

# PANEL DISCUSSION

Wildfire Impacts, Prevention & Risk Reduction



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**FBCWA 31st WPDC 21st  
Annual Joint AGM & Conference  
October 12-14, 2018**

**WILLIAMS LAKE, BC**

## Panel Discussion

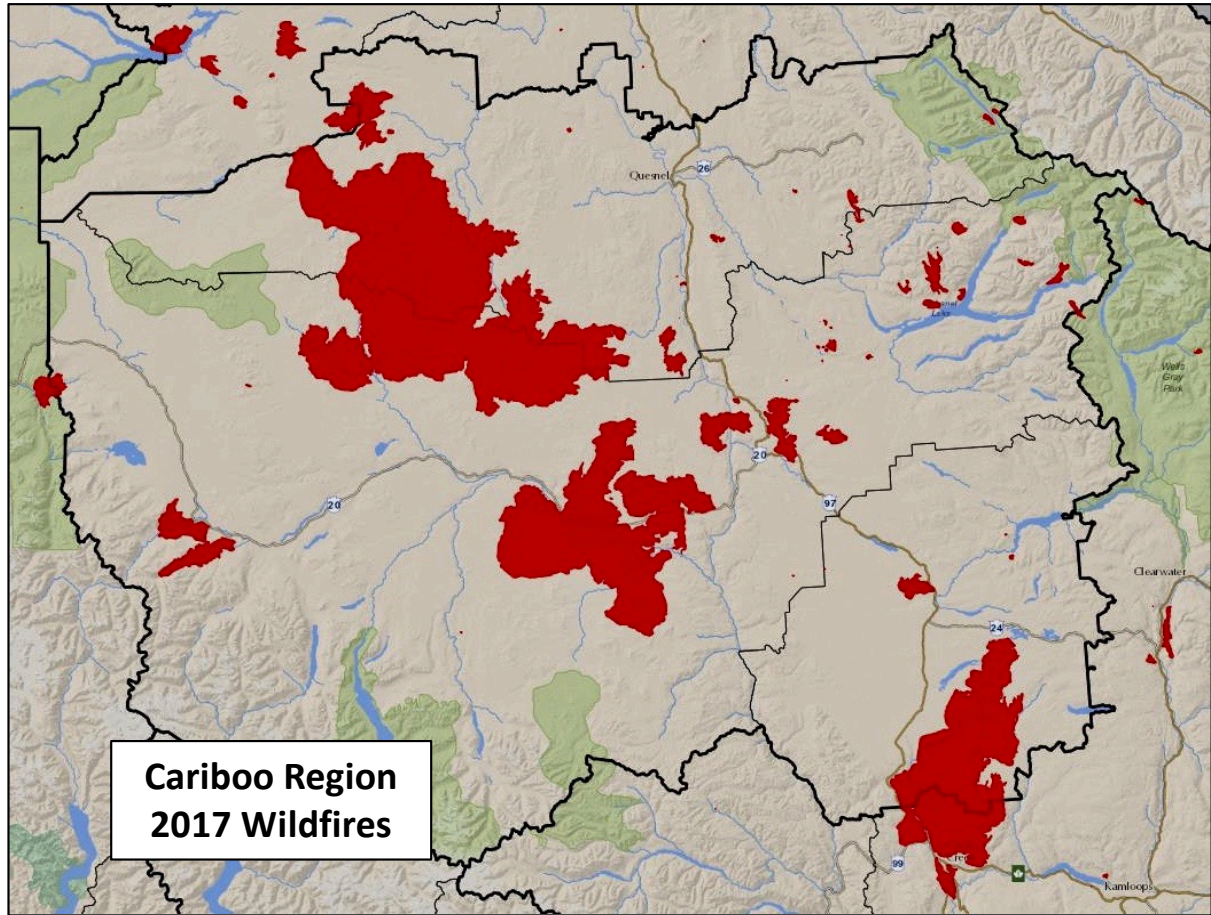
# Wildfire Impacts, Prevention & Risk Reduction

Experiences of a 2017 Evacuee	Brian McNaughton, Evacuee
2018 Northwest Wildfire Season	Miles Fuller, Burns Lake
Impacts of Wildfires - Industry Perspective	Jeff Mycock, Chief Forester, West Fraser Mills Ltd.
Insects Response to Wildfires	Lorraine MacLauchlan, Regional Entomologist, FLNRORD
Reducing the Risk of Wildfires	Bob Gray, Fire Ecologist R.W. Gray Consulting Ltd.
Does BC need to change its forest management paradigm to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires?	Diane Nicholls, Chief Forester FLNRORD
Open Discussion - Questions	All



# 2017 Wildfires

- 1,332 fires
  - 788 lightning
  - 534 human
- 1,216,053 hectares
- >\$568M
  - \$467.08/ha
- ~65,000 evacuated



# 2018 Wildfires

- 2,066 fires
  - 1510 lightning
  - 556 human
- 1,349,999 hectares
- \$462M (as of 22.09.2018)
  - \$342.22/ha
- ~5,500 evacuated



Tweedsmuir Complex Wildfire



Shovel Lake Fire near Fraser Lake, BC



Island Lake Wildfire burning in Francois Lake Provincial Park, Aug. 7, 2018  
Credit: John Calogheros



Fire near Fort St. James Aug. 15, 2018  
Credit: Darryl Dyck

## 2018 Wildfires

Fire Centre	Total Fires	Lighting Caused	Human Caused	Hectares Burned
Northwest	156	112	44	837,378
Cariboo	306	258	48	66,594
Kamloops	425	273	152	55,417
Southeast	442	369	73	60,503
Coastal	291	158	133	174,995
Prince George	446	340	106	155,109
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,066</b>	<b>1,510</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>1,349,999</b>

Source: FLNRORD

## 2017 & 2018 have been the two worst fire seasons in BC's history

### Area (ha) Burned (top 5 years)

<b>2018</b>	<b>1,350,088</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>1,216,053</b>
1958	855,968
1961	483,097
2014	368,786



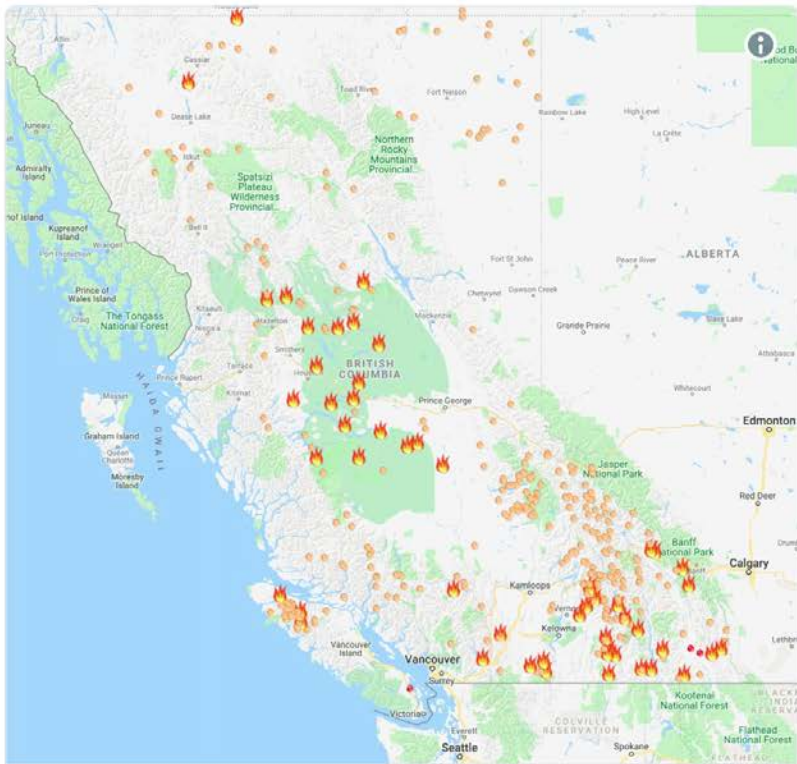
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3 of BC's worst  
5 fire seasons  
in last 5 years!





**Canadian Partnership**  
@CanadaWildfire



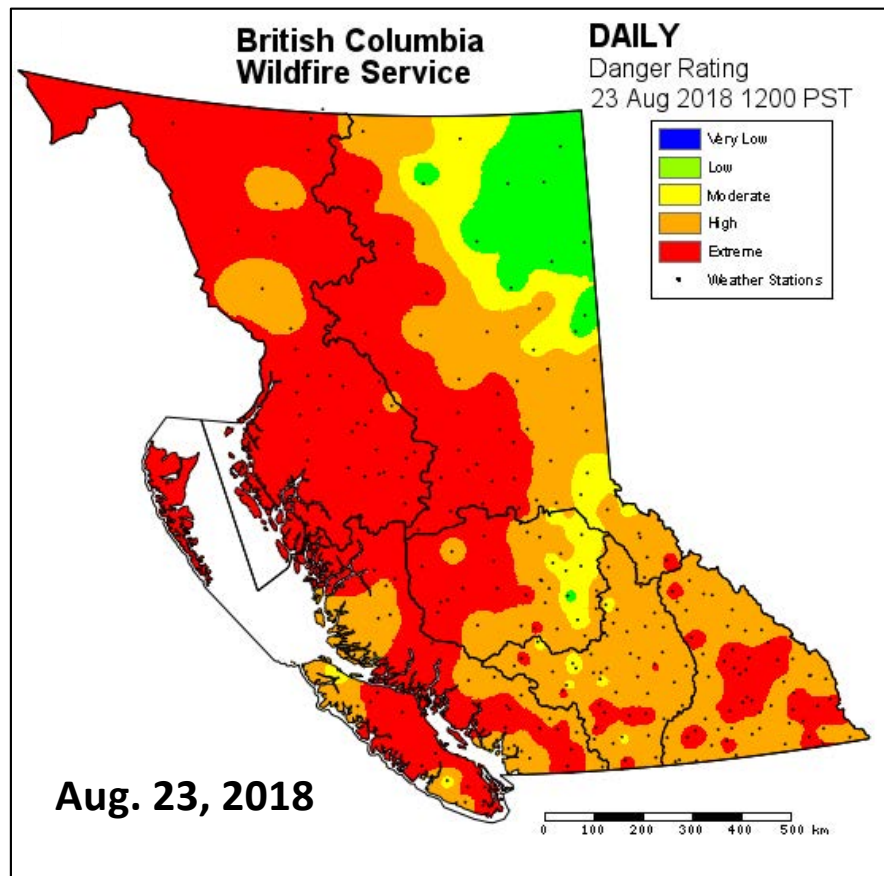
BC Wildfires in 2017 and 2018 have burned more area than the previous 25 years. Approximately 4% of the forested area of BC has burned in the last 2 fire seasons.

9:34 AM - Aug 30, 2018

81 134 people are talking about this

## 2017 & 2018

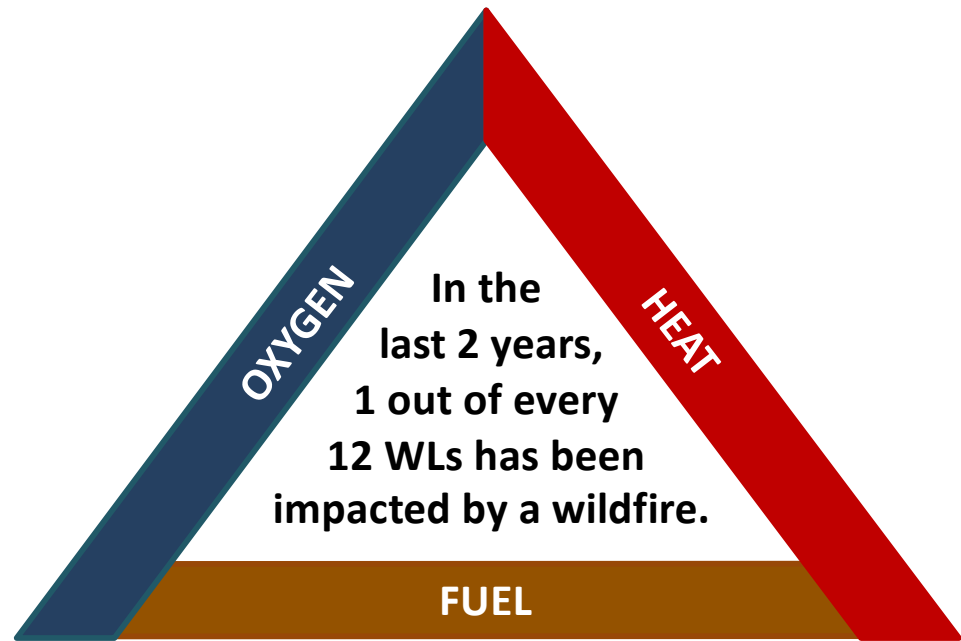
- More hectares burned than in the previous 25 years combined
- Approx. 4% of BC's forested area





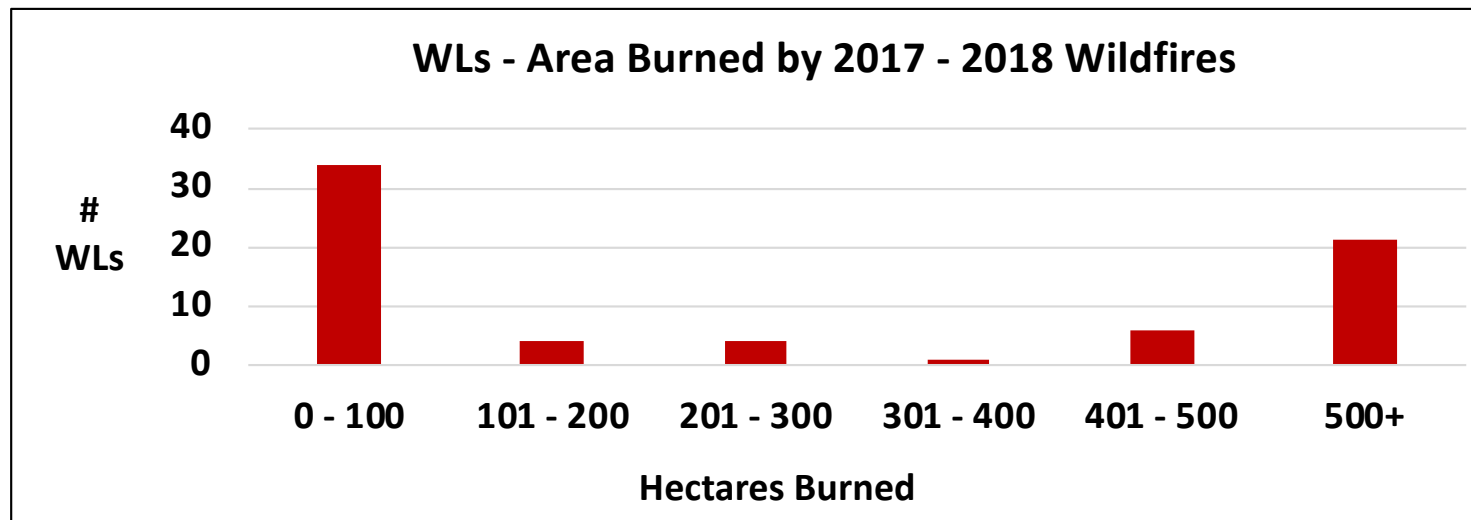
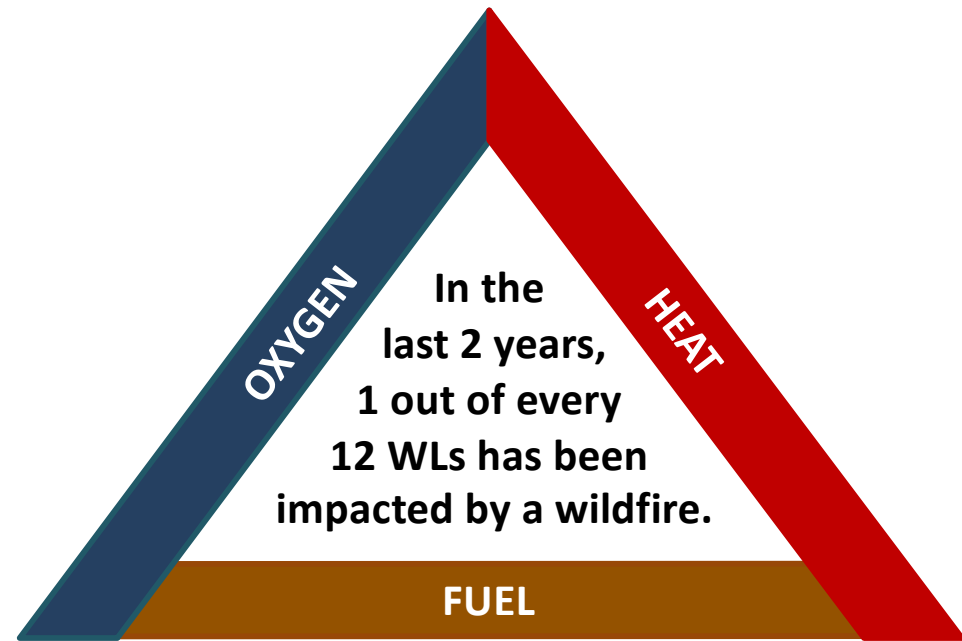
## Woodlot Licences impacted by wildfires in 2017 & 2018

Year	# of WLs	Total ha burned
2018	33	10,187.1
2017	37	9,409.1
Total	70	19,596.2



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The public are now starting to understand the full impacts of the wildfires...

- Medical Issues
- Mental Health
- Trauma
- Smoke
- Water Quality
- Recreation
- Tourism
- Mudslides
- Highway closures
- BC Wine
- Etc.

