

Policy – Wildfire Fuel Management Projects

Wildfire management in British Columbia is a provincial responsibility, and any wildfire fuel management project undertaken by the SLRD will be done so only with material, financial, and/or in-kind contributions from local and/or regional Wildfire Management Branch representatives from the BC Ministry of Natural Resource Operations.

The SLRD Emergency Program will apply this policy to all wildfire fuel management projects within the Squamish Lillooet Regional District, ensuring a clear, consistent, transparent and inclusive process.

Responsibilities of participating stakeholders, including the SLRD, appear below:

SLRD Emergency Program

1. SLRD will work with appropriate BC Fire Zone (Coastal or Kamloops, along with designated local area bases) to determine potential projects that contribute to overall fuel management goals within the area.
2. The SLRD Electoral Area Directors will determine priorities from a list of potential projects, and will approve a community consultation plan based on those priorities.
3. SLRD will consult with impacted community to present potential projects, and will solicit community input on any final decision
4. SLRD Emergency Program will present final recommendation to the SLRD Electoral Area Directors for approval
5. SLRD will submit application for funding, and contract work when funding is confirmed

Financial Process

1. The SLRD will engage in wildfire fuel management projects only in those electoral areas where Electoral Area Directors have specifically identified funds to do so.
2. Staff time for wildfire fuel management projects will be limited to the Emergency Program Manager, and will be drawn from the Emergency Program budget
3. The Emergency Program Manager will seek all external sources of funding available (including but not limited to Union of British Columbia Municipalities Strategic Wildfire Prevention matching funds) in order to maximize project effectiveness

BC Fire Zone

1. The BC Fire Zone will designate appropriate staff to consult on potential wildfire fuel management projects, ensuring that each project contributes to the overall fuel management priorities of the Zone
2. The BC Fire Zone will provide staff, as available, to be present at any community meetings related to the project planning process

Community

1. The impacted community will designate one representative and one alternate to participate in the project planning process
2. The community representative is responsible for working with the SLRD and the appropriate BC Fire Zone to ensure that community concerns are addressed

3. The community representative will provide information to the impacted community throughout the project planning process