Skeena Region Steering Committee Meeting

April 25th, 2023

Territorial Acknowledgement

- Binche Whu’ten
- Carcross-Tagish First Nation
- Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
- Cheslatta Carrier Nation
- Fort Nelson First Nation
- Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs
- Gitga’at First Nation
- Gitxaala Nation
- Gitxsan Hereditary Chiefs
- Haisla Nation
- Heiltsuk Nation
- Iskut First Nation
- Kitselas First Nation
- Kitsumkalum First Nation
- Kwadacha Nation
- Lake Babine Nation
- Lax Kw’alaams Band
- Liard First Nation
- Metlakatla First Nation
- Nadleh Whut’en First Nation
- Nee-Tahi-Buhn Band
- Nisga’a Nation
- Nuxalk Nation
- Office of the Wet’suwet’en
- Skin Tyee Nation
- Stellat’en First Nation
- Tahltan Central Government
- Takla Nation
- Taky River Tlingit First Nation
- Teslin Tlingit Council
- Tl’azt’en Nation
- Tsetsaut Skii Km Lax Ha Nation
- TsΓÇÖil Kaz Koh First Nation
- Ulkatcho First Nation
- Wet’suwet’en First Nation
- Witset First Nation
- Yekooche First Nation

New Staff to Skeena Region

Janelle Paulson

Skeena Region First Nations Manager

Action Items from October 25-26, 2022 TSA Steering Committee Meetings

Action Item	Lead	Status
Provide details of bark beetle forum scheduled for November 2022 to TSA Steering Committee	Celia Boone	Done
Notify TSA Steering Committee members when updated bark beetle polygons are available on Skeena Region Bark Beetle portal	Ben Timmerman	Done

Additions to Agenda?

Forest Health Update

Maciej Jamrozik

FOREST HEALTH UPDATE

SKEENA REGION

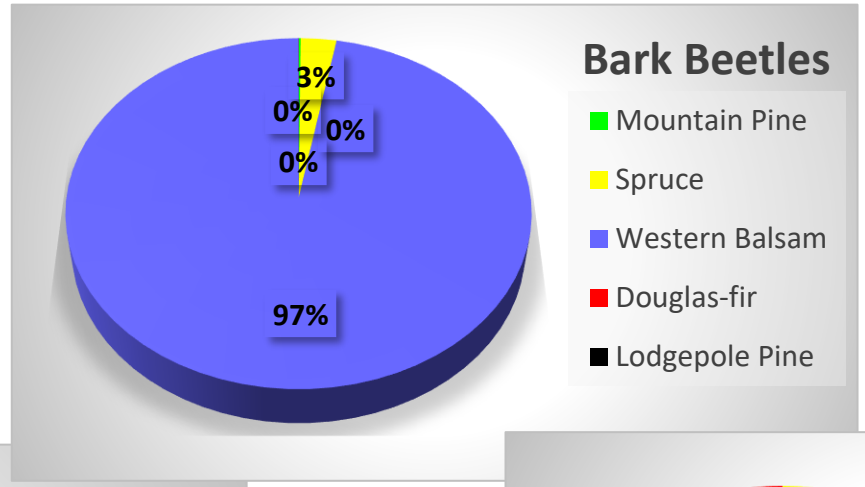
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

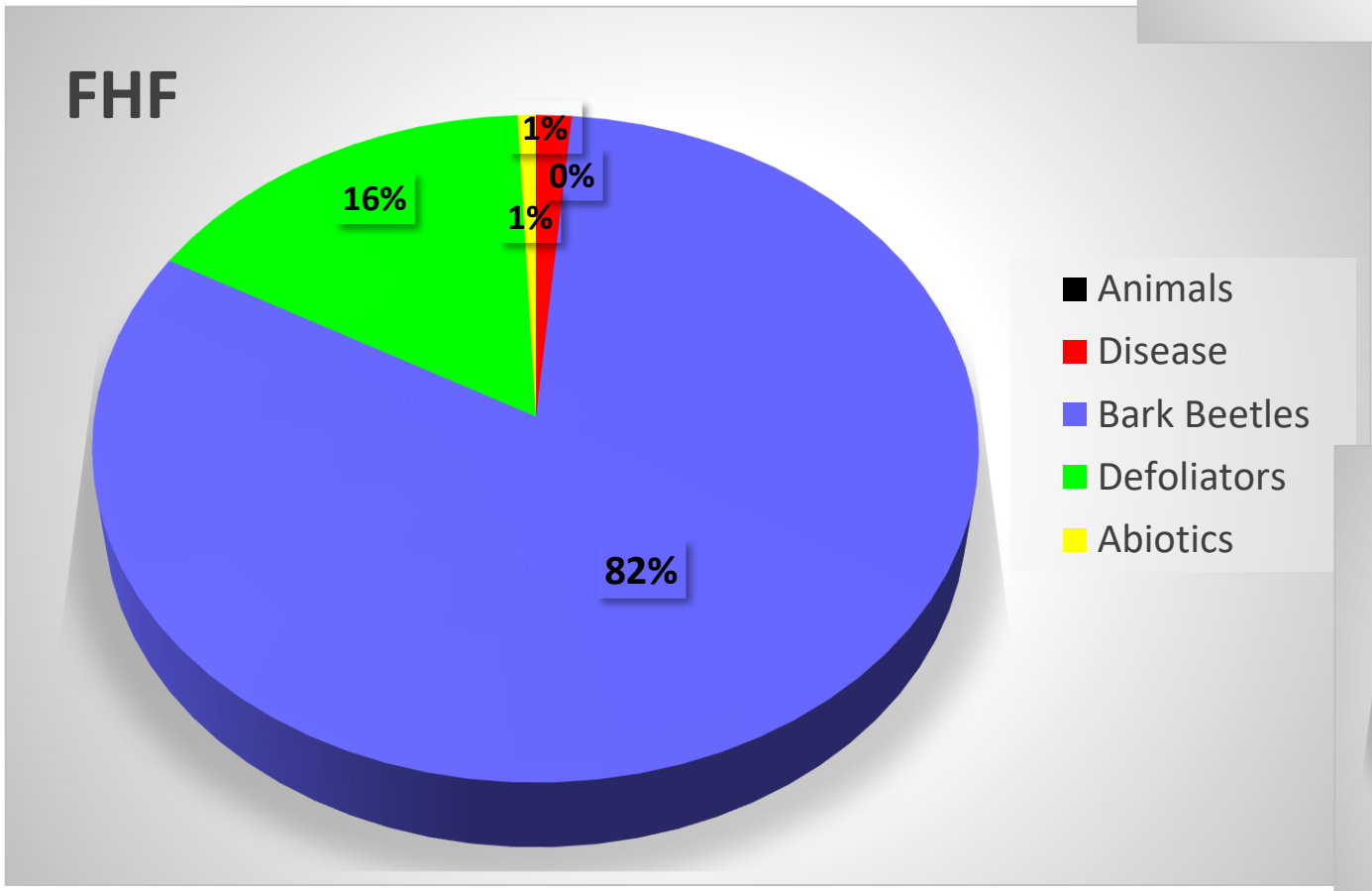
25 APRIL 2023

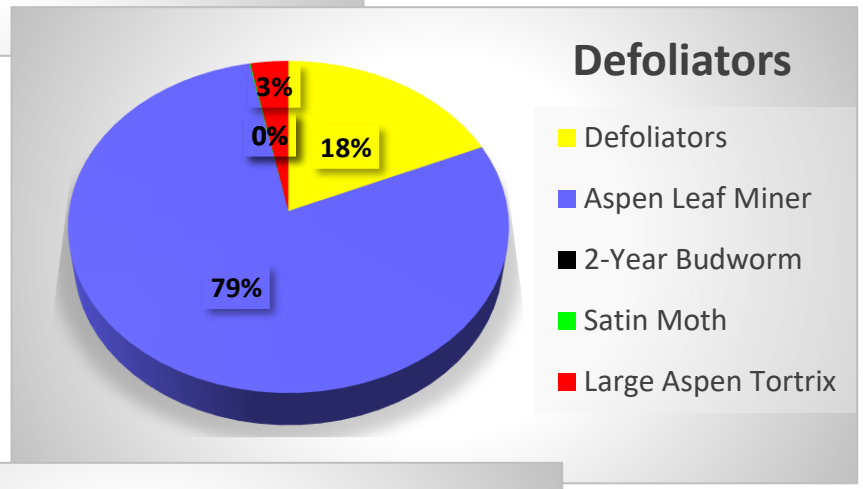
PROVINCIAL AOS 2022

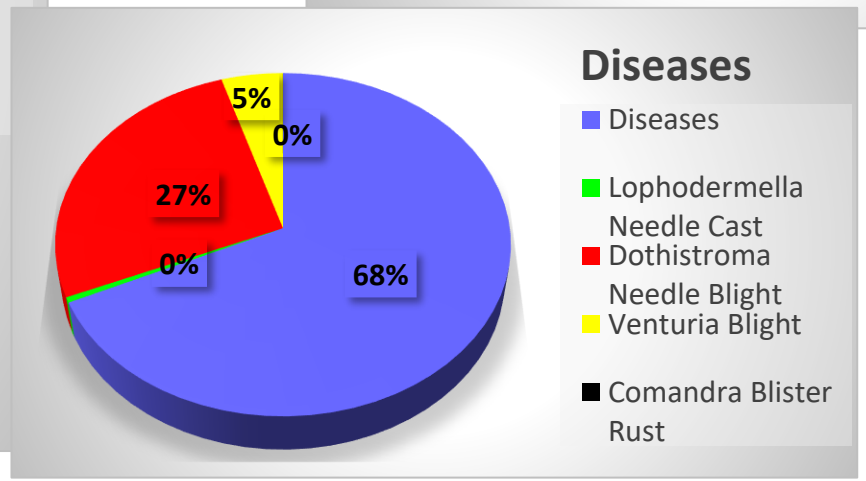
SKEENA REGION

Percent total area (ha)



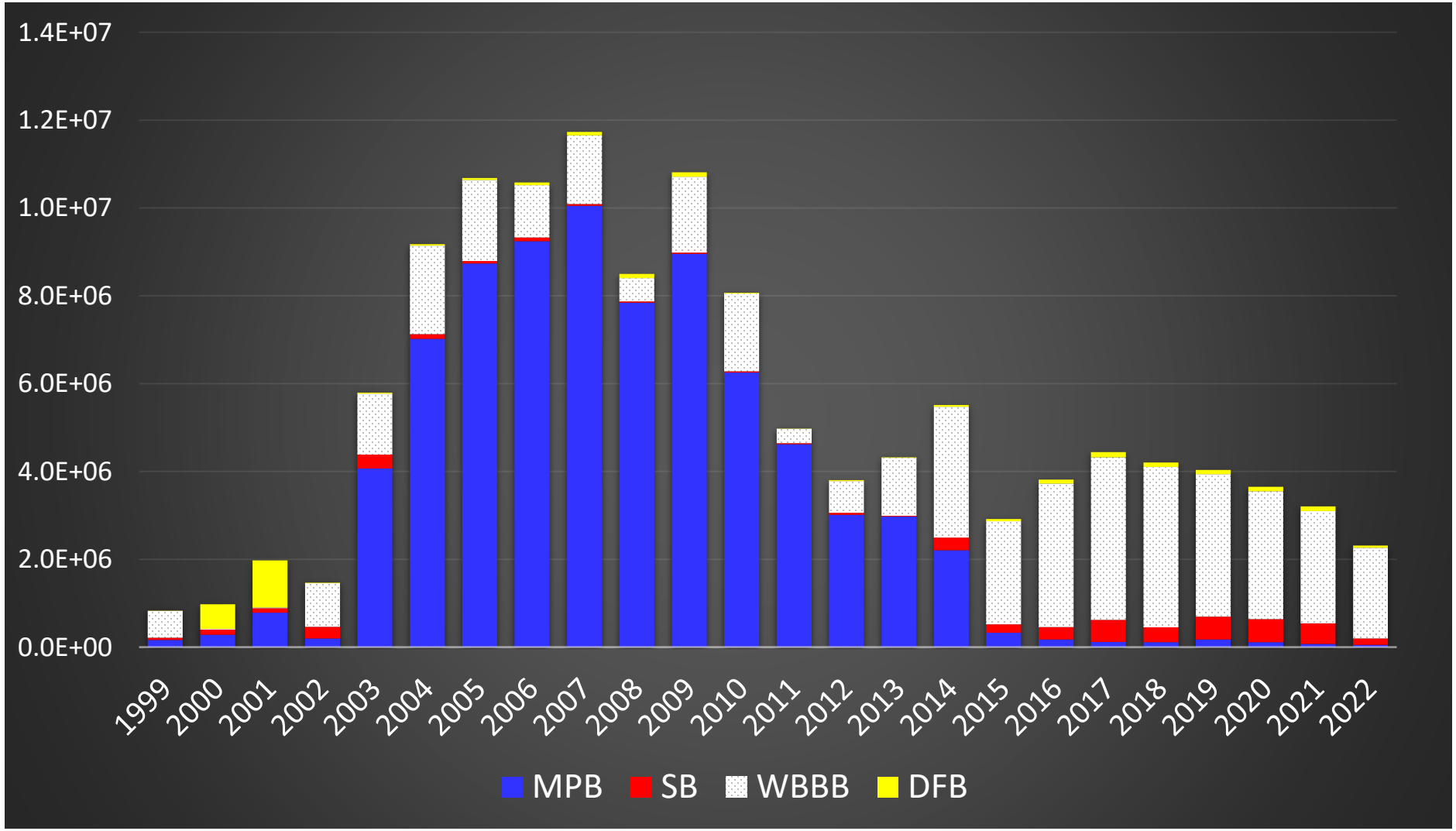






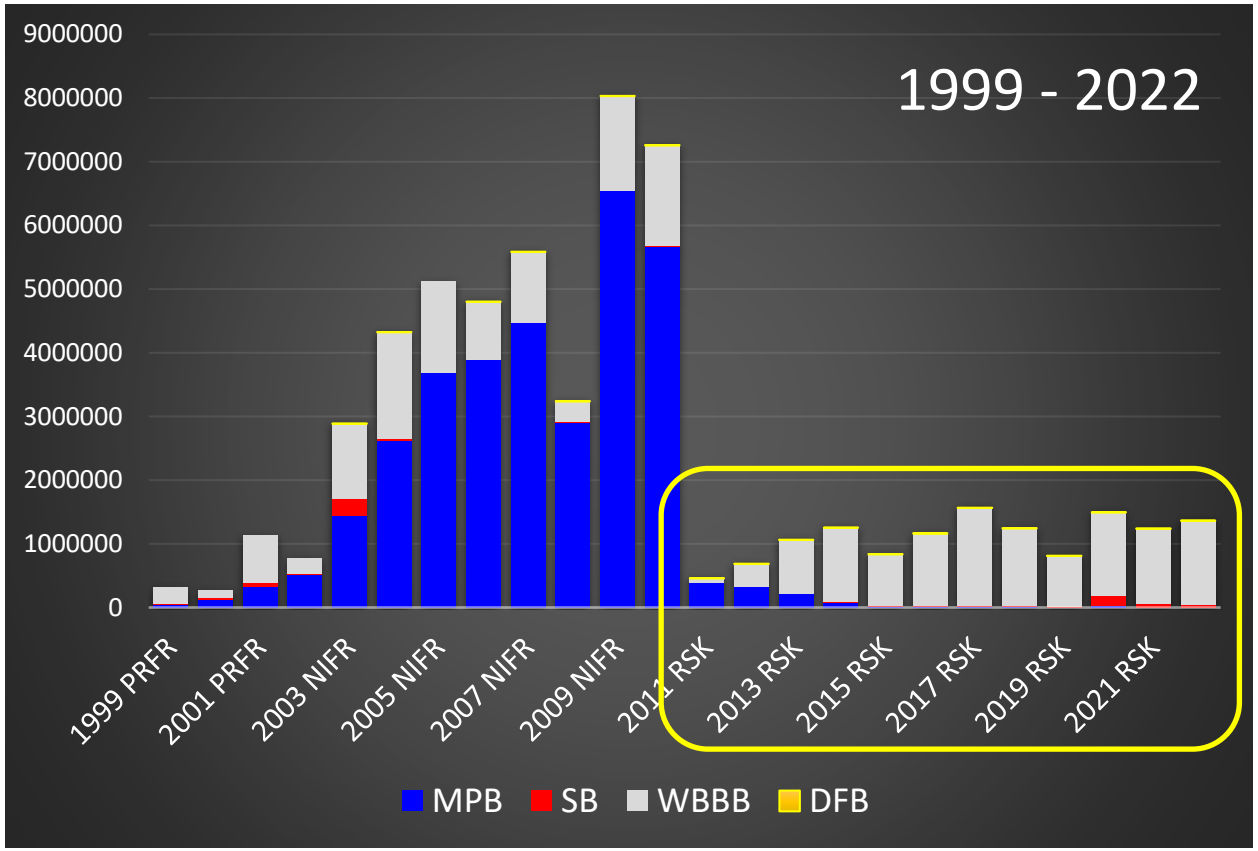
BARK BEETLES 1999 - 2022

PROVINCIAL TOTAL AREA AFFECTED (ha)

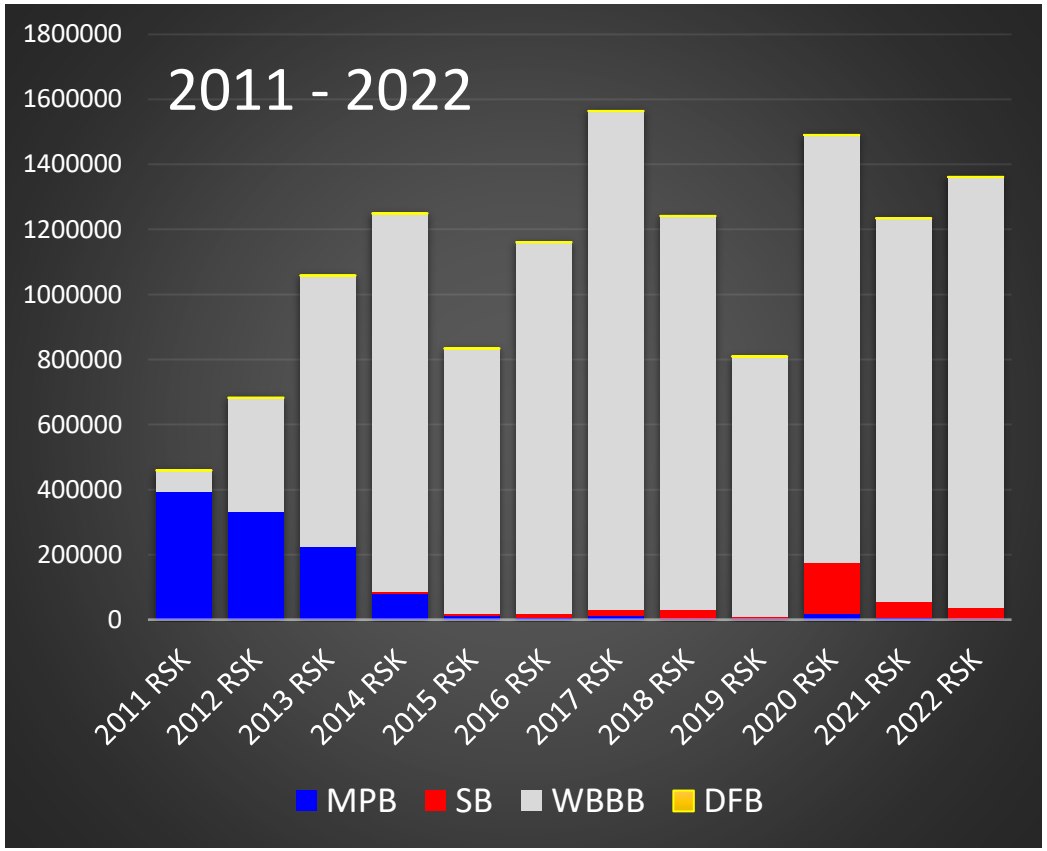


BARK BEETLES 2022

SKEENA TOTAL AREA AFFECTED (ha)



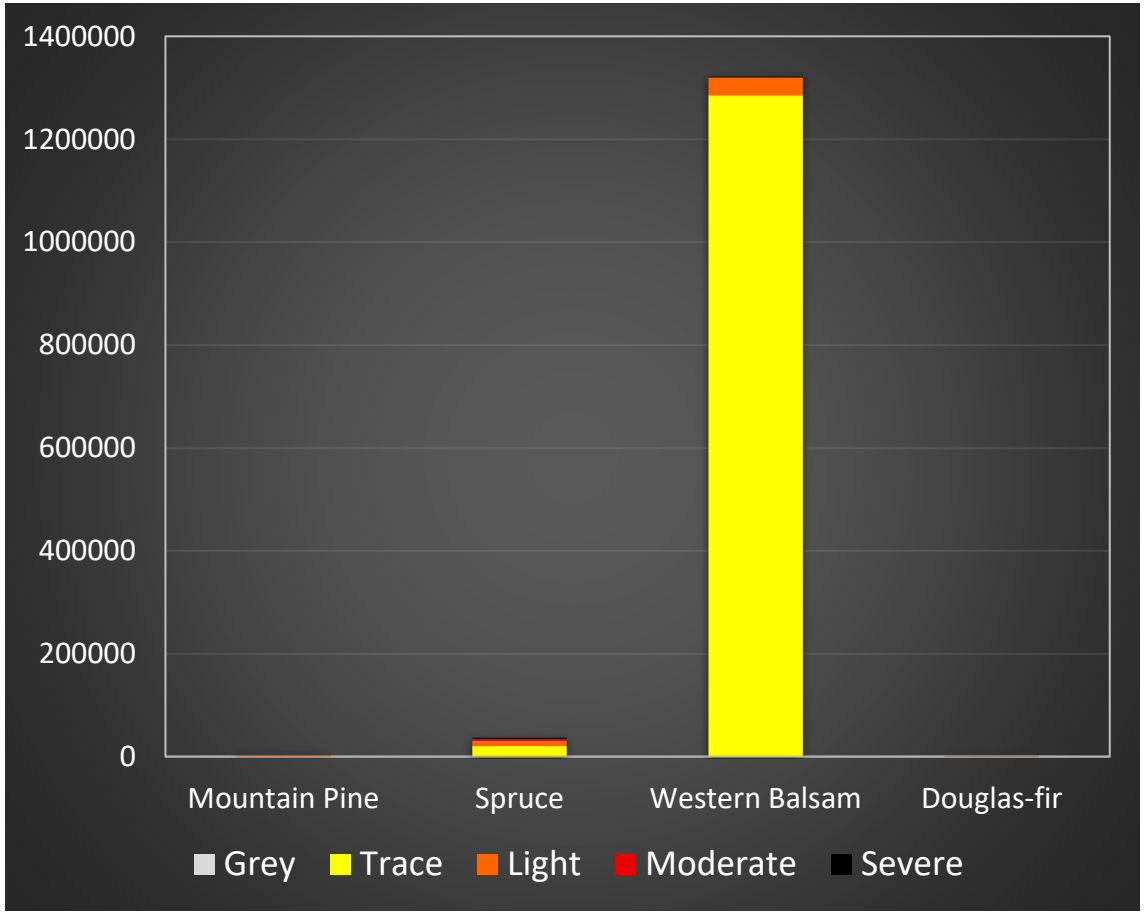
Skeena Region



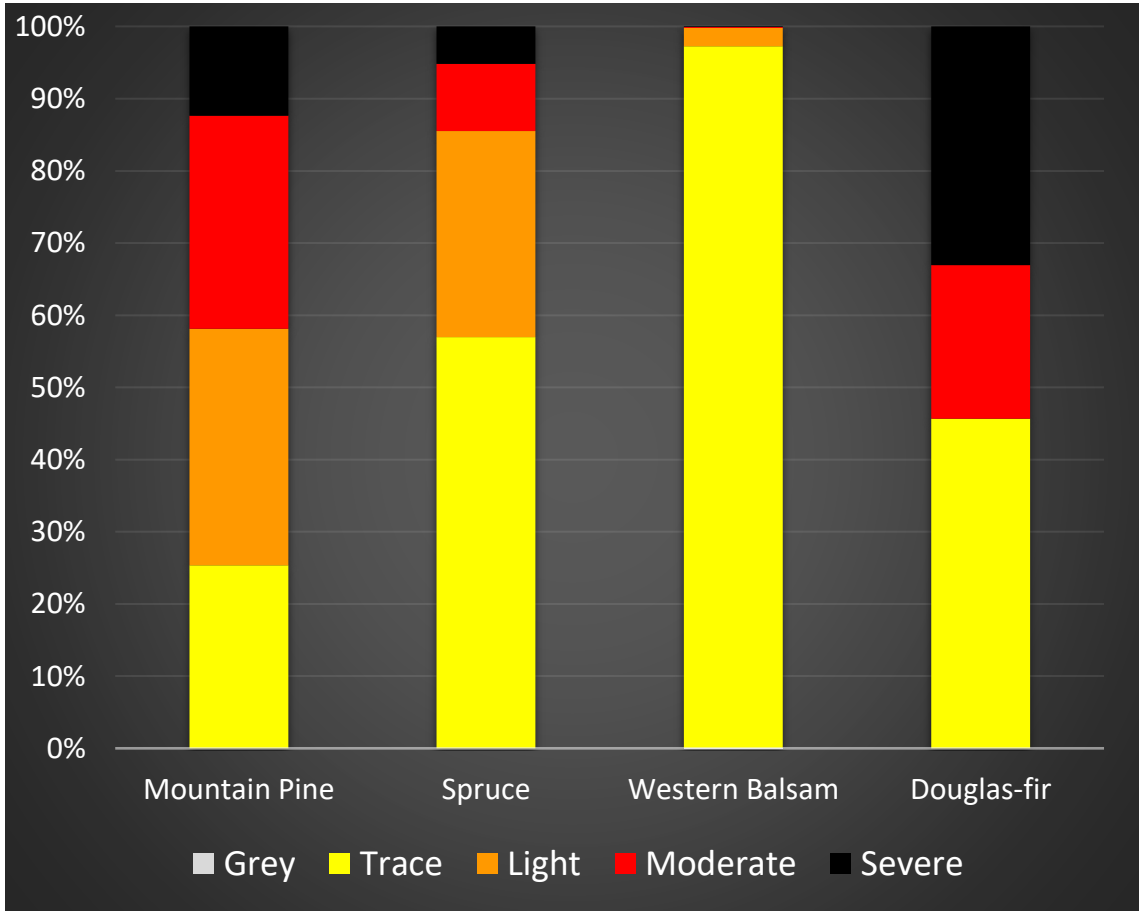
BARK BEETLES 2022

SKEENA: by SEVERITY

Total area affected (ha)

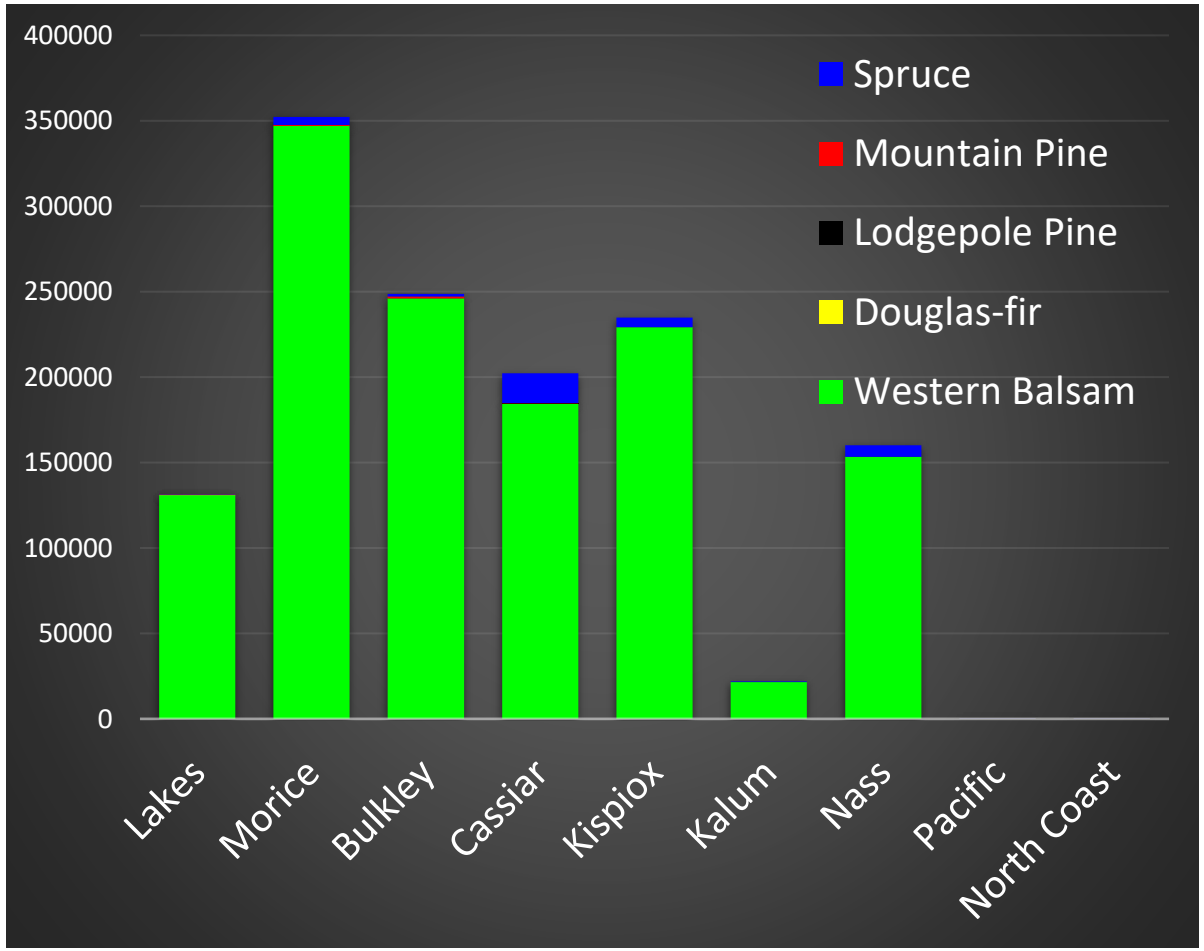


Percent total area affected

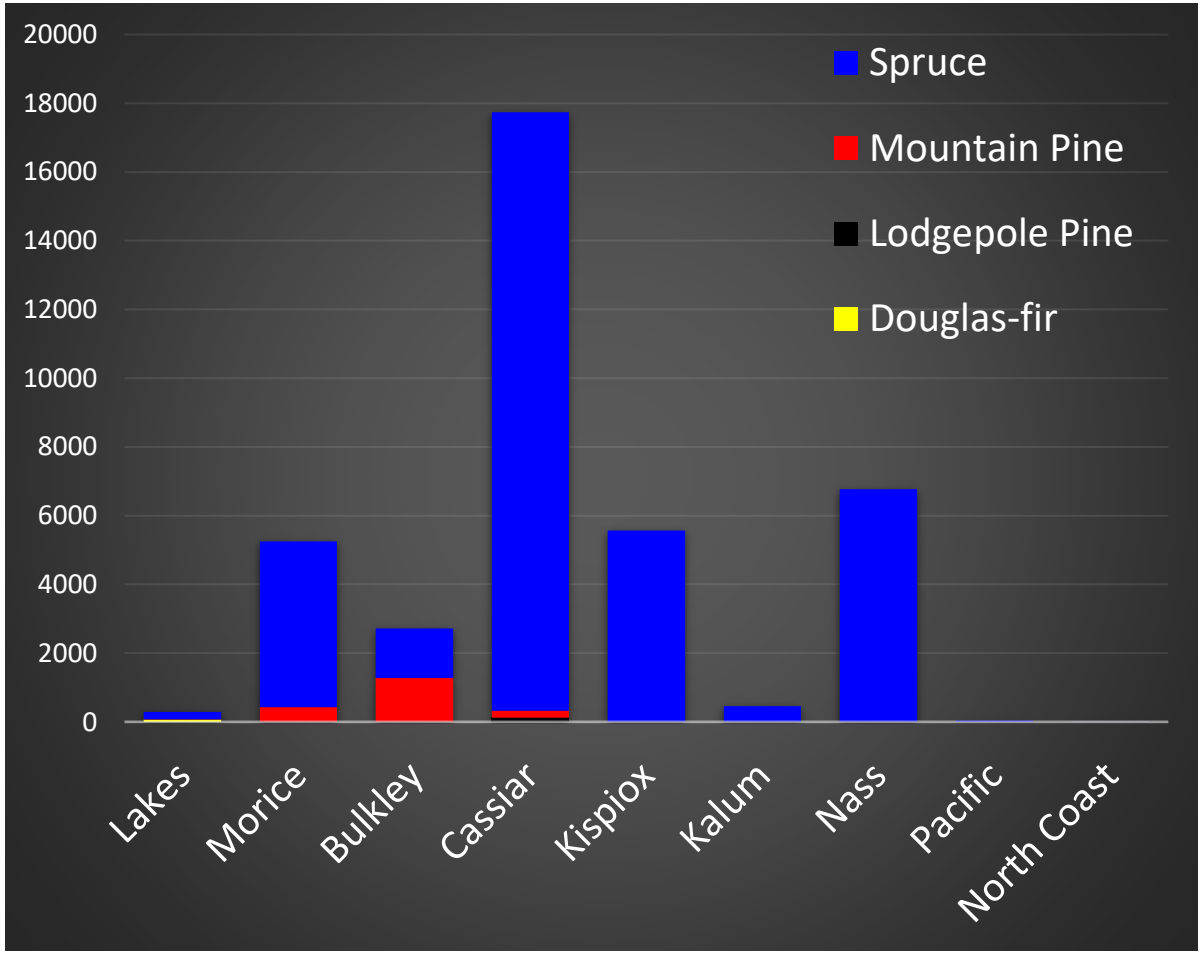


BARK BEETLES 2022

TSA TOTAL AREA AFFECTED (ha)



Excluding WBBB



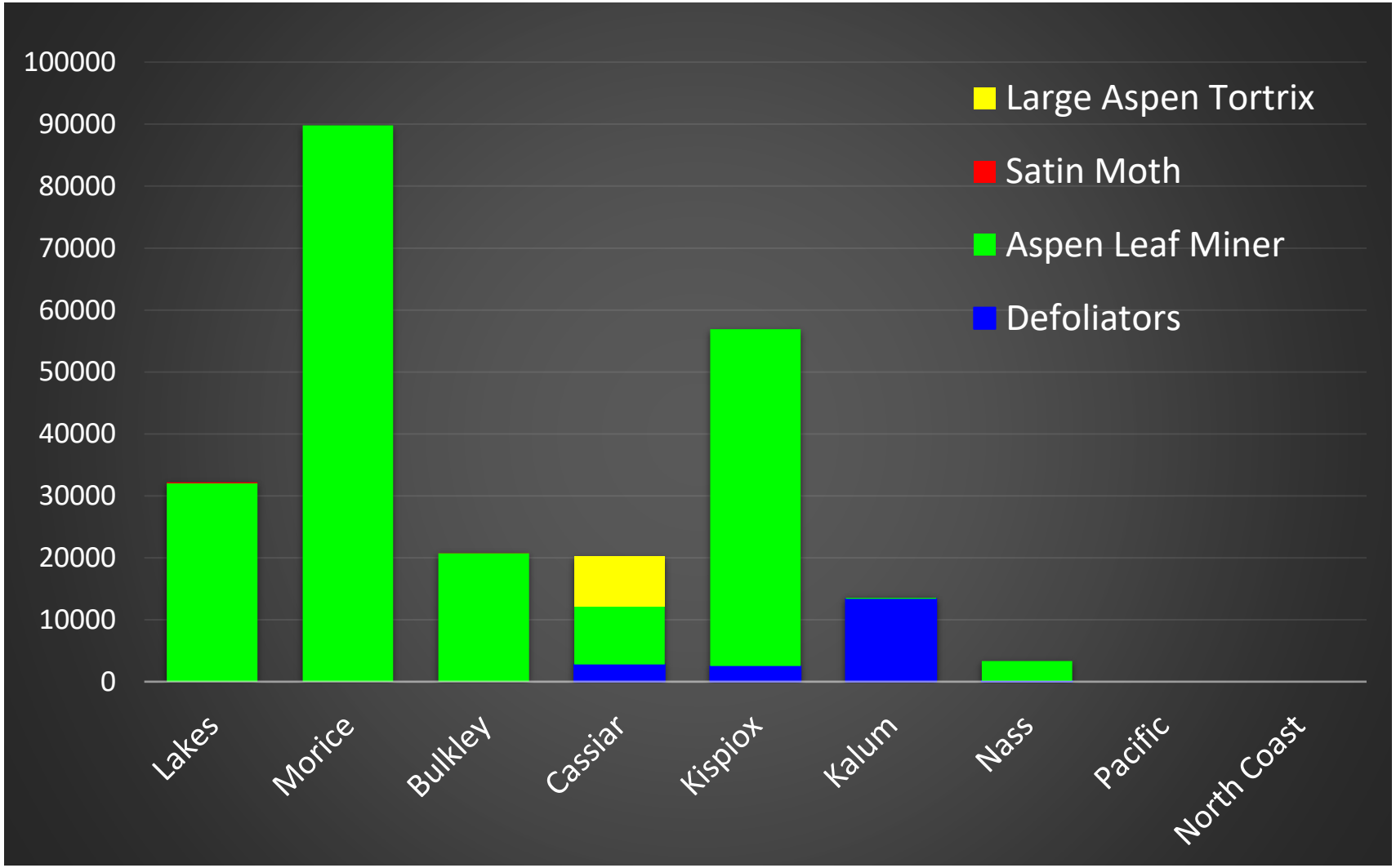
HEMLOCK DEFOLIATOR

PROVINCIAL AOS 2022

Coastal Islands

PROVINCIAL AOS 2022

DEFOLIATORS by TSA



HEMLOCK DEFOLIATOR

DCM FH RECCE 2022

North Copper

HEMLOCK DEFOLIATOR

Field diagnosis in DCM: likely blackheaded budworm

ENDEMIC MPB MONITORING

Endemic populations

Populations that exist at extremely low densities, below the threshold density required to mass attack and kill a tree.

Typically colonize moribund trees, which are often colonized by secondary bark beetles, and are incapable of producing any pitch response

Not detected during aerial surveys and regular ground surveys

Main objectives:

1. Determine where endemic MPB populations are present on the landscape, and the characteristics of stands supporting endemic populations
2. Evaluate the efficacy of 4 semiochemical lures for detecting endemic MPB populations
3. Assess the potential to use a lure series to detect emerging MPB infestations

Approach: Deploy funnel traps at sites which vary in:

i. MPB population density

ii. Amount of susceptible pine (i.e., amount of large diameter, mature pine)

ENDEMIC MPB MONITORING

Table 1. Combination of characteristics to capture in sites.

	Susceptible pine in stand		
Population level	**High susceptible pine** (i.e., pine leading, a lot of big pine)	**Moderate to low pine** (i.e., some big pine, with other co-dominant species present)	**No susceptible pine** (i.e., no big pine)
Endemic - No detectable MPB (i.e., no red/infested trees in stand)	*Priority	*Priority	(Bonus)
Low-density MPB (i.e., scattered to small patches of red trees in stand)	*Priority	*Priority	(Bonus)

Site selection: VRI, FOR Research, District Stewardship Foresters, CFS-PFC Tech

Will inform/validate model development

A. lasiocarpa CONSORTIUM

CURRENT COLLABORATORS

Canada
Natural Resources Canada
Canadian Forest Service
Pacific Forestry Centre

British Columbia
Ministry of Forests

UNBC

FOREST SERVICE
US
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UBC

CONSORTIUM

FUNDED PROJECTS

1. Expansion of permanent plots (EHD): Province-wide (2022-2024)

- Based on existing long-term study model established in Thompson - Okanagan

* Maclauchlan, L.E., Stock, A.J. and Brooks, J.E., 2023. Infestation Phases and Impacts of *Dryocoetes confusus* in Subalpine Fir Forests of Southern British Columbia. *Forests*, *14*(2), p.363.

- WBBB – primary mortality factor (~ 70%)
- WBBB brood in tree >3 years, 2 years most common
- Density association: WBBB architect of Bl-leading stand
- Timelines for impacted stand expectations
- Informs management options
- Driest, coolest ESSF had highest attack levels

2. BWA stand impact (EHD): Kootenay Boundary

- PSP established in Kootenay Boundary

CONSORTIUM

FUNDED PROJECTS

3. WBBB/Climate/Harvest (EHD): Thompson-Okanagan
   - Does the creation of forest edges (harvesting) affect WBBB populations? Does this change over time
   - Recent (<10 years) vs Older (>10 years) cutblocks vs Stand interior (control)
4. Subalpine Fir Shelf-life (TS): Skeena (2023-2026)
   - Wood quality, marketability of subalpine fir in pre- and post- WBBB infestation
   - Wood characteristics: Frequency and magnitude of pre-existing and post-attack decay, checking, changes in wood moisture content

CONSORTIUM

UNDER CONSIDERATION WITH FFEC

5. WBBB: Thermoregulation: Skeena, CFS-PFC
   - Impacts of climate change
   - Compression of life cycle
   - Shifts to population dynamics
6. WBBB Dynamics and Warming Climate: Skeena, OCF
   - Extrapolate WBBB thermoregulation with known host susceptibility
   - Develop new model: interannual variations in climatic favorability for WBBB
   - Adapt existing model, FORECAST, to project effects of climate change on stand development and WBBB susceptibility

CONSORTIUM

FUTURE PROJECTS

7. Operational
   - Management/harvesting strategies
   - Restoration of WBBB impacted stands
8. Host tree - insect interactions
   - Climate change impacts on host susceptibility vs pest aggressiveness
   - Expanded range (latitude, elevation)

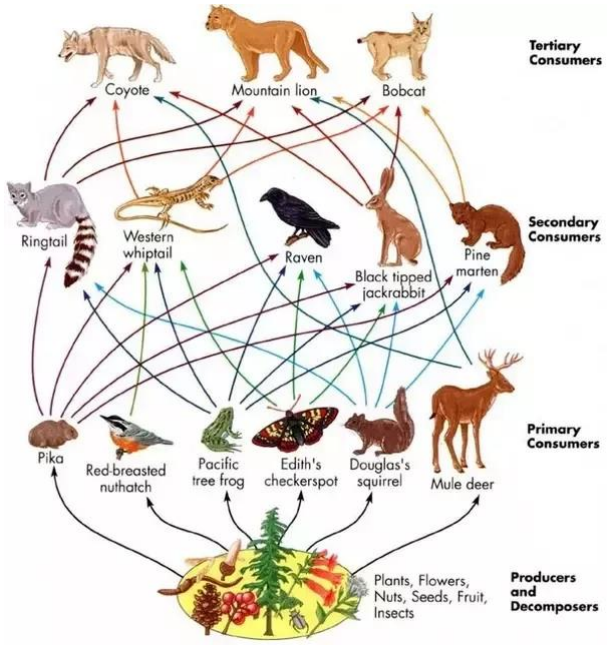
CONSORTIUM

POTENTIAL COLLABORATORS

CFIA·ACIA

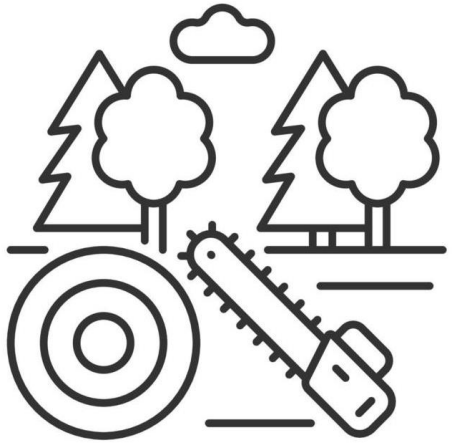
Academia

Conservation Groups



B.C. FIRST NATIONS FORESTRY COUNCIL

Industry



CONSORTIUM MEETING

- Smithers 13-15 June 2023
- Seaton Forestry Ltd. Mill tour
- Meeting with Collaborators, BC Regional Entomologists
- BVRC Seminar: Lorraine Maclauchlan, Celia Boone
- Update from the Bark Beetle Response Director, Jeanne Robert
- Field training for PSP establishment

Questions?

Old Growth Action Plan

Beth Eagles

Old Growth Strategic Review Update

Skeena Region Steering Committee Meeting – April 25th 2023

- Ongoing Impact of Old Growth Deferrals
- Old Growth Action Plan
- Framework on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health
- Regional Workshops
- 8 Point Plan and Recent Announcements
- Timelines

Ongoing Impact Of Old Growth Deferrals

Concerns from communities about impacts to forest industry and local jobs.

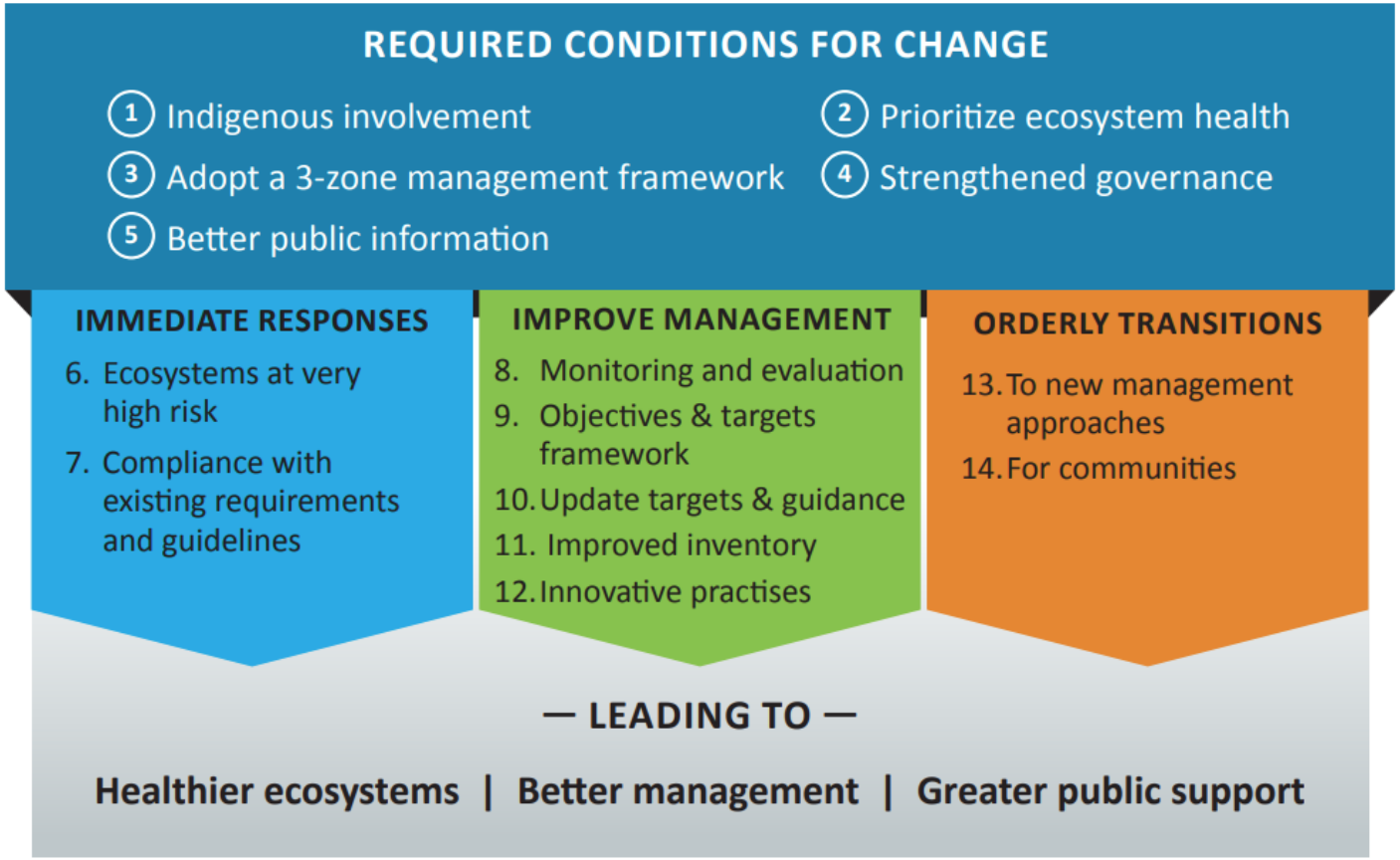
BCTS deferrals are reducing fibre availability

Lack of certainty – What is the future of OG deferral areas?

OGSR Operational Issues Team

14 Recommendations

From the report, "A New Future for Old Forests" (2020)



Transformational
changes include 1-4

Operational
changes include 5 – 12

Transitional
changes include 13-14

Prioritizing Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity

Recommendation #2 involves transformative change across all sectors:

“Declare the conservation and management of ecosystem health and biodiversity of British Columbia … as an overarching priority and enact legislation that legally establishes this priority for all sectors”.

Phase 1: Co-develop a B.C. Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Framework to manage for ecosystem health and minimize biodiversity risks.

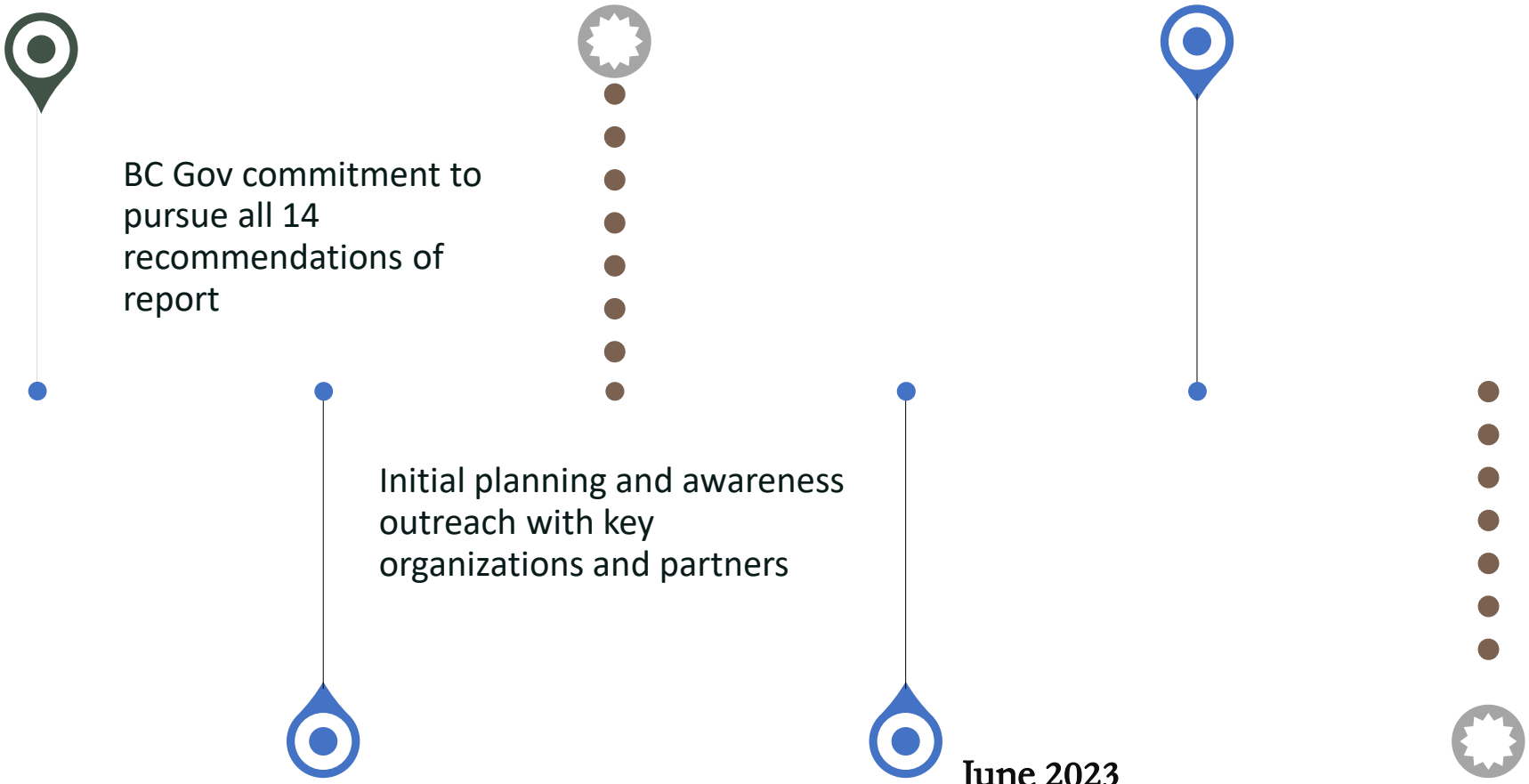
Phase 2: Develop/update legislation and other enabling tools to implement the Framework.

B.C. Biodiversity & Ecosystem Health Framework

- Creating a framework that prioritizes biodiversity & ecosystem health.
- The aim is for the Framework to set a vision and create the conditions for change.
- Signals a commitment to align all land-related provincial legislation, management systems and processes.
-

Monday, April 24	9:30-4:00	Prince George	First Nations	Prince George Civic Centre
Tuesday, April 25	9:30- 4:00	Prince George	Multi Sectoral	Prince George Civic Centre
Monday, May 1	9:30- 4:00	Virtual	First Nations	Teams
Tuesday, May 2	9:30- 4:00	Virtual	Multi Sectoral	Teams
Wednesday, May 3	9:30- 4:00	Fort St John	First Nations	Ramada Northern Grand
Thursday, May 4	9:30- 4:00	Fort St John	Multi Sectoral	Ramada Northern Grand
Tuesday, May 9	9:30- 4:00	Terrace	First Nations	Best Western
Wednesday, May 10	9:30- 4:00	Terrace	Multi Sectoral	Best Western
Wednesday, May 24	9:30- 4:00	Burns Lake	First Nations	College of New Caledonia
Thursday, May 25	9:30- 4:00	Burns Lake	Multi Sectoral	College of New Caledonia

Roadmap 2020 - 2024



8 Point Plan and other Recent Announcements

- Forest Landscape Planning ($25 million)
- BC Manufacturing Jobs Fund (additional $90 million)
- Silviculture Innovation Program ($10 million)
- Updating Forest and Range Practices Act Regulations
- Support for First Nations Forestry Council ($2.4 million)
- Conservation financing mechanism
- Forest Carbon Offset Protocol 2.0
- Old-growth strategic action plan
- LIDAR ($38 million)

Forest Carbon and Climate

Warren Greeves

Forest Carbon Offsets in British Columbia

April 24, 2023

Skeena Region Steering Committee

Warren Greeves
Acting Manager, Forest Carbon and Climate Services
Office of the Chief Forester
Ministry of Forests

AGENDA

- Strategic linkages
- Key early elements for consideration
- Regulatory requirements
- Process flow for establishing forest carbon offsets projects on Crown land
- Long term solution: A Carbon Tenure
- Developing agreements with B.C.
- Next steps
- Additional slides:
  - What are carbon credits
  - Types of carbon credit markets
  - Who is who in the carbon credit zoo?
  - History of forest carbon offsets in B.C.
  - How are offsets created?
  - How are projects developed?

Carbon offsets: Strategic linkages

RECONCILIATION

OLD GROWTH DEFERRALS

LAND USE PLANNING

FOREST LANDSCAPE PLANNING

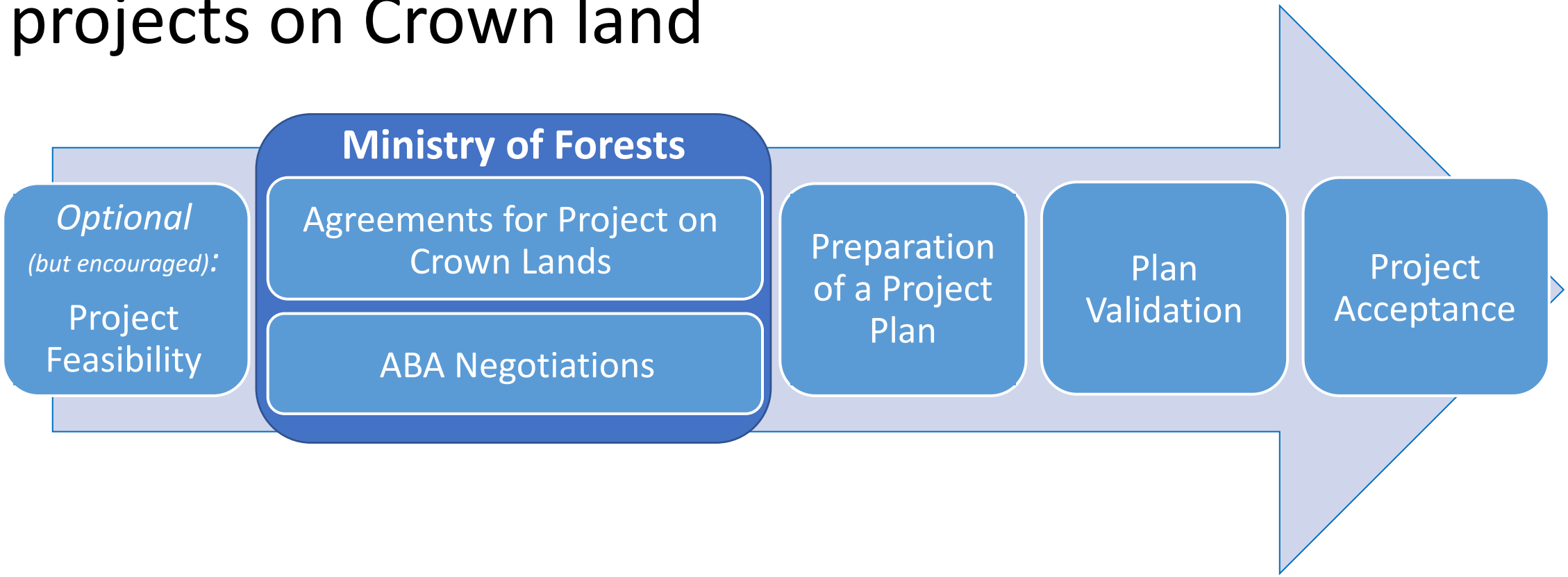
Key early considerations for forest carbon offset projects

- Additionality / incrementality
- Scale, size and feasibility
- Property rights / disposition of the project areas

Regulatory requirements

- Greenhouse Gas Emission Control Regulation
  - S. 14 (3) (n) (ix) (B): Project plans must show entitlement to offset units.
  - S. 14 (3) (n) (x): Secured right of access to the project site for the monitoring period (100 years).
  - S. 20: Project reports must show entitlement to offset units as per S. 14 (3) (n) (ix) (B).
  - S. 25: 100 year monitoring and maintenance.
- Forest Carbon Offset Protocol
  - Activity types
    - Afforestation / reforestation
    - Conservation / improved forest management
    - Avoided conversion
  - Start date
  - Program of activities (i.e. aggregation)
- Treasury Board Directive 2/15
  - Development of Atmospheric Benefit Agreements

Process flow for establishing forest carbon offset projects on Crown land



Ministry of Forests:

Recognizes access to Crown lands for projects

→ FOR is exploring different pathways to implementing projects on provincial Crown lands

Negotiates atmospheric rights with proponents

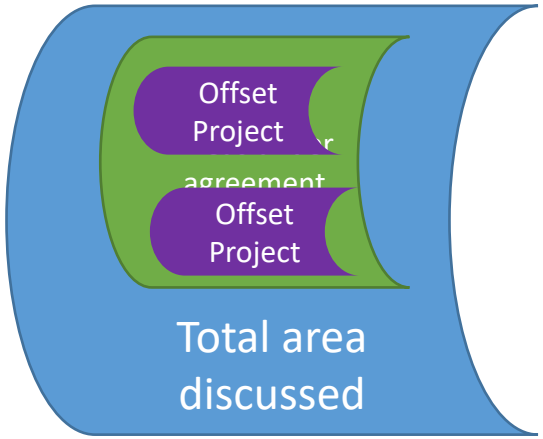
→ FOR is coordinating ABA negotiations with CAS and MIRR

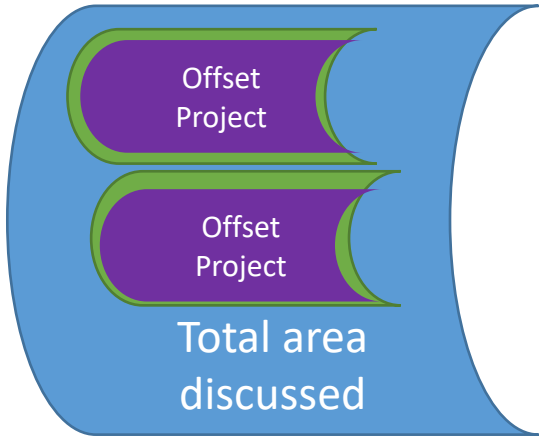
→ **Interim approach to enable projects on Crown land**

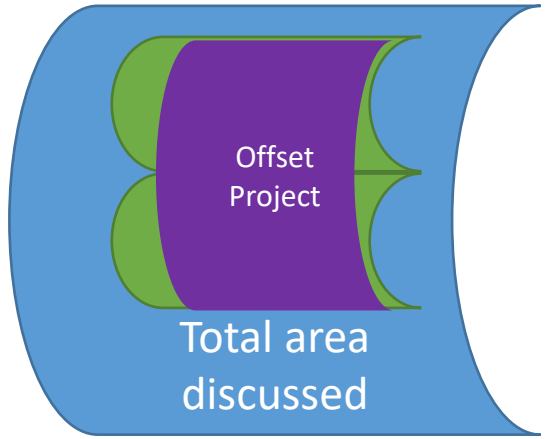
Long-term solution: A Carbon Tenure

- Still at conception stage
- Purpose-built legislation
- Long-term maintenance and access to project lands in accordance with offset project requirements
- Could include elements of co-governance

Developing agreements with B.C.







Next steps:

Public release of FCOP

February 16, 2023

Regional collaboration with First Nations on FCOP and project establishment.

ETA: Fall 2023

Draft Crown Land and ABA Guidance documents.

ETA: Summer-Fall 2023

Consultation with First Nations on forest carbon offset program design

ETA: Fall 2023

Request for Decision: Carbon Tenure

ETA: Summer 2023 – Winter 2025

Single window for forest carbon offsets

ETA: Summer 2025

Introduction: What are carbon credits?

- One carbon credit = One tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e).
- Individual offset projects generate credits, which are tradable, third-party validated, and must follow a quantification methodology (also known as a protocol).
- Credits are purchased by emitters and then "retired” for voluntary and compliance purposes.
- Credits are generated, traded, and retired on registries associated with a protocol.

Types of carbon credit markets

Compliance Market

Regulated emitters buy credits as a compliance mechanism to offset their emissions and meet regulated GHG targets.

Price typically determined by supply and demand for credits under a particular protocol.

Example:

- Purchase of Great Bear Rainforest Credits by B.C.'s Carbon Neutral Government Program.
- Federal output-based pricing system.
- Forthcoming B.C. compliance carbon pricing system.

Voluntary Market

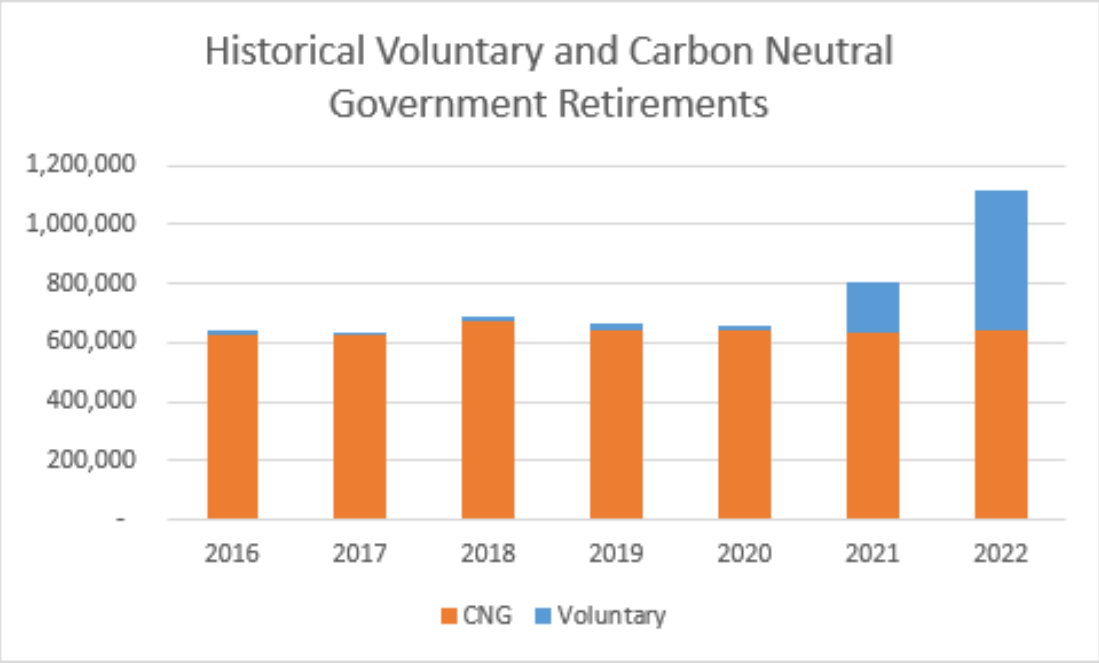
Organizations buy credits to meet their own emissions reduction targets.

Price typically varies with associated project; protocols are less influential on price.

Example:

- Credits generated by the Darkwoods Forest Carbon Project certified under Verified Carbon Standard (Verra) purchased by Nike.

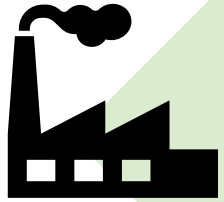
Carbon credit markets



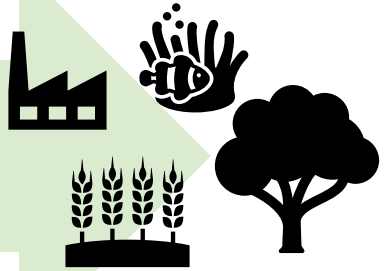
- Credits are “retired” once they have been purchased and are counted against the purchaser’s emissions.
- Credits generated under B.C.’s Forest Carbon Offset Protocol are registered on the B.C. Carbon Registry.
- Government has traditionally been the largest purchaser of these credits (Compliance Market).
- However, recent data suggests considerable interest from the voluntary market.

Carbon credits worldwide: Who is who?

Polluters – regulated emitters, and pledge/goal based



Bilateral agreements



Carbon offset project developers

Carbon offset protocols and methods

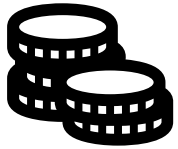
Compliance protocols

Voluntary protocols

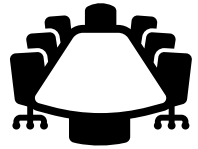
Verification and validation bodies

Speculators

Crown/provincial lands



Investors and other funders

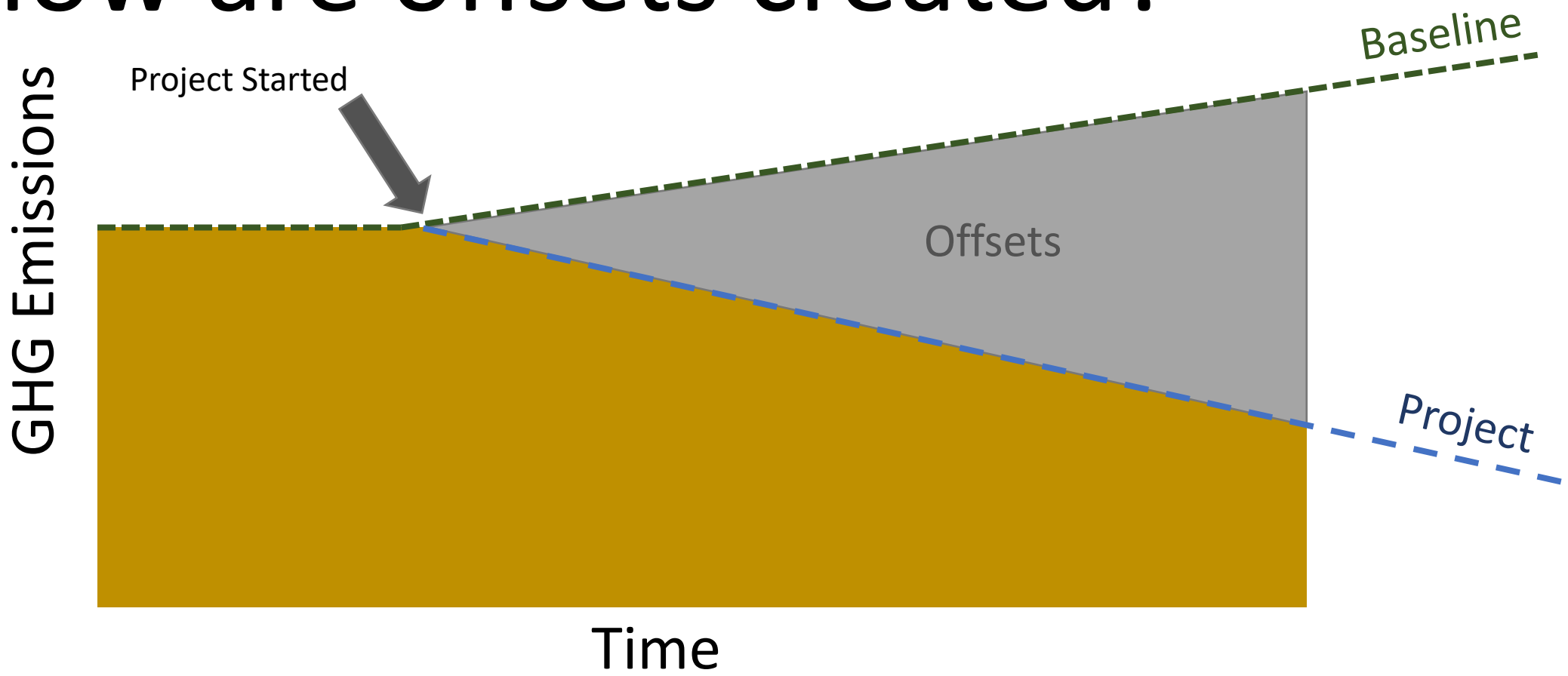


Market Advisory and Oversight E.g., Integrity Council, Integrity Initiative

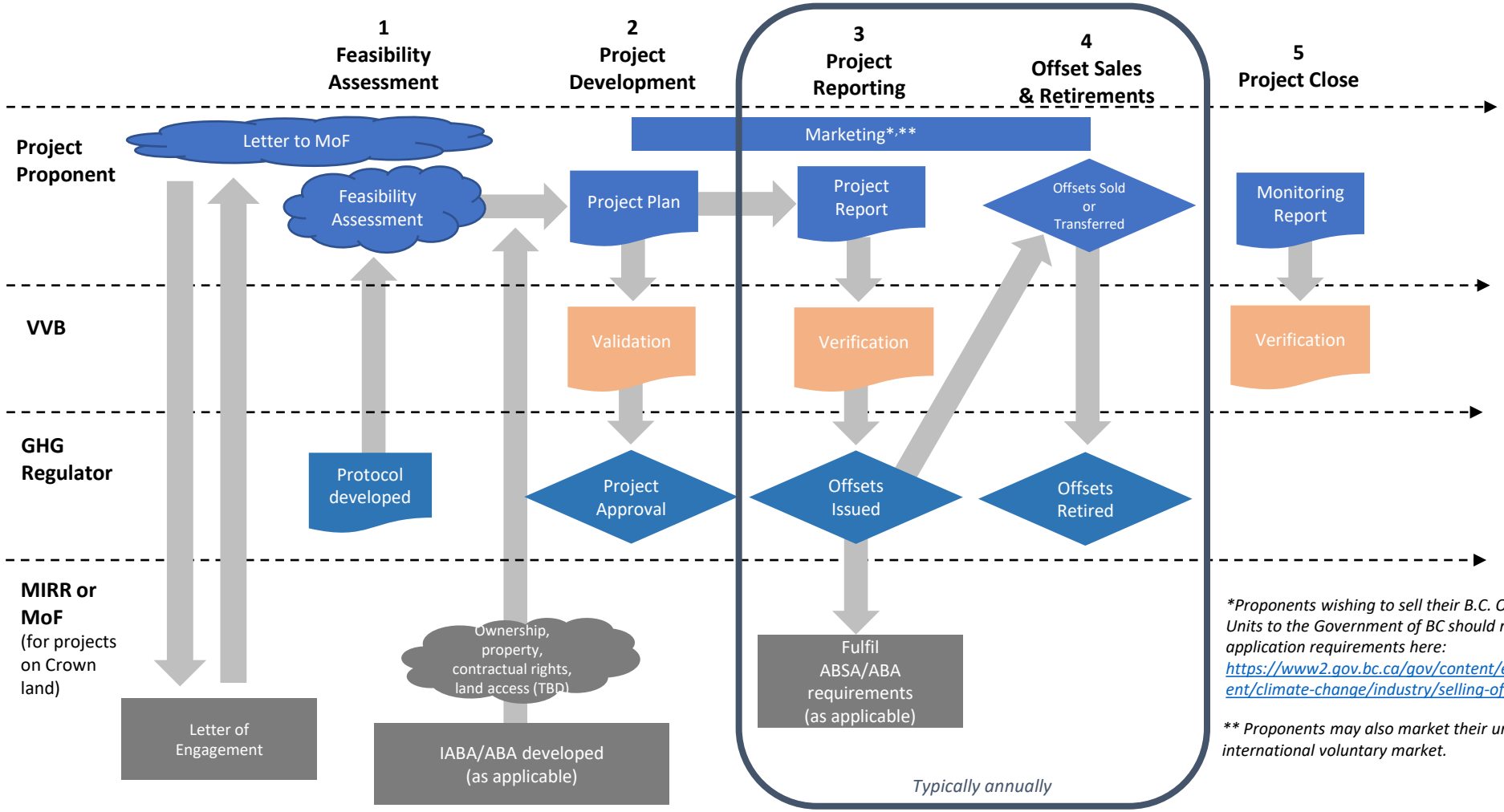
History of carbon credits in B.C.:

- 2011: Forest Carbon Offset Protocol (FCOP) version 1 implemented in 2011.
  - Current FCOP projects:
    - Great Bear Rainforest
      - North & Central-Mid Coast
      - South-Central Coast
      - Haida Gwaii
    - Cheakamus Community Forest
    - Quadra Island Forestland Conservation Project
- 2015: Implementation of Greenhouse Gas Industrial Reporting and Control Act.
- 2019: Development of B.C.'s FCOP version 2.
- 2021: Release of first draft of FCOP 2.
- 2023: Release of second (and final) draft of FCOP 2.

How are offsets created?



How are projects developed?



*Proponents wishing to sell their B.C. Offset Units to the Government of BC should review application requirements here: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/industry/selling-offsets

** Proponents may also market their units to the international voluntary market.

2023 BCWS Updates Prescribed Fires: Research and Current Projects

Jeff Walsh / Cam Bentley

NWFC 2023 Spring Update

Northwest Fire Centre

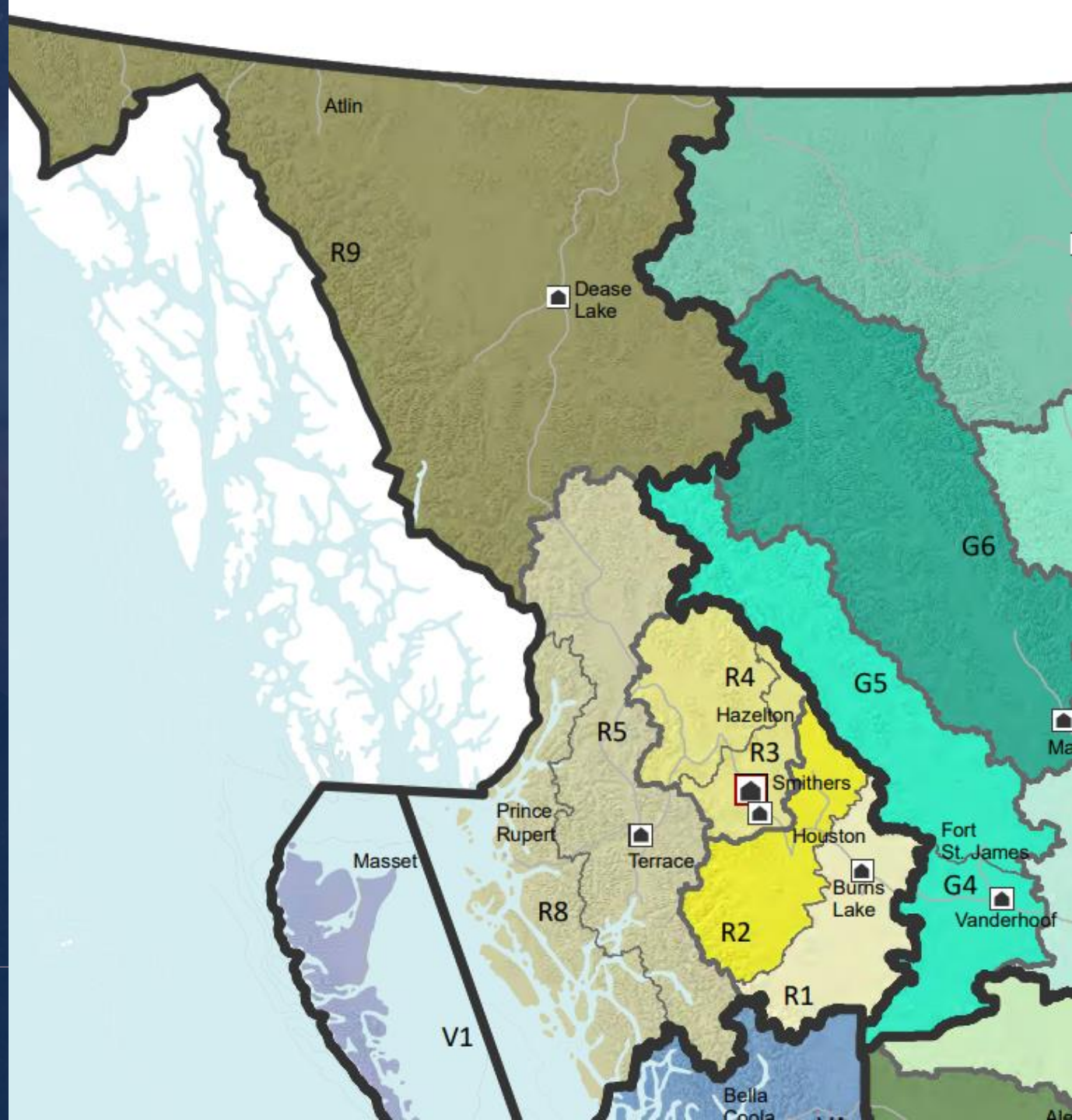
BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC Wildfire Service

NWFC Overview

NWFC Headquarters in Smithers

- **Nadina Fire Zone**
  - Burns Lake/Houston
  - **Brad.Blackwell@gov.bc.ca**
- **Bulkley Fire Zone**
  - Telkwa/Hazelton
  - **Jeff.Walsh@gov.bc.ca**
- **Skeena Fire Zone**
  - Terrace
  - **Jared.Stephens@gov.bc.ca**
- **Cassiar Fire Zone**
  - Dease Lake/Atlin
  - **James.Haigh@gov.bc.ca**



BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

Staffing Uplift NWFC

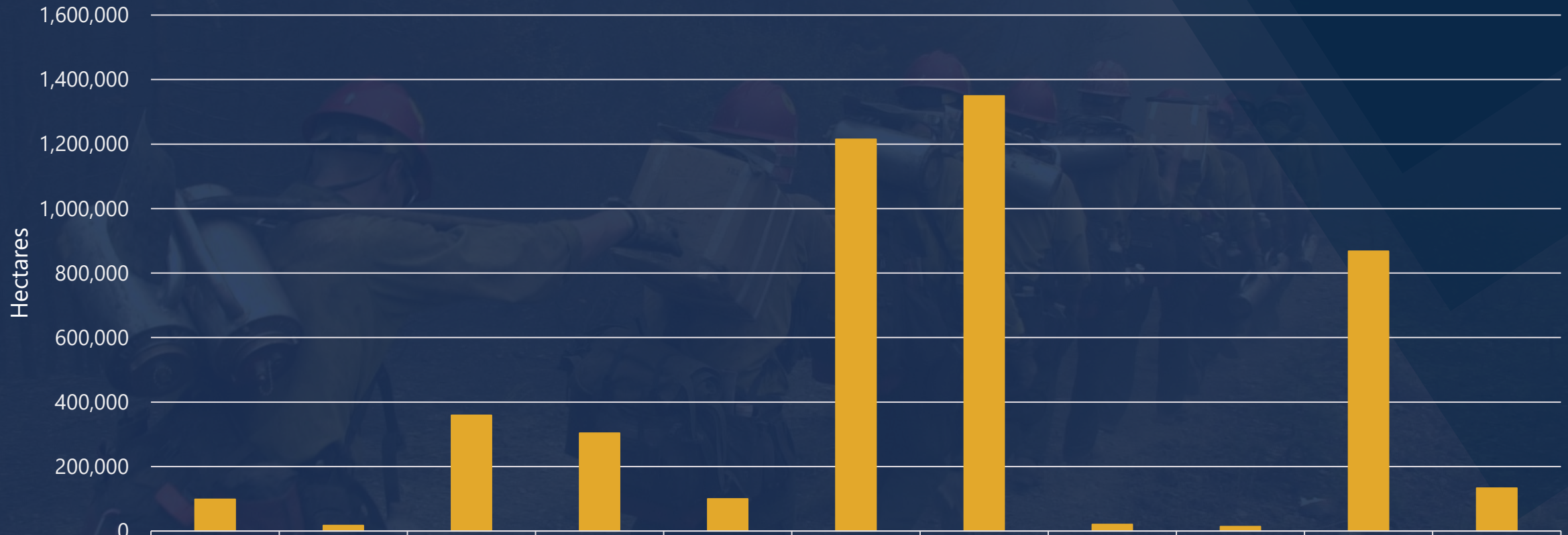
- 3 Additional Fulltime Wildfire Technicians (Burns Lake, Telkwa, Terrace)
- 7 Crew Supervisors now Fulltime (was 9 month)
- All IA Crews now 4 person (previously 3)
- All Unit Crews now 22 People (was 20)
- Regional SPS, Community Engagement, Rx and Cultural Fire

The 2022 fire season started later than usual and extended well into the fall as a result of drought conditions.

- Conditions were cool and wet for much of the spring
- Northern regions were first to experience heightened wildfire conditions
- By the latter half of July, the elevated fire danger and wildfire activity shifted to the south
- In August, there were double the number of lightning-caused wildfires compared to the 20-year average
- Unseasonably high late-summer temperatures extended the fire season well into October especially in the Prince George Fire Centre

Hectares burned in B.C.

10-year comparison

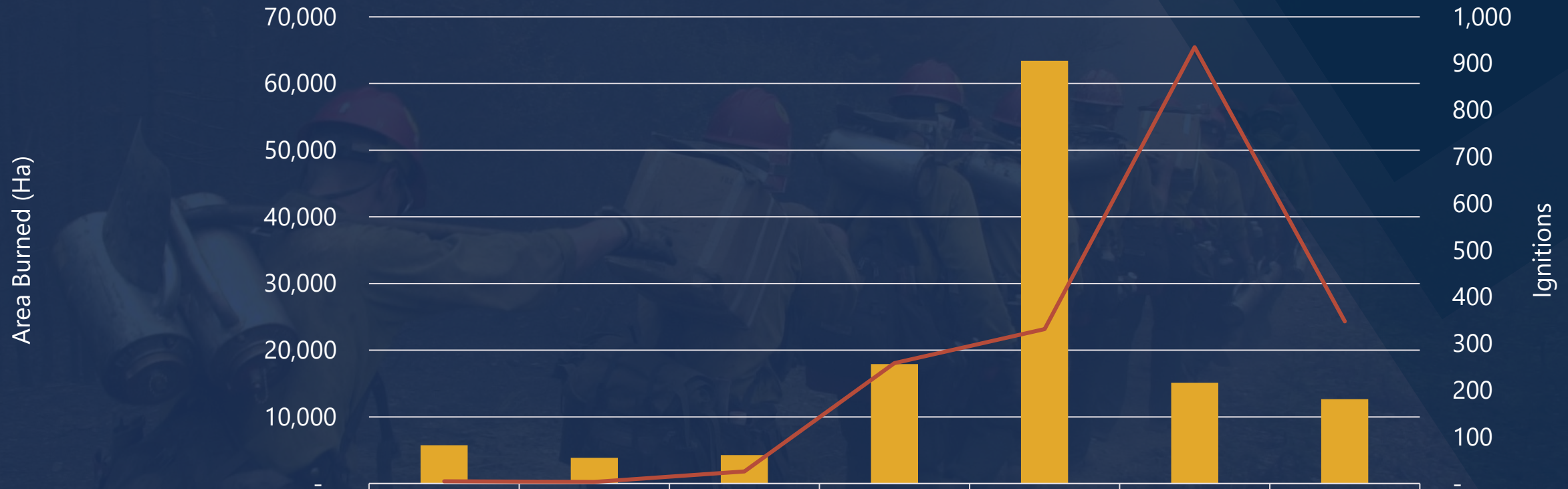


	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022*
Hectares	98,859	17,360	359,308	303,974	99,936	1,214,793	1,349,503	21,069	14,535	868,203	133,421

From April 1 to Oct 31 , 2022

BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

Wildfire activity by month

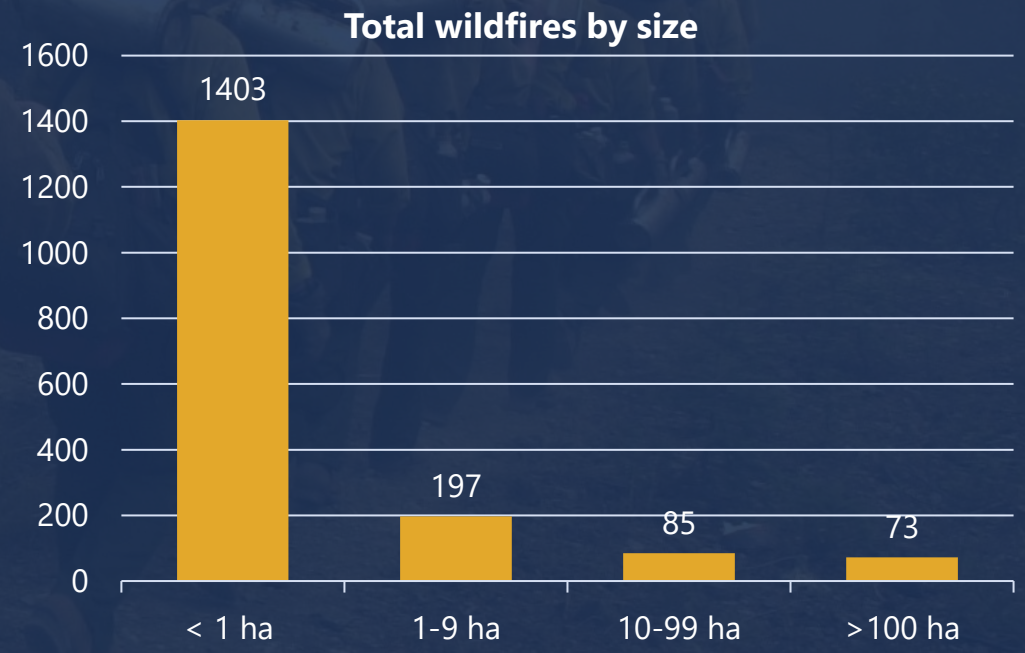


	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Fires (by month)	82	55	61	256	906	216	181
Hectares Burned (by month)	337	263	1,815	18,066	23,175	65,451	24,330

BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

From April 1 to Oct. 31, 2022

Initial attack success:



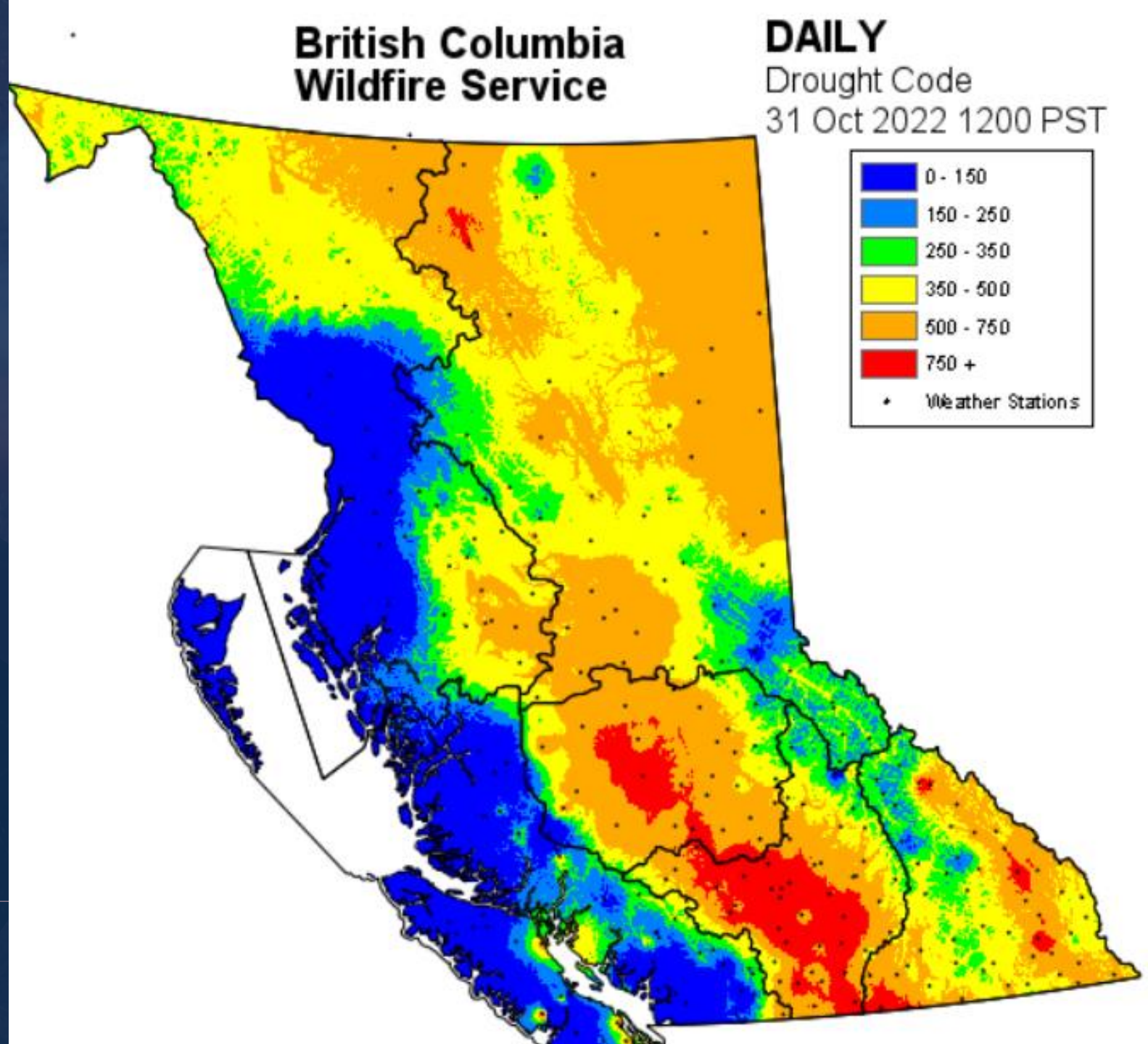
BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

*From April 1 to Oct. 31, 2022

2023 Season Outlook

- Fall Drought Code
- Snow pack
- Eye on the long term forecast
- June Rains

- **Fall Drought Code**
- **Snow Pack**
- **Eye on the long term forecast**
- **June Rains**



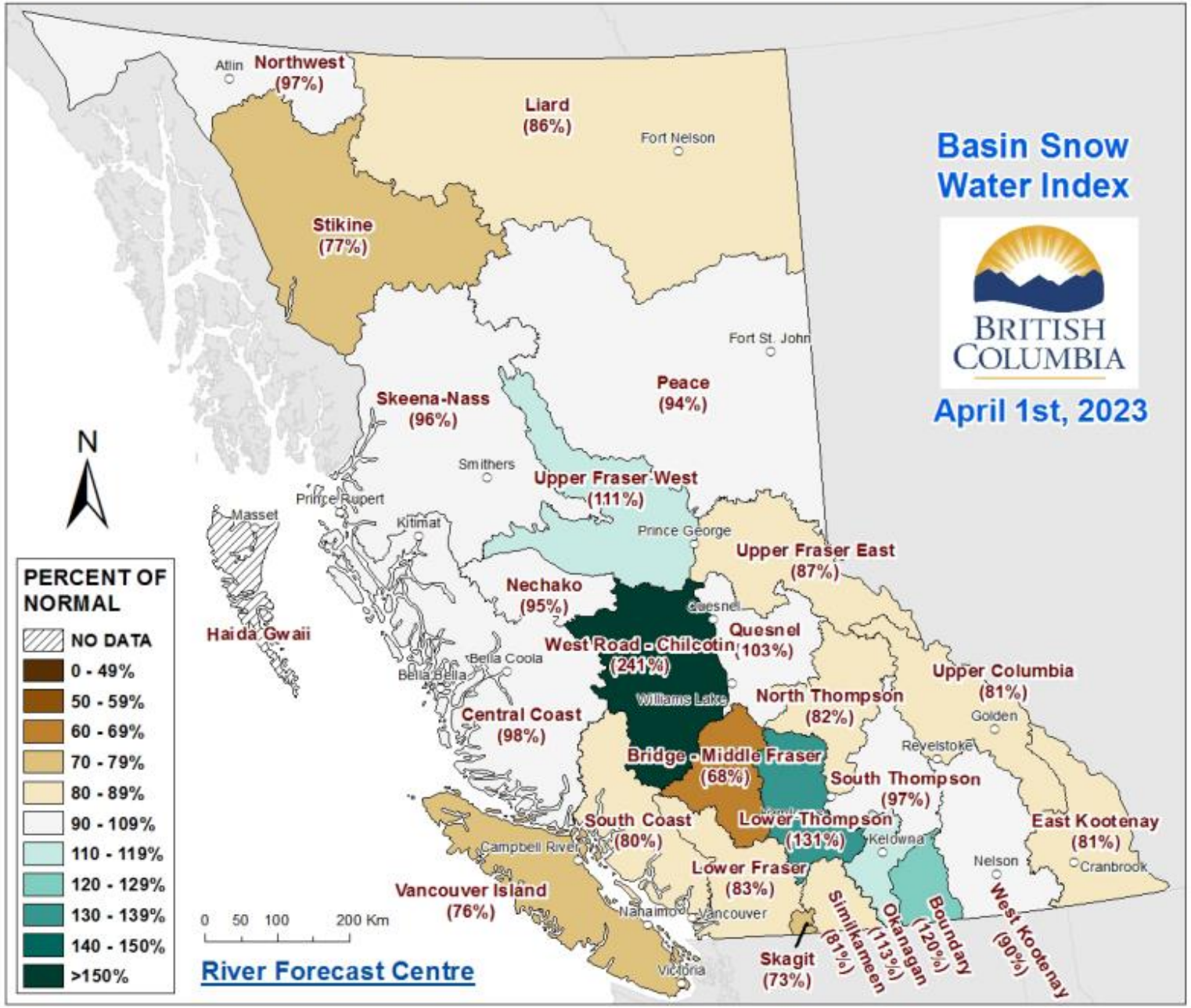
BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

- Fall Drought Code
- Snow Pack
- Eye on the long term forecast
- June Rains

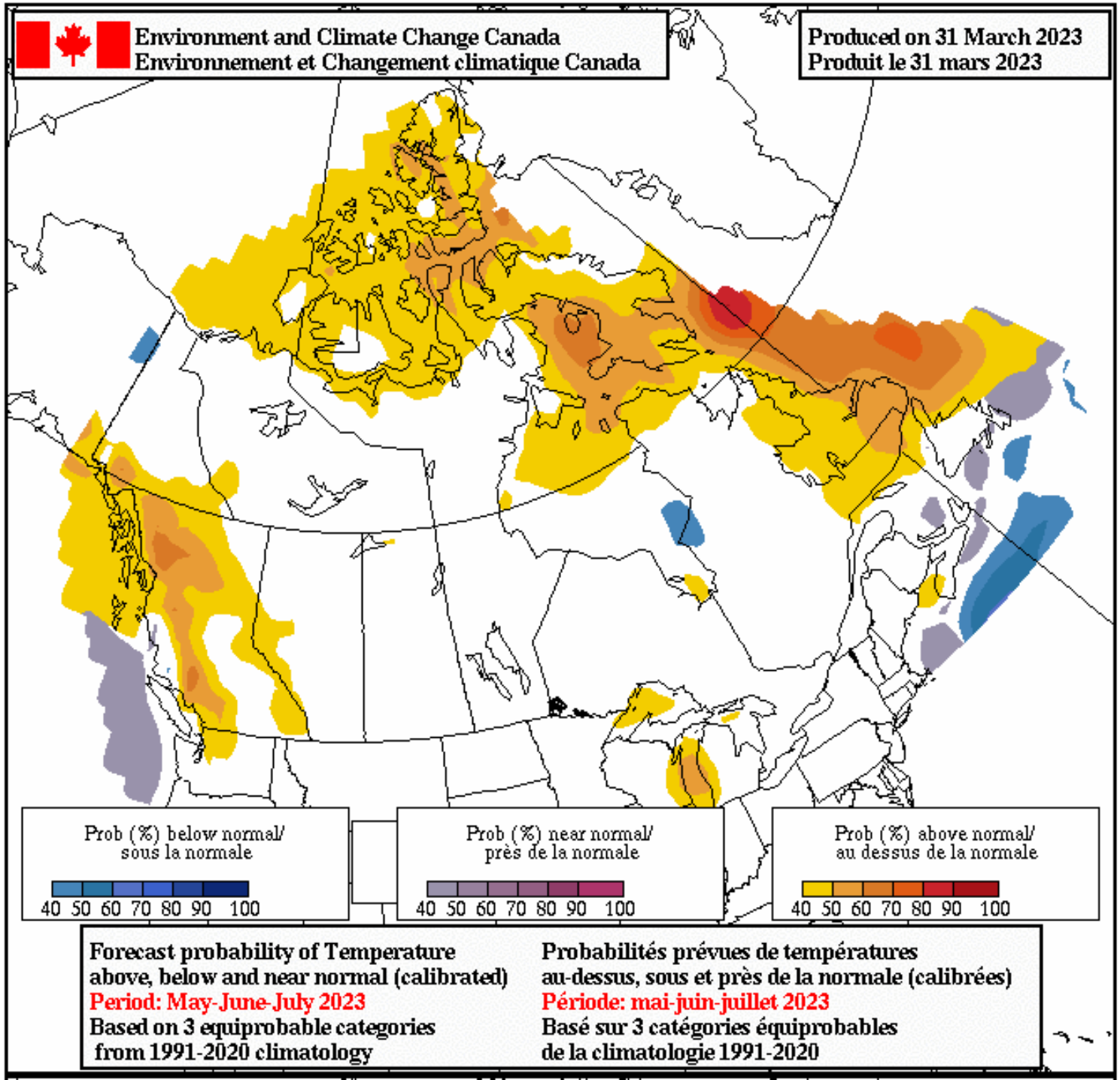
BC Wildfire Service

Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin – April 1st, 2023

Figure 6: Basin Snow Water Index – April 1st, 2023 – Colour Friendly



- Fall Drought Code
- Snow pack
- **Eye on the long term forecast**
- June Rains



BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

- Fall Drought Code
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- **Eye on the long term forecast**
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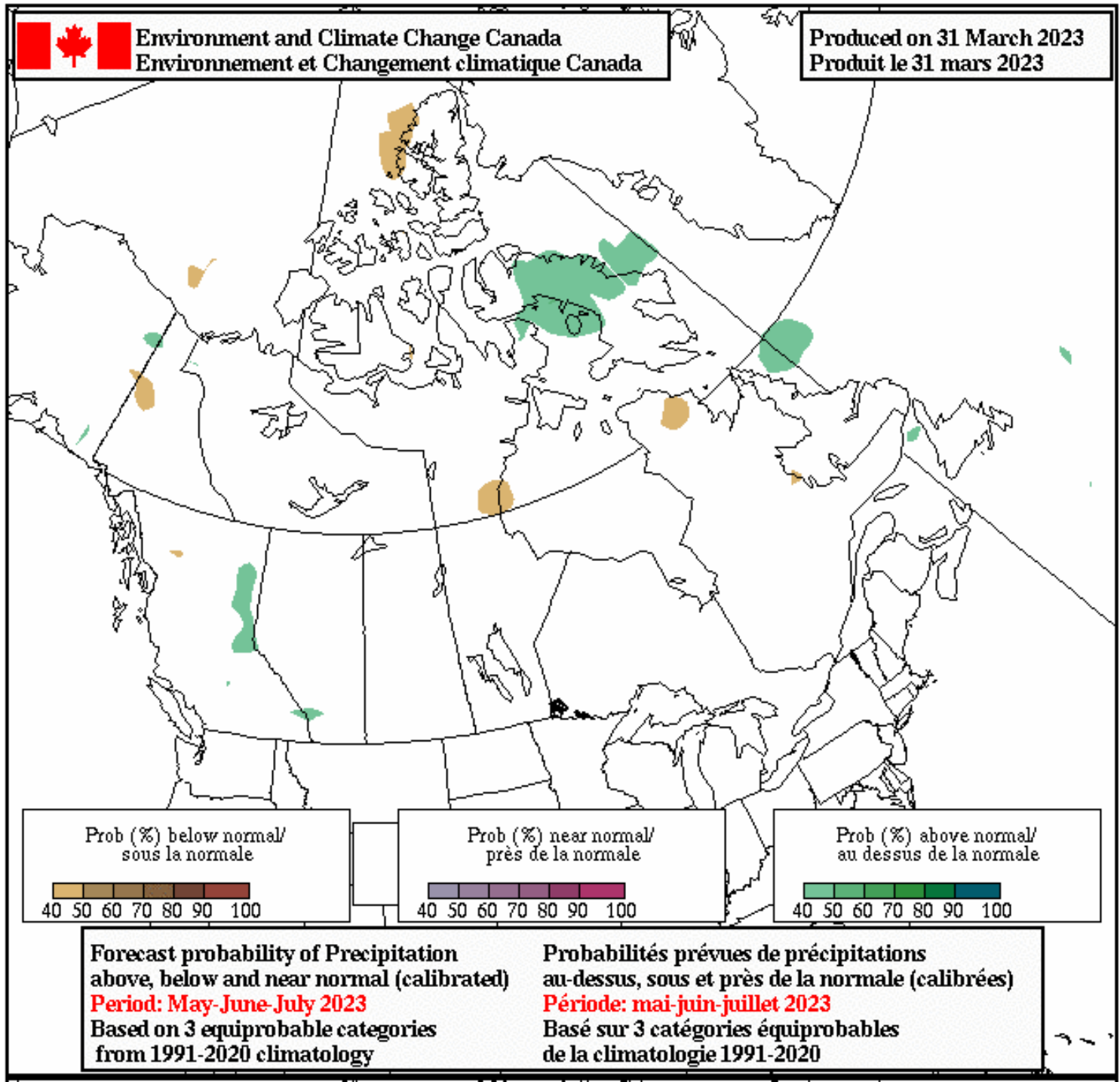


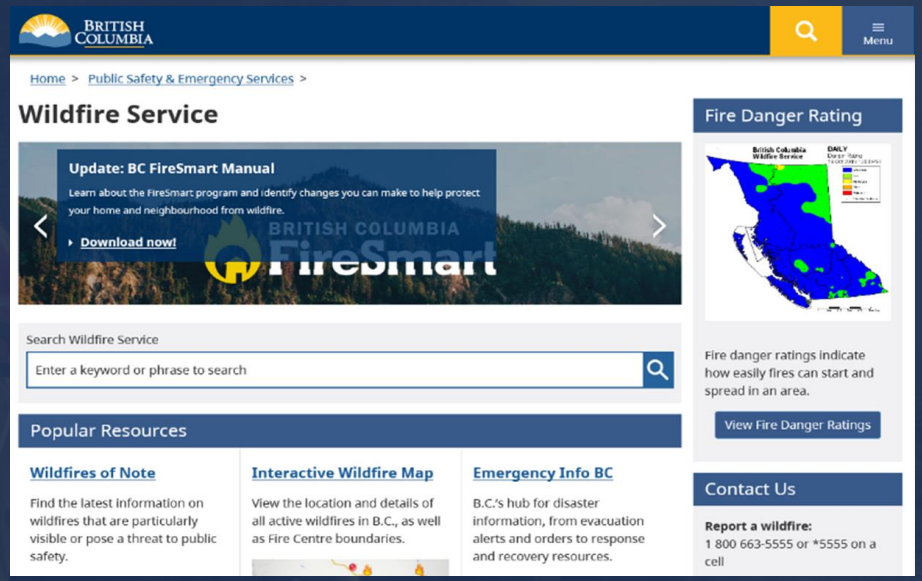
BC Wildfire Service

BCWS Information Sources

BCWS Website – bcwildfire.ca

Easy-to-access information including:

- Current wildfire situation: Updated interactive map
- Latest news: Publicly issued bulletins
- Fire bans and restrictions
- Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery
- About the BC Wildfire Service
- Contact information



NorthWest Fire Centre Contacts

Casda Thomas – Community Engagement

Morgan Blois – Communications

BCWS.NWFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

Other BCWS Information Sources

- Official BCWS mobile app
- Facebook (BC Forest Fire Info)
- Twitter (@BCGovFireInfo)
- Wildfire information hotline
  1 888 336-7378 (3FOREST)

Report a Wildfire

- 1800 663-5555 (*5555 on cell phone)

BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

Wildfire Prevention Resources

www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention

- Open Fire, Prohibitions & Restrictions
- Funding for Wildfire Prevention
- Fire Prevention for Industry & Operators
- Vegetation & Fuels Management
- Wildfire Legislation & Regulations

NorthWest Fire Centre Key Contacts:

Brad Martin – Senior Wildfire Officer Prevention – Program lead, legislation and regulation expertise
Brad.Martin@gov.bc.ca

Shannon Irvine – Wildfire Prevention Officer – Fuels management and prevention funding expertise
Shannon.Irvine@gov.bc.ca

Adam Burdett – Wildfire Prevention Officer - Rx and Cultural Fire lead
Adam.Burdett@gov.bc.ca

Emergency Contact Information

www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/for-industry-commercial-operators/emerg-contact-info

The BCWS requires updated emergency contact information annually from any person who, under the Forest Act, is the holder of:

- A major licence
- A timber sale that is not a major license
- A community forest agreement
- A woodlot licence
- A first nations woodland licence

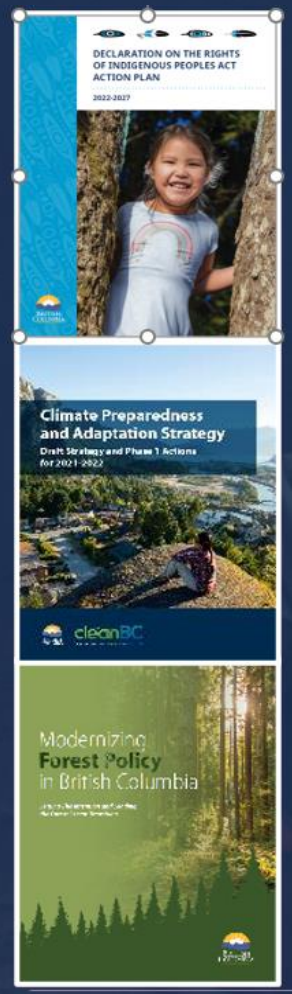
And propose to carry out industrial activity between March 1st and November 1st.

Statutory requirement under section 4 of the Wildfire Regulation.

- Process as described on the Web page
- Licensee Wildfire Plans – Duty Rosters
- Reach out to your Zone Contact for questions or comments.

Spring reminder: make sure to be checking your piles from fall and over winter burning.

Cultural and Prescribed Fire – Governments Direction



"Integrate traditional practices and cultural uses of fire into wildfire prevention and land management practices and support the reintroduction of strategized burning."

"Partner with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities to expand the use of cultural and prescribed burning to reduce wildfire risks, create resilient natural ecosystems and preserve cultural practices."

"The ministry will work in cooperation, coordination and collaboration with Indigenous partners and stakeholders to re-integrate prescribed and cultural fire as a core part of our forest management toolkit."

Cultural and Prescribed Fire NWFC Activities

- Building internal capacity: staffing, knowledge, skills, certifications, workflow processes
- Identifying and engaging with interested partners/proponents: First Nations, Industry, Federal and Provincial Government agencies, Local governments, Associations
- Informing and collaborating with the Provincial team and identified partners in shaping the path forward: scope/scale. liabilities, costs, planning, capacity and expertise, agency interoperability, carbon, social license.
- If interested in learning more or getting involved, please reach out. Adam.Burdett@gov.bc.ca

Co-developed Cultural Fire Projects in the NWFC

3 Current Projects in partnership with First Nations:

- Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs
  - Year 2
  - Fire Stewardship territorial Planning
  - Moose, huckleberry, cultural infrastructure
- Cheslatta Carrier First Nation
  - Year 1
  - Fire Stewardship territorial planning
- Tahltan Central Government
  - Year 1
  - Burn unit planning focusing primarily on wildlife habitat

Prescribed Fire Projects

<u>Planning/research/scoping</u>

BCTS Engagement

Range Enhancement

- Aspen understory burning

Climate change resiliency

- Post burn silviculture research

<u>Approved Burn Plans</u>

Burns Lake Community Forest

- WRR

Houston FES – Peacock Fuel Free

- WRR and training

Jackpine Skillhorn Telkwa

- WRR Maintenance and training

THANK YOU.

Questions?

BCWS.NWFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca

BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

Skeena Sustainability Assessment Forum Forestry Working Group Updates & Road Subcommittee Progress

SSAF Forestry Working Group Representatives

The Skeena Sustainability Assessment Forum

Forestry Working Group

April 25, 2023

Skeena Region Steering Committee Meeting

SKEENA SUSTAINABILITY
ASSESSMENT FORUM

Today

SSAF FWG Plan - Update

Framework for Uses of SSAF ESI Data in Planning and Pilot

State of the values protocols – update on progress

Spring / Summer Field Tour

Roads subcommittee – Update on progress

SSAF ESI FWG PLAN - 2022/23

Where are we at?

Items	Outcome
Wetlands Wrap-up Round Table Field Tour Planning FWG Roads – Present plan	Finalize Wetlands Review Plan Field Tour Confirm goals, participants, and process.
Field Tour & Debrief F&FH Background, material distribution	Debrief, information share. Start on FFH Review – Develop comments to go to SC
F&FH Protocol Review	FFH Review – Develop comments to go to SC
F&FH Protocol Review	FFH Review – Develop comments to go to SC
GB Background, Material Distribution	Start on GB Review – Develop comments to go to SC
GB Protocol Review	GB Review – Develop comments to go to SC
Management Directives Review Management Directives developed by SMEs in collaboration with SSAF ESI/CE Program	Develop comments on the draft management directives for STC/SC.
Decision Support Tool Engagement	Accept input into the draft DST concept.

SSAF Data in Planning

Draft Process for Pilot Projects

1

SSAF DATA

Are any benchmarks exceeded?

Review management considerations.

2

Office Exercise

Consultation record review.

Is there other data?

Will there be further impacts?

3

SSAF ESI Nation Engagement

Collaboration on further assessment or data review.

4

Further Assessment and Decision

Collaboration on next steps.
Collaboration on decision.

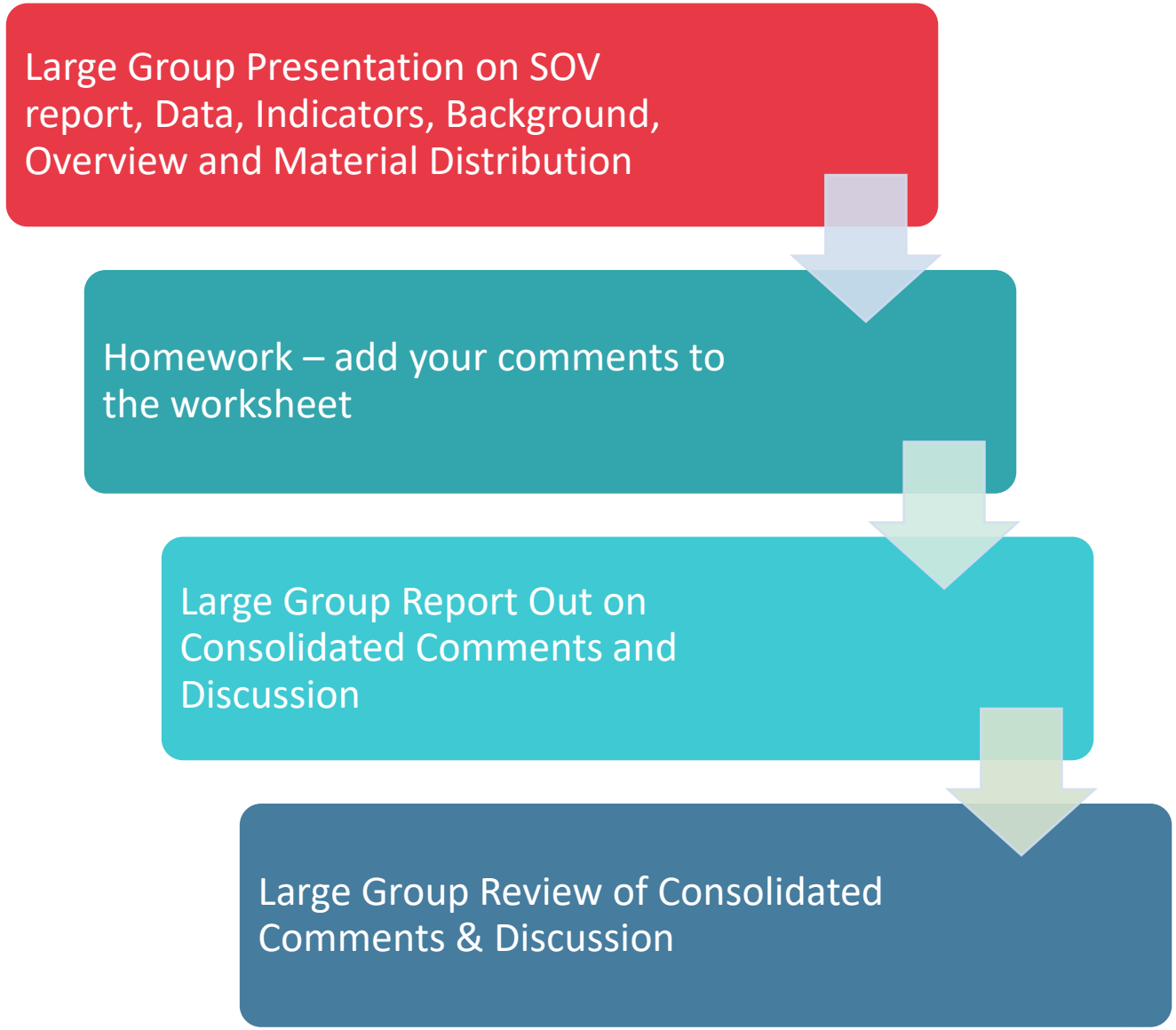
State of the Value

Protocol Review Process

Complete
- Wetlands
- Fish and Fish Habitat

In Progress
- Grizzly Bear

To Complete
- Moose
- Cultural Plant Ecosystems



SSAF FWG Summer Field Tour

- June 5, 2023
- In planning stages
- Likely in the Wet’suwet’en or Lake Babine Nation Territory
- Looking at:
  - Roads
  - Riparian
  - Other

SSAF FWG Road Sub-Committee

Where are we at?

Goals

1. Develop a standardized road classification system
2. Create an updated, improved road data set for the SSAF Study Area, and a strategy for maintaining the data
3. Develop a road survey protocol, and a rating system, to prioritize where and when on the ground road surreys should occur.

Progress

- Development of a draft roads data attribute table
- Developing the system and process to continually updating data

QUESTIONS?

For all things SSAF:

Rachel Andrews,
SSAF Program Secretariat
r.andrews@ydedlp.com

Sean Mitchell
SSAF Project Manager
sean.mitchell@gov.bc.ca

Organization	Name
Witset First Nation	Dallas Nikal
Gitxsan Nation	Max Stevens
Gitanyow Nation	Megan Spooner
Office of the Wet'suwet'en	David de Wit
Wet'suwet'en First Nations	Shannon Haizimsque
Lake Babine Nation	Evelyn George
BC WLRS	Leigh-Ann Fenwick

Thank You

Relationship between the Skeena Sustainability Assessment Forum and Forest Landscape Plans

Leigh-Ann Fenwick / Tara Dunphy

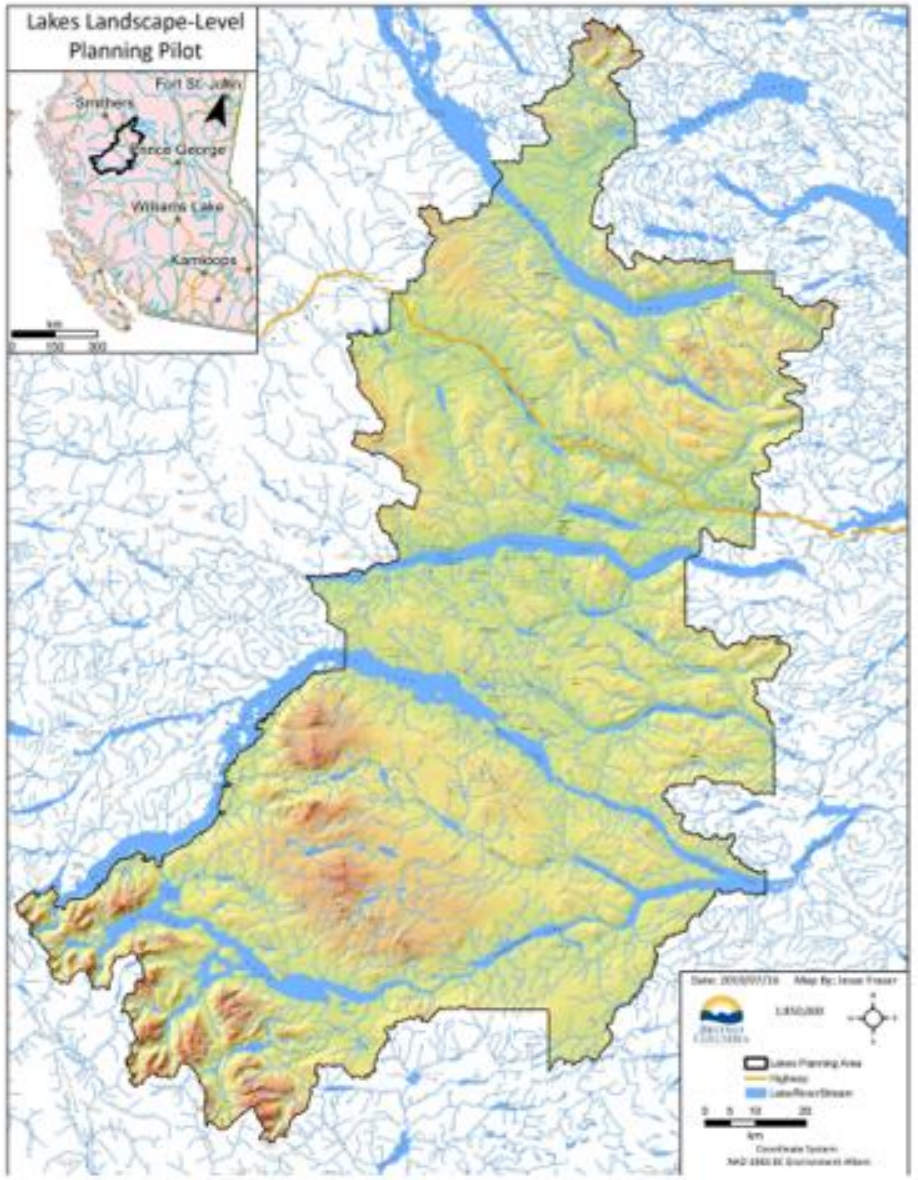
Relationship Between The Skeena Sustainability Assessment Forum And Forest Landscape Plans

Skeena Region Steering Committee

April 25, 2023

Outline

- What is Forest Landscape Planning?
- FLPs in Skeena
- Why integrate with other initiatives, specifically SSAF?
- What does the timing look like?
- SSAF Update



Introducing Forest Landscape Planning

A single Forest Landscape Plan (FLP) would replace all Forest Stewardship Plans within a management unit (e.g. the Lakes Timber Supply Area).

An FLP provides clear management direction to achieve desired outcomes for forest resource values.

Allows for forest planning to be forward-looking and to occur at a broader landscape scale.

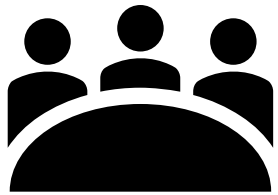
Who Creates a Forest Landscape Plan?

FLPs will be developed in partnership with Indigenous and Provincial Governments, with significant input from municipal governments and local communities

Opportunities for stakeholders to review and provide input into the FLP at key milestones

Government will establish – or give effect – to the plan

Forest licensees will then be required to bring their operational activities into alignment through a Forest Operations Plan (FOP)



FLPs must address the following key objectives:

- the production and supply of timber
- Indigenous interests and values
- conservation and protection of the environment
- local communities' values
- forest health

A Forest Landscape Plan has the following content:

- A map of the FLP area
- Outcomes (results) for specific values, with a description of how they relate to the five key objectives.

  For a given value, the outcome may vary across the landbase—a zoning approach
- Planning guidelines (how the result is achieved)

The form of the outcomes and planning guidelines are being informed by the four FLP pilots

FLP Implementation in Skeena Region

- Lakes Resiliency Project (FLP Pilot) Planning Table struck in Mar 2021- present
- Six Technical Working Groups running, two are SSAF led
- Draft current condition report utilizes trusted data produced by SSAF
- Exploratory conversations with First Nations partners on FLPs in Skeena
  - Bulkley and Morice Timber Supply Areas
- Timing of FLPs, pace and sequencing

Why SSAF x FLP Integration

- SSAF is a long-lasting journey & pathway to reconciliation and co-management
- SSAF provides consistency to how the values are managed across SSAF geographic area
- SSAF is/will be recommending management regimes & a vision for the landbase
- SSAF will have the ability to become auditors through monitoring
- SSAF serves NRS agencies & supports mandates
- Efficient use of all of our resources

Possible Planning Table Structure

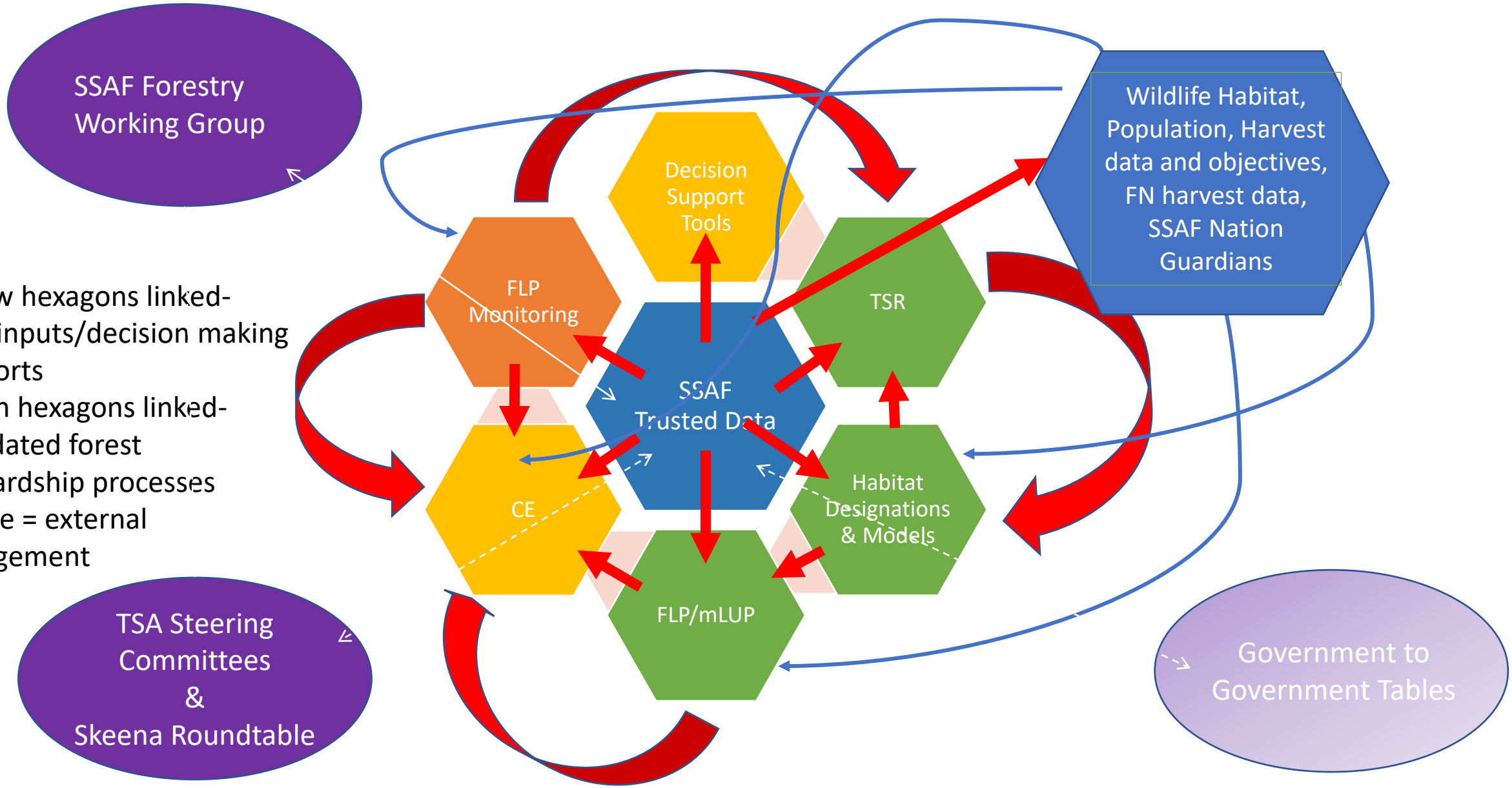
SSAF Led Technical Working Groups: Aquatics and Wildlife

Technical decision making

- LRP Planning Table makes recommendations to the statutory decision-makers
- LRP Planning Table strives to make recommendations by consensus
- Management of multiple values will require compromise
- Planning table has developed joint principles how to manage landbase
- Recommendations have rationales with clearly defined risks for each management option
- Important to know:
  - your project drivers (Lakes = wildfire), helps to prioritize and come to a resolution
  - That you cannot manage for everything everywhere

Integration Points/Sharing Resources

- Yellow hexagons linked-data inputs/decision making supports
- Green hexagons linked-mandated forest stewardship processes
- Purple = external engagement

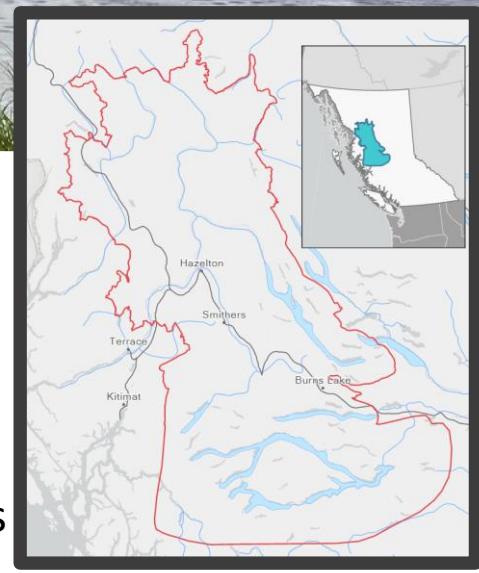


SSAF ESI Objectives

- Generate trusted, relevant, accessible data
- Use trusted data to inform resource decisions
- Build capacity to participate and lead in natural resource initiatives

Our Values:

- Moose
- Grizzly Bear
- Fish & Fish Habitat
- Wetlands
- Cultural Plant Ecosystems

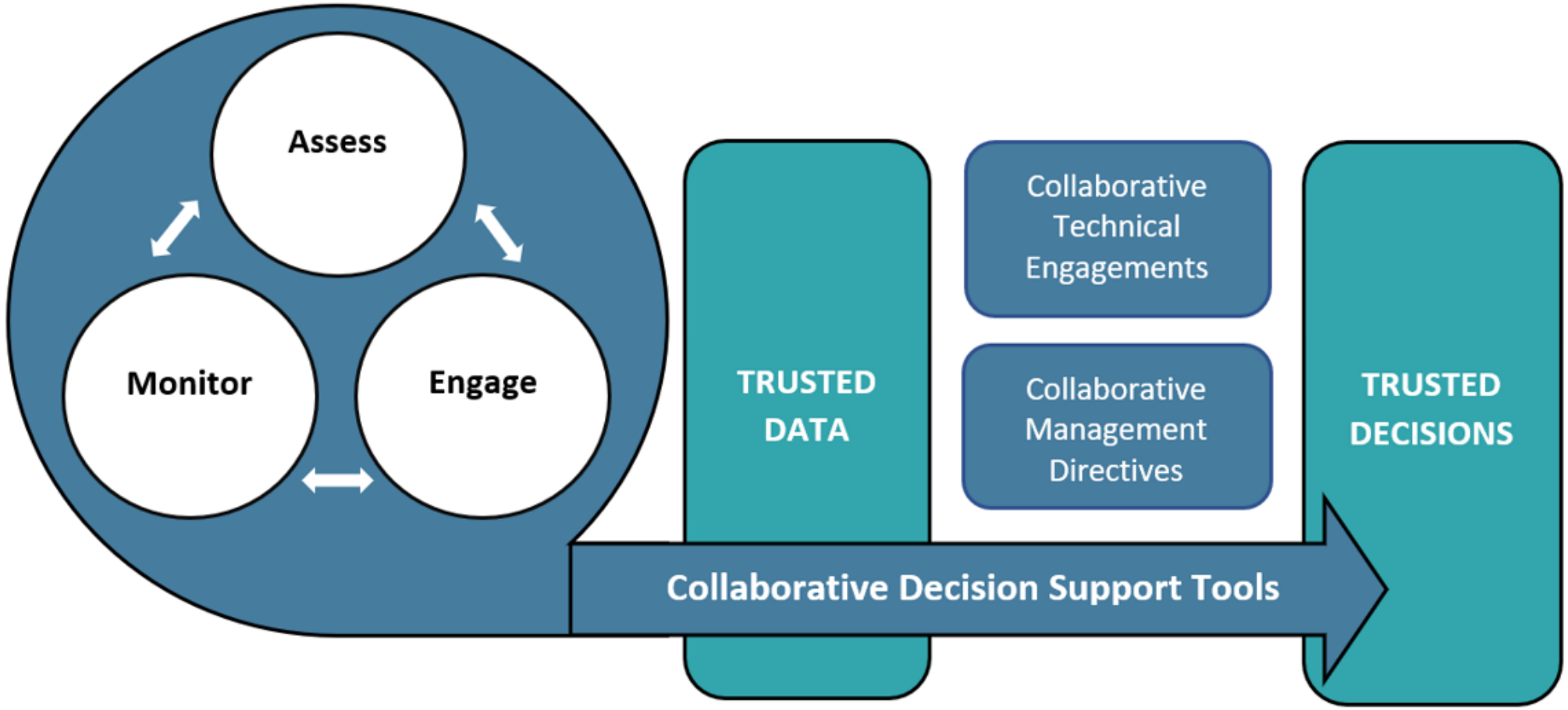


Indigenous perspectives and values communicated to Lakes Planning Table

High level list of the Indigenous Values

- **Culturally Sensitive Areas**
- **Cultural Plants and Trees**
- **Fish**
- **Water***
- **Wetlands**
- **Wildlife***

TRUSTED DATA TO TRUSTED DECISIONS



PAST WORK

Trusted Data

- Grizzly Bear State of the Value Report
- Wetlands State of the Value Report
- Fish and Fish Habitat State of the Value Report

Monitoring Protocols:

- Wetland Ecosystem Services Protocol
- Routine Watershed Assessment
- CABIN/eDNA
- Mesohabitat
- Fish Passage
- Moose & GB Habitat Assessment
- GP Population (Hair Snare)
- Moose Health & Mortality Program
  - Health sampling
  - Mortality/Harvest monitoring

CURRENT WORK

Trusted Data

- Cultural Plant Ecosystems
- Finalizing Moose Assessment

Monitoring Protocols

- Collaborative Monitoring
- Indigenous Guardians Programs
- Collaborative Moose Inventory monitoring

CURRENT WORK

Ongoing Engagement

- Forestry Working Group
- Roads Sub-Committee

Collaborative Technical Engagement

- Forest Landscape Planning
  - Lakes, Bulkley & Morice
- Timber Supply Review
  - Bulkley & Morice

Questions?

Action Items / Wrap Up