



Forest Enhancement  
Society of British Columbia

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Regional District of  
East Kootenay

March 2, 2020

**Re: Forest Enhancement Society of BC Accomplishments Update**

Dear Regional District Directors of East Kootenay (Regional District),

British Columbians are concerned about climate change along with other environmental, social, and economic concerns. We want to know what our governments are doing to protect communities from wildfire risk, improve wildlife habitat, reduce greenhouse gases, expand the bio-economy, and enhance B.C.'s forests. The enclosed Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC) Accomplishments Update provides a snapshot of the huge amount of work underway in a vast number of communities across British Columbia to address some of these concerns. We hope that you will find this update informative and will share this with your constituents, who we hope are pleased to see real-life projects happening around the province and often close to where they live.

Our forests are a heritage that defines our province. Managed properly, our forests provide important social, economic, and environmental benefits to all British Columbians, in both rural and urban areas. Investing in our forests can enhance the benefits they provide and help to protect them for future generations. As an example, FESBC recently announced \$30 million in grants for 42 new forest fibre utilization projects where First Nations, community forests, and B.C. companies will be using debris piles of wood fibre that would otherwise be slash burned. These piles will instead be chipped and converted to electricity, heat energy, and a variety of pulp products, adding value to this fibre and helping to achieve B.C.'s and Canada's climate change targets.

We can achieve social, environmental, and economic aspirations of British Columbians by investing in forests to reduce our carbon footprint, reduce wildfire risks, enhance habitat, and create jobs. This is a win-win-win on all fronts.

FESBC will be sending you a more comprehensive Accomplishments Report later this year. If you are interested in further information, please visit our website [www.fesbc.ca](http://www.fesbc.ca) or connect with our Executive Director Steve Kozuki at [skozuki@fesbc.ca](mailto:skozuki@fesbc.ca) or 1.778.765.0938.

Wayne Clogg, RPF  
Board Chair, Forest Enhancement Society of BC

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**"Assisting the Province to reduce greenhouse gases, add value to forest fibre, and maintain jobs for workers and communities are some of our key objectives."**

—Wayne Clogg, Board Chair of the Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC)



**Taan Forest**  
HAIDA GWAII

**West Chilcotin Forest Products**  
ANAHIM LAKE

**Cowichan Tribes**  
DUNCAN

**Barkerville Historic Town & Park**  
BARKERVILLE

**Agur Lake Camp**  
SUMMERLAND

## 250 REASONS WHY B.C.'S FORESTS ARE BETTER TODAY

Work done to enhance and protect B.C.'s forests is critical. **Environmentally** for wildlife, greenhouse gas reduction, and responsible land stewardship for future generations; **economically** for workers and communities to thrive; and **socially** for people to enjoy and explore this important asset. The Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC) was established to advance environmental and resource stewardship of the province's forests. Since 2016, the Society has worked with Community Forests, First Nations, Regional Districts, municipalities, Provincial Government agencies, and the forest industry to enhance and protect B.C.'s forests. There are 250 FESBC projects across the province and we invite you to learn more about what's happening, not only in your province, but in your own backyard, too.



Forest Enhancement  
Society of British Columbia

Read more about FESBC funded  
projects across the province inside.





## About FESBC

The B.C. government has invested \$235 million in FESBC with \$233 million allocated as of January 2020 for 250 projects related to greenhouse gas reduction, wildfire risk reduction, reforestation, forest rehabilitation, wildlife habitat restoration, and for raising awareness of the FireSmart program. FESBC's work improves forests while at the same time supports forestry workers, communities, and First Nations throughout the province. The economic benefits generated by FESBC programs greatly exceed the costs of running them and the projects funded so far will create over **\$357 million in economic activity** and over **2,100 full-time-equivalent jobs** in B.C. See five highlighted projects here and learn more about all 250 projects at [www.fesbc.ca](http://www.fesbc.ca).

**FESBC**  
by the  
numbers

**7.1 MILLION TONNES**  
(estimated)

Reducing B.C.'s  
Carbon Footprint

**Planting trees to absorb carbon:** 4.5 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e (carbon dioxide equivalency) cumulatively by 2050. Average cost is \$20/tonne.

**Fertilizing trees to absorb carbon faster:** 800,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e. Average cost is \$11/tonne.

**Utilization of wood fibre to avoid carbon emissions:** 1.8 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e. Average cost is \$30/tonne.

**Did you Know?** 7.1 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e is roughly comparable to taking 1.5 million cars off the road for a year.

**2100<sup>+</sup> FTES**  
Economic Benefits

Projects funded so far will have created over \$357 million in economic activity and over 2,100 full-time-equivalent jobs in British Columbia.

**31%**  
First Nations Involvement

Approximately 31% of FESBC funded projects to date have been led by First Nations proponents or have had significant First Nations participation. That's 67 projects valued at \$72 million.

**\$233 MILLION DOLLARS**

Approved Funding for Projects

Of the \$235 million provided by the B.C. government, FESBC has approved \$233 million to fund projects throughout the province.

### LOCATION: HAIDA GWAI

**PURPOSE:** Forest Rehabilitation & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

**THE CHALLENGE:** the Yakoun River drainage required rehabilitation work to restore habitat for salmon, black bear, and raptors.

**FESBC FUNDING:** \$1,364,972

**THE OUTCOME:** spacing of trees was performed by Haida forest workers to improve the area for wildlife, especially Northern Goshawks and Black Bears. The work also promoted the growth of economically and culturally important cedar trees.

### LOCATION: ANAHIM LAKE

**PURPOSE:** Enhanced Forest Fibre Recovery/Utilization

**THE CHALLENGE:** Ulkatcho First Nation-owned WCFP was required to slash burn large piles of wood waste because they were unable to use the low quality uneconomic wood.

**FESBC FUNDING:** \$1,847,370

**THE OUTCOME:** funding enabled thousands of cubic metres of pulp wood to be transported to the Harmac Pacific Pulp mill in Nanaimo to be made into pulp instead of left in piles along forestry roads and burned.

### LOCATION: DUNCAN

**PURPOSE:** Forest Rehabilitation & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

**THE CHALLENGE:** an area near Skutz Falls Valley required forest restoration as an overpopulation of alder trees lowered cultural values and ecosystem functionality.

**FESBC FUNDING:** \$300,983

**THE OUTCOME:** alder trees were removed by hand and replaced with higher value cedar and spruce species. The project is expected to provide carbon benefits as well as to enhance wildlife habitat.

### LOCATION: BARKERVILLE

**PURPOSE:** Wildfire Risk Mitigation

**THE CHALLENGE:** in 2017, a wildfire travelling 4.5 kms per day came within 12 kms of this irreplaceable historic Canadian asset. A fuel mitigation strategy had to be developed and treatments implemented.

**FESBC FUNDING:** \$403,000

**THE OUTCOME:** thinning and tree removal of 52 hectares was completed and a fire access road built. Residual piles of forest fibre were then chipped and trucked to Cariboo Pulp and Paper for hog fuel to make green energy.

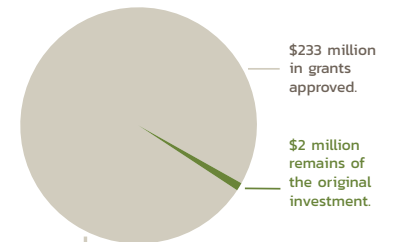
### LOCATION: AGUR LAKE NEAR SUMMERLAND

**PURPOSE:** Wildfire Risk Reduction

**THE CHALLENGE:** Agur Lake Camp, B.C.'s only fully accessible campground for people with disabilities and their families and caregivers, was in an area of high to extreme fire threat.

**FESBC FUNDING:** \$59,409

**THE OUTCOME:** removal of 85% of hazardous fuels from over six hectares to protect campers and critical infrastructure.





## Message from FESBC

We are privileged to work in partnership with the B.C. government and the Government of Canada to fund important projects throughout B.C. In a challenging time for the forestry sector, there are companies, community forests, First Nations organizations, and others working to innovate their processes to greater utilize available forest fibre. Our Society recently funded 42 projects valued at over \$30 million to projects that are making a difference right now. As a result, many cubic metres of woody debris/forest fibre will not be burned in slash piles this winter season but used to fuel a greener economy. This is expected to exceed 1.6 million cubic metres by March 2020. Funding has been committed to continue some of these projects to 2022 to help forest workers and communities who are most in need.

—Wayne Clogg, FESBC Board Chair

## \$30 Million 42 Projects

In our most recent intake, FESBC allocated over \$30 million in grants for 42 projects throughout B.C. that will help increase utilization of wood fibre that otherwise would have been openly burned in slash piles. Instead, this wood fibre will now be turned into electricity, heat energy, and a variety of pulp products to help achieve B.C.'s and Canada's climate change targets.

Here are a few project highlights:

Nearest Community	Project Partner	Utilized Forest Fibre Estimates (cubic metres = m <sup>3</sup> )	FESBC Funding
Burns Lake	Pinnacle Renewable Energy Inc.	87,000 m <sup>3</sup>	\$929,314
Fort St. James	Sasuchan Development Corporation	59,000 m <sup>3</sup>	\$435,235
Mackenzie	Mackenzie Pulp Mill Corporation	143,000 m <sup>3</sup>	\$1,000,000
Port McNeill	Strategic Natural Resource Consultants Inc.	19,000 m <sup>3</sup>	\$278,938
Terrace	Terrace Community Forest	30,000 m <sup>3</sup>	\$443,400
Nakusp	Nakusp and Area Community Forest	1,600 m <sup>3</sup>	\$19,909
Barkerville	Barkerville Historic Town & Park	9,000 m <sup>3</sup>	\$160,000



## Learn More

If you'd like to learn more about the Forest Enhancement Society of BC and how the forest industry is helping to fight climate change, reduce wildfire risk, and keep workers employed through our funded projects, connect with us!

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