Community Resiliency Investment Program
2025 FireSmart™ Community Funding and Supports
Application-based Funding
Program and Application Guide (January 2026)

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1. Introduction

> The 2025 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program will have an open intake. Funding permitting, eligible applicants can submit one application between October 1, 2024 and September 30, 2025 using the LGPS Online Application Tool.

The Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program was announced by the provincial government in 2018 and is intended to reduce the risk of wildfires and mitigate their impacts on BC communities.

As of September 2024, CRI includes three streams:

- Stream 1: FireSmart Community Funding and Supports, administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM).
- Stream 2: Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction, administered by the Ministry of Forests.
- *Updated September 2024* - Stream 3: FireSmart Pilot Program for Regional District Cooperative Community Wildfire Response (CCWR) Organizations, administered by UBCM.

Please refer to Appendix 1 for definitions of terms used in this guide. All defined terms are in **bold** in the program guide.

FireSmart Community Funding and Supports

The FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program provides funding to First Nations and local governments in BC to increase community resiliency by undertaking community-based FireSmart[TM][1] planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire. To date, 265 eligible applicants have received funding, including 117 First Nations and 148 local governments.

The First Nations' Emergency Services Society (FNESS), the Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC) and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) are working with the Ministry of Forests (Ministry) to deliver the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program.

Allocation-based Funding for FireSmart Activities

First Nations and local governments with a higher risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Risk Class 1 to 3, that have a FireSmart Position, participate in a Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative and have an acceptable Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP) or Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) are eligible to receive FireSmart Community Funding and Supports funding for FireSmart activities only through the allocation-based program.

> Note: CWRPs and CWPPs must be complete and acceptable to the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), FNESS and/or, where applicable, BC Parks. To be considered acceptable, plans must be developed in accordance with the CWRP template and guidance document and must include assessment and identification of FireSmart and fuel management priorities.

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[1] FireSmart, Intelli-feu and other associated Marks are trademarks of the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre.

Application-based Funding

New in 2025 - Base funding is scaled to offer eligible applicants with lower risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by WUI Risk Class 4 and 5, to apply for up to $150,000 per year (for up to two years), and applicants with a higher risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by WUI Risk Class 1 to 3, to apply for up to $200,000 per year (for up to two years).

> For example, if a community with a lower risk class applies for funding for two years of eligible activities, they are eligible to apply for up to $300,000 (i.e. $150,000 per year). Or, if a community with higher risk class applies for funding for two years of eligible activities, they are eligible to apply for up to $400,000 (i.e. $200,000 per year).

FireSmart in BC

FireSmart BC provides the tools and education necessary to enable citizens, communities, First Nations and local governments to increase their wildfire resiliency. FireSmart BC and the Community Resiliency Investment program both follow the seven disciplines of FireSmart as a holistic approach to reducing wildfire risk to communities. The FireSmart BC Information Sheet has been developed to provide applicants with an overview of available resources, training and materials that are eligible for funding.

2.   Eligible Applicants for Application-based Funding

All First Nations (bands, Treaty First Nations, and Indigenous National Governments with authority for lands and resources) and local governments (municipalities and regional districts) in BC are eligible to apply.

Eligible applicants can submit one application per intake. This includes applying as the **primary applicant** or as a **sub-applicant** in a regional application.

For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program the following are also able to act as a **primary applicant**:

- An emergency management organization that is created by a regional district bylaw and approved by the Province of BC may act as the primary applicant on behalf of eligible applicants that participate in the established emergency management service. When acting as a **primary applicant** on behalf of eligible applicants, the regional emergency management organization may submit more than one application per funding stream intake provided that each eligible First Nation or local government that is included as a **sub-applicant** is only funded once per intake.

- An Indigenous governing body with authority for emergency management may act as the **primary applicant** on behalf of eligible First Nations. The Indigenous governing body may submit more than one application per funding stream intake provided that each eligible First Nation that is included as a **sub-applicant** is only funded once per intake.

Emergency management organizations created by a regional district and Indigenous governing bodies that are interested in submitting an application to act as the **primary applicant** must contact UBCM first and will be required to provide appropriate documentation related to membership, authority, and area of service.

3.   Grant Maximum

Base Funding

Eligible applicants can apply for 100% of the cost of eligible activities as follows:

- Eligible applicants with a higher risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by WUI Risk Class 1 to 3, can apply for a maximum of $200,000 per year (for up to two years).
- Eligible applicants with a lower risk of wildfire, generally demonstrated by WUI Risk Class 4 and 5, can apply for maximum of $150,000 per year (for up to two years).

Additional Funding

There are five opportunities to apply for additional funding:

1. Applications from regional districts may exceed the base funding maximum in order to fund <u>FireSmart activities only</u> in one or more electoral areas. This additional funding is limited to $50,000 per year for each electoral area that is included in the application. Refer to Section 4 for more information.

    > *Updated January 2026* - As of January 30, 2026, funding for fuel management is no longer available under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program.
    >
    > Applicants that have fuel management projects approved under the 2025 program (under bullets 2, 3 or 4 below) prior to January 30, 2026 are not impacted by this change and eligible Worksheet 2 submissions initiated under the 2025 program (i.e. submitted to UBCM) prior to January 30, 2026 will be considered provided the application is submitted in full by April 30, 2026.
    >
    > In addition, requests for additional funding (i.e. top-up funding) to support previously approved fuel management activities will no longer be considered.

2. Applications that include eligible fuel management activities within **First Nations land** or **publicly owned land** within municipal boundaries or regional district parks <u>and</u> that include contiguous, logical treatment units that extend onto **Provincial Crown Land** may apply to exceed the base funding maximum for only the fuel management activities on **Provincial Crown Land**. There is no funding maximum for this additional funding.

3. *New in 2025* - Applications that include eligible fuel management activities within **First Nations land** that has been recently acquired through a Provincial land transfer may apply to exceed the base funding maximum for only the fuel management activities on the government transferred or acquired land. There is no funding maximum for this additional funding.

4. *New in 2025* - Applications that include eligible fuel management activities within **First Nations land** or **publicly owned land** may apply to exceed the base funding. This additional funding is limited to $100,000 per year.

5. *Updated July 2025* - Eligible applicants with an existing FireSmart program that were directly impacted by the 2024 wildfire season or that are directly impacted by wildfire(s) during the course of the **approved project** may apply to exceed the base funding maximum in order to support incremental FireSmart Activities due to increased local demand for wildfire risk reduction. This additional funding is limited to $100,000 per year. Refer to Appendix 2 for more information. Worksheet 4 is required to be submitted for consideration of additional funding. This worksheet will be reviewed by the BCWS and/or FNESS.

> *Updated January 2026* - As of January 30, 2026, additional funding for impacts from wildfires is no longer available under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program.
>
> Applicants that have approved funding for impacts from wildfires under the 2025 program prior to January 30, 2026 are not impacted by this change and eligible Worksheet 4 submissions initiated under the 2025 program (i.e. submitted to UBCM) prior to January 30, 2026 will be considered provided the application is submitted in full by April 30, 2026.
>
> In addition, requests for additional funding (i.e. top-up funding) to support previously approved activities will no longer be considered.

In order to ensure transparency and accountability in the expenditure of public funds, all other financial contributions for eligible portions of the project must be declared and, depending on the total value, may decrease the value of the grant. This includes any other grant funding and any revenue (e.g., sale of forest products) that is generated from activities that are funded by the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program.

> The Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program provides funding for the implementation of the Indigenous Engagement Requirements within the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*. For more information visit the Province of BC's website or contact: EMCR.IERFunding@gov.bc.ca.

4. Eligible Projects

To be eligible for funding, applications must demonstrate that proposed activities will increase community resiliency by undertaking community-based FireSmart planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire.

First Nation applicants and municipalities must choose to apply either as a single applicant (i.e. no sub-applicants) or as either a primary or **sub-applicant** in a regional project.

Regional Districts must choose to apply either as a:

- Single applicant (i.e. no sub-applicants) with or without multiple electoral areas.
- Primary or **sub-applicant** in a regional project.
- **Primary applicant** in a regional project with sub-applicants and/or multiple electoral areas.

> Regional Districts should contact UBCM before submitting a 2025 application. UBCM staff may be able to provide a customized worksheet based on the type of application and/or number of electoral areas.

Regional Projects (Primary Applicant with sub-applicant(s))

Funding requests from two or more eligible applicants for regional projects may be submitted as a single application for eligible, collaborative projects. In this case, the maximum base funding per year would be calculated by the number of eligible applicants included in the application and the associated risk class of each. Applications for regional projects for multiple eligible applicants must include FireSmart activities (Worksheet 1) and can include fuel management (Worksheet 2) and new/updated CWRP (Worksheet 3) activities.

The **primary applicant** submitting the application for a regional project is required to submit a resolution as outlined in Section 7 of this guide. Each **sub-applicant** is required to submit a resolution that clearly states their approval for the primary applicant to apply for, receive and manage the grant funding on their behalf.

Regional Projects for Regional District Applications Including Multiple Electoral Areas

In addition to the allowance for regional projects with sub-applicants, regional districts may submit a single application for eligible projects that also include multiple electoral areas.

In this case the maximum base funding per year would be the eligible base grant amount for the regional district, the eligible base grant of any sub-applicants (municipalities or First Nations), and up to $50,000 for FireSmart activities and/or CWRPs for each electoral area that is included in the application. The regional district would be required to submit a complete application package as well as a separate Worksheet 1 and/or Worksheet 3 for each electoral area. Please note that multiple electoral areas can be included in a single Worksheet 1 only if the proposed activities are identical for each electoral area.

> It is expected that regional projects will demonstrate cost-efficiencies in the total grant request.

5. Requirements for Funding

> Applicants are encouraged to engage with BCWS and/or FNESS while at the initial planning stages of their application.

As part of both the development of the application package and the delivery of the **approved project**, local governments are encouraged to proactively engage with local First Nations and Indigenous organizations, such as Friendship Centres and Métis Chartered Communities. Engagement by local governments both locally and regionally can help build relationships with First Nations, benefit both communities and enhance reconciliation. More information on engagement best practices is available here.

Required FireSmart Foundation

Updated January 2025 - To qualify for funding, all applicants are required to have a FireSmart Position, participate in a Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative (formally Community FireSmart and Resiliency Committee) and have an acceptable CWRP/CWPP.

> Note: CWRPs and CWPPs must be complete and acceptable to the BC Wildfire Service (BCWS), FNESS and/or, where applicable, BC Parks. To be considered acceptable, CWRPs must be developed in accordance with the template and guidance document and must include assessment and identification of FireSmart and fuel management priorities.

For applicants that do not have a FireSmart Position, Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative and an acceptable CWRP/CWPP, eligible activities for 2025 funding will be limited to:

- FireSmart Position(s) and training for the position(s) (as outlined in Section 7A of Table 1).
- Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative as either the lead agency or participating in a CFRC that is led by another agency.
- CWRP development.

While the CWRP is under development, additional eligible activities are limited to:

- General FireSmart education (as outlined in Section 2 of Table 1).
- Attending the Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit.
- *New in 2025/updated November 2024* - Completing FireSmart assessments in areas of higher wildfire risk, such as **neighbourhoods** adjacent to the forested edge and/or areas that fall in an overall high to extreme category:
  - Eligible **First Nation owned buildings**, **publicly owned buildings, publicly and First Nations owned critical infrastructure, cultural sites and/or green spaces** (as outlined in Section 3E of Table 1)
  - FireSmart HIZ Assessments for individual residential properties or homes
  - FireSmart Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessment for individual residential properties or homes
  - *Updated July 2025* - FireSmart **Neighbourhood** Recognition Programs (FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program): Neighbourhood Wildfire Hazard Assessments (Local FireSmart Collective Assessment) and FireSmart Neighbourhood Plans (Collective Action Plan)
  - *Updated January 2026* - FireSmart Farm and Ranch Assessments (note: this assessment form is only available after completion of Farm and Ranch Assessment training)

Eligibility Review by BCWS and/or FNESS

For all applications, applicants are required to review Worksheet 1 (FireSmart Activities), Worksheet 2 (Fuel Management) and/or Worksheet 3 (CWRPs) with BCWS and/or FNESS. The eligibility screening section must be completed by the BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist and/or FNESS Mitigation Specialist/Liaison before the application is submitted.

For all applications that include activities in BC Parks, applicants are required to review Worksheet 2 (Fuel Management) and/or Worksheet 3 (CWRPs) with BC Parks. The eligibility screening section must be completed by the BC Parks <u>before</u> the application is submitted.

> Please note that during active fire seasons or other deployments, BCWS and FNESS capacity will be limited which could affect adjudication timelines.

Reporting for Prior Projects

To qualify for funding:

- All activities funded under the 2020 and 2021 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program must be complete and the final report must be submitted in full.
- All activities funded under the 2022 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program must be complete and the final report must be submitted in full (unless a project extension has been approved).
- *Updated February 2025* - All activities funded under the 2023 and 2024 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program must <u>either</u> be:
  - o Complete and the final report is submitted, OR
  - o Within 120 days of the **approved project end date** and the Interim Report Form has been submitted

> *Updated July 2025* - Upon receipt of the Interim Report Form UBCM will confirm the updated approved project end date and the updated final report deadline. At this time, applicants may submit their application for 2025 base funding. UBCM will undertake the normal review process however the 2025 base funding application will not be approved until the complete 2023 or 2024 final report is submitted.
>
> If there is a possibility that your project will end sooner than the **approved project end date**, please contact UBCM as soon as possible to discuss options.

Additional Funding Requirements

To qualify for funding, all eligible activities must:

- *Updated September 2024* - Be located within the applicant's administrative boundary (see exception for fuel management activities in Appendix 3) and/or for assets or infrastructure that are owned by the **primary applicant** or **sub-applicant**.
- Include new activities or represent a new phase of an existing project (retroactive funding is not available unless specifically identified in this guide).
- Be capable of completion by the applicant within two years of the date of grant approval.
- Be supported by a current CWRP or CWPP acceptable to the BCWS, FNESS and/or, where applicable, BC Parks, that includes assessment and identification of FireSmart and fuel management priorities.
- Where applicable, be completed by a qualified professional that is accredited by their professional association.
- Ensure compliance with applicable federal and provincial legislation and regulations and local authority (e.g., burning bylaws or other bylaws or plans).
- Where applicable, be eligible for required approvals for authorizations and/or permits from the **Provincial Crown Land** Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g., Indigenous Services Canada).
- Refer to Appendix 3 for complete funding requirements for fuel management activities.

6. Eligible and Ineligible Costs and Activities

Eligible costs are direct costs that are approved for funding, properly and reasonably incurred, and paid by the applicant to carry out eligible activities. Unless otherwise noted, eligible costs can only be incurred from the date of application submission until the final report is submitted.

Table 1 identifies the activities that are eligible for funding and provides annual cost maximums for those activities. Refer to the Application Worksheet and Final Report Worksheet for required submissions for each proposed activity.

Applicants are required to propose costs within the cost maximums that reflect local, reasonable estimates. However, with mitigating circumstances (e.g., remote community), applicants can propose costs higher than the maximums if a rationale is provided and accepted. In all cases, eligible activities must be cost-effective.

Where applicable, applicants are encouraged to collaborate on proposed activities with **Provincial Crown Land** Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g., Indigenous Services Canada).

Table 1: Activities Eligible for Funding	
1. FIRESMART POSITIONS *In order to increase local capacity, applicants are required to have a FireSmart position to oversee eligible activities applied for in Worksheet 1, 2 and/or 3 and to establish a sustainable FireSmart program.*	
Eligible Activities	**Cost Maximums and Guidance**
A. Incremental FireSmart positions (e.g. creating a new position or adding new responsibilities to an existing position), based on the recommended job descriptions: - FireSmart Coordinator - Local FireSmart Representative - Wildfire Mitigation Specialist - Wildfire Forest Professional - FireSmart Crew Member	Required cost estimate in WS1, WS2 and/or WS3. *Applicants are required to have a FireSmart position in their community.* *The primary focus of FireSmart positions is to support eligible FireSmart activities but other activities related to emergency management (i.e. EOC, ESS, evacuations), structural fire and/or forestry (i.e. Indigenous Guardians) are eligible as no more than 20% of job duties.*
2. EDUCATION (Required in all applications) *Public education and outreach play a critical role in helping communities prepare for wildfire by promoting a sense of empowerment and shared responsibility. All applications are required to include an education component in this section. For costs associated with the purchase of FireSmart resources please visit Resources on FireSmartBC.ca.*	
Eligible Activities	**Cost Maximums and Guidance**
A. Update signage, social media, applicant websites and/or newsletters, and community education materials or displays related to a proposed activity in categories 3 through 12 below. *Note: Ember mascots will be available on a limited basis and regional allocation will be considered before approval.*	- Banners: up to $1,750 (total order per year) - Posters: $270 (total order per year) - Videos specific to community wildfire resiliency: up to $11,500 each per year - Tents, including walls: up to $2,400 each - Vehicle decals: up to $810 (total order per year)

Eligible Activities (Education – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
	• T-shirts: up to $1,200 (total order per year) • Ember mascot: up to $9,000
B. Promote/distribute FireSmart educational resources, such as FireSmart 101, Wildfire Risk Reduction Basics, FireSmart Canada Ambassador training, FireSmart Begins at Home app, social media, FireSmart BC materials.	Required cost estimate in WS1
C. Organize, host or support FireSmart events: Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, Farm and Ranch Wildfire Preparedness workshop, Neighbourhood Champion workshop, community FireSmart day, and/or wildfire season open houses.	Up to $6,000 per event
D. *New in 2025* - Support the FireSmart BC Education Program at local school districts. This includes promotional materials for contests, banners, and targeted education events at schools to promote the education program curriculum.	Up to $600 per school per year
E. Support the FireSmart BC Library Program at local/regional libraries. This program includes Wildfire Resiliency Literacy Kits, Ember Activity Packages, Colouring Contest materials, and access to Storytime Videos with Ember.	Up to $600 per branch or $2,000 per independent library to support the whole Library Program, or, Up to $300 per branch for the purchase of books from the Wildfire Resiliency Literacy Kit
F. Support the FireSmart BC Plant Program at local garden centres or nurseries. Includes plant tags, banners, staff buttons and in-store advertising.	Up to $2,700 per location
G. Targeted education to support implementation of fuel management activities, including **cultural burning** and **prescribed fire**.	Required cost estimate in WS1

3. COMMUNITY PLANNING

Community planning is a very effective tool for reducing wildfire risk for lands and buildings within the administrative boundaries of First Nation communities and local governments.

Refer to the Wildfire-Resilience Best Practice Checklist for Home Construction, Renovation and Landscaping or FireSmart BC Landscaping Hub.

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Develop a CWRP in accordance with the current template and guidance document. *Refer to Appendix 4 for more information on developing a CWRP.*	Up to $35,000 (depending on **AOI** and proposed activities in the **Eligible WUI**) and with required cost estimate in WS3. *Applicants are required to have a current and acceptable CWRP/CWPP for their community.*
B. Amend existing CWRPs that are less than 5 years old. *Refer to Appendix 4 for more information on amending a CWRP.*	Up to $17,500 (depending on **AOI** and proposed activities in the **Eligible WUI**) and with required cost estimate in WS3.

Eligible Activities (Community Planning – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
C. Develop FireSmart policies and practices for the design and maintenance of **First Nations land** and **publicly owned land**, such as parks and open spaces.	Required cost estimate in WS1
D. Develop FireSmart policies and practices for the design and maintenance of **First Nations owned buildings** and **publicly owned buildings**.	Required cost estimate in WS1
E. Complete FireSmart assessments for eligible **First Nation owned buildings**, **publicly owned buildings, publicly and First Nations owned critical infrastructure, cultural sites and/or green spaces.** FireSmart Assessments including:	
• FireSmart Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessment	Up to $270 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment	Up to $920 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours) with required identification of buildings and ownership in WS1
• Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessment	Initial assessment – Up to $380 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete field assessment and report writing)
• Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription (required before **Cultural Sites** and **Green Spaces** Assessment is started)	Up to $270 per location/structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment	Up to $920 per structure/location (generally 4 to 8 hours) with ownership of land in WS1

4. DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Community land use and development in wildfire-prone areas affects the susceptibility of the community at different scales and in terms of where and how a community is, or will be, developed.

Refer to the Wildfire-Resilience Best Practice Checklist for Home Construction, Renovation and Landscaping or FireSmart BC Landscaping Hub.

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Amend Official Community Plans, Comprehensive Community Plans and/or land use, engineering and public works bylaws to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to $11,600
B. Revise landscaping requirements in zoning and development permit documents to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to $11,600
C. Establish or revise Development Permit Areas for Wildfire Hazard to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to $11,600
D. Amend referral processes for new developments to ensure multiple departments, including the fire department and/or emergency management personnel, are included.	Up to $11,600

5. INTERAGENCY CO-OPERATION

*Interagency cooperation may include local fire departments, First Nation and/or local government staff and elected officials, **Provincial Crown Land** Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g., Indigenous Services Canada), provincial ministries (e.g., EMCR and BCWS), industry representatives and other stakeholders.*

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Develop and/or coordinate a new or existing Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative (CFRC) <u>as the lead agency</u>. *Note: eligible costs include development, coordination, administration, travel, and wages.*	Up to $2,400 per meeting or up to $12,000 per year *Applicants are required to be participating in a CFRC.*
B. Participate in a Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative (CFRC) that is led by another agency.	Up to $1,200 per meeting or up to $6,000 per year
C. Participate in an integrated fuel management, **cultural burning** and/or **prescribed fire** planning table (generally led by Ministry staff in collaboration with communities) to support the integration of fuel management planning across jurisdictional boundaries.	Up to $1,200 per meeting
D. Provide Indigenous cultural safety and humility training to emergency management personnel in order to more effectively partner with, and provide assistance to, Indigenous communities for both wildfire prevention and suppression.	Required cost estimate in WS1
E. Attend the Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit. *Note: eligible costs include conference fee and travel (including accommodations and per diems).*	Up to four staff per eligible applicant, up to $2,200 per attendee per year

6. EMERGENCY PLANNING

Community preparations for a wildfire emergency require a multi-pronged approach in order for a community to respond effectively to the threat of wildfires as a whole.

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Develop and/or participate in cross-jurisdictional meetings and <u>tabletop exercises</u> specifically focused on wildfire preparedness and suppression, including seasonal wildfire readiness meetings.	Up to $2,400 per meeting
B. *Updated July 2025* - Assess community water delivery ability as required for suppression activities as follows: For areas serviced by a municipal/regional water system: Assess community water delivery ability as required for suppression activities, limited to current water system evaluation and available flow analysis. For areas not serviced municipal/regional water system: Assess community water delivery options as required for suppression activities.	Up to $11,600

Eligible Activities (Emergency Planning – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
C. Assess, inventory and purchase FireSmart structure protection equipment. *Refer to Appendix 5 for more information on the eligible FireSmart Structure Protection Trailer expenditures.*	Up to $50,000 per year
D. Use and/or promote EMCR Wildfire Preparedness Guide and/or Wildfire Evacuation Checklist for community emergency preparedness events focused on wildfire.	Up to $6,000 per event

7. FIRESMART TRAINING AND CROSS TRAINING

Cross-training fire department members and emergency management personnel supports local FireSmart activities, including a safe and effective wildfire response.

For all virtual courses, eligible costs include course fee, required course materials, wages and travel (including accommodations and per diems) only if required for internet connection or access to necessary technology. For all in-person courses, eligible costs include course fee, required course materials, wages and travel (including accommodations and per diems).

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Training for FireSmart Positions. *Refer to the recommended job descriptions for the training required for each position. Only qualifications identified in the job descriptions are eligible for funding.*	Required training breakdown for each proposed position
B. Local FireSmart Representative training (free, virtual). *Refer to Appendix 6 for more information on the FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition program.*	Required cost estimate in WS1
C. *Updated July 2025* - Wildfire Mitigation Program (formally the Home Partners Program) – Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS) training for new applicants to the Wildfire Mitigation Program (WMP). *To become a WMS, the WMP workshop (max. 14 attendees) must be completed.* *If training is delivered by Provincial FireSmart BC Wildfire Mitigation Program Administrators, the workshop instructor cost and course fees are $2,500 and the local cost (facility rentals, coordination, etc.) is up to $2,000.* *If the training is delivered by a certified WMS trainer (see row D below) the local cost (facility rentals, coordination, etc.) is up to $2,000.* *Note: eligible costs can include travel expenses to attend training outside of community (including accommodations and per diems).* *Refer to Appendix 6 for more information on the Wildfire Mitigation Program.*	Up to $4,500 per workshop, depending on workshop instructor, with required cost estimate in WS1 Up to four staff per eligible applicant to travel to workshop outside of their community

Eligible Activities (Training & Cross-Training – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
D. *Updated July 2025* - Wildfire Mitigation Specialist 'Train the Trainer' This course is available for active WMS to become a certified WMS trainer that can instruct WMS training (as in row C above) to staff <u>within their community or neighbouring communities</u>. *Note: eligible costs can include travel expenses to attend a workshop outside of community (including accommodations and per diems). Refer to* [Appendix 6](#) *for more information.*	*Up to $2,000 for local costs (facility rentals, coordination, etc.) with required cost estimate in WS1* *Up to two staff per eligible applicant to travel to workshop outside of their community*
E. *Updated January 2026* - [FireSmart BC Farm and Ranch training](#) (free, online course for FireSmart positions) that is required in order to conduct Farm and Ranch Assessments.	Required cost estimate in WS1
F. Cross-train <u>fire department members</u> only to include structural fire and interface wildfire training. The following are the <u>only</u> courses eligible for funding:	
• [Wildfire Risk Reduction Basics Course](#) (free, online course for non-forest professionals that provides an introduction to the key concepts to minimize the negative impacts of wildfires in BC.)	Required cost estimate in WS1
• [Fire Life & Safety Educator](#) (public education course for fire safety education).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• [ICS-100](#) (Incident Command System - introduction to an effective system for command, control, and coordination of response at an emergency site; available online).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• [SPP-WFF1](#) Wildland Firefighter Level 1 (includes S-100 and S-185).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• [S-100](#) Basic fire suppression and safety (basic fire suppression training) and S-100A (annual refresher).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• [S-185](#) Fire entrapment avoidance and safety (general knowledge course on wildfire safety and entrapment avoidance for local governments, contract crews, and First Nations).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• [S-231](#) Engine Boss (training for structure defense program in a WUI event).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• [WSPP-115](#) Wildland Structure Protection (training for structure protection unit crews).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• [WSPP-FF1](#)(train the trainer).	Required cost estimate in WS1
• Task force leader (TFL-1 & TFL-Advanced) (for structure defense only; course for structural fire personnel to monitor and assess specialty resources that work together to accomplish a common task).	Required cost estimate in WS1

Eligible Activities (Training & Cross-Training – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
• Structure Division/Group Supervisor (DivS/GrpS) (for structure defense only; course for structural fire personnel to implement assigned portion of the Incident Action Plan and be responsible for all operations conducted in the division/group).	Required cost estimate in WS1
G. Cross-train emergency management personnel: • Introduction to Emergency Management in Canada (basic concepts and structure of emergency management). • ICS-100 (introduction to an effective system for incident command, control, and coordination of response at an emergency site; available online).	Required cost estimate in WS1

8. FIRESMART PROJECTS FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Implementing recommended FireSmart improvements to local critical infrastructure demonstrates wildfire prevention principles and best practices to community members and other stakeholders.

To be eligible for funding, all critical infrastructure projects must have a completed FireSmart assessment at the time of application submission. Refer to Appendix 7 for funding requirements for critical infrastructure.

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Complete initial FireSmart Assessment before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).	
• FireSmart HIZ Assessment	Up to $270 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment	Up to $920 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours) with required identification of buildings and ownership
• FireSmart Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessment	Up to $380 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
B. Complete recommended mitigation activities identified in the assessment, limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 10 (Appendix 7).	Up to $58,000 per eligible structure, including building materials and labour
C. Complete second FireSmart Assessment after mitigation work is complete (required).	
• FireSmart HIZ Assessment	Up to $270 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment	Up to $920 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours) with required identification of buildings and ownership

	Follow-up inspection – Up to $165 per structure (generally 1 hour to complete)
• FireSmart Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessment	

9. FIRESMART PROJECTS FOR COMMUNITY ASSETS

Implementing recommended FireSmart improvements to local community assets demonstrates wildfire prevention principles and best practices to community members and other stakeholders.

To be eligible for funding, all community assets projects must have a completed FireSmart assessment at the time of application submission. Refer to Appendix 7 for funding requirements for community assets.

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Complete initial FireSmart Assessment before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).	
• FireSmart HIZ Assessment	Up to $270 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment	Up to $920 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours) with required identification of buildings and ownership
• FireSmart Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessment	Up to $380 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
B. Complete recommended mitigation activities identified in the assessment, limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 10 (Appendix 7).	Up to $58,000 per eligible structure, including building materials and labour
C. Complete second FireSmart assessment after mitigation work is complete (required).	
• FireSmart HIZ Assessment	Up to $270 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment	Up to $920 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours) with required identification of buildings and ownership
• FireSmart Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessment	Follow-up inspection – Up to $165 per structure (generally 1 hour to complete)

10. FIRESMART PROJECTS FOR CULTURAL SITES

Cultural Sites *are locations of historical and cultural importance to Indigenous communities, preserving their heritage, traditions, and connection to the land. These include, but are not limited, to culturally modified trees, traditional dwellings, burial sites, and ceremonial sites.*

Updated September 2025 - To be eligible for funding, all projects must have a completed Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription, with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS, and, if the checklist confirms the proposed area meets the requirements for funding, a completed FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment (CSGS) is required at the time of application submission.

*In cases where **cultural sites** are located on **Provincial Crown Land** confirmation that the proposed activities are supported will be required from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and must be submitted to UBCM at the time of application submission.*

If mitigation work is not being proposed, assessment(s) should be applied for under Section 3E of Table 1.

*Refer to Appendix 8 for complete funding requirements for **cultural sites**.*

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Complete Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription before CSGS Assessment is started (completed checklist must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission). *Updated September 2025* – The checklist is required to be completed by the applicant and BCWS or FNESS before the FireSmart CSGS Assessment is started.	Up to $270 per location/structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
B. Complete initial FireSmart CSGS Assessment before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission). *Updated September 2025* – The completion of the FireSmart CSGS Assessment is only eligible if the checklist confirms that the proposed area meets the requirements for funding for **cultural sites**.	Up to $920 per location/structure (generally 4 to 8 hours)
C. Complete recommended mitigation activities identified in the FireSmart CSGS Assessment, limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 11 (Appendix 8).	Up to $27,000 per eligible location, including building materials and labour
D. Complete second FireSmart CSGS Assessment after mitigation work is complete (required).	Up to $920 per location/structure (generally 4 to 8 hours)

11. FIRESMART PROJECTS FOR GREEN SPACES

Green spaces *include parks, gardens, cemeteries, naturalized spaces, trails and pathways, linear parks and greenways, rights-of-way and boulevards. Green spaces are limited to **First Nations owned land** or **publicly owned land**.*

Updated September 2025 - To be eligible for funding, all projects must have a completed Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription, with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS, and, if the checklist confirms the proposed area meets the requirements for funding, a completed FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment (CSGS) is required at the time of application submission.

If mitigation work is not being proposed, assessment(s) should be applied for under Section 3E of Table 1

*Refer to Appendix 8 for funding requirements for **green spaces**.*

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Complete [Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription](#) before CSGS Assessment is started (completed checklist must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).	Up to $270 per location/structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
Updated September 2025 – The checklist is required to be completed by the applicant and BCWS or FNESS before the [FireSmart CSGS Assessment](#) is started.	
B. Complete initial [FireSmart CSGS Assessment](#) before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission). _Updated September 2025_ – The completion of the FireSmart CSGS Assessment is only eligible if the checklist confirms that the proposed area meets the requirements for funding for **green spaces**.	Up to $920 per location/structure (generally 4 to 8 hours)
C. Complete recommended mitigation activities identified in the [FireSmart CSGS Assessment](#), limited to labour and material costs required to complete activities outlined in [Table 11](#) ([Appendix 8](#)).	Up to $27,000 per eligible location, including building materials and labour
D. Complete second [FireSmart CSGS Assessment](#) after mitigation work is complete (required).	Up to $920 per location (generally 4 to 8 hours)

12. FIRESMART ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTIAL AREAS

First Nations and local governments have a key role to play in supporting residents and property owners to undertake FireSmart activities that demonstrate wildfire prevention principles and best practices.

To be eligible for funding, all FireSmart activities for residential areas must be located in the [FireSmart Home Ignition Zone](#) (with residential property and/or home owners' written consent).

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Residential FireSmart Activities.	

• Conduct FireSmart HIZ Assessments for individual residential properties or homes, limited to:
 	
  o Data collection activities using HIZ assessment.
  o Digitizing HIZ assessment information.
  o Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.).
  o Basic mapping for PDF product.
	Up to $270 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)

• Offer local rebate programs to residential property or home owners that complete eligible FireSmart activities. _Refer to [Appendix 9](#) for more information._	Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in [Table 12](#) (_[Appendix 9](#)_) and up to $5,000 per property

Eligible Activities (Residential Areas – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
• Completion of recommended mitigation activities identified in a completed FireSmart Assessment, limited to labour costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 12 (*see Appendix 9*) for:	
o Residential homes and properties owned by seniors (65 years of age or older), elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves. o Band owned housing occupied by elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations and who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves.	
B. *Updated January 2026* - FireSmart Activities for Farms and Ranches	

• Conduct Farm and Ranch Assessments for farms and ranches, limited to:
   o Data collection activities using Farm and Ranch Assessment.
   o Digitizing Farm and Ranch Assessment information.
   o Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.).
   o Basic mapping for PDF product.
   o Facilitating Farm and Ranch Wildfire Plan preparation utilizing the Farm and Ranch Guide.
	Up to $270 per structure (generally 1 to 3 hours per structure to complete)

• Offer local rebate programs to farm and ranch property owners that complete eligible FireSmart activities. *Refer to Appendix 9 for more information*	Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in Table 12 (*Appendix 9)* and up to $5,000 per property (note: higher funding requests will not be considered)
C. *Updated July 2025* - FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs (FireSmart Canada **Neighbourhood** Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program). *Refer to Appendix 6 for requirements for funding this activity and note that the assessment and plan are required to be completed in the same intake.*	Neighbourhood Wildfire Hazard Assessments (Local FireSmart Collective Assessment) - Up to $500 per **neighbourhood (collective)** (generally 3 – 4 hours to complete) FireSmart Neighbourhood Plans (Collective Action Plan) -Up to $1,200 per **neighbourhood (collective)**
D. Conduct FireSmart BC Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessments for individual residential properties or homes, limited to: • Upon completion of certification, receipt of a Wildfire Mitigation Program driveway sign. • Data collection and management using WMP data base. • Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.). • Basic mapping for PDF product.	Initial assessment – Up to $380 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete) Follow-up inspection – Up to $165 per structure (generally 1 hour to complete) *Refer to Appendix 6 for requirements for funding.*

Eligible Activities (Residential Areas – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
E. Provide off-site vegetative debris disposal for residential property or home owners who have undertaken their own **residential scale FireSmart vegetation management**, including: • Provide sharpening services for gardening hand tools • Provide a dumpster, chipper or other collection method. • Waive tipping fees. • Provide curbside debris pick-up. *Refer to Additional Information on the Use and Disposal of Wood Chips Generated by FCFS-Funded Projects*	Required cost estimate in WS1

13. FUEL MANAGEMENT

Updated January 2026 - As of January 30, 2026, funding for fuel management is no longer available under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program. Applicants that have fuel management projects approved under the 2025 program prior to January 30, 2026 are not impacted by this change and eligible Worksheet 2 submissions initiated under the 2025 program (i.e. submitted to UBCM) prior to January 30, 2026 will be considered provided the application is submitted in full by April 30, 2026. In addition, requests for additional funding (i.e. top-up funding) to support previously approved fuel management activities will no longer be considered.

*Under the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, fuel management activities include the development of fuel management prescriptions and burn plans, as well as **fuel management treatments**, including the application of **cultural burning** and **prescribed fire**. Applicants are advised to only propose fuel management activities that can be completed within two years.*

*In all cases, a completed, signed prescription is required for all fuel treatments, including **cultural burning** and **prescribed fire**. The completed prescription must be submitted with the application, or the applicant is required to apply for a phased project in order to complete the prescription and treatment under the same application. Draft prescriptions will not be accepted.*

Please note that fuel management activities are evaluated on a cost per hectare basis and it is expected that projects are undertaken based on the approved cost per hectare. If the approved cost per hectare cannot be achieved, an amendment request must be submitted for approval before fuel management activities commence.

To be eligible for funding, all fuel management activities must be in alignment with the requirements for funding fuel management activities identified in Appendix 3

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximum and Guidance
A. Undertake planning and development for fuel management, based on an informed estimate of the net prescription or burn plan area, limited to:	
• For **First Nations land, publicly owned land or Provincial Crown Land (except BC Parks) -** develop fuel management prescriptions consistent with the current BCWS *Fuel Management Prescription Guidance* document • For land within BC Parks, develop a fuel management prescription utilizing the current BC Parks Prevention Prescription, Guidance and Operational Document.	Up to $500 per hectare *Based on an average size of greater than 20 hectares and assuming fewer hectares may be higher and more hectares may be lower*

Eligible Activities (Fuel Management – cont'd)	Cost Maximum and Guidance
• Develop burn plans (must be based on eligible fuel management prescription). *Must utilize the current BCWS **Prescribed Fire** Burn Plan Template. (Note: per Appendix 1a of the template – Burn Plan Signature Sheet, the BCWS Fire Centre Manager or designate is required to approve the burn plan and the Land Manager, including BC Parks).*	Required cost estimate in WS2
• Professional assessments required to obtain authorizations for treatments (e.g. geotechnical, archaeological, fire ecologist, range agrologist, biologist, etc.).	Required cost estimate in WS2. *Due to variations in assessment costs, these will be evaluated on a case by case basis.*
B. Undertake new fuel management treatment on **First Nations land, publicly owned land or Provincial Crown Land**. *Note: cost guidance is based on baseline fuel management (e.g. pile burn) costs.*	Coastal Fire Centre: up to $14,600 per hectare with required cost estimate in WS2 Prince George Fire Centre: up to $12,500 per hectare with required cost estimate in WS2 Cariboo, Kamloops, North West and South East Fire Centres: up to $8,100 per hectare with required cost estimate in WS2
C. Undertake fuel management maintenance activities on **First Nations land, publicly owned land or Provincial Crown Land.**	Up to $4,000 per hectare with required cost estimate in WS2
D. Off-site debris disposal (trucking, tipping fees, etc.) from new fuel management or maintenance activities.	Up to an additional $1,750 per hectare with required rationale in WS2
E. Undertake **cultural burning** or **prescribed fire** on **First Nations land, publicly owned land or Provincial Crown Land** when the primary objective is fuel management for community wildfire risk reduction.	Up to $4,000 per hectare with required cost estimate in WS2

F. Undertake fuel management demonstration projects (<u>one per eligible applicant per year</u>) including:
• Develop fuel management prescriptions consistent with the current BCWS *Fuel Management Prescription Guidance* document.
• For demo projects within BC Parks, develop a fuel management prescription utilizing the current BC Parks Prevention Prescription, Guidance and Operational Document.
• Completion of fuel management activities, including **cultural burning** and **prescribed fire**, limited to:
  o **First Nations land, publicly owned land** or **Provincial Crown Land**.
  o Locations that are visible and accessible and have rationale (e.g. number of visitors).
  o Parcel of no more than 5.0 ha.
  o Educational component.
	Up to 25% more than costs for new fuel management activities (by Fire Centre) identified in row B above with required cost estimate in WS2:
	
	Coastal Fire Centre: up to $18,250 per hectare
	
	Prince George Fire Centre: up to $$15,550 per hectare
	
	Cariboo, Kamloops, North West and South East Fire Centres: up to $10,150 per hectare

Additional Eligible Costs and Activities

In addition to the activities identified in Table 1, the following expenditures are also eligible provided they relate directly to eligible activities:

- Incremental applicant staff and administration costs (e.g., creating a new position or adding new responsibilities to an existing position). Eligible expenses include wages/salary, mandatory employment related costs as required by federal or provincial law, and other employment related costs as required by the approved applicant.
- Consultant/contractor costs. Please note: if you intend to hire a professional (planner, forester) to support proposed activities, professional consultant rates will only be considered for activities that represent respective professions. For other activities (e.g. social media, planning events or administering rebate programs) consultant rates are expected to be commensurate with the type of activity being undertaken.
- Honoraria for cultural leaders, Elders, Indigenous knowledge keepers, and/or cultural keepers when they are scheduled to speak, present, or teach. Note: these honoraria should reflect the role of Indigenous Peoples as subject matter experts and be equitable to consultant rates.
- Expenses related to local cultural protocols (e.g., gifts, cultural ceremonies).
- Translation costs and the development of culturally appropriate education, awareness, or engagement materials.
- Identification of community and cultural values through engagement. This includes seeking advice from Indigenous Knowledge Holders and other experts (e.g., health authorities, First Nations Health Authority, biologists, etc.) and engaging the community (e.g., equity-denied populations, Indigenous organizations, such as Friendship Centres and Métis Chartered Communities), Indigenous Nations, local governments, agricultural sector, critical infrastructure owners, etc.
- Purchase of tools (e.g., hand saws, loppers), power tools (e.g., chainsaws, brush saws, walk-behind lawnmowers, string trimmers) required for eligible activities (up to $5,000 per eligible applicant per year).
- Purchase of IT equipment (limited to tablet computers, compatible Satellite Emergency Notification Devices, Global Positioning System trackers and required accessories) required for eligible activities (up to $5,000 per eligible applicant per year).
- Lease of equipment and/or vehicles (with the exception of trailers or equipment for FireSmart structure protection).
- Presentation to Band Council, or Treaty First Nation government, local government Council, Board, community organizations, etc.
- Public information costs (e.g., workshops, printed materials) that align with the intent of the funding stream and provide benefit to the community at large.

Ineligible Costs and Activities

Any activity that is not outlined in Table 1 or is not directly connected to activities approved in the application is not eligible for grant funding. This includes:

- Routine or ongoing operating and/or planning costs or activities that are not incremental to the project.
- Development or amendment of plans or maps primarily intended for emergency response.
- Development of databases.
- Purchase of software, software licences, service subscriptions, or membership fees.
- Development of FireSmart plans (with the exception of CWRPs, amendments to existing CWRPs and FireSmart Neighbourhood Plans).
- Development or update of feasibility studies (including water tank location analysis).
- Purchase, construction, siting or maintenance of Fire Danger rating signs.

- Purchase of non-[FireSmart BC](#) branded items for community events and/or recruitment/retention of volunteers.
- Purchase of emergency supplies (e.g., first aid kits, evacuation supplies) for community members or households.
- Wildfire threat assessments and fuel treatment unit identification on **private land**. Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) wildfire threat assessments may be eligible if located within the **Eligible WUI** and the PMFL owner has consented in writing.
- *Updated July 2025* - Generally speaking, wildfire threat assessments and fuel treatment unit identification outside of the **Eligible WUI**.
- For fuel management and/or FireSmart crew activities only:
  - Purchase of machinery and/or livestock for grazing.
  - Work undertaken by the Ministry, including **prescribed fire** staff support.
  - Any third-party requirements to address hazard abatement under the *Wildfire Act.*
  - Hazard abatement activities related to existing or decommissioned saw mills (e.g. removal of slabs and/or sawdust).

7.   Application Requirements and Process

The [LGPS Online Application Tool](#) is required to be used. Refer to [Appendix 10](#) for full information.

Application Deadline

The 2025 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program will have an open intake. Funding permitting, eligible applicants can submit one application between October 1, 2024 and September 30, 2025.

Applicants will be advised of the status of their application within 120 days of submitting a complete, eligible application.

Updated February 2025 – Funding permitting, recipients will be eligible to apply for future funding:

- After the **approved project end date** and submission of the complete final report, OR
- Within 120 days of the **approved project end date** and the [Interim Report Form](#) has been submitted and approved

If there is a possibility that your project will end sooner than the **approved project end date**, please contact UBCM as soon as possible to discuss options.

Required Application Contents

As of July 1, 2024 applicants will have the option to submit a Band Council, Treaty First Nation, or local government resolution OR a letter of support from the Band Manager, CAO or CFO for applications that are from a single applicant and request less than $50,000 in funding.

All regional applications and all applications requesting more than $50,000 in funding will require resolution(s) to be submitted.

All applicants are required to complete the LGPS Online Application Form and submit an electronic copy of the complete application, as outlined in Table 2:

Table 2: Summary of Required Application Contents and Related Attachments

Refer to the Application Worksheet and Final Report Worksheets for required submissions for each proposed activity.

Required Submissions	Related Attachments (as required)
Application Worksheet	• Completed CWPP or CWRP (if not previously submitted)
Worksheet 1: Proposed FireSmart Activities	• Community Planning - List of buildings, assets and/or locations that are proposed to be assessed, and the ownership of each. • Interagency Cooperation - CFRC terms of reference (for existing CRFCs); Planning table terms of reference. • Emergency Planning - Approval from SPCO (if applying for Phase 2, 3 or 4) for FireSmart structure protection equipment. • Cross Training - List of proposed training with cost calculation and estimate for each FireSmart position. • FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure - Completed initial FireSmart Assessment(s). • FireSmart Projects for Community Assets - Completed initial FireSmart Assessment(s). • *Updated September 2025* - FireSmart Projects for **Cultural Sites** - Completed Prescription Checklist(s) with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS; completed initial FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment(s). • *Updated September 2025* - FireSmart Projects for **Green Spaces** - Completed Prescription Checklist(s) with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS; completed initial FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment(s). • In cases where critical infrastructure, community assets or **cultural sites** are located on **Provincial Crown Land** confirmation that the proposed activities are supported will be required from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) at the time of application submission.
Worksheet 2: Proposed Fuel Management Activities *Worksheet 2 is to be used for all fuel management requests under base funding or under requests for additional funding.*	• *Updated January 2026* - As of January 30, 2026, funding for fuel management is no longer available under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program. Applicants that have fuel management projects approved under the 2025 program prior to January 30, 2026 are not impacted by this change and eligible Worksheet 2 submissions initiated under the 2025 program (i.e. submitted to UBCM) prior to January 30, 2026 will be considered provided the application is submitted in full by April 30, 2026. In addition, requests for additional funding (i.e. top-up funding) to support previously approved fuel management activities will no longer be considered. • For fuel management treatment on **Provincial Crown Land** only, an email from the Land Manager indicating information sharing with First Nations has been completed. • Overview map of the community, previously completed treatments, proposed treatments for this application, and planned future treatments. • PDF map <u>and</u> Google Earth compatible KML file, at appropriate scale, outlining the **AOI**, proposed treatment units, land status and tenure overlaps.

Required Submissions	Related Attachments (as required)
Worksheet 2: Proposed Fuel Management Activities – cont'd	• If available, current wildfire threat assessments as outlined in the [Wildfire Threat Assessment Guide & Worksheets](#) document or survey data as outlined in [Fuel Management Data Collection Standard](#) for proposed treatment units. • <u>For fuel management treatment only</u>, a copy of the completed, signed prescription and project spatial layer. • <u>For **cultural burning** and **prescribed fire** only</u>, a copy of the completed burn plan (in addition to the prescription) and project spatial layer.
Worksheet 3: Proposed New/Amended CWRP	• PDF map <u>and</u> Google Earth compatible KML file, at appropriate scale, outlining the **AOI** and **Eligible WUI.** • In cases where the applicant proposes risk assessments in **Eligible WUI** outside of the **AOI**, confirmation that the proposed risk assessments activities are supported will be required <u>at the time of application submission</u> from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails), other land managers (e.g. Indigenous Services Canada, local governments) and/or First Nations (where overlap on reserves and/or traditional territories may exist). This is limited to exceptional circumstances only. • In cases where the applicant proposes threat assessment in the **Eligible WUI** in Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL), confirmation that the proposed threat assessments activities are supported will be required <u>at the time of application submission</u> from the PMFL.
Worksheet 4: Additional Funding for Applicants Impacted by Wildfires	• *Updated January 2026* - As of January 30, 2026, additional funding for impacts from wildfires is no longer available under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program. Applicants that have approved funding for impacts from wildfires under the 2025 program prior to January 30, 2026 are not impacted by this change and eligible Worksheet 4 submissions initiated under the 2025 program (i.e. submitted to UBCM) prior to January 30, 2026 will be considered provided the application is submitted in full by April 30, 2026.In addition, requests for additional funding (i.e. top-up funding) to support previously approved activities will no longer be considered. • Community Planning - List of buildings, assets and/or locations that are proposed to be assessed, and the ownership of each.
Band Council, Treaty First Nation, or local government Council or Board resolution, (<u>or</u> letter of support from Band Manager, CAO or CFO when a single applicant with a request under $50,000 only), indicating support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management.	
<u>For regional projects with multiple applicants only</u>: Council, Board or Band Council resolution from each partnering community that clearly states approval for the applicant to apply for, receive and manage the grant funding on their behalf.	

Submission of Applications

Applications are required to be submitted in two steps <u>prior to the application deadline</u>:

1. [LGPS Online Application Form](#): This online form must be completed for all applications to LGPS funding programs and includes questions that are common to all grant applications. When the LGPS Online Application Form is submitted, the applicant will receive an email confirmation including the file number that has been assigned to the application, and a copy of the Application Worksheet that must be completed as part of Step 2.

2. Application Worksheet: This worksheet contains questions that are specific to the funding stream and must be submitted by email to UBCM with all other required attachments.

Refer to Appendix 10 for more information on this process and the information that will be required to be submitted during each step, including all application questions.

Review of Applications

For all applications, applicants are required to review Worksheet 1 (FireSmart Activities), Worksheet 2 (Fuel Management) and/or Worksheet 3 (CWRPs) and/or Worksheet 4 (Additional funding for Wildfire Impacted Communities) with BCWS and/or FNESS. The eligibility screening section must be completed by the BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist and/or FNESS Mitigation Specialist/Liaison before the application is submitted.

In addition, for all applications that include proposed activities in BC Parks, applicants are required to review Worksheet 2 (Fuel Management) and/or Worksheet 3 (CWRPs) with BC Parks. The eligibility screening section must be completed by the BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist and/or FNESS Mitigation Specialist/Liaison and BC Parks before the application is submitted.

Complete, eligible applications will then be reviewed and scored by the local BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist or FNESS Mitigation Specialist/Liaison. Higher application review scores will be given to projects that:

- Align with the intent of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program to clearly increase community resiliency by undertaking community-based FireSmart planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire.
- Demonstrate evidence of local wildfire risk (within the past five years) and rationale for proposed activities. This can include:
    - Wildfire risk class of 1, 2 or 3 for the general area of interest.
    - Current local threat assessments that show wildfire threat in proximity to values at risk within and around the community that have been supported by the BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist and/or FNESS Mitigation Specialist/Liaison.
    - Demonstrated history of recent repeated and/or significant interface wildfires and evacuations.
- Demonstrate evidence of engagement with First Nations and/or Indigenous organizations in advance of submitting the application and as part of the proposed project (e.g., collaborative planning tables; incorporating First Nation values and perspectives in proposed activities; existing outreach, plans, engagement reports or processes; including First Nation engagement costs in the budget; completion of Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training).
- Include collaboration with one or more partners (e.g. community or resident organization, First Nation or Indigenous organization, other local governments, industry, or other levels of government).
- Are within cost maximums established in Table 1, demonstrate cost-effectiveness and reflect local, reasonable estimates.
- In cases where the total project cost exceeds the grant request, include **in-kind contributions** to the project from the eligible applicant, community partners or other grant funding.

Point values and weighting have been established within each of these scoring criteria. Only those applications that meet a minimum threshold point value will be considered for funding. Following this, the Evaluation Committee will assess all eligible applications. All funding decisions will be made by UBCM.

> All application materials may be shared with the Province of BC, First Nations' Emergency Services Society and the BC FireSmart Committee.

8. Grant Management and Applicant Responsibilities

Grants are awarded to eligible applicants only and, as such, the applicant is responsible for completion of the project as approved and for meeting reporting requirements. Applicants are also responsible for proper fiscal management, including maintaining acceptable accounting records for the project. UBCM reserves the right to audit these records.

Notice of Funding Decision and Payments

All applicants will receive written notice of funding decisions. Approved applicants will receive an Approval Agreement, which will include the terms and conditions of any grant that is awarded, and that is required to be signed and returned to UBCM.

Grants are awarded in two payments: 50% at the approval of the project and when the signed Approval Agreement has been returned to UBCM, and the eligible remainder when the project is complete and UBCM has received and approved the required final reporting.

Please note that in cases where revisions are required to an application, or an application has been approved in principle only, the applicant has 30 days from the date of the written notice of the status of the application to complete the application requirements. Applications that are not completed within 30 days may be closed.

Payment by Direct Deposit

Updated October 2025 - Approved applicants may request to have all grant payments made by direct deposit. Please note that all payments to local governments are already made by direct deposit.

In order to receive payments by direct deposit, approved applicants are required to submit:

- UBCM Direct Deposit Authorization Form for a bank account registered in the name of the approved applicant. Direct deposit payments will not be made to accounts registered to an individual or to an entity that is not the same as the approved applicant.
- Resolution or motion from the approved applicant (e.g., Band Council, Treaty First Nation, local government Council or Board, society Board of Directors) authorizing UBCM to make all future grant payments by direct deposit.

Post-Grant Approval Meetings

As a requirement of grant funding, all approved applicants are required to meet with the BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist or FNESS Mitigation Specialist/Liaison, or designate, to discuss the **approved project** prior to commencing work.

In addition, where applicable, approved applicants are encouraged to meet with the **Provincial Crown Land** Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g. Indigenous Services Canada) to discuss the project prior to commencing work.

Progress Payments

To request a progress payment, approved applicants are required to submit the Interim Report Form. The form will require the following information:

- Description of activities completed to date.
- Description of funds expended to date.
- Written rationale for receiving a progress payment.

Changes to Approved Projects (Amendment Requests)

Updated January 2026 - Requests for additional funding (i.e. top-up funding) to support previously approved FireSmart or fuel management activities will no longer be considered.

Approved grants are specific to the project as identified in the approved application, and grant funds are not transferable to other projects. Generally speaking, this means funds cannot be transferred to an activity that was not included in the approved application or, for the purpose of fuel management, to a new or expanded location.

Approval from UBCM and/or the Evaluation Committee will be required for any variation from the **approved project**. Depending on the complexity of the proposed amendment, requests may take up to 120 days to review.

To propose changes to an **approved project**, applicants are required to submit the Interim Report Form. If UBCM determines the amendment is eligible for consideration, applicants will be required to submit:

- Amended application package, including updated, application worksheet(s), and an updated Council, Board or Band Council resolution/letter of support.
- For regional projects only: evidence of support from partnering applicants for proposed amendments will be required.
- Written rationale for proposed changes to activities and/or expenditures.

Applicants are responsible for any costs above the approved grant unless a revised application is submitted and approved prior to work being undertaken.

Extensions to Project End Date

All approved activities are required to be completed by the **approved project end date** and all extensions beyond this date must be requested in writing and be approved by UBCM.

The Interim Report Form will be required to be submitted for all extension requests over six months.

Extensions will not exceed one year from the date of the original final report deadline. An Interim Report Form will be required at 12 months for all two-year projects.

Recognition of Funding and Funders

Approved applicants should contact UBCM for more information on recognizing funding and for information on the appropriate use of logos. Please contact lgps@ubcm.ca or (604) 270-8226 ext. 220. Guidelines on using the BC logo, including downloadable files, are available here.

9. Interim Reporting and Final Report Requirements and Process

Reporting requirements do not apply to any product, data or information which may include Indigenous knowledge. The Ministry of Forests respects the First Nations principles of OCAP®.

Interim Reporting for Phased Fuel Management

Applicants with phased fuel management projects are required to submit interim reporting before **fuel management treatments** commence, including the following:

- Copy of the fuel management prescription that is signed by a Registered Forest Professional including all ancillary assessments.
- Copy of the Burn Plan that is signed by the qualified professional (for **prescribed fire** only).
- Confirmation that First Nations information sharing has been completed (for **Provincial Crown Land** only).
- Maps and spatial data as required in Appendix 11.

Final Reports

Applicants are required to submit an electronic copy of the complete final report, as outlined in Table 3.

Submission of Interim Reporting and Final Reports

Interim and final reports should be submitted as Excel, Word, or PDF files. Total file size for email attachments cannot exceed 20 MB.

All interim and final reports should be submitted to Local Government Program Services, Union of BC Municipalities by e-mail: cri@ubcm.ca.

Review of Interim Reporting and Final Reports

UBCM will perform a preliminary review of all reports to ensure the required report elements have been submitted. Following this, all complete final reports and deliverables will be reviewed by BCWS, FNESS and/or, where applicable, BC Parks before fuel treatments activities can proceed and/or grant payment is released.

All final report materials may be shared with the Province of BC, First Nations' Emergency Services Society, and BC FireSmart Committee. The Province is moving towards a public dashboard that will highlight all plans and proposed/completed **fuel management treatments**. This would include spatial components and attributes and include changes to spatial requirements for CWRPs.

Table 3: Summary of Required Final Report Contents and Related Attachments

Refer to the Application Worksheet and Final Report Worksheets for required submissions for each proposed activity.

Required Submissions	Related Attachments (as required)
Final Report Form	
Final Report Worksheet 1	- Education – sample of materials created with grant funding. - Community Planning – completed policies, completed checklists and FireSmart Assessments. - Development Considerations – completed policies and plans. - Interagency Cooperation - CFRC terms of reference (for new CFRCs only). - Emergency Planning – Completed assessments, inventories, list of purchased FireSmart Structure Protection equipment including quantity and cost. - FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure - Completed secondary FireSmart Assessment(s). - FireSmart Projects for Community Assets - Completed secondary FireSmart Assessment(s). - FireSmart Projects for **Cultural Sites** - Completed secondary FireSmart Assessment(s). - FireSmart Projects for **Green Spaces** - Completed secondary FireSmart Assessment(s). *Updated January 2026* - Residential areas – summary report and sample of HIZ assessments and/or FireSmart Farm and Ranch Assessments; summary report for rebates; summary report for mitigation work; summary report for WMP assessments.

Required Submissions	Related Attachments (as required)
Final Report Worksheet 2: Fuel Management Activities	<u>Prescriptions, Burn Plans and Phased Projects</u> • Copy of the fuel management prescription that is signed by a Registered Forest Professional including all ancillary assessments. • Copy of the Burn Plan that is signed by the qualified professional. • PDF maps, at appropriate scale, and KMZ files as identified in <u>Appendix 11.</u> • Spatial data for completed prescriptions is required to be entered into RESULTS and the Activity Treatment Unit ID is required as evidence of a successful RESULTS entry. Please refer to *"RESULTS Information Submission Specifications: Government Funded Activities"*. <u>Treatments and Phased Projects</u> • Post-treatment wildfire threat assessments as outlined in the <u>Wildfire Threat Assessment Guide & Worksheets</u> document or survey data as outlined in <u>Fuel Management Data Collection Standard.</u> • Post-treatment report with updated survey data collection as per direction in the prescription, summary of post treatments conditions • and fire behaviour outcomes and relationship to prescription treatment objectives. • <u>For prescribed fire only</u>: fire effects monitoring pre burn, and fire effects monitoring post burn reports. • Pre- and post-treatment pictures. • PDF maps, at appropriate scale, and KMZ files as identified in <u>Appendix 11.</u> Spatial data for completed treatments is required to be entered into RESULTS and the Activity Treatment Unit ID is required as evidence of a successful RESULTS entry. Please refer to *"RESULTS Information Submission Specifications: Government Funded Activities"*.
Final Report Worksheet 3: CWRP/Updates	• Copy of the completed or amended CWRP. • Completed Wildfire Threat Assessment Worksheet(s) and photos. • Maps and spatial data as outlined in <u>Appendix 11.</u>
Updated July 2025 - Final Report Worksheet 4: Additional Funding for Applicants Directly Impacted by Wildfires	• Education – sample of materials created with grant funding. • Community Planning – completed policies, completed checklists and FireSmart Assessments. • Development Considerations – completed policies and plans. • *Updated January 2026* - FireSmart activities for Residential areas – summary report and sample of HIZ assessments and/or FireSmart Farm and Ranch Assessments; summary report for rebates; summary report for mitigation work; summary report for WMP assessments.
Copies, excerpts and/or links to all materials produced with grant funding.	
Photos of funded activities and/or completed projects and links to media directly related to the funded project.	

10. Additional Information

Union of BC Municipalities
525 Government Street
Victoria, BC   V8V 0A8

E-mail: cri@ubcm.ca

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 220

Appendix 1: Definitions

Approved project: Activities included in the approved application and costs included in the approved budget.

Updated February 2025 - **Approved project start date:** the date of the approval agreement for the approved project. However, eligible costs can be incurred from the date of application submission until the final report is submitted.

Updated February 2025 - **Approved project end date:** the date identified in the approval agreement as the approved project end date. Generally speaking, this will be 12 months or 24 months from the date of the approval agreement depending on whether an applicant has applied for funding for one or two years.

Area of Interest (AOI): The AOI is the geographic scope of the CWRP. For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, the AOI is the area within the municipal boundary, regional district boundary, or boundary of **First Nations land**. Refer to Appendix 4 and the CWRP instruction guide and template for more information.

Cultural Burning: A practice that has existed since time immemorial, with traditional knowledge passed down from generation to generation. It holds different meanings for different Indigenous communities but is often defined as the controlled application of fire on the landscape to achieve specific cultural objectives. These burns are typically implemented at low intensity, with guidance from an Elder or Fire Knowledge Keeper, often in collaboration with inter-ministry partners. Common objectives include, but are not limited to cultural and language preservation, fuel mitigation, food and medicinal plant revitalization, and habitat enhancement.

Cultural Sites: Locations of historical and cultural importance to Indigenous communities, preserving their heritage, traditions, and connection to the land. These include, but are not limited, to culturally modified trees, traditional dwellings, burial sites, and ceremonial sites.

Eligible Wildland Urban Interface (WUI): For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, the **Eligible WUI** is generally defined as a maximum of one kilometer from structures within the AOI with a structure density class greater than 6. Applicants are advised to use the Province of BC Data Catalogue for PSTA and WUI spatial data layers.

First Nations land: First Nation reserve land, land owned by a Treaty First Nation (as defined by the *Interpretation Act*), land under the authority of an Indigenous National Government, or other land owned or governed by a First Nation or Treaty First Nation.

First Nations owned buildings: Buildings owned by a Treaty First Nation (as defined by the *Interpretation Act*) or buildings owned by a First Nation band.

Green Spaces: For the purpose of FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, green spaces are limited to **First Nations owned land** or **publicly owned land** and only include:

- Parks: open areas with lawns, trees, and amenities for recreation, including playgrounds, sports fields, and picnic areas.
- Gardens: spaces featuring a variety of plants and flowers, often with educational purposes.
- Cemeteries.
- Naturalized spaces: undeveloped areas within urban settings.
- Trails and Pathways: walking and biking routes connecting different parts of a city or town.
- Linear Parks and Greenways, including former railway lines.
- Right-of-Ways and Boulevards: landscaped roadside areas with trees and vegetation.

In-Kind expenditures: The use of resources of the approved **primary applicant** or **sub-applicant(s)** for the development or implementation of the **approved project**. For example, the use of meeting rooms owned by the approved **primary applicant** or **sub-applicant(s)** can be an in-kind expenditure.

Updated July 2025 - **Neighbourhood/Collective:** A neighbourhood or collective is considered to be an area of continuous land and structures that make logical sense to work together as community members. It may include homes, green spaces, farms/ranches, and/or other buildings and infrastructure.

Prescribed fire: Deliberate, planned and knowledgeable application of fire to a specific land area to accomplish pre-determined forest management or other land use objectives.

Primary applicant: Eligible applicant that is the primary contact for the application and that is responsible for project oversight, grant management and all reporting requirements.

Private land: Fee-simple land that is not owned by a level of government.

Provincial Crown Land: Land (or land covered by water like rivers or lakes) that is owned by the Province of BC.

Publicly owned buildings: Buildings owned by a local government or public institution (such as health authority or school district).

Updated September 2025 - **Publicly owned land**: Land owned by a local government or land owned by a public institution (such as a health authority or school district). For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, lands owned by colleges and universities are generally not considered publicly owned land. However, with rationale and support from FNESS and/or BCWS, land owned by a university identified in the Universities Act, Thompson Rivers University Act or Royal Roads University Act and/or land owned by a college identified in the College and Institute Act may be considered for funding for eligible fuel management activities.

Publicly and First Nations owned critical infrastructure: Assets owned by a local government, public institution (such as health authority or school district), First Nation or Treaty First Nation that are either:

- Identified in a local Emergency Management Plan Hazard, Risk & Vulnerability Analysis and/or Critical Infrastructure assessment and/or

- Essential to the health, safety, security or economic wellbeing of the community and the effective functioning of government (such as fire halls, emergency operations centres, radio repeaters, etc.).

Sub-applicant(s): In the case of regional projects, the sub-applicants are eligible applicants that are included in an approved application.

Vegetation management: The general goal of **vegetation management** is to reduce the potential wildfire intensity and ember exposure to people, infrastructure, structures and other values through manipulation of both the natural and cultivated vegetation that is within or adjacent to a community.

Vegetation management can be accomplished at various scales:

1. **Residential Scale FireSmart vegetation management**: removal, reduction, or conversion of flammable plants on residential properties in order to create more fire-resistant areas in FireSmart Immediate, Intermediate, and Extended Zones (refer to the FireSmart BC Landscaping Guide).

2. **Community Scale FireSmart vegetation management**: removal, reduction, or conversion of flammable plants (such as landscaping for parks, open spaces, and critical infrastructure) in order to create more fire-resistant areas in FireSmart Immediate, Intermediate, and Extended Zones (refer to the FireSmart BC Landscaping Guide), including **cultural sites** and **green spaces.**

3. **Fuel management treatments**: the manipulation or reduction of living or dead forest and grassland fuels to reduce the rate of spread and head fire intensity and enhance the likelihood of successful suppression. See [Appendix 3](#) for more information.

Appendix 2: Additional Funding for Applicants Directly Impacted by Wildfires

> *Updated January 2026* - As of January 30, 2026, additional funding for impacts from wildfires is no longer available under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program.
>
> Applicants that have approved funding for impacts from wildfires under the 2025 program prior to January 30, 2026 are not impacted by this change and eligible Worksheet 4 submissions initiated under the 2025 program (i.e. submitted to UBCM) prior to January 30, 2026 will be considered provided the application is submitted in full by April 30, 2026.
>
> In addition, requests for additional funding (i.e. top-up funding) to support previously approved activities will no longer be considered.

Updated July 2025 - Eligible applicants with an existing FireSmart program that were directly impacted by the 2024 wildfire season or by wildfire(s) during the course of the **approved project** may apply to exceed the base funding maximum in order to support incremental FireSmart activities due to increased local demand for wildfire risk reduction.

Additional funding for applicants directly impacted by wildfire is limited to:

- Communities that experienced, as a direct result of 2024 wildfire season or wildfires during the approved project:
  - Loss of residential structures;
  - Loss of critical infrastructure; and/or
  - *New in 2025* - Evacuation alerts and/or orders on the recommendation of the BC Wildfire Service.
- Eligible applicants that have an existing FireSmart program and can demonstrate an increase in demand for FireSmart activities since wildfire season.
- Activities identified in Table 4 that are incremental to any activities that have been approved under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program.
- No more than $100,000 in additional funding per year.
- Single applicants (i.e., not as part of regional applications).

In addition, in order to qualify for additional funds, the applicant must have an approved 2025 FireSmart Community Funding and Supports application or include the request for additional funds in their 2025 application. Worksheet 4 is required to be submitted for consideration of additional funding. This worksheet will be reviewed by the BCWS and/or FNESS.

Table 4: Activities Eligible for Funding for Applicants Directly Impacted by 2024 Wildfires	
1. FIRESMART POSITIONS	
Eligible Activities	**Cost Maximums and Guidance**
A. Incremental FireSmart positions (e.g. creating a new position or adding new responsibilities to an existing position), based on the recommended job descriptions: • FireSmart Coordinator • Local FireSmart Representative • Wildfire Mitigation Specialist	Required cost estimate in WS4 *Applicants are required to have a FireSmart position in their community.* *The primary focus of FireSmart positions during recovery is to support eligible FireSmart activities identified in Table 4. Other activities related to emergency management (i.e. EOC, ESS, evacuations), structural fire and/or forestry (i.e. Indigenous Guardians) are eligible as no more than 20% of job duties.*

2. EDUCATION	
Eligible Activities	**Cost Maximums and Guidance**
A. Promote/distribute FireSmart educational resources, such as [FireSmart 101](#), [Wildfire Risk Reduction Basics](#), [FireSmart Canada Ambassador training](#), FireSmart Begins at Home app, social media, FireSmart BC materials.	Required cost estimate in WS4
B. Organize, host or support FireSmart events: Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, Farm and Ranch Wildfire Preparedness workshop, Neighbourhood Champion workshop, community FireSmart day, and/or wildfire season open houses.	Up to $6,000 per event
C. *New in 2025* - Support the [FireSmart BC Education Program](#) at local school districts. This includes promotional materials for contests, banners, and targeted education events at schools to promote the education program curriculum. This includes promotional materials for contests, banners, and targeted education events at schools to promote the education program curriculum.	Up to $600 per school per year
D. Support the [FireSmart BC Library Program](#) at local/regional libraries. This program includes Wildfire Resiliency Literacy Kits, Ember Activity Packages, Colouring Contest materials, and access to Storytime Videos with Ember.	Up to $600 per branch or $2,000 per independent library to support the whole Library Program, or, Up to $300 per branch for the purchase of books from the Wildfire Resiliency Literacy Kit
E. Support the [FireSmart BC Plant Program](#) at local garden centres or nurseries. Includes plant tags, banners, staff buttons and in-store advertising.	Up to $2,700 per location

3. COMMUNITY PLANNING

Community planning is a very effective tool for reducing wildfire risk for lands and buildings within the administrative boundaries of First Nation communities and local governments.

Refer to the [Wildfire-Resilience Best Practice Checklist for Home Construction, Renovation and Landscaping](#) or [FireSmart BC Landscaping Hub](#).

Eligible Activities	**Cost Maximums and Guidance**
A. Amend existing CWRPs that are less than 5 years old due to impacts of recent wildfire in accordance with the 2024 template and guidance document *Refer to [Appendix 4](#) for more information on amending a CWRP*	Up to $17,500 (depending on **AOI** and proposed activities in the **Eligible WUI**) and with required cost estimate in WS3 *Applicants are required to have a current and acceptable CWRP/CWPP for their community.*
B. Develop FireSmart policies and practices for the design and maintenance of **First Nations land** and **publicly owned land**, such as parks and open spaces.	Required cost estimate in WS4
C. Develop FireSmart policies and practices for the design and maintenance of **First Nations owned buildings** and **publicly owned buildings**.	Required cost estimate in WS4

Eligible Activities (Community Planning – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
D. Complete FireSmart assessments for eligible **First Nation owned buildings**, **publicly owned buildings, publicly and First Nations owned critical infrastructure, cultural sites and/or green spaces.** FireSmart Assessments including:	
• FireSmart Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessment	Up to $270 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment	Up to $920 per structure (generally 4 to 8 hours) with required identification of buildings and ownership in WS1
• Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessment	Initial assessment – Up to $380 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete field assessment and report writing)
• Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription (*Updated September 2025* – Required to be completed by applicant and BCWS or FNESS before **Cultural Sites** and **Green Spaces** Assessment is started)	Up to $270 per location/structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)
• FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces Assessment (*Updated September 2025* - Only eligible if the checklist confirms that the proposed area meets the requirements for funding for **Cultural Sites** or **Green Spaces**)	Up to $920 per structure/location (generally 4 to 8 hours) with ownership of land in WS1

4. DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Community land use and development in wildfire-prone areas affects the susceptibility of the community at different scales and in terms of where and how a community is, or will be, developed.

Refer to the Wildfire-Resilience Best Practice Checklist for Home Construction, Renovation and Landscaping or FireSmart BC Landscaping Hub.

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Amend Official Community Plans, Comprehensive Community Plans and/or land use, engineering and public works bylaws to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to $11,600
B. Revise landscaping requirements in zoning and development permit documents to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to $11,600
C. Establish or revise Development Permit Areas for Wildfire Hazard to incorporate FireSmart principles.	Up to $11,600
D. Amend referral processes for new developments to ensure multiple departments, including the fire department and/or emergency management personnel, are included.	Up to $11,600

5. FIRESMART ACTIVITIES FOR RESIDENTIAL AREAS

First Nations and local governments have a key role to play in supporting residents and property owners to undertake FireSmart activities that demonstrate wildfire prevention principles and best practices.

To be eligible for funding, all FireSmart activities for residential areas must be located in the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone (with residential property and/or home owners' written consent).

Eligible Activities	Cost Maximums and Guidance
A. Residential FireSmart Activities.	

• Conduct FireSmart HIZ Assessments for individual residential properties or homes, limited to:
  o Data collection activities using HIZ assessment.
  o Digitizing HIZ assessment information.
  o Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.).
  o Basic mapping for PDF product.
	Up to $270 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete)

• Offer local rebate programs to residential property or home owners that complete eligible FireSmart activities. *Refer to Appendix 9 for more information.*	Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in Table 12 (*Appendix 9*) and up to $5,000 per property

• Completion of recommended mitigation activities identified in a completed FireSmart Assessment, limited to labour costs required to complete activities outlined in Table 12 (*see Appendix 9*) for:
  o Residential homes and properties owned by seniors (65 years of age or older), elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves.
  o Band owned housing occupied by elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations and who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves.	

B. *Updated January 2026* - FireSmart Activities for Farms and Ranches	

• Conduct Farm and Ranch Assessments for farms and ranches, limited to:
  o Data collection activities using Farm and Ranch Assessment.
  o Digitizing Farm and Ranch Assessment information.
  o Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.).
  o Basic mapping for PDF product.
  o Facilitating Farm and Ranch Wildfire Plan preparation utilizing the Farm and Ranch Guide.
	Up to $270 per structure (generally 1 to 3 hours per structure to complete)

Eligible Activities (Residential Areas – cont'd)	Cost Maximums and Guidance
• Offer local rebate programs to farm and ranch property owners that complete eligible FireSmart activities. *Refer to Appendix 9 for more information.*	Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in Table 12 (*Appendix 9*) and up to $5,000 per property
C. *Updated July 2025* - FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs (FireSmart Canada **Neighbourhood** Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program). *Refer to Appendix 6 for requirements for funding this activity and note that the assessment and plan are required to be completed in the same intake.*	Neighbourhood Wildfire Hazard Assessments (Local FireSmart Collective Assessment) - Up to $500 per **neighbourhood (collective)** (generally 3 – 4 hours to complete) FireSmart Neighbourhood Plans (Collective Action Plan) -Up to $1,200 per **neighbourhood (collective)**
D. Conduct FireSmart BC Wildfire Mitigation Program for individual residential properties or homes, <u>limited to</u>: • Upon completion of certification, receipt of a Wildfire Mitigation Program driveway sign. • Data collection and management using WMP data base. • Simple reporting (for community members, Council, etc.). • Basic mapping for PDF product. *Refer to Appendix 6 for requirements for funding.*	Initial assessment – Up to $380 per structure (generally 2 to 3 hours to complete) Follow-up inspection – Up to $165 per structure (generally 1 hour to complete)
E. Provide off-site vegetative debris disposal for residential property or home owners who have undertaken their own **residential scale FireSmart vegetation management**, including: • Provide sharpening services for gardening hand tools • Provide a dumpster, chipper or other collection method. • Waive tipping fees. • Provide curbside debris pick-up. *Refer to Additional Information on the Use and Disposal of Wood Chips Generated by FCFS-Funded Projects*	Required cost estimate in WS4

Appendix 3: Funding Requirements for Fuel Management Activities

> *Updated January 2026* - As of January 30, 2026, funding for fuel management is no longer available under the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program.
>
> Applicants that have fuel management projects approved under the 2025 program prior to January 30, 2026 are not impacted by this change and eligible Worksheet 2 submissions initiated under the 2025 program (i.e. submitted to UBCM) prior to January 30, 2026 will be considered provided the application is submitted in full by April 30, 2026.
>
> In addition, requests for additional funding (i.e. top-up funding) to support previously approved fuel management activities will no longer be considered.

Eligible applicants are strongly encouraged to engage with BCWS or FNESS as early as possible when considering fuel management activities. For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, fuel management activities are required to be:

- Within the **Eligible WUI.**
- Within municipal boundaries, regional district parks or **First Nations land.**
- Generally outside of the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Extended Zone (30 m from homes and structures).

Contiguous, logical treatment units that extend onto the **Provincial Crown Land** may be considered for funding provided that treatment units originate within municipal boundaries, regional district parks or **First Nations land** and extend no further than one-kilometre from the structure density class greater than 6.

> Fuel management activities located exclusively on **Provincial Crown Land**, outside of municipal boundaries, regional district parks or **First Nations land**, must be coordinated through the Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction program.

In addition, to qualify for funding, fuel management activities must:

- Be in alignment with the current BCWS [Fuel Management Prescription Template Guidance](#) and [Best Management Practices for Mastication as a Fuel Management Method in BC](#) (2024)
- For activities that fall under the practice of forestry, be developed and, where applicable, signed by a forest professional that is accredited by [Forest Professionals BC](#) and operating within their scope of practice.
- Where applicable, for any professional assessments required to obtain authorizations for treatments, be developed and signed by a qualified professional as per the [Professional Governance Act](#).
- Where applicable, be eligible for required approvals for authorizations and/or permits from the **Provincial Crown Land** Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g. Indigenous Services Canada).

Prescriptions

As outlined in the [Fuel Management Prescription Template Guidance](#):

> A fuel management prescription is a document that describes existing conditions in an identified area and recommends fuel management activities that will reduce potential fire behaviour. It is expected that the prescribed post treatment stand conditions will result in reduced potential fire behaviour, such as a decrease in surface fire intensity and rate of spread, crown fire initiation and spread, and the potential for sustained ignition. Fuel management prescriptions must ensure a cost effective and measurable reduction in expected fire behaviour with the consideration and management of other values on the landscape (e.g. ungulate winter range, visual requirements, etc.).

For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, prescriptions must include fuel management activities that reduce surface fuel loading to achieve surface fire intensity levels below 2,000 kilowatts per metre. 2,000 kilowatts per metre is a measurement of heat energy output and surface fire intensity levels below this benchmark best support successful suppression by wildfire crews.

Forest professionals should consider activities such as **prescribed fire** to reduce surface fire intensity in masticated fuel beds and in areas of hand or mechanical treatment (as required); pile and burn; and/or off-site debris disposal. Onsite dispersal of masticated woody debris is eligible for funding only when surface fire intensity levels below 2,000 kilowatts per metre are achieved.

Prescriptions that include **Provincial Crown Land** and other tenure types (e.g., local government land) should ensure distinct treatment units are used to separate **Provincial Crown Land.**

BC Parks has a specific [BC Prevention Prescription Template, Guidance and Operational Document](#) that must be used when a project is occurring within BC parks and protected areas.

Fire effects monitoring pre-burn should occur prior to a prescription being developed as the data informs the prescription and the burn plan development. When an **approved project** includes multiple prescriptions, it is preferred that all completed prescriptions are submitted at the same time.

Burn Plans

A burn plan is a documented plan prepared in advance of a **prescribed fire** that describes the objectives, burn operations, mitigation plan and post-fire monitoring of the open fire. Approved applicants must utilize the [BCWS Prescribed Fire Burn Plan Template.](#) (Note: per Appendix 1a of the template – Burn Plan Signature Sheet, the BCWS Fire Centre Manager or designate is required to approve the burn plan and the Land Manager).

Where development of a burn plan is a proposed activity, applicants must contact the appropriate fire centre and fire zone to determine how burn plan development will proceed. During this discussion, it may be determined that there will be a collaborative approach to burn plan development with BCWS as an active participant or BCWS may only review and approve the plan. Engaging early will help BCWS assess available capacity towards burn plan development.

Eligible Prescription/Burn Plan Development Costs and Activities (for <u>net</u> prescription or burn plan area):

- Required professional assessments (e.g. geotechnical, archaeological, fire ecologist, biologist, range agrologist, etc.).
- Engagement with Indigenous knowledge keepers to gather and incorporate cultural knowledge into prescription and burn planning
- Activities related to prescription development (e.g. approved Canadian wildfire modelling, pre-burn fire effects monitoring or stakeholder engagement).
- Activities related to burn plan development including identification of values in containment areas, additional data collection requirements and engaging with burn specialists.
- [Information sharing with First Nations](#), as required by the Land Manager.
- Site evaluation, including field reconnaissance, wildfire threat assessments as outlined in the [Wildfire Threat Assessment Guide and Worksheets](#) document or survey data as outlined in [Fuel Management Data Collection Standard](#) and the evaluation of site access.
- Lay out and traversing of proposed areas for treatments.
- Preparation of all final report requirements, including maps, spatial data and metadata.

When applying for funding for prescriptions and burn plans it is expected that the proposed area is based on an informed estimate of the net prescription or burn plan area. For example, water bodies, rock, roads, etc. should be netted out of the proposed area based on desktop review. Only those areas with an expected fuel management treatment and/or prescribed burn should be included in the hectares for prescriptions or burn plans.

Treatments

Fuel management treatments must follow an approved fuel management prescription (and burn plan if required) and may include activities such as pruning, thinning, tree falling, brushing, grazing, reforestation, **cultural burning**, **prescribed fire** and/or debris management.

Maintenance treatments (generally for areas that have had **fuel management treatments** in the last 5 to 15 years) are eligible for funding. Applicants should discuss any proposed maintenance activities with the BCWS, FNESS and/or, where applicable, BC Parks to ensure that the requirements for a new or updated fuel management prescription are addressed and to identify where the Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction stream may be applicable.

Cultural Burning and Prescribed Fire

Cultural burning and **prescribed fire** activities primarily for community wildfire risk reduction objectives are eligible for funding. Due to relatively narrow burn windows associated with weather and site conditions, as well as timelines associated with fire hazard abatement requirements, it is anticipated **prescribed fire** will be more appropriate and common as a maintenance treatment than as part of the initial suite of treatments.

Where operational implementation of a burn plan is a proposed activity, approved applicants must contact the appropriate fire centre to determine opportunities for BCWS involvement in the project. Proponents may consider utilizing BCWS personnel in partnership with First Nations, local fire departments, contract crews, etc. Upon confirmation of BCWS involvement, BCWS personnel costs should not be included in the funding application as those costs will be covered by the province.

Eligible Fuel Treatment Costs and Activities (including demonstration projects)

- Pre-treatment activities: activities required to obtain authorizations, danger tree assessments, notification to First Nations and stakeholders, and public engagement activities, including signage and communication materials.
- Treatments: pruning, thinning, tree falling, brushing, grazing, reforestation, **cultural burning** and/or **prescribed fire**.
- Debris management: pile and burning, use of air curtain incinerator, onsite dispersal of masticated woody debris below 2,000 kilowatts per metre, and/or off-site debris disposal.
- Post-treatment activities:
  - Post-treatment wildfire threat assessments as outlined in the Wildfire Threat Assessment Guide & Worksheets document or survey data as outlined in Fuel Management Data Collection Standard
  - Post-treatment report with updated survey data collection, summary of post treatments conditions and fire behaviour outcomes and relationship to prescription treatment objectives.
  - Post-treatment signage.
- Preparation of all final report requirements, including maps, spatial data and metadata.

In addition, when **cultural burning** or **prescribed fire** are undertaken as a fuel management activity for community wildfire risk reduction, the following costs and activities are eligible:

- Burn preparation activities including fire weather index monitoring activities, public notification and preparing black lines. Note: pre-burn costs are eligible costs if no burn window is achieved.
- Burn day activities including spot forecasts, equipment set up and transport (may include aerial ignition) and traffic control.

- Post-burn activities including post-burn fire effects monitoring, surveys, mop up and final reporting. A budget estimate based on mop-up requirements within the approved burn plan should be included. Where an increased level of mop-up (e.g. 100%) is required as indicated by the Burn Boss, in consultation with BCWS, include a contingency cost estimate as a separate budget line item in preparation of potentially dynamic mop-up conditions.
- Expenses related to local cultural protocols
- Preparation of all final report requirements, including maps, spatial data and metadata.

Phased Fuel Management Projects

Applicants can apply for fuel management projects that include prescription and/or burn plan development and fuel management treatment, including prescribed burns, for the same treatment unit(s) provided that sufficient detail on estimated treatment size and post-treatment outcomes are included. Under the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, this is considered a phased fuel management project and specific funding conditions will apply.

Application Requirements

In addition to the required application materials for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, projects that include fuel management activities are required to submit:

- Worksheet 2: Proposed Fuel Management Activities and all required attachments.
- Overview/cumulative map that shows the community, proposed treatments for this application, planned future treatments, and previously completed treatments across all adjacent jurisdictions.
- PDF map and Google Earth compatible KML file, at appropriate scale, outlining the **area of interest**, proposed treatments units, land status and tenure overlaps.
- If available wildfire threat assessments as outlined in the Wildfire Threat Assessment Guide & Worksheets document or survey data as outlined in Fuel Management Data Collection Standard.
- For **fuel management treatments** only:
  - Completed, signed prescription. Unless the proposed treatment is a phased project, the completed, signed prescription must be submitted with the application in order to have the treatment considered for funding.
  - For **prescribed fire**, completed, signed burn plan in addition to Fuel Management Prescription.
  - Project spatial layers as defined in Appendix 11.

Interim Reporting Requirements for Phased Fuel Management Projects Only

Applicants with phased fuel management projects are required to submit interim reporting before **fuel management treatments** commence.

Interim reporting includes the following:

- Copy of the fuel management prescription that is signed by a Registered Forest Professional and including all ancillary assessments.
- Copy of the Burn Plan that is signed by the qualified professional (for **prescribed fire** only).
- Confirmation that First Nations information sharing has been completed (for **Provincial Crown Land** only).
- Maps and spatial data as required in Appendix 11.

The prescription and/or burn plan will be reviewed by the BCWS, FNESS, and/or, where applicable, BC Parks and must be supported prior to initiation of the fuel management treatment. Treatments that have been initiated prior to an approved technical review may not be eligible for further funding.

In addition, in order to receive authorizations for the treatment, the land manager will require the completed prescription/burn plan, as well as additional information.

Final Report Requirements

In addition to the required final report materials for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, projects that include fuel management activities are required to submit the following:

Table 5: Fuel Management Final Report Requirements	
Fuel Management Prescriptions and Burn Plans	**Fuel Management Treatments, including prescribed fire**
Copy of the fuel management prescription that is signed by a Registered Forest Professional including all ancillary assessments (e.g. terrain stability). Copy of the Burn Plan that is signed by the qualified professional (e.g. fire behaviour speciality, burn boss or otherwise).	Post-treatment wildfire threat assessments as outlined in the Wildfire Threat Assessment Guide & Worksheets document or survey data as outlined in Fuel Management Data Collection Standard Post-treatment report with updated survey data collection, summary of post treatments conditions and fire behaviour outcomes and relationship to prescription treatment objectives. For prescribed fire only - fire effects monitoring pre burn, and fire effects monitoring post burn reports. Pre- and post-treatment pictures.
PDF maps, at appropriate scale, and KMZ files as identified in Appendix 11.	PDF maps, at appropriate scale, and KMZ files as identified in Appendix 11.
Spatial data for completed prescriptions is required to be entered into RESULTS and the Activity Treatment Unit ID is required as evidence of a successful RESULTS entry. Please refer to *"RESULTS Information Submission Specifications: Government Funded Activities"*.	Spatial data for completed treatments is required to be entered into RESULTS and the Activity Treatment Unit ID is required as evidence of a successful RESULTS entry. Please refer to *"RESULTS Information Submission Specifications: Government Funded Activities"*.

Appendix 4: Funding Requirements for Community Wildfire Resiliency Plans (New in 2025)

For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, applicants are required to have a current and acceptable CWRP/CWPP for their community.

> CWRPs and CWPPs must be complete and acceptable to the BCWS, FNESS and/or, where applicable, BC Parks. To be considered acceptable, plans must be developed in accordance with the CWRP template and guidance document and must include assessment and identification of FireSmart and fuel management priorities. Eligible applicants are strongly encouraged to engage with BCWS or FNESS as early as possible when considering a new or amended CWRP.

NOTE: The province is moving towards a public dashboard that will highlight all plans and proposed/completed **fuel management treatments**. This would include spatial components and attributes and include changes to spatial requirements for CWRPs.

Community Wildfire Resiliency Plans

CWRPs are local and/or regional plans that are intended to increase communities' capacity and understanding of wildfire threat and risk by identifying achievable and accountable FireSmart action items that support wildfire risk reduction.

To be considered acceptable, CWRPs must be developed in accordance with the [CWRP instruction guide and template](#). The CWRP instruction guide and template are intended to help communities develop a comprehensive and science-based approach to wildfire risk reduction that reflects local priorities and provincial goals for prevention and mitigation.

The CWRP instruction guide and template ensure that all FireSmart disciplines are well represented in the resiliency planning process are designed to empower communities to develop a CWRP in a collaborative, cost-effective, and time-efficient manner.

The FireSmart Coordinator is generally the project lead for CWRP development (or amendment), with support from external consultants and/or contractors when needed. The goal is to build capacity within the community for both the development and implementation of the CWRP.

Regional and local Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaboratives (CFRC) also play a key role in the development, maintenance and implementation of the CWRP. CFRCs bring partners together under a common vision that reflect a comprehensive approach toward risk reduction and resiliency measures as outlined with CWRPs.

Developing a New CWRP

The **Area of Interest (AOI)** is the geographic scope of the CWRP. For the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, the **AOI** is the area within the municipal boundary, regional district boundary, or boundary of **First Nations land**. For regional districts this could be the boundary of one or more electoral areas. The **AOI** could also include more than one neighbouring area. For example, a municipality and neighbouring electoral area could create a shared **AOI**.

Refer to the [CWRP instruction guide and template](#) for more information.

Risk and threat assessments are a critical component of CWRPs. When developing or amending a CWRP, risk and threat assessments are limited to the **Eligible WUI**, which for the purpose of the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program, is generally defined as a maximum of one kilometer from structures within the **AOI** with a structure density class greater than 6. Structural data updates may be collected and/or assembled as part of a CWRP, although it is not required if existing data is available.

Map 1 provides an example of the **AOI** and **Eligible WUI**. A full-size version of this map is available [here.](#)

Applicants are advised to use the [Province of BC Data Catalogue](#) for PSTA and WUI spatial data layers.
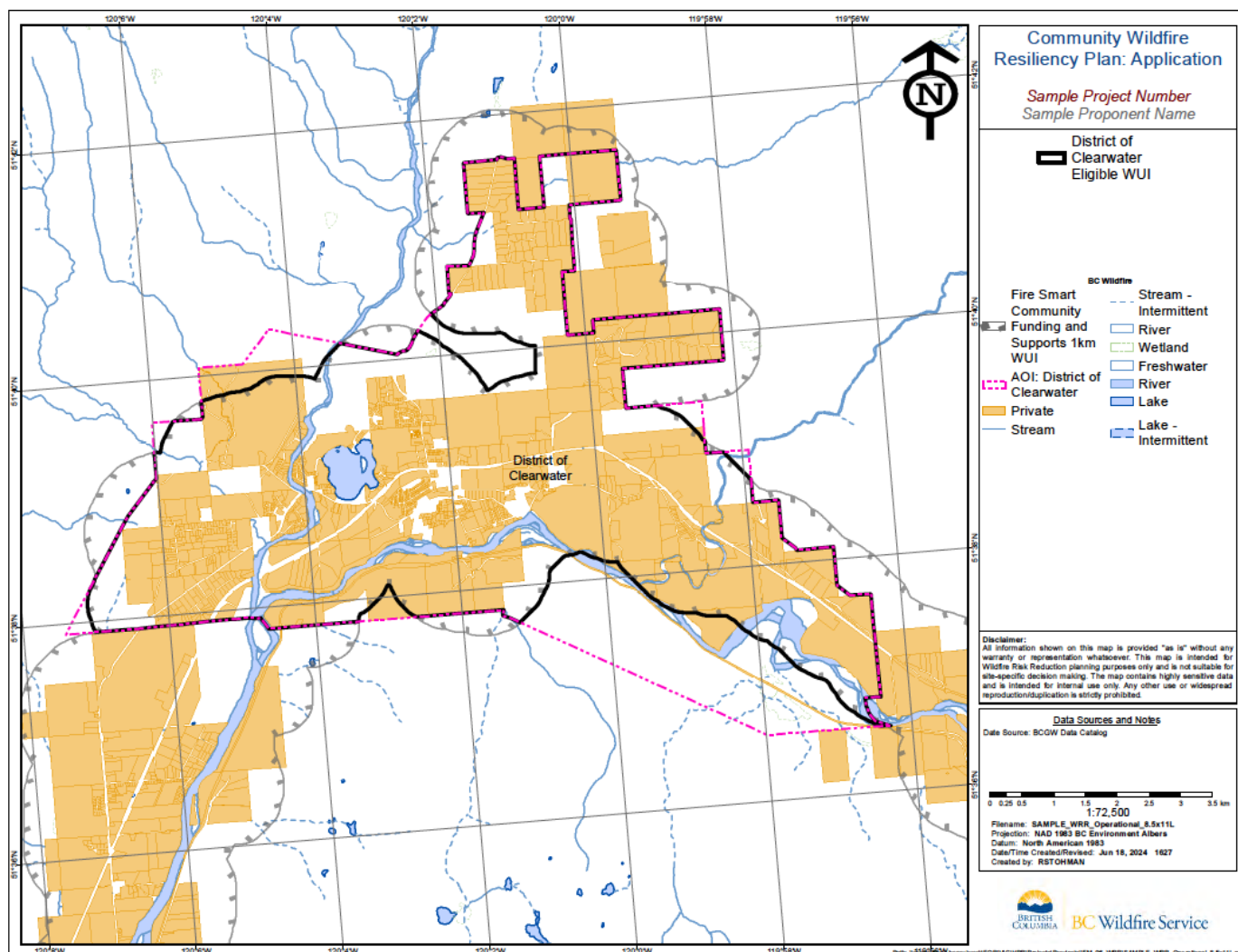
Map 1: Sample AOI and Eligible WUI

To be eligible for funding:

- Local government land and **First Nations land** within the **Eligible WUI** must be assessed, but risk assessments on **Provincial Crown Land** within the **Eligible WUI** is voluntary (but eligible for funding).
- In cases where the applicant proposes risk assessments in **Eligible WUI** outside of the **AOI**, confirmation that the proposed risk assessments activities are supported will be required <u>at the time of application submission</u> from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails), other land managers (e.g., Indigenous Services Canada, local government) and/or First Nations (where overlap on reserves and/or traditional territories may exist). This is limited to exceptional circumstances only.
- In cases where the applicant proposes threat assessment in the **Eligible WUI** in Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL), confirmation that the proposed threat assessments activities are supported will be required <u>at the time of application submission</u> from the PMFL.

Amending an Existing CWRP

Existing CWRPs that are less than 5 years old should be amended to include:

- FireSmart Road Map.

- Recently acquired land or areas of new development, etc.
- Ground-truthing for new treatment units.
- Significant changes to forest stand composition and/or forest health changes or impacts.
- Integrating other plans or information.

Application Requirements

In addition to the required application materials for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program (refer to Table 2), applicants are required to submit:

- Worksheet 3: Proposed New or Amended CWRP.
- PDF map and Google Earth compatible KML file, at appropriate scale, outlining the **AOI** and **Eligible WUI**.
- In cases where the applicant proposes risk assessments in **Eligible WUI** outside of the **AOI**, confirmation that the proposed risk assessments activities are supported will be required at the time of application submission from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails), other land managers (e.g. Indigenous Services Canada, local government) and/or First Nations (where overlap on reserves and/or traditional territories may exist). This is limited to exceptional circumstances only.
- In cases where the applicant proposes threat assessment in the **Eligible WUI** in Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL), confirmation that the proposed threat assessments activities are supported will be required at the time of application submission from the PMFL.

Final Report Requirements

In addition to the required final report materials for the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program (refer to Table 3), applicants are required to submit:

- Copy of the completed CWRP
- Completed Wildfire Threat Assessment Worksheet(s) and photos
- Maps and spatial data as outlined in Appendix 11

Appendix 5: Funding Requirements for FireSmart Structure Protection

Applicants are eligible to purchase up to $50,000 (per year) of structure protection equipment from the designated FireSmart Structure Protection Trailer list. This initial purchase should be in support of the completion of a FireSmart Structural Protection Trailer, a Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan or Structure Protection Community Assessment, and training of structural protection personnel as outlined below.

Leasing of structure protection trailers or equipment is not eligible for funding.

> For more information on the trailer requirements and Structure Protection Community Assessments please contact the Structure Protection Coordination Office at SPCO@gov.bc.ca

The FireSmart Structure Protection Trailer has been separated into four purchase phases to ensure that in each phase the applicant has structure protection capabilities. In order to have a fully stocked and capable FireSmart Structure Protection Trailer all equipment in Phases 1-4 must be purchased. It is recommended that applicants purchase equipment and complete activities in order of the phases (1-4).

Requirements for Funding

- Unless a community has a structure protection program and plan in place (see below), it is expected that they will apply under Phase 1.
- Only equipment purchases are eligible for funding.
- All equipment MUST be labeled with applicant name and contact information to prevent loss during deployment at wildland-urban interface fires.
- The FireSmart Structure Protection Trailer will remain a will remain a local resource and not be considered for provincial deployments under the BCWS/FCABC Interagency Agreement.

Communities with Existing Structure Protection Program

Applicants that already have a structure protection program and plan in place can use this funding to apply under subsequent phases providing they:

- Provide a list of current equipment as part of the application.
- Submit their current CWRP or Structure Protection Community Assessment to the Structure Protection Coordination Office (SPCO@gov.bc.ca) and receive permission to proceed. Confirmation from the SPCO must be included in the application package if the applicant is applying for equipment beyond Phase 1.

Phase 1 Start up

It is recommended that in this phase applicants commit to completion of a FireSmart Structure Protection Trailer and purchase initial equipment (limited to Table 6), start the process of requesting a Structure Protection Community Assessment (or have one incorporated within their CWRP), and train staff to support a structure protection program (refer to Table 1 for training that is eligible for funding).

Phase 1 was designed to ensure that a community would have a functional set of structure protection equipment while they build their overall structure protection program.

> For the purpose of funding, the following are not eligible in Phase 1: Start Up expenditures: mixed oil 2 cycle, chain oil, tape (duct, Teflon or electrical), and rags.

Table 6: Eligible Activities for FireSmart Structure Protection Phase 1		
Category	**Item**	**Quantity**
Pump	Mark 3/Wick 375/Watson	2
	Pump Tool Kit	3
	Suction Hose with Foot Valve	3
	Fuel Can	4
	Single Fuel Line	4
	Dual Fuel Line	4
Berm	Portable Berm	2
Hose	1.5" x 100ft	15
	1.5" X 50ft	20
	Econo x 50ft	50
	Econo x 25ft	40
Nozzle	Econo	5
	1.5"	6
Valves	3-way	10
Sprinklers	Butterfly	15
	Large Sprinkler	15
	Small Sprinkler	15
	Gutter Mount	10
	Gutter Mount Bracket	10
Water thieves	1.5"	30
Portable Tank	2500 Gal	1
	Drain Kit	1
Ladder	Extension	1
Impact Tool	Impact Driver	1
Poly	Rolls	2
Tape	SPU Flagging	5 x 5 colours
Saw	Hand	1
Safety	Fire Extinguisher	1
	First Aid	1
	Cones	1
Trailer	20'	1

Phase 2 Planning

It is recommended that in this phase applicants complete Structure Protection Community Assessments (with the Structure Protection Coordination Office), or incorporate them into their CWRP, and continue to purchase equipment (limited to Table 7).

Table 7: Eligible Activities for FireSmart Structure Protection Phase 2		
Category	**Item**	**Quantity**
Pump	Mark 3/Wick 75/Watson	3
	Pump Tool Kit	3
	Suction Hose with Foot Valve	3
	Fuel Can	4
	Single Fuel Line	4
	Dual Fuel Line	3
Hose	2.5 x 50ft	5
	1.5" X 50ft	10
	Econo x 50ft	40
	Econo x 25ft	35
Valves	3-way	10
Sprinklers	Butterfly	15
	Large Sprinkler	15
	Small Sprinkler	15
	Gutter Mount	10
	Gutter Mount Bracket	10
Water thieves	1.5"	30
Impact Tool	Impact Driver	1
Lighting Kit	Generator	1
	Halogen/LED Yard Light	2
	Ext. Cord	2
	Power Bar	1
Rope	Roll	1

Phase 3 Additional Equipment

It is recommended that in this phase recipients continue to purchase equipment (limited to Table 8).

Table 8: Eligible Activities for FireSmart Structure Protection Phase 3		
Category	**Item**	**Quantity**
Hose	1.5" X 100ft	5
	1.5" X 50ft	10
	Econo x 50ft	30
	Econo x 25ft	25
Valves	3-way	5
Sprinklers	Large Sprinkler	10
	Small Sprinkler	10
	Painters Pole	1
Water thieves	1.5"	20
Portable Tank	2500 Gal	1
FF Tools	Shovels	1
	Pulaski	1
	McLeod Tool	1
	Axe	1
	Backpack Tank	1
Carpenter Tool Kit	Items in each kit: Belt, Hammer, Pry bar, Staple gun, Pliers, Screwdriver, Wrench (various), Conduit clamps, Pipe Strapping, Tin snips, Screws (various), Nails	2 kits
Safety	PFDs	2
Miscellaneous Tools	Rake	1
	Broom	1
	Cutters	1
	Circular Saw	1
	Wheel Barrow	1

Phase 4 Completion

It is recommended that in this phase applicants complete the equipment list (limited to Table 9), have completed Structure Protection Community Assessments, or incorporated them into their CWRP, and have trained staff to support a structure protection program (refer to Table 1 for training that is eligible for funding).

Table 9: Eligible Activities for FireSmart Structure Protection Phase 4		
Category	**Item**	**Quantity**
Pump	Mark 3/Wick 75/Watson	1
	Suction Hose with Foot Valve	1
	Fuel Can	4
Hose	2.5 x 50ft	15
	1.5" X 100ft	5
	1.5" X 50ft	10
	Econo x 50ft	30
	Econo x 25ft	25
Valves	3-way	5
	Large Sprinkler	10
	Small Sprinkler	10
	Gutter Mount	5
	Gutter Mount Bracket	5
Water thieves	2.5"	15
	1.5"	20
Adapters	2.5" Hydrant Gate	2
	2.5" double female	1
	2.5" double male	1
	2.5" gated wye	1
	2.5" to 1.5" QC	5
	Hydrant wrench	2
	3-way individual gat	20
	Double female adapters	25
	1.5" male reducer	5
	1.5" female increaser	5
	Ball valve shutoff	10
Chainsaw Kit	Chainsaw	1
	Chainsaw gas can	1
	PPE	1
	Tool Kit	1

	Files	1
Trailer Accessory	Shelving, totes, etc.	1

Structure Protection Community Assessment

The purpose of a Structure Protection Community Assessment is to create a pre-plan management template for use by BCWS Structure Protection Specialist (SPS) that enhances response assessment to WUI events affecting small communities (> 1000 population), including First Nations, by:

1. Soliciting local information through a timely and simple process in a widely accessible medium.

2. Explicitly including the priorities of local communities.

3. Providing a means to pre-plan and share situational awareness in response planning with convergent first responders who arrive at **WUI** events with limited understanding of local geographic, economic, environmental, and social/cultural issues.

4. Leveraging available technologies to achieve objectives 1-3 above.

Communities with a population greater than 1000 should incorporate pre-incident planning into their Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan to achieve the same goals as the Structure Protection Community Assessment.

The goal of this plan is to provide response agencies with a strategic framework to use for the protection of improved properties or other values at risk in the event of a significant wildfire. This plan is separated into two parts; the first includes general information intended for use prior to an incident. Information intended for review and implementation during non-emergency periods by local communities. The second is more specific information about each of the identified critical infrastructures, intended to provide an incoming Incident Management Team or SPS with accurate predetermined structural and cultural priorities requiring protection as well as to identify tactical and operational information, as necessary. This plan recognizes the capability of the local fire department and the contributions that can be made by local, regional and provincial fire service resources.

DISCLAIMER

The recommendations made in the Structure Protection Community Assessment are based on fire probabilities for the conditions observed at the time of the survey. It must be understood that all fire scenarios cannot be addressed and that the plan is not an absolute. The plan should be used as a guide and implemented in part or in whole as circumstances dictate. The key to continued credibility of a Structure Protection Community Assessment is the time and accuracy employed to maintain the information provided. The document should be reviewed by community officials or their designate and updated on an annual basis prior to wildfire season.

Communities looking for Community Structure Protection Assessments can contact SPCO@gov.bc.ca for further information.

Appendix 6: FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs (FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program) and FireSmart BC Wildfire Mitigation Program

Updated July 2025 - The FireSmart Neighbourhood Recognition Programs (FireSmart Canada Neighborhood Recognition Program or FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program) and the Wildfire Mitigation Program (WMP) are both excellent resources for communities and individual residents. However, it is important to understand the intent of each in order to apply for funding through the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports program.

Both the FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Programs and the FireSmart BC Wildfire Mitigation Program can and should exist within a community. The FCNRP focuses on **neighbourhood** involvement, engagement and education and the WMP provides mitigation recommendations for the action of individual homeowners. Together the two programs can assist communities in becoming wildfire resilient.

FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Programs

Updated July 2025 - Neighbourhood programs focus on engaging **neighbourhoods** and community organizations to encourage them to create a FireSmart action plan to protect their **neighbourhood** and/or shared spaces.

Additional information about the FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Collective Program is available at [firesmartbc.ca.](firesmartbc.ca)

FireSmart BC Wildfire Mitigation Program (formally the Home Partners Program)

The FireSmart BC Wildfire Mitigation Program is a collaboration between FireSmart Canada, provincial governments, local governments, Indigenous communities, the private sector and homeowners in Canada.

A Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS) completes an assessment that provides residents with:

- An in-depth, on-site assessment conducted by experienced fire professionals.
- An opportunity for property owners to identify mitigation actions unique to their property.
- A detailed follow up report with customized mitigation actions designed to measurably reduce the wildfire risk to their property.
- An opportunity to earn FireSmart Home Partners certificate acknowledging their mitigation achievements. The certificate is given upon successful completion of required mitigation actions and an on-site follow up inspection.
- This type of recognition can be used to enhance real estate transactions by reassuring prospective buyers that the appropriate level of wildfire risk reduction has been achieved on the property.
- The mitigation certificate can also be shared with local insurance providers to showcase mitigation activities and potentially increase a homeowner's ability to maintain insurance coverage. FireSmart Canada does not share the assessment or any details of the assessment with the insurance industry or any other third party, including Freedom of Information requests.

Updated July 2025 - **Wildfire Mitigation Specialist "Train the Trainer"**

Introduced in 2025, the WMS "Train the Trainer" workshop is available to active WMS to be trained to instruct WMS workshops to staff within their community and neighbouring communities.

- Once a WMS has completed the WMS train the trainer workshop, they are certified as a WMS trainer.
- Certified trainers offer the training "in house" to staff from their community or neighbouring communities.
  - Up to $2,000 can be applied for in order to cover local costs (facility rentals, coordination, etc.)

- o Up to four staff to travel to the workshop from outside the community (including accommodations and per diems).
  - o An approved applicant can only host two courses a year with minimum of five participants per course.
- FNESS led training for First Nations
  - o FNESS staff can deliver Wildfire Mitigation Specialist workshops during community visits at no cost to the community.
  - o Up to $2,000 can be applied for in order to cover local costs (facility rentals, coordination, etc.)
  - o Participant's travel to attend a FNESS Wildfire Mitigation Specialist workshop from outside the community (including accommodations and per diems) is also eligible (up to four staff per eligible applicant
- Under all circumstances, staff wages and costs related to back-filling positions are not eligible for funding.

Appendix 7: Funding Requirements for FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure and Community Assets

For critical infrastructure, eligible projects must be **First Nations owned buildings, publicly owned buildings** or **publicly or First Nations owned critical infrastructure** that are currently designated as critical to support effective emergency response to a wildfire event. This includes structures designated as Emergency Operations Centres or Emergency Support Services facilities (e.g., reception centres, group lodging locations for evacuees), water pump stations, communications towers, and electrical generating stations, but does not include all critical infrastructure identified through the Local Authority Emergency Plan.

For community assets, eligible projects must be buildings or properties owned by local non-profit groups or community associations that are currently designated as critical to support effective emergency response to a wildfire event. This includes structures designated as Emergency Operations Centres or Emergency Support Services facilities (i.e. reception centres, group lodging locations for evacuees).

In cases where critical infrastructure or community assets are located on **Provincial Crown Land** confirmation that the proposed activities are supported will be required from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) at the time of application submission.

FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure and Community Assets can include:

- Completion of required initial FireSmart Assessment before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).
- Retrofitting existing structures/properties.
- New construction, provided that:
    - Construction was completed within past 12 months from date of application.
    - Construction follows the Wildfire-Resilience best-practice checklist for home construction, renovation and landscaping.
    - Only incremental FireSmart expenditures, limited to activities identified in Table 10, are eligible.
    - An eligible assessment is completed when construction is complete.
- Completion of a second required FireSmart Assessment after mitigation work is complete.

All assessments for critical infrastructure or community assets are required to be completed on the FireSmart HIZ Assessment, FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Assessment or FireSmart Home Partners Assessment at the time of application submission. A secondary assessment is required to be completed for all critical infrastructure or community assets for which mitigation activities are undertaken.

Please note that all FireSmart HIZ Assessments must be conducted by a qualified Local FireSmart Representative (LFR) and all Wildfire Mitigation Program Assessments must be conducted by a qualified Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS). LFRs and WMSs must have current training qualifications from FireSmart Canada.

> For the purpose of funding, the following are not eligible as FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure: roads and bridges, gas stations, hotels and transfer stations.

Table 10: Eligible Activities FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure and Community Assets		
Buildings		
1	Roof material and construction	• Install class A UL/ASTM fire rated roof covering (e.g. Metal, rated hot lay, clay tile or asphalt shingles) • Remove unrated roof covering (including wood shakes and wood shingle roofs)
2	Roof covering	• Ensure there are no gaps, openings that expose combustible building components, or enclosed spaces where embers could accumulate, lodge, or penetrate
3	Gutters (combustible or non- combustible)	• Ensure there are non-combustible gutters (metal or aluminum, no exposed combustible fascia/roof covering above gutters, or no gutters • Remove combustible gutters (plastic, vinyl, wood) and/or exposed combustible fascia/roof covering above gutter • Install metal angle flashing or drip edge where gutters are installed to protect the roof and any exposed facia from ignition
4	Cleanliness of roof and gutters	• Remove all needles, leaves, or other combustible materials
5	Eaves	• Ensure all eaves are closed or no eaves/no gaps or holes/no unprotected areas to attic /interior of building, vents with 3 mm (1/8") non- combustible screening, operational louvres and flaps/ASTM ember resistant rated vents
6	HVAC/active ventilation systems	• Ensure all HVAC/active ventilation systems have 24-hour onsite operator, or remote shut-down capability
7	Exterior siding	• Install ignition resistant (cement fibre board, log) or non-combustible siding (stucco, metals, concrete, brick/stone) • Ensure there are no gaps or cracks, missing siding, or holes
8	Walls	• Ensure there is no less than 15 centimetres non-combustible vertical ground-to-siding surface consistently around the building
9	Fire resistant windows or doors (including large doors/garage doors)	• Install tempered glass in all doors and windows and have no gaps in ANY doors, OR no windows
10	Underside of the balcony, deck, porch, other building extensions or open foundation	• Ensure balcony, deck, porch, or other building extensions/open foundations are sheathed in with fire resistant/non-combustible materials, or non-combustible siding, no gaps or cracks, OR open heavy timber, non-combustible or fire-rated construction OR non-combustible surface and no combustible debris under deck/extension AND treated Immediate, Intermediate, and Extended Zones and slope set-back (if applicable)
11	Building set back from the edge of a slope	• Ensure the building is located on flat ground that extends to the full distance of the Extended Zone

Critical Structures – Utility Poles, Communications Towers, Pipeline Valve Stations		
12	Valve station/substation/ propane tanks	• Ensure a non-combustible surface is continuous under all combustible infrastructure
13	Utility line poles	• Ensure poles/ support structures are constructed of non- combustible material (metal or concrete)
		• Ensure non-combustible or combustible poles or support structures are free of petroleum/ accelerant-based coatings, cracks, and gaps where embers may accumulate, lodge, or penetrate and a non-combustible surface is continuous under all combustible infrastructure
14	Critical component (weather stations, antennae masts,)	• Ensure critical components are not constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from significant radiant or convective heat fluxes or critical components are constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from significant radiant or convective heat fluxes and Immediate Zone, Intermediate Zone and/or Extended Zones are treated
		• Ensure critical components are not constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from embers or critical components are constructed of materials that are susceptible to damage from embers but are free of any gaps, holes or areas where embers could accumulate, lodge, or penetrate
FireSmart Immediate Zone (0 to 1.5 metres)		
15	1.5 metres from furthest extent of critical building or structure (includes overhangs, extensions and decks)	• Replace combustible surfaces with non-combustible surfaces (mineral soil, gravel, paving stones etc.) • Remove or mitigate combustible debris, materials, fences, or vegetation
FireSmart Intermediate Zone (1.5 to 10 metres)		
16	Non-critical buildings and flammable substances or other combustible materials (vehicles, flammable liquids, debris, construction material etc.)	• Ensure flammable substances are moved outside of the Intermediate Zone, or placed in an approved fire-resistant storage container • Ensure outbuildings and other combustible materials are mitigated to meet FireSmart guidelines or if left unmitigated, moved outside of the Intermediate Zone to a minimum of 15 m (50 feet)
17	Trees	• Remove coniferous trees from this zone or mitigate mature conifers (limb to 2 metres or ⅓ of canopy, whichever is less, and ensure 3 metres crown spacing where ecologically appropriate). • Promote deciduous trees that are resistant to wildfires
18	Surface vegetation and combustible materials	• Cut and maintain grass to less than 10 centimetres • Plant low-growing, well-spaced, fire-resistant plants and shrubs, avoid having any woody debris, including mulch • Ensure surface debris is kept to a minimum. Remove dead branches, excessive build-up of pine needles, and heavy accumulation of grass

FireSmart Extended Zone (10 to 30 metres)		
19	Surface Vegetation	• Reduce surface vegetation - long grass and flammable shrubs • Reduce accumulations of branches, logs and debris • Promote the growth of deciduous trees in this zone, or ensure that conifers are separated to 3 meters of crown spacing (where ecologically appropriate), and limbed to a minimum of 2 meters or ⅓ of canopy, whichever is less

Appendix 8: Funding Requirements for FireSmart Projects for Cultural Sites and Green Spaces

Cultural Sites are locations of historical and cultural importance to Indigenous communities, preserving their heritage, traditions, and connection to the land. These include, but are not limited, to culturally modified trees, traditional dwellings, burial sites, and ceremonial sites.

In cases where **cultural sites** are located on **Provincial Crown Land** confirmation that the proposed activities are supported will be required from Provincial Crown Land Manager (BC Parks, Mountain Resort Branch, Natural Resource District and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) at the time of application submission.

Green spaces include parks, gardens, cemeteries, naturalized spaces, trails and pathways, linear parks and greenways, rights-of-way and boulevards. **Green spaces** are limited to **First Nations owned land** or **publicly owned land.**

Updated September 2025 - To be eligible for funding, all FireSmart Projects for Cultural Sites and Green Spaces projects must have a completed Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription, with Section B completed by BCWS or FNESS, and, if the checklist confirms the proposed area meets the requirements for funding, a completed FireSmart Cultural Sites and Green Spaces (CSGS) Assessment.

FireSmart Projects for **Cultural Sites** and **Green Spaces** include:

- Checklist for CRI Requirements for Fuel Management Prescription is required to be completed before CSGS Assessment is started (completed checklist must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).
- Completion of FireSmart CSGS Assessment before mitigation work is started (completed assessment must be submitted at time of application but the cost is an eligible expense provided the assessment is completed within six months prior to the date of application submission).
- Community-scale FireSmart **vegetation management** practices to decrease CSGS wildfire risk.
- Only incremental FireSmart expenditures, limited to activities identified in Table 11, are eligible.

All assessments for CSGS are required to follow the CSGS Guide and be completed on the CSGS Assessment before mitigation work begins. A secondary assessment is required to be completed after mitigation activities are undertaken.

Please note that all CSGS Assessments must be conducted by a qualified Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS) that has current training qualifications from FireSmart Canada or by a Forest Professional with LFR training, that is working within their scope of practice.

Table 11: Eligible Activities FireSmart Projects for Cultural Sites and Green Spaces		
Cultural Site or Green Space		
1	Brushing of trees and shrubs	• Remove conifers that are no greater than 2 metres in height • Ensure shrubs are spaced either individually or as clusters to break up fuel continuity • Ensure surface fuels are mitigated by removing heavy accumulation of dead branches, logs, leaves or needles, and wood chips.
2	Pruning of trees and shrubs	• Ensure conifer trees are pruned to 2 metres above ground or ⅓ of canopy, whichever is less. • Ensure flammable shrubs and excessive build up is removed from tree drip line.

3	Plant selection	- Ensure there is a mix of deciduous and coniferous trees present if possible. - Ensure flammable shrub species are replaced with FireSmart plant guide species (if culturally and/or ecologically appropriate). Prioritize native species to reduce maintenance and water use if replacing existing plants
4	Hardscaping	- Ensure landscaping timbers are properly mitigated, i.e. replace wooden ties with non-combustible material. - Ensure bark mulch is replaced with non-combustible material.
5	Slope	- Ensure extra measures are taken when CSGS has slope as a contributing risk factor (slope of 10% or greater could require a slope adjustment, whereby the zone distances with their corresponding mitigation requirements are doubled). - Ensure horizontal and vertical vegetation fuels are broken up with appropriate spacing (3 meters of crown spacing (where ecologically appropriate), and limbed to a minimum of 2 meters or ⅓ of canopy, whichever is less. On steep slopes, the height of limbing requirements may increase.

Cultural Site (with a precise focal point)

FireSmart Immediate Zone (0 to 1.5 meters)

6	1.5 meters from furthest extent of focal point or specific value	- Replace combustible surfaces with non-combustible surfaces - Remove combustible debris, materials, fences, or vegetation

FireSmart Intermediate Zone (1.5 to 10 meters)

7	Trees	- Remove coniferous trees from this zone or mitigate mature conifers (limb to 2 metres and ensure 3 metres crown spacing where ecologically appropriate). - Promote deciduous trees that are resistant to wildfires
8	Surface vegetation and combustible materials	- Cut and maintain grass to less than 10 centimetres - Plant low-growing, well-spaced, fire-resistant plants and shrubs. Avoid having any woody debris, including mulch - Ensure surface debris is kept to a minimum. Remove dead branches, excessive build-up of pine needles, and heavy accumulation of grass

FireSmart Extended Zone (10 to 30 meters)

9	Trees	- Mitigate or remove coniferous trees or replace with deciduous tree species - Limb conifer tree branches within 2 metres of the ground or ⅓ of canopy, whichever is less
10	Surface vegetation and combustible materials	- Reduce surface vegetation - long grass and flammable shrubs - Reduce accumulations of branches, logs and debris

Appendix 9: Funding Requirements for FireSmart Rebate Program and Mitigation Work for Seniors, Elders, People with Limited Mobility or Vulnerable Populations

Updated January 2026 - Approved applicants can use grant funding to offer local rebate programs and/or undertake eligible mitigation work for home and property owners, including farms and ranches, that complete eligible FireSmart activities on their properties in the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone (within 30 m of homes and structures).

Rebates and eligible residential mitigation work can include:

- Retrofitting existing residential structures/properties.
- New residential construction, provided that:
    - Construction was completed within past 12 months from date of application.
    - Construction follows the Wildfire-Resilience best-practice checklist for home construction, renovation and landscaping.
    - Only incremental FireSmart expenditures, limited to activities identified in Table 12, are eligible.
    - An eligible assessment is completed when construction is complete.

Rebate Program Requirements and Eligible Residential Mitigation Work

Approved applicants are required to adhere to the following requirements:

- Rebates are limited to 50% of the total cost of the eligible activities identified in Table 12 and no more than $5,000 per property[2].
- Areas of higher wildfire risk, such as **neighbourhoods** adjacent to the forested edge and/or areas that fall in an overall high to extreme category, should be prioritized for rebates and eligible residential mitigation work. Current plans should be used to decide where to prioritize FireSmart activities.
- The approved applicant must assess the FireSmart activities that are conducted by the residential property or home owner and review costs (e.g., receipts and/or proof of labour) before approving rebates.
- The residential property or home owner must have a FireSmart Home Ignition Zone Assessment of their property conducted by a qualified Local FireSmart Representative (LFR) or have their home assessed through the Wildfire Mitigation Program by a qualified Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS).
- The farm and ranch property owner must have a Farm and Ranch Assessment of their property conducted by a qualified FireSmart Farm and Ranch Assessor.
- The qualified LFR or WMS or Farm and Ranch Assessor must use the FireSmart Assessment Work Hours Estimate Form to outline mitigation recommendations to the residential property or home owner.
- For rebates, residential property or home owners can complete the recommended mitigation activities themselves, or hire others to complete the work.
- Only activities that are recommended in the completed assessment and that are identified in Table 12, are eligible for the rebate or eligible residential mitigation work.

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[2] For strata properties, rebates are available for the common property and properties owned by individual owners.

Table 12: Eligible Activities for FireSmart Rebate Programs and Eligible Residential Mitigation Work		
Home or Structure		
1	Roof Materials Gutters Vents and Openings	• Install UL/ASTM fire-rated roofing (metal, clay, asphalt shingles) • Install non-combustible gutters and/or gutter covers • Remove roof surface tree needles, debris or overhanging branches • Install closed eaves and/or non-combustible fire-rated vents or vents with 3 mm screening, excluding dryer vents.
2	Building Exterior or Siding	• Install ignition resistant (fibre cement board or log) or non-combustible (stucco, metal, brick/stone) exterior siding material • Repair gaps, cracks or holes where embers could lodge or penetrate • Provide 15 cm non-combustible vertical ground-to-siding clearance
3	Windows and Doors	• Install tempered glass in all doors and windows • Replace single pane window glass with multi pane / thermal window glass • Repair gaps in doors / garage doors where embers could accumulate or penetrate
4	Balcony, deck, porch	• Install non-combustible or fire-rated, solid (no gaps or cracks) deck surface and support construction • Close up open deck structures or remove all combustibles below deck
FireSmart Immediate Zone (0 to 1.5 metres from Home)		
5	1.5 metres from furthest extent of home	• Replace combustible surfaces with non-combustible surfaces • Remove combustible debris, materials, fences or plants
FireSmart Intermediate Zone (1.5 to 10 metres from Home)		
6	Adjacent Combustibles	• Move woodpiles, building materials and all other combustibles into the Extended Zone or enclose in an approved outbuilding that meets FireSmart guidelines
7	Outbuildings not meeting FireSmart guidelines	• Upgrade outbuildings to meet FireSmart guidelines or relocate outbuildings more than 10 metres from home • Ensure any structures retained in this area are treated to the same standards as decks, and hardened against ember transfer • Examples of outbuildings include external heat sources, smoke houses, outdoor kitchens, etc.
8	Trees	• Remove coniferous trees from this zone or mitigate mature conifers (limb to 2 metres or ⅓ of canopy, whichever is less and ensure 3 metre crown spacing where ecologically appropriate). • Promote deciduous trees that are resistant to wildfires
9	Surface vegetation and combustible materials	• Cut and maintain grass to less than 10 centimetres or shorter • Plant low-growing, well-spaced, fire-resistant plants and shrubs, avoid having any woody debris, including mulch • Ensure surface debris is kept to a minimum. Remove dead branches, excessive build-up of pine needles, and heavy accumulation of grass

FireSmart Extended Zone (10 to 30 metres from Home)		
10	Trees	- Thin coniferous trees or replace with deciduous tree species - Remove conifer tree branches within 2 metres of the ground or ⅓ of canopy, whichever is less and ensure 3 metre crown spacing where ecologically appropriate)
11	Surface Vegetation	- Reduce surface vegetation – long grass and flammable shrubs - Reduce accumulations of branches, logs and debris

Appendix 10: LGPS Online Application Tool

As outlined in Section 7, applications are required to be submitted in two steps **prior to the application deadline**:

1. LGPS Online Application Form: This online form must be completed for all applications to LGPS funding programs and includes questions that are common to all grant applications. When the LGPS Online Application Form is submitted, the applicant will receive an email confirmation including the file number that has been assigned to the application, and a copy of the Application Worksheet that must be completed as part of Step 2.

2. Application Worksheet: This worksheet contains questions that are specific to the funding stream and must be submitted by email to UBCM with all other required attachments.

STEP ONE: LGPS Online Application Form

The following questions are required to be answered on the LGPS Online Application Form:

1. Name of the intake of the funding program that you want to apply for (select from menu).
2. Name of the Primary Applicant (select from menu). Please note: if the name of your organization is not included in the menu, contact UBCM in order to determine eligibility and next steps.
3. Primary and secondary contact information: name, position, email, phone.
4. Primary Applicant mailing address.
5. For regional projects only: name of sub-applicant(s) and rationale for regional project.
6. Project title.
7. Proposed start and end date.
8. Estimated total project budget.
9. Estimated total grant request.
10. Other funding amount and source.
11. Project summary (provide a brief summary, no more than 500 characters).
12. Progress to date. Provide an update on the status of previously approved projects if previously funded under same funding program/funding stream.
13. Certification that the information is complete and accurate.
14. Name and email of person submitting application.

When the LGPS Online Application Form is submitted, the applicant will receive an email confirmation including the file number that has been assigned to the application, and a copy of the Application Worksheet that must be completed as part of Step 2.

STEP TWO: Application Worksheet and Required Attachments

Application Worksheet

The following questions will be required to be answered on the Application Worksheet:

1. Name of Primary Applicant (First Nation or Local Government)
2. File Number (this can be found on the confirmation email you will receive after the LGPS Online Application Form is submitted).
3. For regional districts only (if applicable): list of all electoral areas included in the application

4. Wildfire Risk and Additional Evidence

- WUI Wildfire Risk Class and Polygon Name

- Additional Evidence

- Risk Category

5. Progress to date – Current status of previously approved FireSmart Community Funding & projects.

6. Required FireSmart components:

- FireSmart position (title of position(s), length position has been in place, general duties)

- CWRP or CWPP (type of plan and date)

- Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative (host or participant, participating agencies)

7. Engagement and Partnerships

- Engagement with First Nations and/or Indigenous Organizations:

  o Which First Nations and/or Indigenous organizations were engaged as part of the development of this application

  o Which First Nations and/or Indigenous organizations will participate in the proposed activities and what specific role will they play

  o Extent to which staff and/or elected officials have undertaken Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training

8. Partnerships and Collaboration

  o Describe how the proposed project will contribute to a comprehensive, cooperative, and regional approach to wildfire risk reduction

  o Where applicable, describe the extent to which Provincial Crown Land Manager(s) (BC Parks, Mountain Resorts, Natural Resource District Manager and/or Recreation Sites and Trails) and/or other land managers (e.g. Indigenous Services Canada) have been advised of the proposed activities

9. Additional Information

Required Attachments

As outlined in Table 2

Appendix 11: Requirements for Maps and Spatial Data for Interim and Final Reporting

Spatial data submissions and large format georeferenced PDF maps that clearly represent (at a suitable scale) the mandatory content are required as part of the final report requirements for CWRPs and fuel management activities.

All Fuel Management Activities (prescriptions and **fuel management treatments**) are required to be entered into RESULTS and the ACTIVITY_TREATMENT_UNIT_ID (ATU ID) will be required as evidence of a successful RESULTS entry. Please refer to *RESULTS Information Submission Specifications: Government Funded Activities*.

Large format georeferenced PDF maps that clearly represent (at a suitable scale) the mandatory content are also required as part of the final report requirements for fuel management activities.

A. Summary of Map and Spatial Data Requirements

Table 13: Maps and Spatial Data		
	Mapping requirement	**Spatial Data Layers and KMZ**
ALL projects	Mandatory requirements for all maps: refer to Part B	KMZ required for all project types
CWRPs	• **Area of Interest (AOI)** and VAR • Local Fire Risk • Proposed Fuel Treatment Units • Refer to Part C	• AOI • PROPOSED_TREATMENT • FCFS_WUI • Refer to Part F
Fuel Management Prescriptions	• Fuel management Prescription Map. Refer to Part D	• RESULTS submission. Refer to Part G
Fuel Management Treatments, including prescribed fire and demonstration projects	• Fuel Management Treatment Map. Refer to Part E	• RESULTS submission. Refer to Part G

B. Mandatory Requirements for All Maps

- Descriptive title
- Scale (as text or scale bar)
- North arrow
- Legend
- CRI/LGPS Project number and proponent name, consultant and GIS company name

- Date
- Reference data such as roads, railways, transmission lines, pipelines, water bodies and rivers/creeks
- Compress map files to reduce unnecessary large file sizes

C. Required Maps for CWRPs

MAP 1: Area of Interest (AOI) and VAR

- CWRP **Area of Interest (AOI)**. *Refer to Appendix 1 for more information on the eligible AOI.*
- Land ownership and administrative boundaries (Municipal, Federal, **Private land**, Parks, **Provincial Crown Land**, etc.)
- Relevant tenures such as range, woodlots, community forest areas
- Fire Department Boundaries
- Proposed and completed fuel treatments

- FireSmart areas, Wildfire Hazard Development Permit Areas
- Values at risk (critical infrastructure)
- High environmental and cultural values
- Hazardous values at risk

MAP 2: Local Fire Risk

- CWRP **Area of Interest (AOI)**. *Refer to Appendix 1 for more information on the eligible AOI.*
- PSTA Threat or Modified Local Level Polygons
- Hectares of each PSTA Threat Class or Modified Local Level Threat Class must be stated on the map in a table

MAP 3: Proposed Fuel Treatment Units

- CWRP **Area of Interest (AOI)**. *Refer to Appendix 1 for more information on the eligible AOI.*
- CWRP FCFS **Eligible Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)** one-kilometre buffer. *Refer to Appendix 1 for more information on the **Eligible WUI**.*
- Land Status and tenure overlaps e.g. range, woodlots, etc.
- Proposed fuel treatment units, labelled by PROPOSED_TREATMENT_ID
- Previously completed treatments, labelled by year
- Hectares of Proposed Fuel Treatments in a table on map (PROPOSED_TREATMENT_ID, AREAHA)
- WTA Plots (When Modified Local Level Polygons used)

D. Required Map for Fuel Management Prescriptions

Fuel Management Prescription Map

- Treatment Units labelled by Treatment Unit ID (spatially this will match the coverage from the RESULTS spatial entry)
- Land status and tenure overlaps (e.g. range, woodlots, area-based tenures)
- Access including proposed roads, and stream crossings
- Values including any reserves, wildlife habitat areas, or critical infrastructure
- Streams, wetlands, lakes including the class and identification number/name
- Areas of safety concern (steep slopes).
- Access including existing/proposed roads, trails and stream crossings
- Previously completed treatments if applicable (labelled by year)
- Table with all areas identified in Treatment Unit Summary, including treatment regime and hectares (from the signed Fuel Management Prescription doc)

E. Required Map for Fuel Management Treatment

Fuel Management Treatment Map

- Treatment Units labeled by Treatment Unit ID (spatially this will match the coverage from the RESULTS spatial entry)
- Land status and tenure overlaps (e.g. range, area-based tenures woodlots)
- Previously completed treatments if applicable (labelled by year)

- A table summarizing your RESULTS entry activities (using Silviculture Base Code Description, Silviculture Technique Code Description and Silviculture Method Code Description language as appropriate to describe each activity by treatment unit), net hectares of each of those activities, and then total net project boundary hectares. Example table:

Table 14: Results Entry Activities Example Table		
TU ID	Fuel Treatment Activities (Silv Base /Technique/Method Desc)	Hectares
1	Juvenile Spacing - Manual Cutting	10ha
1	Site Prep - Pile and Burn	10ha
2	Juvenile Spacing - Manual Cutting	5ha
2	Site Prep - Pile and Burn	5ha
2	Pruning - Handsaw	0.5ha
Total Net HA		15.5ha

F. Required Spatial Data for CWRPs:

Formats, conventions and standards: Spatial data must conform to the following general formats, naming conventions and standards.

1. **Data Format and Naming Conventions:**

Data for CWRPs must be submitted in a File Geodatabase (FGDB) and KMZ format and must conform to the conventions for feature dataset names, feature class names, attribute names, and attribute values as identified in the Specific Submission Requirements by Project Type section below. It is strongly recommended that you use the template FGDB in order to facilitate meeting this requirement.

FGDB and KMZ names must adhere to the following naming standard:

< Local Government/First Nation Band Number>_<ProjectTypeAndDescription>

For example: PrinceGeorge_CWRPNorthPG.gdb

PrinceGeorge_CWRPNorthPG.KMZ

FN699_CWRPNorthPG.gdb

FN699_CWRPNorthPG.KMZ

2. **FGDB Projection:** The projection standard is NAD_1983_BC_Environment_Albers (EPSG:3005), with parameters of:

Central meridian: -126.0° (126°00'00" West longitude)

Latitude of projection origin: 45.0 (45°00'00 North latitude)

First standard parallel: 50.0° (50°00'00" North latitude)

Second standard parallel: 58.5° (58°30'00" North latitude)

False easting: 1000000.0 (one million metres)

False northing: 0.0

Datum: NAD83, based on the GRS80 ellipsoid.

3. **Compatibility:** The Province of BC uses ArcGIS 10.8 and all CWRP spatial data submissions must be compatible with ArcGIS 10.8. In addition, some feature layers as identified below, are also required in a KMZ format.

4. **Data Quality:** Submitted data must meet general data quality guidelines to ensure corporate data quality standards are met. Data with slivers, gaps between adjacent polygons, and geometry or topology errors shown as overlaps will not be accepted.

5. **Metadata for CWRPs:** Metadata must be provided for all spatial layers. The metadata standard is FGDC and is required to be submitted in .xml format. Metadata must document the following:

   a. A description of what each dataset represents for all datasets provided in addition to what is outlined in the individual project sections;

   b. A description of each attribute and the codes/values used to populate it for all attributes provided in addition to what is outlined in the individual project sections;

   c. Data Source information including where the data came from, the currency of the information and source contact details for potential follow-up; and,

   d. For resultant datasets, metadata must also include the methodology and source data used in the creation of the resultant, the date of creation, and contact details for the person who created it.

6. **CWRP Submission:**

   • file geodatabase (FGDB) compressed into a zip file

   • KMZ files saved with symbology (i.e. similar to what is displayed on the required maps).

Table 15: Spatial Layers for CWRPs					
Feature Layer Name	**KMZ**	**Feature Layer Description**	**Mandatory Attributes**	**Attribute Description**	**Attribute Details (Data type, length)**
AOI	YES	CWRP area of interest	DATA_COLLECTION _DATE	Date spatial data was collected	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
			DATA_COLLECTION _METHOD	Method of spatial data collection (ex. GPS, digitized, etc.). See Table 16	Text, 45
			AREAHA	Area in hectares	Double
FCFS_WUI	YES	Fire Smart Community Funding and Supports program 1km WUI	DATA_SOURCE	Origin of FCFS_WUI source. e.g., "WUI 2017" or for updated buffers suffixed with applicant's name e.g., CWRP - Cariboo RD	Text, 75
			DATA_COLLECTION _DATE	Date the spatial data was collected	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
			DATA_COLLECTION _METHOD	Method of spatial data collection (ex. GPS, digitized, etc.). See Table 16	Text, 45
			AREAHA	Area in hectares	Double

PROPOSED_TREATMENT	YES	Proposed gross treatment area	PROPOSED_TREATMENT_ID	Unique proposed treatment identifier	Text, 7
			DATA_COLLECTION_DATE	Date spatial data was collected	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
			DATA_COLLECTION_METHOD	Method of spatial data collection (ex. GPS, digitized, etc.). See Table 16	Text, 45
			AREAHA	Area in hectares	Double

Additional notes about CWRP submissions:

- All spatial layers in addition to those identified in this guide, that are a key component of the CWRP maps or plan, must be included as part of the spatial submission and must include metadata.

- If more than one data collection method was used, please choose the value that best represents how the information was captured.

- CWRP hectares on maps and documents must match those submitted spatially.

- The FCFS CWRP AOI and CWRP WUI must align with the definitions provided in Appendix1

G. Required Spatial Data for Prescriptions and Treatments

Fuel Management Activities:

All Fuel Management Activities (prescriptions and **fuel management treatments**) are required to be entered directly into RESULTS. Please refer to *RESULTS Information Submission Specifications: Government Funded Activities* for spatial data requirements for fuel management activities.

Submission:

- Submit a file showing the ACTIVITY_TREATMENT_UNIT_ID (ATU ID) associated with your RESULTS entry

- KMZ file of associated spatial data saved with symbology (i.e. similar to what is displayed on the required maps).

Additional notes about Fuel Management and Prescription submissions:

- For Fuel Treatments the project boundary, treatment unit and spatial hectares (from your RESULTS entry) must match the net hectares stated on the maps and in worksheet 2.

- For Prescriptions the spatial hectares (from your RESULTS entry) must match the net hectares stated on the map and in the Prescription Document and worksheet 2.

- RESULTS entries deficiencies identified during the spatial review phase must be corrected in RESULTS .

Please note: Spatial data submissions will be evaluated against these criteria. The final report and payment of grant funding will not be approved until all of these criteria are met.

H. Attribute Value Reference Tables

Table 16: Data Collection Method	
DATA_COLLECTION_METHOD	**DESCRIPTION**
differentialGPS	The data was captured with a differential GPS unit, or was post-processed with information received from known reference stations, to improve data accuracy.
Digitizing	The data was converted from an analog map into a digital format using a digitizing tablet connected to a computer.
GISAnalysis	The data was created as a result of a GIS Analysis.
nondifferentialGPS	The data was captured with a GPS unit but was not post-processed or was captured with a GPS unit incapable of doing differential GPS.
orthoPhotography	The data was delineated from an orthophoto (aerial photography).
Photogrammetric	The data was delineated using photographs or images in stereo pairs
satelliteImagery	The data was delineated from a satellite image.
sketchMap	The data was hand sketched, either on an analog map or on-screen.
tightChainTraverse	The data was surveyed with a hand compass and chain to create a closed traverse.

Table 17: Fuel Type	
FUEL_TYPE	**DESCRIPTION**
C-1	C-1 Spruce Lichen Woodland
C-2	C-2 Boreal Spruce
C-3	C-3 Mature Jack or Lodgepole Pine
C-4	C-4 Immature Jack, Lodgepole Pine, densely stocked Ponderosa Pine, or Douglas Fir
C-5	C-5 Red and White Pine
C-6	C-6 Conifer Plantation
C-7	C-7 Ponderosa Pine or Douglas Fir
D-1/2	D-1/2 Green or Leafless Aspen or Deciduous shrub
S-1	S-1 Jack or Lodgepole Pine slash
S-2	S-2 White Spruce, Balsam slash
S-3	S-3 Coastal Cedar, Hemlock, Douglas-Fir slash
O-1a/b	O-1a/b Matted or Standing Grass
M-1/2	M-1/2 Green or Leafless Mixedwood
M-3	M-3 Dead Balsam Fir Mixedwood – leafless
M-4	M-4 Dead Balsam Fir Mixedwood – green
Non-fuel	Non-fuel
Unclassified	Unclassified
Water	Water