

2018 / 2019 Alberta FireSmart Project Reporting

Each fiscal year, Wildfire Management Branch allocates budget under the provincial FireSmart program to conduct projects that educate the public, strengthen partnerships and help reduce the hazards and risks associated with wildfire.

Local Forest Area staff work with various stakeholders and partners to plan different initiatives which fall into one or more of the seven disciplines of FireSmart. Projects completed with this funding are restricted to implementation in the Forest Protection Area.

To learn more about Alberta's FireSmart Program visit <http://wildfire.alberta.ca/firesmart/>.

Calgary Forest Area – \$180,400

- I. Community Engagement Displays, Education
 - Upkeep of FireSmart public outreach and education materials;
- II. FireSmart Public Events, Education
 - Funding for 'Stewardship Days' events in several communities across the Forest Area;
- III. Canmore Nordic Centre, Vegetation Management
 - Continuing project work in partnership with Alberta Parks involving fuel treatment maintenance and blowdown removal;
- IV. West Castle Fuel Modification, Vegetation Management
 - Continuation of fuel treatments and maintenance in the West Castle area.

Rocky Mountain House Forest Area – \$526,600

- I. Goldeye FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Aspen was planted in previously fuel treatment areas as part of a larger species conversion initiative. As well, maintenance was performed on existing fuel treatments;
- II. Ferrier FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Completion of fuels treatments as part of the Ferrier FireSmart Project;
- III. Horburg FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments conducted as maintenance for existing areas if FireSmart work.

Edson Forest Area – \$273,200

- I. FireSmart Maintenance, Vegetation Management
 - Maintenance of existing fuel treatments in the Edson Forest Area; specifically targeting encroachment of invasive species into treated areas;
- II. Debris Disposal Audits, Vegetation Management
 - Auditing of timber harvest areas to ensure compliance with debris management standards;

- III. Interagency FireSmart Planning, Emergency Planning
 - Meetings with municipal partners, from across the Forest Area, to evaluate current FireSmart work and plan for future initiatives;
- IV. FireSmart Public Events, Education
 - Sponsoring of local homeowner community events and FireSmart work bees;
- V. Yellowhead Corridor Wildfire Mitigation Strategy, Emergency Planning
 - Major revisions were required for the existing corridor FireSmart plan.

Whitecourt Forest Area – \$18,400

- I. GOA Facility Projects, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments to reduce hazard around priority government structures;
- II. FireSmart Education, Education
 - Funding to implement various aspects of FireSmart education in the Whitecourt Forest Area.

Grande Prairie Forest Area – \$114,400

- I. Grovedale Wildfire Preparedness Guide, Emergency Planning
 - In partnership with the MD of Greenview, a Wildfire Preparedness Guide is in development for the hamlet of Grovedale;
- II. GOA Facility Projects, Vegetation Management
 - Reduction of hazardous fuels around priority government structures;
- III. FireSmart Education, Education
 - Funding provided for public education, outreach and community events with respect to FireSmart;
- IV. Grande Prairie Hazard and Risk Assessment, Emergency Planning
 - Wildfire hazard and risk analysis for community zones areas within the Grande Prairie Forest Area.

Slave Lake Forest Area – \$345,300

- I. Wabasca FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments in the wildland urban interface. A continuation of fuel treatments in black spruce stands as identified in the Wildfire Mitigation Strategy;
- II. Peerless Lake, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments in the wildland urban interface. A continuation of fuel treatments in black spruce stands as identified in the Wildfire Mitigation Strategy;
- III. Chip Lake FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments conducted to maintain existing fire breaks;
- IV. Gift Lake FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments in the wildland urban interface. A continuation of fuel treatments in black spruce stands as identified in the Wildfire Mitigation Strategy;

- V. Trout Lake FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments in the wildland urban interface. This project will serve as a benchmark for future FireSmart initiatives in the community;
- VI. Grouard FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments in the wildland urban interface. This project will serve as a benchmark for future FireSmart initiatives in the community;
- VII. Marten Beach, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments in the wildland urban interface. This was a joint project conducted alongside Alberta Parks to reduce wildfire risk near the community.

Lac La Biche Forest Area – \$132,600

- I. Lawrence Lake FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Maintenance of existing fuel treatments recommended in the Lesser Slave Region Wildfire Mitigation Strategy from 2017;
- II. Calling Lake FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Continuation of fuel treatments in black spruce as identified in the Wildfire Mitigation Strategy;
- III. Conklin FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - New fuel treatments and maintenance of existing treatments near the hamlet of Conklin.

Peace River Forest Area – \$116,000

- I. Little Buffalo FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - New fuel treatments near the community of Little Buffalo.

Fort McMurray Forest Area – \$106,900

- I. GOA Facility Projects, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments to reduce hazard around priority government structures;
- II. Fort McKay Fire Break, Vegetation Management
 - Removal of debris remaining from firebreak creation over fifty-eight hectares;
- III. Fort McKay Cross Training, Cross Training
 - Escaped wildfire training exercise involving Wildfire Management Branch, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and local industry partners.

High Level Forest Area – \$274,278

- I. Rainbow Lake FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Continued implementation of fuel treatments as per the Rainbow Lake Mitigation Strategy;

- II. Zama FireSmart, Vegetation Management
 - Continued implementation of fuel treatments as per the Zama City Mitigation Strategy.

Edmonton FireSmart Unit – \$130,625

- I. FireSmart for Provincial Forest Genetic Sites, Vegetation Management
 - Fuel treatments for provincial genetic sites conducted in the Lac La Biche Forest Area;
- II. FireSmart Community Series, Education
 - Funding for hosting the 2018 FireSmart Community Series in Fort McMurray, Alberta. This event provides community leaders with information and partnerships required to implement successful and locally driven FireSmart programs;
- III. FireSmart Guide to Landscaping Update, Education
 - Required update for the FireSmart Guide to Landscaping.

Total FireSmart Spending (2018/2019) – \$2,218,600