

22.0 Fire Interface

Goals

Accurately identify and map the high hazard and high risk fire interface areas in the community.

Reduce the fire hazard and risk in the interface areas of Vernon.

Context

This section identifies the high hazard and high risk fire interface areas in Vernon and provides policy to reduce fire hazard in these areas of the community. Wildfire is a natural part of the forest and grassland ecosystems in the Vernon area. As development encroaches into these undeveloped areas of the community, wildfire interface areas are created, increasing the risk of wildfire moving from the natural area to the developed area. As wildland forest and grass fires are capable of spreading at an astonishing rate, the best protection is through prevention.



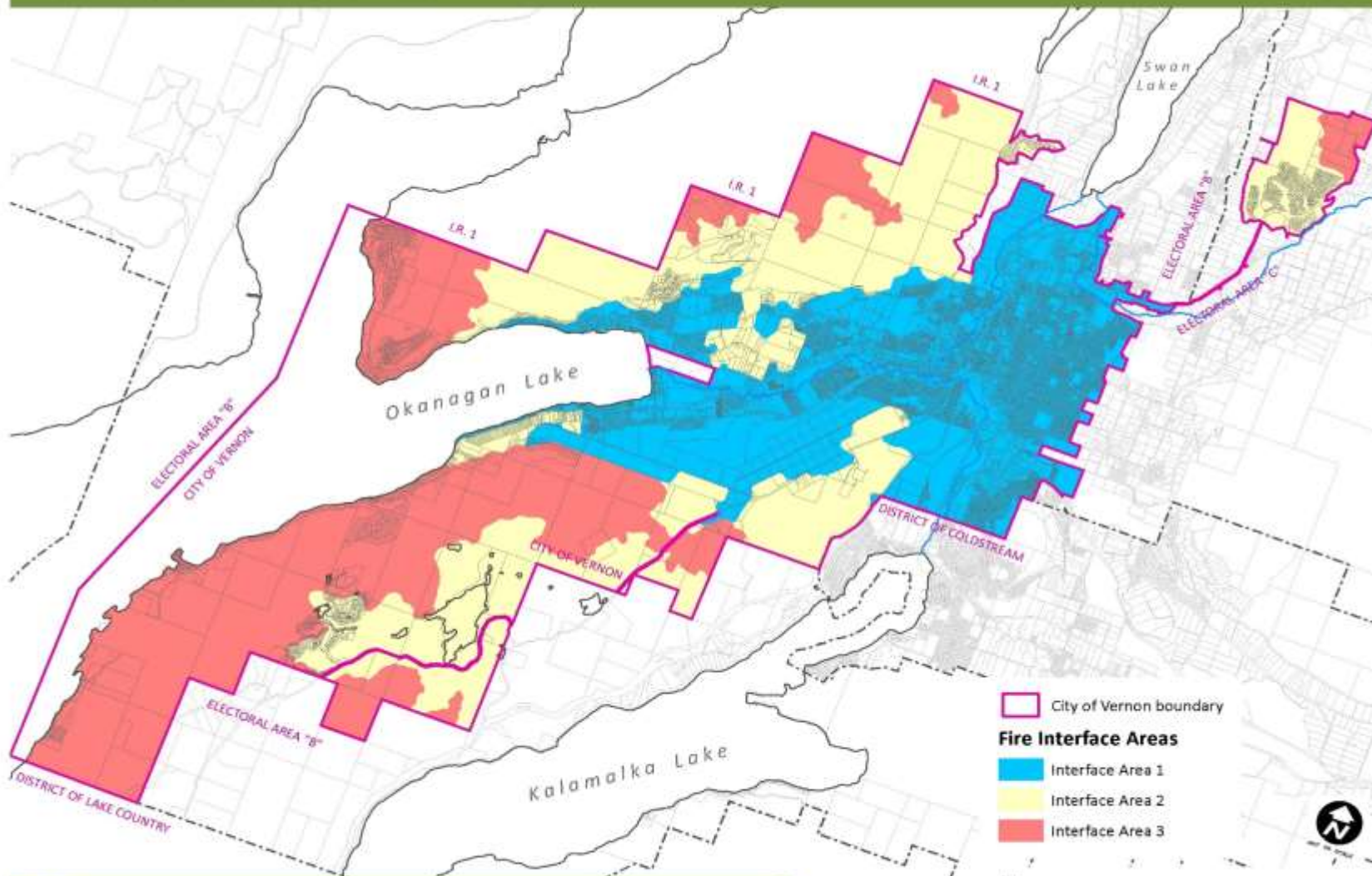
In 2014, the City of Vernon undertook the development of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) to provide detailed guidance for the creation of policy to reduce the risk of wildfires and their impact on people and property. This CWPP identified wildfire threats that could impact development in the city, maps treatment areas, makes recommendations that would assist in reducing these threats, and provides specific policy recommendations to guide development in interface areas. Detailed policies for development in fire interface areas can be found in Chapter 26 Development Permit Areas (All Areas).

Supporting Policies

- 22.1 Endorse the use of the Vernon Community Wildfire Protection Plan, as amended, as the guiding document for management of fire risk and for wildfire protection in the community.
- 22.2 Development proposals in Interface Areas 2 and 3, illustrated in Map 11, should be designed to comply with FireSmart BC guidelines and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, as amended. Further, ensure that best practices are being followed both during the development process and

following occupancy. Development Permit policies are found in Chapter 26 Development Permit Areas (All Areas).

- 22.3 Support the use of site specific Wildfire Interface Management and Mitigation Plans (WIP) as part of development proposals.
- 22.4 Encourage clustered development in Interface Areas 2 and 3 in Map 11.
- 22.5 Encourage the development of trails in neighbourhoods in Interface Areas 2 and 3 to be designed as fire breaks, where feasible.
- 22.6 The Vernon Fire Department shall formulate and implement a 'Fire Smart' public awareness campaign as outlined in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.



Date:
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