

Appendix 9  
City of Kamloops By Law No 5-1-2121 and Council Policy No. EDS-15



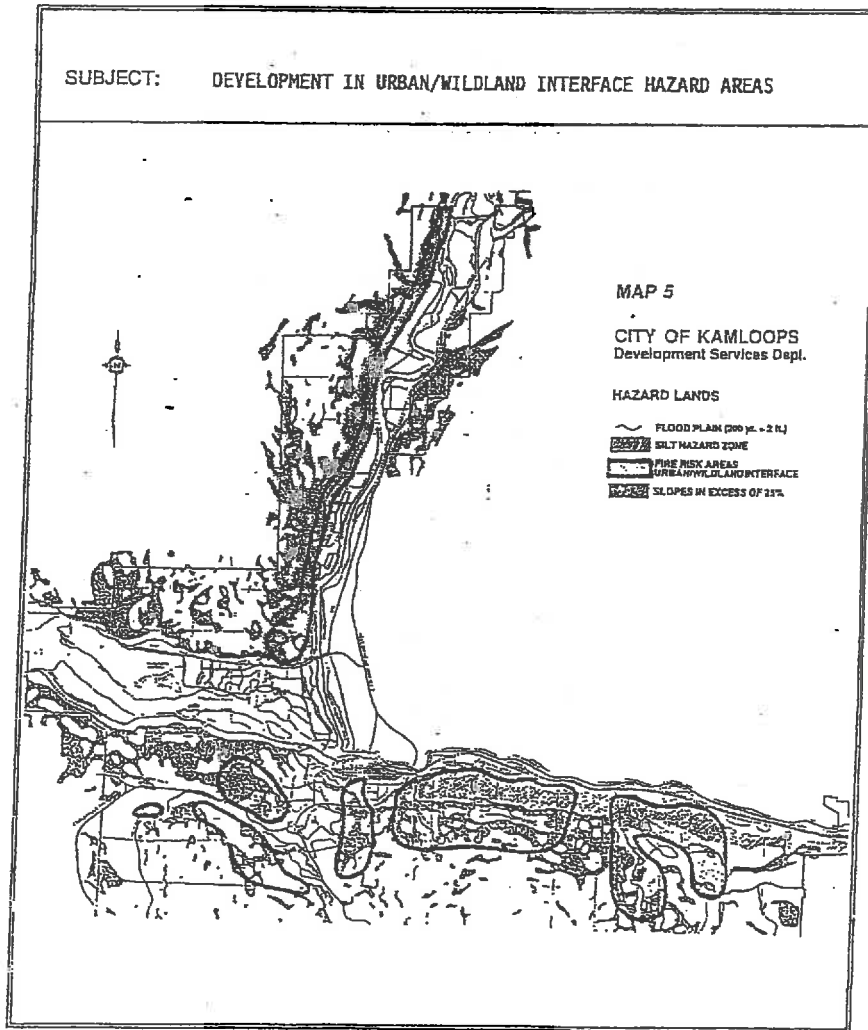
CITY OF KAMLOOPS

APPENDIX NO. EDS-15 'A'

COUNCIL POLICY

PAGE 3  
OF 4

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT IN URBAN/WILDLAND INTERFACE HAZARD AREAS



FUTURE

**Appendix 9**  
**City of Kamloops By Law No 5-1-2121 and Council Policy No. EDS-15**



CITY OF KAMLOOPS

COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT:	DEVELOPMENT IN URBAN/WILDLAND INTERFACE HAZARD AREAS	NO. EDS-15
FUNCTION:	ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	PAGE 1
DATE:	1992 June 23	OF 4

The following policy respecting urban/wildland interface area development has been adopted.

1. New Subdivisions

As a condition of approval for all new subdivisions within the urban/wildland interface area, as shown on Map 5 of the Official Community Plan (see Appendix No. EDS-15 'A' and EDS-15 'B').

1.1. Require as a condition of subdivision approval, the registration of restrictive covenants to ensure that:

- Potential purchasers are made aware of urban/wildland interface issues and the ongoing role that property owners must assume to protect their housing investment;
- All roofing materials and installation requirements meet the Class "B" fire rating requirements contained within the current B.C. Building Code;
- The City is saved harmless in the event of damage to individual homes as a result of the spread of fire through urban/wildland interface areas;
- Fuel-reduced buffers around individual homes from the house to the property boundary, or 10 m in distance, whichever is the lesser, are maintained. In this respect, fuel-reduced shall mean the area may contain natural tree cover in locations approved by the City of Kamloops, but the owner must landscape and maintain the area with the intent of eliminating the accumulation of combustible debris; and
- All eaves, attics, decks and openings under floors are screened to prevent the accumulation of flammable material.
- All wood burning appliances are installed with approved spark arresters.

1.2 Requires an assessment of the geographical features of the lands intended for development, in consultation with the Ministry of Forests, to address the potential for urban/wildland hazards and to determine the suitability of the proposed development plan to the land.

**Appendix 9**  
**City of Kamloops By Law No 5-1-2121 and Council Policy No. EDS-15**

BY-LAW NO. 5-1-2121

PAGE 3

- b) **Multiple Family Guidelines:**
- i) The layout and design of access roads, internal streets, building sites, and overall grading patterns should demonstrate an effort to preserve and protect significant natural features, including prominent knolls, vegetation, view corridors, and mature stands of trees.
  - ii) The following information and drawings may be required upon submission of a Development Permit application:
    - site photographs and/or drawings showing the subject area and proposed buildings in relation to the surrounding area.
    - a grading plan showing existing and proposed grades.
    - a tree inventory plan indicating existing generalized tree cover and significant trees proposed to be removed, retained, or replaced.
  - iii) The shape, siting, roofline, height, façade, and exterior finish of buildings should be sufficiently varied to avoid a monotonous appearance.
  - iv) All areas not covered by buildings, structures, or asphalt shall be landscaped with non-combustible landscaping where the landscaping is within 10 m. of a building. Internal paths and walkways should be provided to ensure easy circulation to both on- and off-site services and amenities. The site landscaping should consider the use of xeriscaping, natural landscape materials, and fire-resistant plant material.
  - v) **Parking:**
    - Parking within the individual unit will be encouraged.
    - Where surface parking is planned, it should be provided in small clusters and should be visually separated by curbing, lighting, directional signage, landscaping, or any combination of these elements.
  - vi) Large areas of building walls should be avoided. Where extensive wall areas are planned, this should be visually relieved by a combination of windows, colour, material, textures, and mature landscaping.
  - vii) Site staking may be required indicating the proposed location of:
    - corners of buildings,
    - access and internal roads, and
    - rooflines of buildings.
- c) **Single and Two Family Residential Guidelines**
- i) Applications for Building Permits for residential buildings, accessory buildings, sheds, and outdoor pools must include a tree inventory showing significant trees located on the lot and trees to be removed by the proposed new construction including those trees impacted by grading adjacent to the construction.
  - ii) Front and rear yard building setbacks may be altered by up to 3 m provided that:
    - the alteration allows for the preservation of significant trees by eliminating direct impact or by reduced grading or fill around the trees;

# Appendix 9 FireSmart Landscaping on Southeastern Vancouver Island

## Living in a forest environment

Forested areas are attractive places to live. What makes the forest setting so attractive, however, also makes it hazardous. Vegetation may be an amenity for residents, but it is nothing more than a source of fuel for a fire.

## Wildland/urban interface

The wildland-urban interface (interface) is the area where structures and other human developments meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildlands. Wildfire is a constant risk.

## FireSmart landscaping reduces risk of wildfire

Each year, wildfires cause millions of dollars of damage in interface areas across Canada. FireSmart landscaping can be an effective tool to protect your interface home and property from devastating fires.

## Southeastern Vancouver Island

A rainshadow belt of Mediterranean-type climate encompasses southeastern Vancouver Island. Summers are generally warm and dry. Summer droughts are not uncommon, when wildfire hazard

ratings soar to high or extreme. The wildland-urban interface is at risk.

## Make your forest home and property safe: Establish "Fuel Modified Areas."

During a forest fire, vegetation is fuel. Clear trees and brush between structures and the surrounding forest.

**Fuel Modified Area 1:** The area closest to the structure, within 10 m, is critical, and should have most of the trees and brush removed. Expand the area on sloping ground and larger lots.

- This fuel-free area must reduce the risk to buildings from approaching wildfire and reduce the potential for a building fire spreading to the wildland.
- Maintain a trimmed and watered lawn area. Trim grass to 10 cm or less.
- Efficient use of irrigation systems is essential. Ground irrigation is recommended.
- Regularly perform a general cleanup. Ground litter and downed trees should be removed regularly.
- Keep firewood, propane tanks, and debris piles at least 10 m away - never downslope - from a structure.

**Fuel Modified Area 2:** The area up to 30 m away from the structure should have the trees and brush thinned out. On sloping ground and on larger lots, expand the distance of vegetation treatment.

- Thin trees to leave 3 m of separation between crowns. Remove dead or highly flammable trees first.
- On level ground, thin stands of trees within 2 tree heights of the structure.
- On sloped ground, thin trees further downslope from the structure.
- Remove trees and brush growing under taller trees.
- Space shrubs at least 4 m apart.
- Deciduous trees are much less flammable than coniferous species.
- Arbutus has low flammability, but its dry leaves must be regularly removed.
- Prune trees - remove branches within 2 m of the ground.

## Fire-resistant Vegetation:

There are no such things as "fireproof plants". There are fire-resistant plants, however, that you can use:

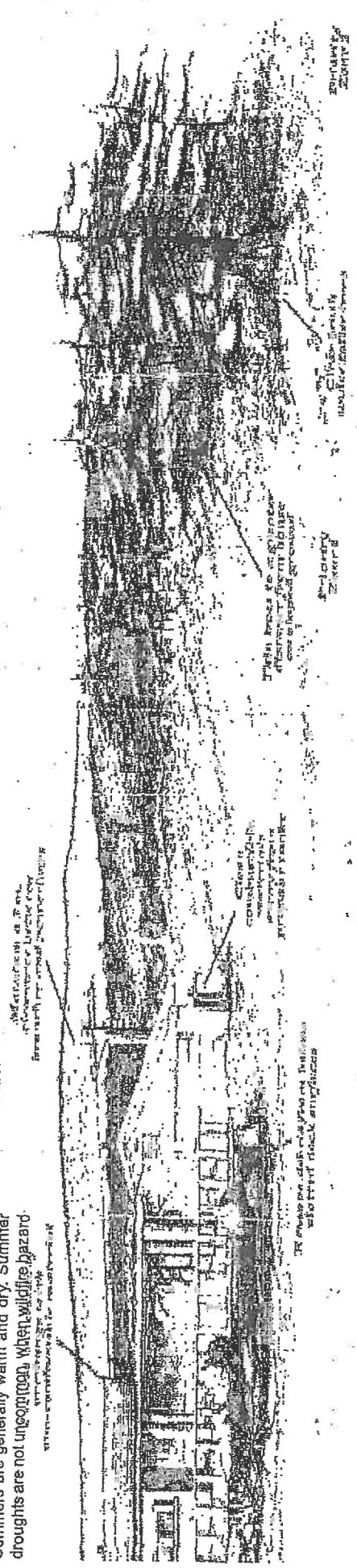
- Succulent plants that retain a large amount of water
- Slow-growing plants requiring little care
- Deeply rooted plants with thick, heavy leaves
- Sparsely branched trees and shrubs
- Deciduous trees and shrubs
- Younger, sparser growing trees and shrubs
- Plants with thick woody stems that require prolonged heating to ignite

Coniferous species, such as pine, fir, and spruce trees, with a high resin content, are very flammable, and should be avoided.

## FireSmart hedging shrubs

Wooden fences and coniferous hedges can act as gateways for fires. Ornamental metal and wire are alternatives. Or consider fire-resistant shrubs, which make ideal hedges. A single-species hedge has limited value as a wildlife habitat. Far more interesting and richly diverse is a hedgerow of mixed, native species.

- Abelia (*Abelia*)
- Laurel and Japanese Laurel (*Aucuba*)
- Barberry (*Berberis*)
- Box (*Buxus*)



**Appendix 9**  
**City of Langford Example Development Permit for Single-Family Dwelling**

*DP-03-43 – 2941 Creekside Trail*  
*Page 3 of 3*

---

**3. Bonding**

**Prior to the issuance of a Building Permit**, the applicant must deposit the following security under Section 925 of the *Local Government Act*:

- a) A landscape security deposit in the amount of 125% of the estimated cost of clearing the fuel reduced buffer described in the Section 219 covenant, and for establishing residential landscaping in this area.

Approved by the Municipal Planner the 28th day of October, 2003.

---

Rob Buchan, MCIP

je

**Appendix 9**  
**City of Langford Example Development Permit for Single-Family Dwelling**

**DISTRICT OF LANGFORD**  
**Planning and Zoning**  
2nd Floor, 877 Goldstream Avenue  
Victoria, BC V9B 2X8



e-mail: [planning@district.langford.bc.ca](mailto:planning@district.langford.bc.ca)  
<http://district.langford.bc.ca>  
phone: (250) 474-6919  
fax: (250) 391-3436

**Development Permit No. DP-03-43**

Development Permit No. DP-03-43 is hereby issued by the Council for the District of Langford to **Sea View Construction** on behalf of Richard Slocomb and Nicole Williams for the construction of a **single-family dwelling** in development permit areas of Potential Habitat and Biodiversity and Wildfire Interface Hazard on the property legally described as Strata Lot 2, Section 26, Goldstream District, Strata Plan VIS4967, PID No. 024-810-819, **2941 Creekside Trail**); subject to the following terms and conditions.

**1. Appendices**

The following requirements are imposed under **Section 920** of the *Local Government Act*:

- a) The site shall be developed in accordance with the site plan, and elevations attached (Appendices DP-03-43A to DP-03-43F).

**2. Other Conditions**

- a) The applicant shall provide protective fencing along the drip line of trees on the neighbouring properties that may be affected during construction;
- b) The applicant shall register a Section 219 covenant, prior to issuance of a building permit, agreeing that:
- i. No outdoor burning shall occur on the subject property;
  - ii. A fuel reduced buffer shall be maintained at all times from the perimeter of every building to a distance equal to 10 m (32 ft) from the perimeter of every building and that this area shall be landscaped and maintained with the intent of eliminating the accumulation of combustible debris in accordance with the Office of the Fire Commissioner, B.C. Provincial Government;
  - iii. If the fuel reduced buffers are not maintained, the owner shall be required to pay a rent charge to the District of Langford of \$1000 per year;
  - iv. All areas outside of the 10m fuel reduced buffer areas and proposed driveway (Appendix DP-03-38A) shall be maintained as a non-disturbance area where the removal of any vegetation is prohibited;
- c) The applicant shall remove all land clearing debris (wood and vegetation) and construction debris resulting from any development prior to issuance of Occupancy Permit or three months from clearing, whichever is less;
- d) The applicant shall provide trees of a native species as recommended by ArborTek Ventures in the October 17, 2003 letter (see Appendix E attached);

## Appendix 9

### City of Langford Example Development Permit for New Subdivision

*DP-04-21 – Bear Mountain Estates – Phase 4, 5, 6, and 7*

*Page 3 of 4*

during hot, dry periods, or when water restrictions are in effect, that garden areas are watered at least two times per week, preferably later in the day;

- (viii) if the screening referred to in paragraph (ii) or the fuel reduced buffers are not maintained, or irrigation is not operated according to the recommendations of the various reports listed above and attached to this permit as appendices, that the owner shall be required to pay a rent charge to the District of Langford of \$1000 per year;
  - (ix) all areas not within the fuel reduced buffer or the building footprint shall be maintained as a non-disturbance area where the removal of any vegetation is prohibited, without prior written consent of the District of Langford; and
  - (x) domestic landscape plantings are encouraged to consist of drought and fire resistive species (see Appendix DP-04-21I for a list of acceptable plants);
- f) The owner shall, as part of any disclosure at the time of sale, provide purchasers of land with a copy of the brochure *FireSmart Landscaping on Southeastern Vancouver Island* (Strathcona Forestry Consulting 2004);
- g) **Building design and construction shall generally be consistent with the standards of the *National Fire Protection Association Standard 299* (Standard for Protection of Life and Property from Wildfire), and building materials must meet or exceed "Class B" fire rating requirements. Wooden roofing materials (shakes or shingles) are specifically prohibited;**
- h) Landscaped areas and boulevards shall use select native and fire resistive species and deciduous trees;
- i) Pruning (to 2.5 m) is required for Douglas fir trees. Retained trees should be monitored regularly for health and safety;
- j) **The use of bark mulch is acceptable as a landscape material, provided that it is applied in accordance with the recommendations of the various reports listed above and attached to this permit as appendices;**
- k) **No building permits shall be issued until fire hydrants are provided, and are operational to municipal standards;**
- l) **The applicant shall post "No Smoking" signs in all public-use parks and along public access routes. This signage may indicate that the area is a high fire hazard risk area;**
- m) On-site services are not to be installed in advance of obtaining the necessary permits from the Building and Engineering Departments; and
- n) **All road frontage improvements, off-site works and services must be approved by the Engineering Department before commencing work. This Development Permit does not imply any approval of these works.**

# Appendix 9

## City of Langford Example Development Permit for New Subdivision

**CITY OF LANGFORD**  
**Planning and Zoning**  
2nd Floor, 877 Goldstream Avenue  
Victoria, BC V9B 2X8



e-mail: [planning@district.langford.bc.ca](mailto:planning@district.langford.bc.ca)  
website: <http://district.langford.bc.ca>  
planning phone: (250) 474-6919  
planning fax: (250) 391-3436

### **Development Permit No. DP-04-21**

Development Permit No. DP-04-21 is hereby issued by the Council for the City of Langford to Les Bjola on behalf of LGB9 Development Corporation for the alteration of land within Environmentally Sensitive and Hazardous Development Permit Areas on the property legally described as Section 3, Range 4 West, Highland District, Except Part in Plans 27507, VIP76196, and VIP76988, PID No. 025-088-106; Section 82, Highland District, Except Part in Plans VIP75509, VIP76197, VIP76364, VIP76365, and VIP76988, PID No. 009-858-636; Section 83, Highland District, Except Part in Plan VIP75509, PID NO. 009-858-652 (Phases 4, 5, 6 and 7, Bear Mountain Estates); subject to the following terms and conditions:

#### **1. Appendices**

The following requirements are imposed under Section 920 of the *Local Government Act*:

- a) This Development Permit is for the alteration of land and removal of vegetation within those areas specified on the site plans attached (**Appendix DP-04-21A to DP-04-12D**) entitled "Combustible Fuel Zone" for each of the various four stages;
- b) The land that is the subject of this development permit shall be developed in accordance with the recommendations of the following reports:
  - *Interface Fire Hazard Assessment – Bear Mountain Estates and Country Club Phase 4* [Strathcona Forestry Consulting, May 2003] (attached as **Appendix DP-04-21E**);
  - *Interface Fire Hazard Assessment – Bear Mountain Estates and Country Club Phase 5* [Strathcona Forestry Consulting, Oct.2003] (attached as **Appendix DP-04-21F**);
  - *Interface Fire Hazard Assessment – Bear Mountain Estates and Country Club Phase 6* [Strathcona Forestry Consulting, Feb. 2004] (attached as **Appendix DP-04-21G**);
  - *Interface Fire Hazard Assessment – Bear Mountain Estates and Country Club Phase 7* [Strathcona Forestry Consulting, February 2004] (attached as **Appendix DP-04-21H**);
  - the brochure *FireSmart Landscaping on Southeastern Vancouver Island* [Strathcona Forestry Consulting, 2004] (attached as **Appendix DP-04-21I**) and in particular with respect to tree thinning, pruning and the removal of under storey and litter.

#### **2. Other Conditions**

- a) **No building permit shall be issued until the applicant has provided ALL of the vegetation management measures described as Priority Zone 1 and Priority Zone 2 in the various *Interface Fire Hazard Assessment* reports [Strathcona Forestry Consulting] listed above and (attached as appendices to this permit, that being**

**Appendix 9**  
**City of Langford Development Permit Area Guidelines for Interface Fire Hazard Zones (Bylaw No. 635)**

**IFH9**

In order to minimize the risk of damage to property and persons from interface fires, the following restriction may be imposed as development permit condition or is a 219 covenant as a condition of subdivision by the Approving Officer.

1. All roofing material and insulation requirements meet the Class "B" fire rating requirements contained within the current *B.C. Building Code*.
2. Fuel reduced buffers around individual homes from the house to the property boundary or 10 m in distance, whichever is lesser. The area may contain natural tree cover in locations approved by the City of Langford, but the owner must landscape and maintain the area with the intent of eliminating the accumulation of combustible debris.
3. All eaves, attics, decks, and openings under floors are screened to prevent the accumulation of combustible material.
4. All wood burning appliances are to be installed with approved spark arresters.
5. Building design and construction shall generally be consistent with the standards in the *National Fire Protection Association Standard 299* (Standard for Protection of Life and Property from Wildfire).

**IFH10**

In order to ensure the ongoing restriction on wood fuel adjacent to residences the approving officer may require a Section 219 covenant requiring property owners to ensure the 10 m fuel restriction zone around houses and buildings is maintained and that if they are not maintained, they may be required to pay a rent charge of \$1,000 per year.

**IFH11**

In designing new subdivisions and neighbourhoods within the high to extreme fire hazard development permit areas, proponents shall consider the incorporation of fire breaks adjacent to residential areas. These may be in the form of cleared parkland, roads, or trails.

**IFH12**

For areas designated within the interface fire hazard development permit area, a development permit is not required under the following conditions:

1. For buildings or subdivisions that are applied for prior to June 1, 2002 and are not completed prior to December 31, 2002.
2. For minor additions to existing houses, i.e., less than 500 ft<sup>2</sup> (46.45 m<sup>2</sup>) or for renovations within existing building.

**IFH13**

For new developments in high or extreme fire hazard areas the City Planner may require that landscape plans be prepared in consultation with both a Registered Professional Biologist and a Registered Professional Forester, and provide recommendations for ensuring minimal fuel loading within landscaped areas, ongoing protection from interface fire hazard, and the type and density of fire resistive plantings that may be incorporated within landscaped areas to help mitigate the interface fire hazard. (Bylaw No. 771)

**Appendix 9**  
**City of Langford Development Permit Area Guidelines for Interface Fire Hazard Zones (Bylaw No. 635)**

**Appendix N: Development Permit Area Guidelines for Interface Fire Hazards**

---

(Bylaw No. 635)

**1. JUSTIFICATION**

The City of Langford has designated all lands shown as extreme or high hazard on Map N1 as a Development Permit Area pursuant to provisions in the *Local Government Act*. The justification for this designation is to ensure that Council has the ability to regulate development within high and extreme wildfire hazard risk areas in a way that minimizes the risk associated with these hazards.

**2. OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this Development Permit Area designation is to ensure that development within the interface fire hazard area is:

- a) Managed in a way that minimizes the risk of damage to property or people from interface fire hazards; and
- b) Managed in a way that mitigates interface fire hazards while still addressing environmental issues.

**3. DEVELOPMENT PERMIT AREA GUIDELINES FOR INTERFACE FIRE HAZARDS**

- a) Within the designated high and extreme risk interface fire hazard areas, Council may, by resolution, issue development permits.
- b) Every application for a development permit shall be accompanied by plans indicating the following:
  - (i) Location of all existing and proposed buildings and structures;
  - (ii) Siting of parking areas and driveways;
  - (iii) Extent and nature of existing and proposed landscaping including details of trees and ground cover; and
  - (iv) The exterior materials of existing and proposed buildings (siding and roofs);
- c) Within the areas identified as high and extreme interface fire hazard areas, the following Development Permit Guidelines apply:

**IFH1**

For developments that only have one access route, exterior sprinkler systems on dwellings for protection against exposure fires are encouraged.

**IFH2**

A plan for the expedient removal of all land clearing debris (wood and vegetation) resulting from development must be submitted and complied with prior to the registration of any new

**Appendix 9  
 Prince George Fire Centre  
 Compensation For Non-Tax Based Fire Response Agencies**



**FIRE DEPARTMENT – INVOICE FOR WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION**

Invoice for Wildfire Suppression services provided by a non-tax based Fire Response Agency.

**British Columbia Forest Service  
 Prince George Fire Centre  
 1011 4<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
 Prince George, British Columbia  
 V2L 3H9**

Invoice Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Initial Fire Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Fire Centre Official contacted on response: \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ Fire Response Agency, undertook voluntary wildfire suppression action, in accordance with Section 95(6) of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*, and is therefore requesting compensation as follows:

Apparatus	Rate	Hours	Total
			\$
			\$
			\$

Faller	Rate	Hours	Total
			\$
			\$
			\$

**Total \$**

Make cheque payable on approval to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Fire Department Official:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Name and Title:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix 9**  
**Prince George Fire Centre**  
**Compensation For Non-Tax Based Fire Response Agencies**

- \$400.00 per hour per unit\* when the FRA does not have the loan of any Forest Service tools or equipment.

**Fire Brigades:**

- a) Receive no sponsorship through taxation of the land and improvements specific to the area on which the Fire Brigade will respond.
- b) Do not have all the requirements of a FRA, as in (b) of the Non Tax Bases Fire Response Agencies listed above.
- c) The rate of compensation for a Fire Brigade for an approved or requested response to a forest fire, nuisance fire or smoke chase will be \$290.00 per hour, per unit\* of fire apparatus.

**Indian Reserve Fire Response Agency:**

- a) Forest fires on Indian Reserve:

No compensation for Reserve owned fire equipment (i.e., fire apparatus or water truck)

- b) Forest fires on Provincial Land, Crown or Private:

Indian Reserve owned fire apparatus may be compensated at \$290.00 per hour per unit\*.

\*A unit is defined as one piece of fire apparatus i.e. as recognized emergency fire response vehicle, self contained and capable of delivering water to a structure fire; including:

- all portable equipment,
- the driver/operator
- and FRA personnel that respond, including their transportation

A second unit responding, must also be approved by the FCO, and then may receive the appropriate rate. If the second or any unit is a water tank truck the rate will be as available in the current "*British Columbia Equipment Rental Rate Guide.*"

**General:**

1. Invoice and Fire Action Report forms are attached to facilitate compensation to any of the above (3) FRA's. The fire Action Report is required with the invoice to initiate payment.
2. The Forest Service will accept billing (included in the invoice) for the services of a faller or dangerous snag faller at the rate of \$30.00 per hour, providing these fallers:
  - are members of the FRA with suitable WCB coverage
  - are qualified and meet the standards of the *WCB Occupational Health and Safety Regulation* including all personal protective equipment.
  - supply chainsaw and accessories suitable for the task.
  - undertake no more chainsaw work than is necessary to safely contain the fire.
3. Invoiced costs are expected to be reasonable, i.e., a reasonable expenditure of resources given the fire situation. Reasonable clean-up time can also be included.

**Appendix 9**  
**Ministry of Forests Operational Guidelines for Wildfire Suppression with**  
**Local Governments**

Signature: _____  Fire Centre Manager	This O.G. Replaces: Draft ver.
Date of Issue: _____	Issued on:

Appendix 1 - Invoice For Wildfire Suppression Services

**Appendix 9**  
**Ministry of Forests Operational Guidelines for Wildfire Suppression with Local Governments**

- 4.) **Mutual Aid:** The \*\*\*, through this Operating Guideline, maintains an established commitment to mutual aid on all wildfires which are beyond the capability of a local fire department. Suppression efforts undertaken by the BCFS and costs associated with those efforts will be the responsibility of the BCFS, on behalf of the province. Fire departments will be responsible for their own costs which they incur in suppressing fires within their jurisdiction.
- 5.) **Crown Lands or Unorganized Areas:** Where Provincial Crown lands exist within a fire department's boundaries, and wildfire occurs and the fire department takes action, the fire department is entitled to compensation from the province, provided that the action was approved by the \*\*\*. Similarly, where a fire department, takes pre-approved wildfire suppression action on a wildfire outside its boundaries, in areas where there is no local fire department protection, the fire department is entitled to compensation. This pre-approval process is facilitated through a phone call to the \*\*\* Fire Control Officer, available 24 hours each day during fire season.
- 6.) **Cost Responsibilities:**
  - a) **Compensation:** Where approved in (5) above, compensation will be based on a flat rate for fire apparatus. The interim rate per fire truck, including personnel and equipment on the truck is \$350.00/hour.\* The minimum call rate per truck is one (1) hour, which includes a built in cleanup time of 1/2 hour. Where actual time of fire suppression exceeds 1 hour, an additional 1/2 hour for cleanup is a legitimate charge. The fire department will be compensated through submission of an itemized invoice (attached appendix 1) to the \* \* \* .
  - \* **Rate under review**
  - b) **Billing:** Where wildfire control measures are undertaken by the BCFS, the province maintains the right to recover costs incurred, through an administrative billing process to landowners. The BCFS reserves the right to apply fines and/or administrative penalties and/or proceed with charges against those parties who are determined to be committing an offense under the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*.
- 7.) **Relieving a Fire Department:** Where a wildfire occurs in unorganized areas, and a fire department has taken voluntary fire suppression action, the BCFS will take over fire suppression efforts at the earliest opportunity, when so requested by the fire department.  
Where a fire department anticipates extended duration wildfire suppression and mopup, within its jurisdiction, the fire department may request assistance from the BCFS with the objective of being assisted to the containment stage of that wildfire event. It is recognized by the BCFS, that it is in the best interest of the public to maintain emergency response capabilities, provided by local fire departments. This will be considered when determining whether final mopup will be completed by the BCFS. It is common practice to require

**Appendix 9**  
**Ministry of Forests Operational Guidelines for Wildfire Suppression with  
Local Governments**



Ministry of  
Forests

Protection Program

**MEMORANDUM**

File: 146-01

April 15, 1998

To: All Fire Centre Managers

**Re: Operating Guidelines for wildfire suppression with local governments**

In the spring of 1997, the Protection Program implemented a provincial guideline for situations when we respond to wildfires at the request of local governments and when fire departments voluntarily respond to wildfires on Crown land.

The guideline was introduced with interim rates for "initial attack service" provided by a fire department voluntarily responding to wildfires on Crown land.

Recent discussion with, and input from, our staff, the Office of the Fire Commissioner, the British Columbia Fire Chiefs Association, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and the Volunteer Firefighter Association of British Columbia have indicated most feel the rate is satisfactory, however an increase is necessary to address a variety of concerns.

The UBCM randomly surveyed 50 fire departments inquiring about the rate. Generally, there seems to be a lack of understanding about the guideline. Every effort should be made to increase awareness of the guidelines with local governments and fire departments.

As of April 15, 1998, the rate for "initial attack service" will be \$400 an hour. Please advise local governments and fire departments of this change.

*Original signed by  
Gary Hartwig  
for:*

**Jim Dunlop**  
**Director**  
**Protection Program**

cc: Erwin MacDermid, NWFC  
Mike Dittaro, Vanderhoof Fire Zone

Allan Bond, Southeast Fire Centre  
Brent Anderson, Coastal Fire Centre