendations to the FESBC Board.
- The FESBC Board in consideration of land manager priorities and alignment with Society purposes makes the final funding decisions and establishes any applicable conditions.

Project Eligibility and Selection

Key Selection Criteria

Eligibility of project applications will initially be adjudicated against key selection criteria which are:

1. Consistent with Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) strategic priorities.

2. Consistent with local FLNRORD district and regional land management planning priorities and Integrated Investment Plans.

3. Activities to be completed on provincial Crown land and able to receive authorization from the Crown.

4. Focused on the delivery of treatment activities.

5. Able to meet Society goals and strategic priorities and address one or more FESBC purposes:
    - Preventing and mitigating the impact of wildfires;
    - Improving damage or low value stands (Forest rehabilitation);
    - Improving habitat for wildlife;
    - Supporting the use of fibre from damaged and low value forests (Fibre Recovery);
    - Treating forests to improve the management of greenhouse gases (Utilization/Avoided Carbon emissions).

6. Incremental to existing tenure obligations.

Additional Selection Criteria and Considerations

- Opportunities to combine FESBC funding on the provincial Crown land base with other funding sources (ex. Columbia Basin Trust) and/or create synergies with adjacent projects or Timber Supply Area (TSA) /landscape/community strategies;
- Community/First Nations government support;
- Demonstrate value for money - based on FESBC Board of Directors' evaluation. A higher value may be placed on projects that provide lower funding costs per area treated;
- Previous experience delivering FESBC funded projects, specifically successful contract completion, budgetary performance, value for money, deliverables and results;
- Overall environmental and resource stewardship value for British Columbia's forests;
- Highest combined benefit to Society; or
- Alignment with BC Wildfire Service priorities for wildfire risk reduction activities.

Application Prioritization Criteria

The Board anticipates that many projects will satisfy the selection considerations and criteria given the significant provincial Crown land base available for treatment. As such, the FESBC Board may place a high priority on proposed projects that satisfy multiple FESBC purposes as follows:

- Wildfire risk reduction/mitigation – prioritized based on reduction to wildfire risk for communities, critical infrastructure, First Nations cultural values, timber supply and special features such as parks and protected areas identified in current Community Wildfire Protection Plans, Fire Management Plans and/ or fuel management treatment plans acceptable to FESBC. **(See Appendix 4)**
- Wildlife habitat enhancement – prioritized based on provincial priorities and habitat management plans.
- Rehabilitation of fire damaged or low value stands – including mountain pine beetle (MPB) killed stands and other stands considered low priority for harvesting through existing licenses. Prioritized based on contribution to improving timber supply and reflective of overall timber supply area collaborative planning. **(See Appendix 3)**
- Avoided Carbon Emission – "Increasing fibre utilization through the avoidance of burning residual fibre." **(See Appendix 2)**
- Opportunities to attain carbon benefits – prioritized based on guidance provided through the Provincial Forest Carbon Initiative. Projects that claim to deliver on the purpose of "treating forests to improve the management of greenhouse gases" must be able to provide sufficient information to determine carbon benefits. These projects should also be consistent with the provincial government's Forest Carbon Strategy 2016-2020, or the most current forest carbon strategy document (produced by FLNR0RD).

Application Decision Considerations

- Applications that best demonstrate that they meet the selection criteria will be prioritized for funding; however, meeting the selection criteria does not guarantee that funding will be provided.
- Applicants must provide sufficient information to support a thorough assessment of their project, including identification of measurable benefits.

- Applicants must demonstrate their level of engagement with the FLNRORD district, region, or relevant Land Manager to ensure project alignment with Land Manager priorities. This is to be documented in the application process, where applicable. Planning and discussion should occur prior to the opening of the online portal to avoid a resource or timing issue and to allow for meaningful dialogue with District staff.
- Alignment with FESBC purposes - the FESBC Board of Directors will strive to ensure that funding is directed to the highest priority projects available for treatment with the greatest value for money that fall within the purposes of the Society.

Application Review & Assessment

A FLNRORD review team will provide comments to FESBC on each proposal's alignment with the Land Manager's priorities and the projects technical merit. It is important to clearly understand and explain how your project aligns with strategic land use plans.

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, eligible applicants may be contacted and additional information requested. The selection process will be objective and unbiased.

- FESBC will seek to make decisions within two to three months after the application intake deadline;
- Applicants will not be notified of the ongoing status of their applications during the review and assessment process;
- FESBC will provide written notification of project approval along with any terms or conditions of the funding approval;
- Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by telephone; and
- Funding decisions are final. Applications that are not funded in one intake period may be re-submitted in a future intake period.

Project Implementation

- Upon project approval, FESBC will notify the project proponent and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), our funding delivery partner.
- FESBC approval does <u>not</u> convey approval for works to commence.
- PwC will provide a funding recipient agreement to the proponent of PwC administered projects. A Recipient Agreement includes a work plan which will identify project milestones as well as a payment schedule. PwC administered projects will utilize PwC information management systems and are expected to fully meet Recipient Agreement terms and conditions. Proponents are required to submit the details of their project plan and any additional information through FESIMS to PwC for final approval prior to commencing work.
- All proposals that receive approval, approval in principle or approval with conditions will be required to be updated and managed within Investment Schedules and subsequent detailed project plans within FESIMS. Project activities must receive project plan approval from PwC prior to commencement.
- Activities will follow workplans with established Provincial standards. 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.
- A notice of commencement and notice of completion will be provided by PwC to the Land Manager.

- Formal First Nations information sharing and stakeholder referral processes must be completed as required by the Land Manager.
- FESBC will not waive or assume any legal obligation for land management activities.
- Contract tendering and cost guidelines are to be followed for project implementation. A copy of these guidelines can be found at the following link: https://fesims.outcome-plus.com/Content/Files/FESBC%20Tendering%20and%20Cost%20Guidelines%20-%20January%202018.pdf.
- Habitat leading projects jointly funded with the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) will be delivered through HCTF agreements and conditions. Visit http://www.hctf.ca/apply-for-funding/ for more information and to apply.

Changes, Extensions & Reporting

Project Changes and Extensions

Approved project funding is specific to the project as proposed in the application. Funds are not transferable to other projects without prior approval. Any significant variation from the approved project will need to be reviewed and approved with PwC and FESBC prior to being implemented.

In general, all approved activities are to be completed within the term specified in the original project approval. All extensions beyond this term require a request in writing which must be approved by PwC and FESBC.

Project Final Reporting

Proponents are required to submit an electronic copy of project deliverables, including the following:

- Copies of assessments, results, plans, or any other product that was developed or updated as part of project and identified as a deliverable;
- Completed final report;
- Financial summary; and
- Submission of data to RESULTS and other repositories, as required by authorizations.

Final reports should be submitted as either word or PDF files. If the submission is electronic, additional hard copies are not required by FESBC.

All projects delivered through PwC must follow the recipient agreement reporting and project management requirements.

Project Finance Direction and Guidelines

Guidelines on Project Costs and Budget

- A financial plan is to be submitted using tables provided in the application portal https://fesims.outcome-plus.com. **Attachments must be uploaded and provide a detailed cost breakdown to enable evaluation of cost-effectiveness.**
- Summarize contributions from other funding sources or in-kind partnerships that are expected to contribute to the project, as appropriate, ex. research grants.

- Funding from other government programs (federal or provincial) can contribute to the overall project funding. When project funding is provided from other government programs, applicants must identify the program and provide a government contact.

- If applicable, a description of how the project is financially coordinated with Land Based Investment Strategy initiatives, (ex. Forests for Tomorrow), including use of Innovative Timber Sale Licenses within the Timber Supply Area.
- Financial metrics will be associated with milestones and will require reporting consistent with Provincial Government reporting requirements. For multi-year projects, the fiscal year end of March 31st will be a milestone and all recipient agreements will have specific reporting requirements to be met by March 31st.
- Proposals will be evaluated against the expectation that treatment costs of the project will be net of revenue generated from the sale of wood products.

Tendering and Direct Awarding of Project Costs

Projects will be evaluated on overall cost effectiveness and value creation. Most projects will generally require competitive tendering to ensure market value. Some decisions may be made by the FESBC Board pertaining to significant direct award requirements as part of the Board's approval processes.

All Carbon Eligible proposals must follow Provincial procurement policies. For reference, guiding principles for tendering and direct award are found in **Appendix 1.**

Funding Continuation

Annual projects
Approved projects delivered through PwC are valid for a 12-month period from the allocation date, subject to milestone reporting in alignment with the Government's fiscal year end of March 31st.

Multi-year projects that receive multi-year approval by the FESBC Board
Projects will be managed on an annual reallocation. All annual reporting and milestone reporting for Government fiscal year ends must be completed on multi-year projects prior to receiving the allocation for the next year.

Multi-year projects that receive a single year approval by the FESBC Board
These projects are treated simply as an annual project. New funding applications requiring Board approval will be required for the subsequent year.

Eligible Project Costs

Project costs that may be considered by the FESBC Board of Directors include:

- Planning;
- Information sharing and meetings with Agencies, First Nations and stakeholders;
- Prescriptions;
- Treatments; or
- Overhead.

Costs that will not be considered include:

- Costs committed to meet objectives outside of FESBC criteria;
- Expenses or costs paid or committed to by others;
- Costs that are considered tenure obligations; or
- Costs that are incurred prior to receiving project plan approval.

Provincial Government Delivered Proposals

In addition to the previous guidelines, the following apply to Ministry delivered projects:

- Provincial Government agencies are eligible to apply for funding as lead proponents.
- Provincial proposals will be reviewed within the same framework as all other proposals received during the call.
- Approval letters will specify funding amounts. Investment schedules will be managed by FESBC and project plans will be administered by lead Ministry staff.
- 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.
- Ministry leads will initiate and submit project amendments required by FESBC.
- FESBC will pay the Ministry on approved project plan milestones on a "recovery basis" as per the agreed to process.
- Project implementation of approved project plans will be the full responsibility of Ministry staff.

Additional Information

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 in order for FESBC to examine project progress and confirm documentation. This may include site visits during or post operations from FLNRORD staff as part of overall proposal coordination and effectiveness evaluation.

Event and Communications

The funding agreement may require the following:

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

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.*

Application Support

If you have any questions not addressed in the Application Guide, please see our website: https://fesbc.ca/

Further support is available from FESBC staff: office@fesbc.ca
Phone: 1.877.225.2010 or 778.765.0980

The FESBC Information Management System Guide for Applicants is available here: https://fesims.outcome-plus.com/

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:
>
> A) The Recipient will ensure that, in respect of its Projects:
>
> (i) all subcontracts greater than $50,000 for a given Project will be tendered through a competitive bidding process;
>
> (ii) 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;
>
> (iii) 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: FESBC Contract Tendering and Cost Guidelines
>
> B) 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.
>
> C) Prior to project approval, the Administrator may relieve the Recipient from tendering requirements under subsections 7.5 or 7.6 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.

Relief as described above may also be considered during FESBC Board review of the projects for approval if specified during the project intake/submission and formally requested as part of the project submission. Subsequently, those projects with Board approval may have detailed requirements specific to competitive tendering or relief of that requirement. Examples may include, but are not limited to, the following:

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

NOTE:
Proposals delivered by the Ministry and proposals deemed Carbon Eligible must follow Provincial Government procurement policy.

Appendix 2: Utilization Project Opportunities

Avoided Carbon Emission - Utilization Projects Considered for Funding

1. Residual piles to be utilized for bio products

FESBC funding is available to industry applicants to produce these products where the only alternative to utilization is burning:

- Hog fuel;
- Bio fuel; or
- Wood chips.

FESBC funding will be considered for the purpose of bridging the economic gap between maximum market prices and delivered costs.

2. Incremental haul – utilization of pulpwood from beyond current market limits

Projects that increase the utilization of forest biomass beyond current market reach will be considered. Proposals should indicate how much biomass can be utilized that would otherwise be left on site and the intended market destination. The proposal must describe baseline forest practices and how the proposed funding will reduce the amount of biomass that otherwise would be burnt or left unutilized.

FESBC funding will be considered for projects that clearly demonstrate opportunity beyond current market limits and utilization or conversion of the biomass to longer life forest products or energy sources.

Additional Application Submission Requirements:

Proposals submitted for these opportunities will require a detailed explanation of the following points:

- Project overview, including geographic location of target blocks, cycle time and distance to facility;
- Project timelines and deliverables;
- Funding amount requested from FESBC;
- Fibre supply issues being experienced and why;
- Evidence of recent fibre purchase agreements for proof FESBC is funding only the portion of the delivered logs costs that exceeds the maximum purchase price in the market-shed;
- Confirmation that the proposal will not result in fibre displacement – submission of a "non-displacement" declaration; and
- Partnership/Fibre sales agreements with license holders.

NOTE: Upload attachments to the application in FESIMS as required to fully explain the above requirements

Funding Decision Considerations:

In addition to all existing FESBC eligibility criteria found on the FESBC website and FESIMS, funding decisions for utilization projects will be made based on the following:

- Lowest unit cost to FESBC and maximum biomass utilized;
- Consideration of risk of market fibre displacement;
- FLNRORD's Office of the Chief Forester, Forest Carbon Advisor's determination of eligibility to contribute positively to Provincial Carbon Objectives;
- Ease of implementation as demonstrated by proponent having labor, equipment, tenures, authorizations and business agreements in place; and
- Partnerships with First Nations and/or communities.

Maximum proposal funding limit is $1,500,000 per year, up to 3 years.

Appendix 3: Rehabilitation of fire damaged or low value stands

Opportunities considered eligible for funding:

1. Full stand harvest (conversion) or partial cut harvesting and utilization

- Harvested under a cutting authority as described in the BC Interior Appraisal Manual in section 6.11.
- Requires meeting an uneconomic threshold as defined by FESBC and requires the licensee to sell the sawlog volume in a competitive arms-length manner.
  NOTE: Contact FESBC for the current applicable uneconomic threshold
- This opportunity is available to forest tenure holders who don't own primary log break-down facilities such as sawmills, plywood/veneer plants, etc., but whole log chippers/grinders are eligible to apply.

Maximum proposal funding limit $1,500,000 each.

2. Stand Improvement projects that increase the productivity of damaged or low value stands

- Where the activity can be clearly demonstrated as incremental to license obligations.
- Includes activities such as removal of competing damaged or infested stems (sanitation), commercial and pre-commercial thinning (spacing).
- Proposed treatments must align with the Land Manager's priorities for type and location of activity.

Maximum proposal funding limit $250,000 each.

Appendix 4: Guiding Principles for FESBC Wildfire Risk Reduction Proposals

General Wildfire Risk Reduction Principles

- Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRR) proposals are required to be aligned with FLNRORD Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Risk Class Maps, (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/fire-fuel-management/wui-risk-class-maps), in addition to Land Manager priorities as identified in the Integrated Investment Plans. These WUI Risk Class Maps provide preliminary guidance regarding priority areas of interest for planning and fuel management activities.
- Priority for risk reduction proposals may be given to projects that focus on mitigating large scale impacts to multiple WUI areas at high risk as defined by the WUI Risk Class Maps and that are supported by the BC Wildfire Service Wildfire Prevention Officer: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/fire-fuel-management/fuel-management.
- WRR projects must be consistent with principles outlined in this appendix and meet government objectives for fuel management.

Wildfire Risk Reduction Planning Proposal Principles

- WRR planning proposals must be consistent with the WRR BC Wildfire Service Planning Standards and be directly supported by the Land Manager and BCWS local BC Wildfire Service Wildfire Prevention Officer.
- If considering a planning project at the landscape unit or watershed scale, contact the BCWS WPO (see above) for further information regarding prioritization criteria for planning projects such as the total area of cumulative WUI and critical infrastructure at increased risk and significant landscape level risk to resource values (timber, species at risk).
- WRR planning proposal objectives must result in an outcome that identifies where specific fuel management activities will occur.

Wildfire Risk Reduction Fuel Management Activities Proposal Principles

- Fuel management activities may include prescription development and operational fuel reduction treatments, including prescribed burning.
- Fuel management activities must be identified as a priority in an existing plan such as a CWPP, Wildfire Risk Reduction or Fire Management Plan, contain an appropriate rationale, and be supported by the local BC Wildfire Service Wildfire Prevention Officer and FESBC.
- In cases where no plan exists, proposed fuel management activities will require support from FESBC and the local fire centre Wildfire Prevention Officer.
- 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 behaviour 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 behaviour

- 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.