

March 16, 2022

Munro Prescribed Burn

Project Partners

Penticton Indian Band, BC Wildfire Service, Okanagan Nation Alliance, Gorman Brothers Ltd and Okanagan Shuswap Resource District

PROJECT HISTORY

The success of this project is the product of hard-earned relationships between local First Nations (PIB and ONA), local industry (Gorman's), the Provincial Government and FESBC. It has successfully combined timber harvesting in the Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB) with cultural-ecological restoration at a landscape level and has provided a template to model and improve on as the forestry sector, Indigenous rights and reconciliation and ecosystem stewardship continue to innovate.

Objectives

- To reduce wildfire risk, increase forest stand values, protect ecological values and enhance cultural resource values.
- Reduce fire hazard to 'low to moderate'.
- Fibre recovery.

Goals

- Contribute to a landscape level fuel break protecting Summerland and Peachland and surrounding rural development from wildfire risk.
- Restore forest ecosystem functions associated with a complex stand structure and low intensity stand maintaining fire regime.
- Enhance wildlife habitat, particularly mule deer winter range, where fire suppression and forest ingrowth has led to sub-par understory shrub growth, limiting food sources such as red stem ceanothus and willow for ungulate species.



If you would like to be included in future email updates for the Munro Prescribed Burn or other future projects in this area please reply to this email address: Nicole.Bonnett@gov.bc.ca

An email distribution list for this project and geographic area is being established to provide updates to interested community members moving forward.



Ministry of
Forests, Lands and
Natural Resource Operations



GORMAN
The Finest Boards

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Goals continued

- Cultural resources include food plant species, mule deer and a variety of sensitive medicinal and spiritual resources. The project will enhance these values by restoring the reciprocal relationship between the people and the landscape- resources flourish when they are taken care of.

- Maximize utilization of undersized trees by taking the fibre to a processing facility

Results to date

- Stem count reduction from ~350 stems/ha to 75.

- Identification and preservation of cultural, ecological and social values.

- Contributing to landscape level fuel break.

- 2 400 m3 of pulp fibre recovered

- 7 000 m3 of merchantable timber harvested

- Strengthened relationships between local industry, local First Nations and Provincial Government.

- Established model for continued partnership on ecosystem restoration harvesting projects.

- Burn plan



Riparian area located within treatment unit but has been excluded from treatment.



Heavy equipment (forwarder) working during operational treatment.



Project Partners

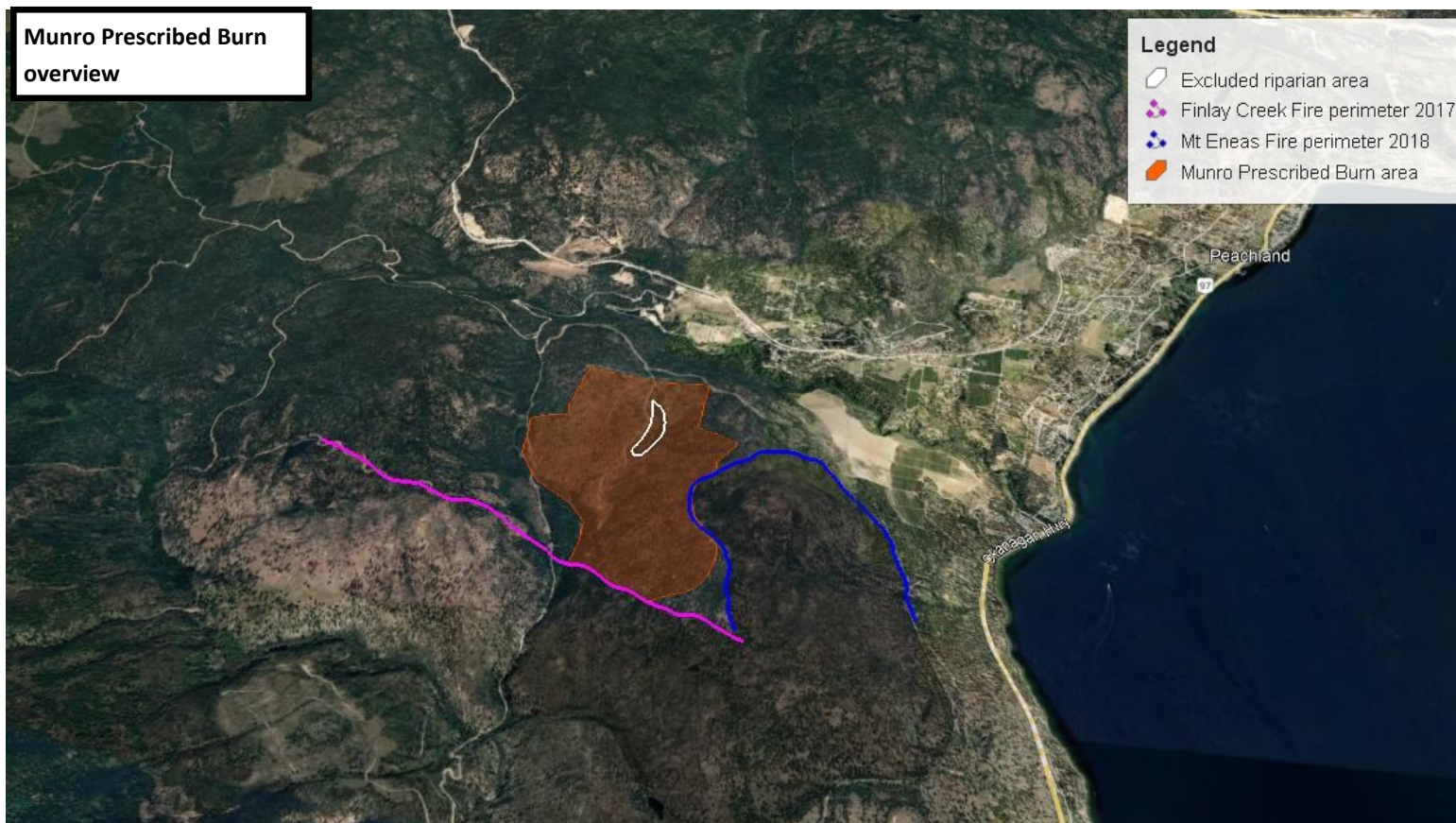
Penticton Indian Band, BC Wildfire Service, Okanagan Nation Alliance, Gorman Brothers Ltd and Okanagan Shuswap Resource District

PROJECT DETAILS

Area: 170 ha

Objectives: community protection, ecosystem restoration and habitat improvement for mule deer winter range and enhancement for Indigenous cultural values in the area. The project also supports the traditional use of fire as a tool to improve the landscape.

Timing: Implementation is set to occur this spring, 2022, conditions permitting





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Benefits

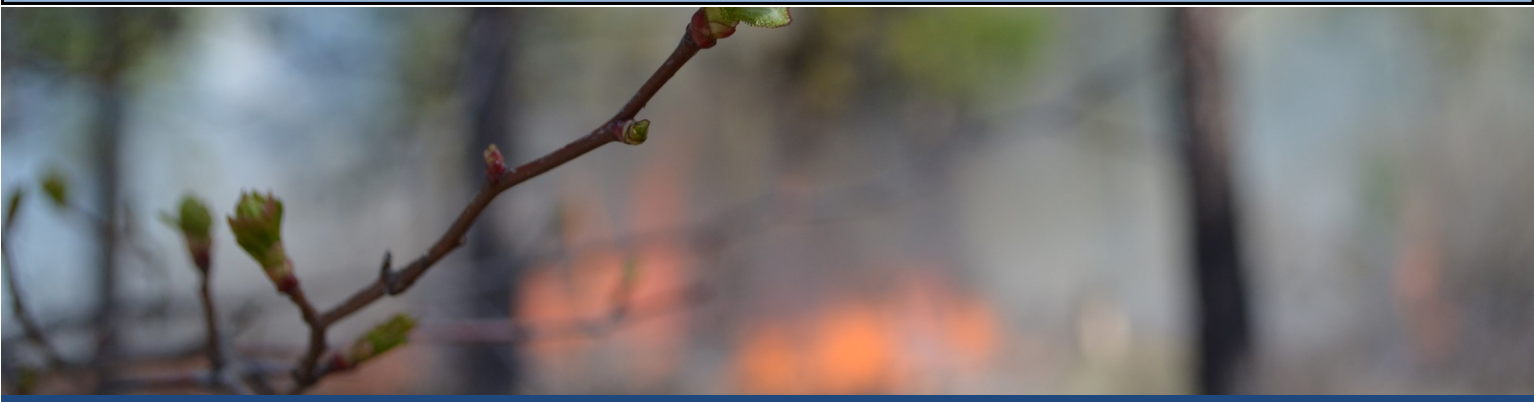
Syilx Territory, and the Thompson-Okanagan region have historically been maintained by fire events. Active fire suppression tactics have led to vegetation ingrowth and extreme fuel loading throughout Syilx Territory. Combined with climate change, fire suppression has led to longer, more intense, and more destructive wildfire seasons and a less resilient forest ecosystem. A less resilient forest ecosystem degrades cultural, ecological and social values, increases threats to communities and infrastructure, and provides fewer natural resources, including timber supply.

To learn more about learn more about Cultural and Prescribed Fire please visit: prescribedfire.ca

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Please note this distribution list will remain private and will only be used to communicate updates for projects based on the individuals preferences.



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