

Reducing wildfire risk in British Columbia

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Wildfire in BC

Wildfire Trends Are Worrisome:

- Fires are bigger
- Burn longer
- The season is longer
- Climate is getting hotter
- Homes are built on fire-prone lands
- More homes are burned
- Danger is increasing
- Costs are soaring
- Firefighting as % of agency budget is growing



Source: Headwaters Economics (2015) Reducing Wildfire Risks to Communities

The problem



Lack of collaborative planning and management
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Insufficient funds to develop and implement plans
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Limited ability to address wildfire risk

Methods



- Literature review, interviews & workshops
- Participatory approach
 - Advisory team from BC MFLNRO
 - >50 practitioners from gov't, industry, assoc.

What solutions are available?



Lack of collaborative planning and management

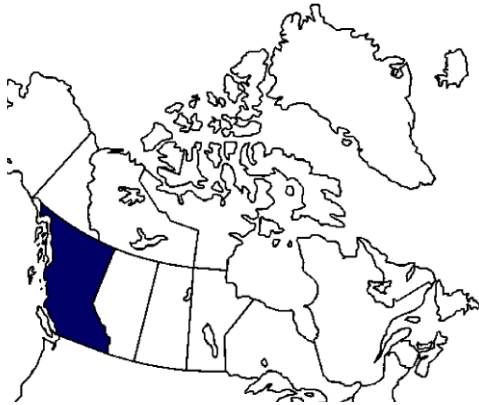
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Limited ability to adapt to address wildfire risk

What solutions are available?



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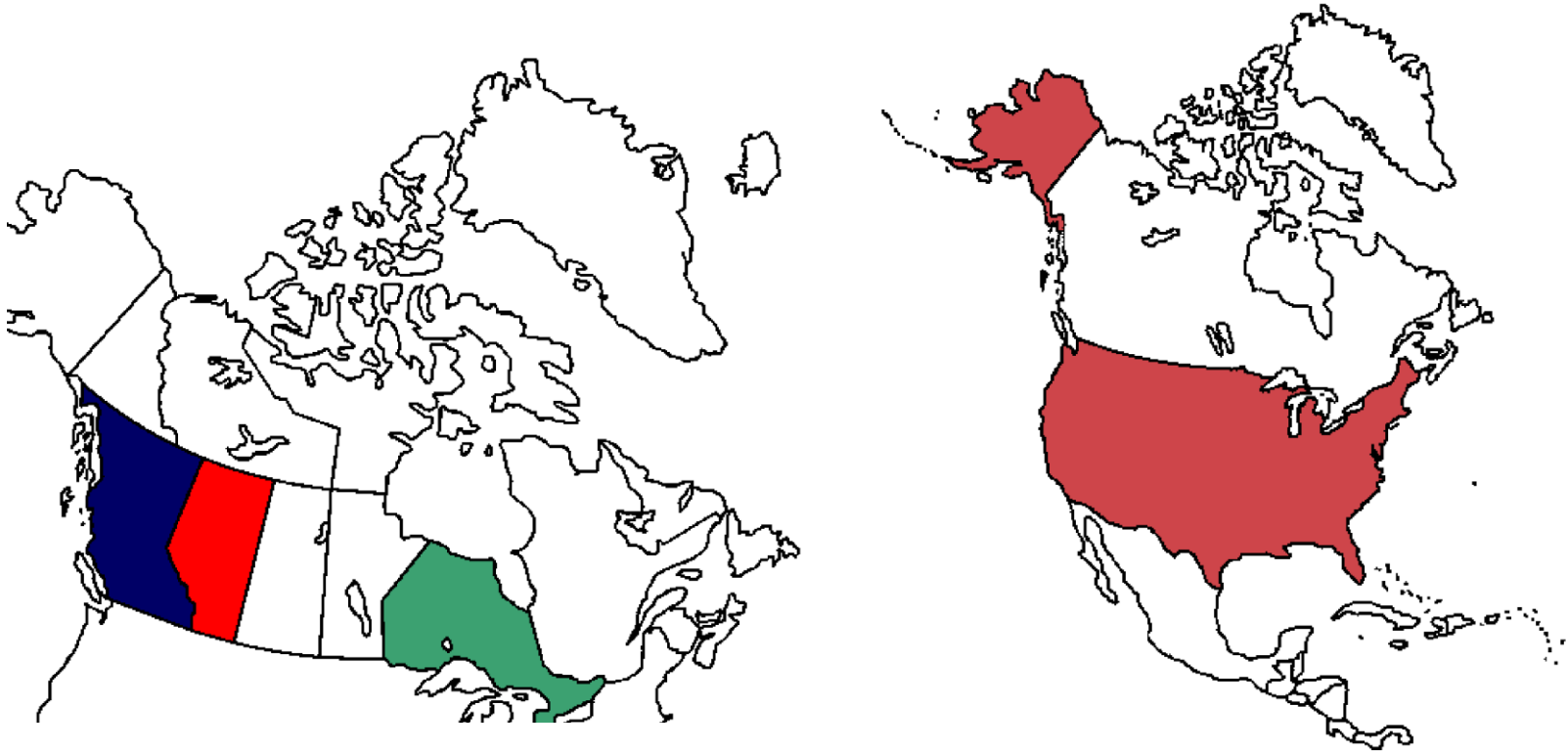
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Limited ability to adapt to address wildfire risk

What solutions are available?



A levy for adaptation?

- Suggested by workshop participants and received considerable interest
- Analyzed three Scenarios:
 - A: +\$0.25/m³ highest value timber grades
 - B: +\$1.00/m³ highest value grades
+\$0.25/m³ mid-value grades
 - C: +\$1.00/m³ highest- and mid-value grades

A levy for adaptation?

Results:

Region	Current Stumpage revenue	Scenario A Levy revenue	Scenario B Levy revenue	Scenario C Levy revenue
Coast	\$96.6 M	\$3.5 M	\$4.1 M	\$14.1 M
Interior	\$442.4 M	\$5.1 M	\$6.8 M	\$20.6 M
Total	\$539.0 M	\$8.6 M	\$10.9 M	\$34.7 M

Key considerations

- Collaboration
 - Involvement across gov't; one point of contact
 - Sufficient, dedicated government resources
 - Information about the level of risk is available
 - Broad agreement on actions that are needed
 - Supported by action on private land

Key considerations (continued)

- Funding
 - Allocated using a clear formula
 - Administered by a third party
 - Dedicated, long-term
 - Subject to periodic review

Conclusions

- Wildfire:
 - Willingness to explore collaboration
 - Clear, quantifiable risks to licensees and government; clear benefits of collaboration
- Test new programs for wildfire, then explore other applications (e.g. climate-related risks)
- Potential to develop broader collaboration (beyond wildfire) and associated resources

Acknowledgements

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