

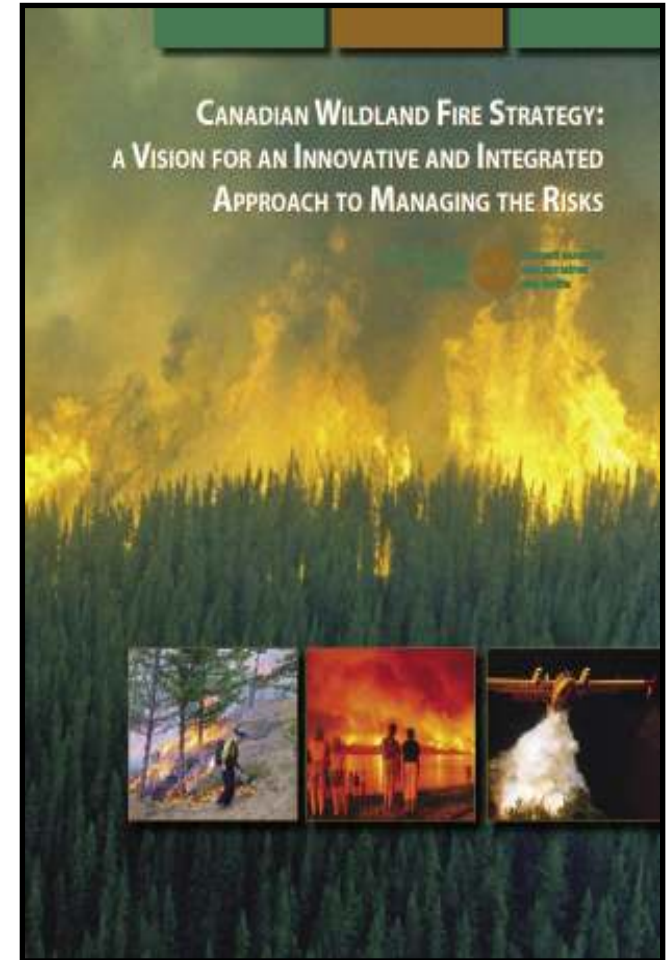
Wildland Fire Canada

**Kitchener - Waterloo
October 5-7, 2010**

**Ralph Wheeler, Director, Aviation and Forest Fire and
Emergency Services**

State of Wildfire policy

- **Education and Awareness**
- **Fire Smart**
- **Fire Response and preparedness**
- **Innovation**



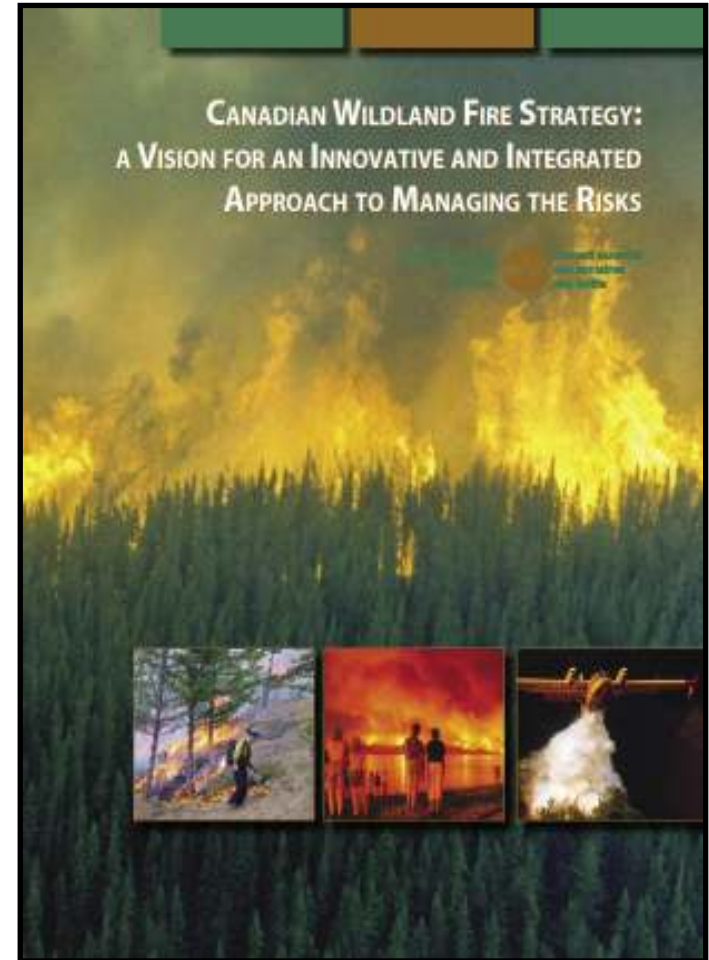
CWFS Declaration

- Resilient Communities, empowered public
- Healthy and productive ecosystems
- Modern business practices



Progress on the CWFS

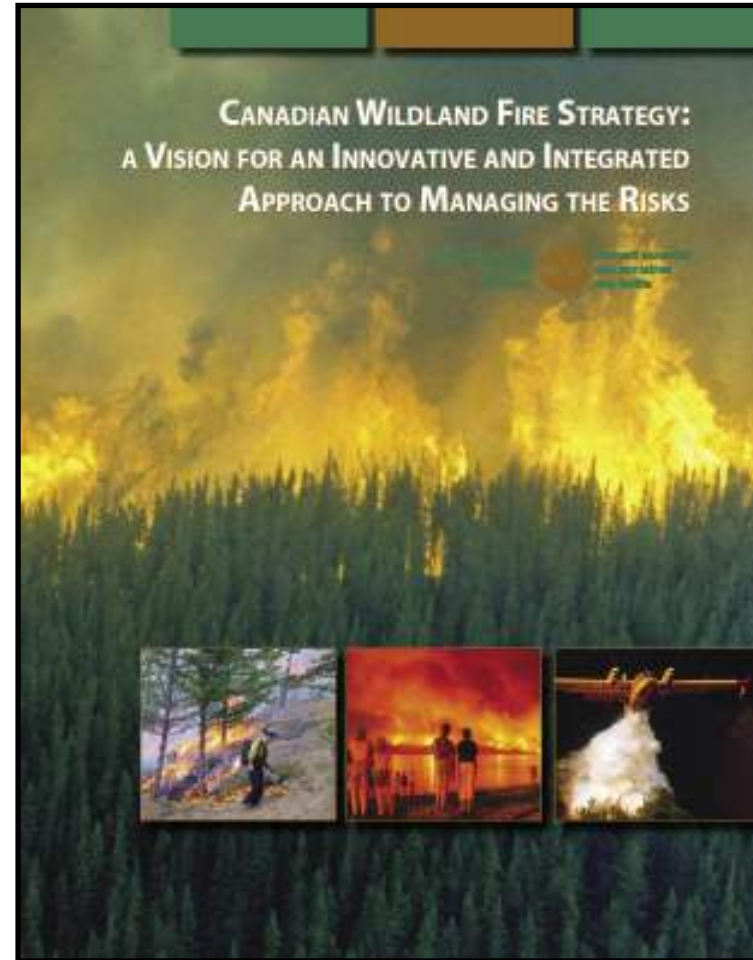
- **Summary**
All provincial/territorial jurisdictions have made some progress, within their limited resources, on the implementation of the CWFS, but the comprehensive CWFS implementation plan and cost sharing agreement envisioned in 2005 has not been achieved.



2008 Implementation Plan

- **Maximize inter-jurisdiction cooperation**
- **Develop interagency response and advisory capacity**
- **Ensure resource availability for response**
- **Coordinate FireSmart and fuel mitigation**
- **Enhance mutual aid and resource sharing**

Progress is slow, slow, slow.



WHAT ELSE HAS BEEN DONE

PROMOTION

- LOBBY AT POLITICAL LEVELS
- AGENCY DRIVEN AGENDA
- CCFM RECOGNITION OF WORKING GROUP
- INTERNATIONAL PROMOTION
- ALIGN WITH EVENTS
- LINK TO NATIONAL POLICY AGENDA

CIFFC STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS



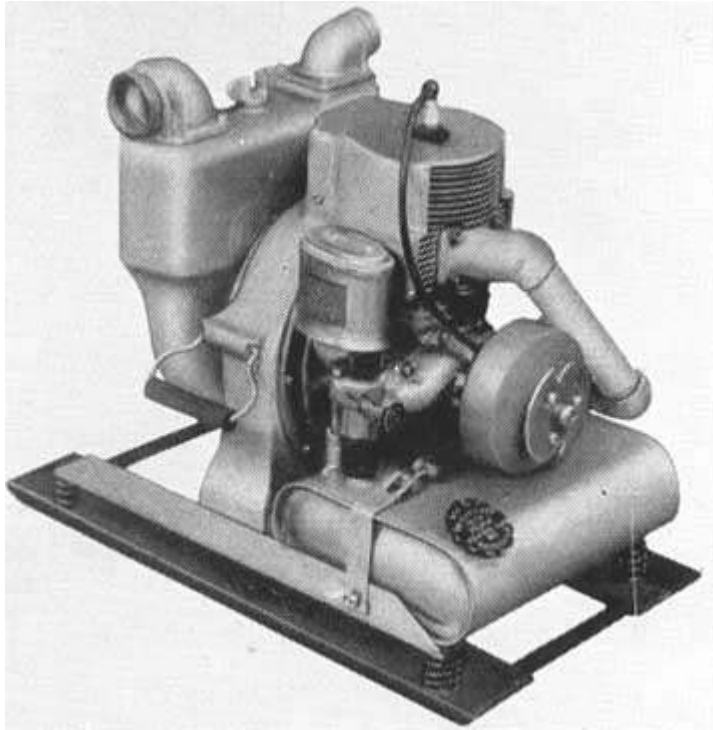
So why haven't we been able to achieve the CWFS vision of 2005

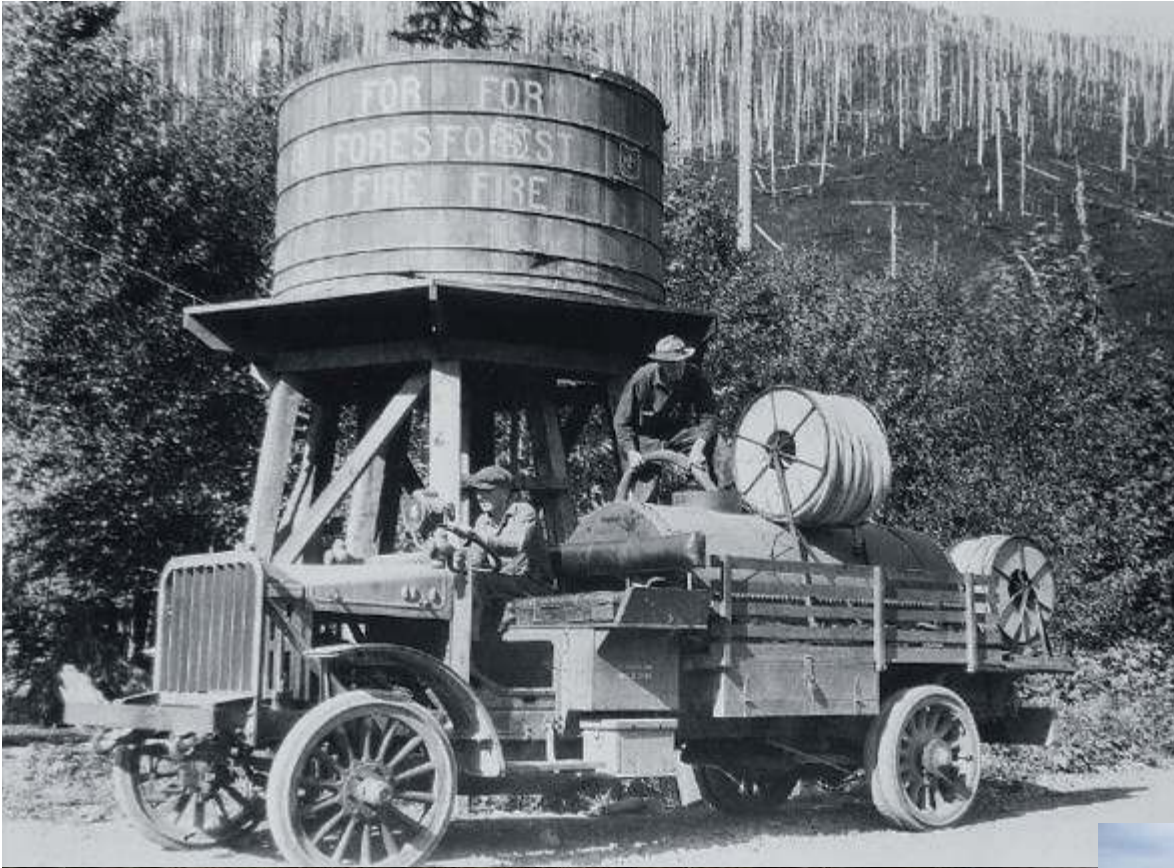
- We have commitment of Minister level without commitment of additional resources.**
- Public recognition and understanding of the issue is poor, not policy driven**
- Academia and civil servants are already in the choir.**
- Its not a policy gap but an implementation gap.**

Is the CWFS still a viable mechanism?

- **At a national scale, beyond mutual aid sharing, we lack a coordinated implementation**
- **At the Provincial Territorial scale, Each jurisdiction gets the job done.**
- **Depends on the expectations.???**

INNOVATION











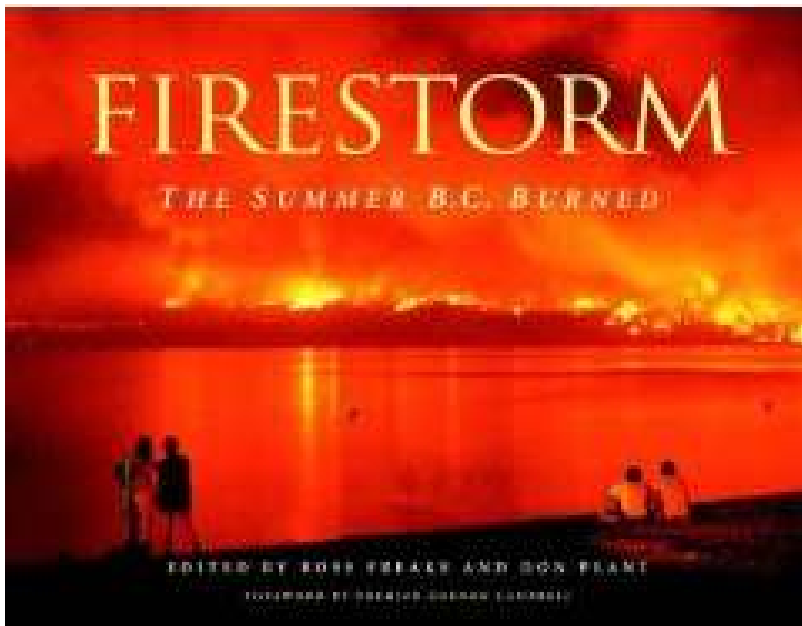
WE ADDAPT

- **Shrinking budgets.**
- **Changing population distribution, wildland urban interface.**
- **Workforce demographics, knowledge loss.**
- **Decline in access to traditional workforce**
- **Uncertain but obvious issues with climate change.**
- **Struggle to achieve landscape targets for manage fire.**
- **Risk management is poorly utilized**
- **Expanding protection for Far North, Infrastructure dependant on just in time delivery.**
- **Increasing litigation**
- **Administrative workload is outstripping resources related to HR, purchasing, legal, safety, IT,**



The definition of an insane person is one who continues to do the same things repeatedly yet expects different results.

Are we insane?



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Are we insane?

