

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** J. Zaffino, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** October 17, 2024

**RE:** **Crater Creek Post-Wildfire Natural Hazard Risk Analysis**

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**Purpose:**

To inform the Board of the preliminary results of the 2023 Crater Creek Post-Wildfire Natural Hazard Risk Analysis (PWNHRA).

**Reference:**

Crater Creek PWNHRA Preliminary Results (Issued for Use) September 12, 2024 - [ATTACHED]

**Background:**

The Ministry of Forests - Wildfire Service contracted Clarke Geoscience Ltd. to conduct the 2023 Crater Creek Post-Wildfire Natural Hazard Risk Analysis (PWNHRA) on their behalf. The purpose of the analysis is to estimate the likelihood for post-fire natural hazards and their potential risk and impact, and to inform potential mitigation activities.

**Analysis:**

Preliminary results identify priority sites based on completed field work that may be at increased risk of hazard due to hydrological effect such as faster runoff and higher peak flows related to loss of forest cover or hydrophobic soil, or geomorphic effects such as increased soil erosion, landslides and debris flow, and sediment or debris transportation.

Areas identified as having high to very high levels of risk include:

- Slopes and gullies upslope of Ashnola Rd, to approximately 16km.
- Catchment areas and fans within the Lower Ashnola River watershed, including Red Bridge Creek, Crater Creek, Webster Creek, Ewart Creek, And Lakeview Creek.
- Fan areas associated with catchments on the West side of the Lower Similkameen River valley within and adjacent to the Chopaka 7 & 8 IR, Lower Similkameen 2 IR, Narcisse's Farm IR, and Range 13 IR.

The report provides preliminary recommended mitigation measures, including increased awareness, monitoring, and emergency preparedness activities. The report recommends strong consideration of weather-based early warning systems.

**Financial Implications:**

Potential costs of future mitigation activities related to the report findings and recommendations.

**Alternatives:**

The Board may choose not to accept the findings of this report, and its associated recommendations.

**Communication Strategy:**

The report will be made available to the public, and efforts will be made to ensure owners and residents of properties in the affected areas are aware of the initial findings, and where to find additional information.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Shane Houlihan*

S. Houlihan, Emergency Program Coordinator