



Chilko Fire - Nuntsi Provincial Park Update

In 2003, the Chilko fire burned 30,000 hectares of forest in the Chilcotin, including approximately 90 percent of the forested portion of Nuntsi Provincial Park. In 2004, the Board investigated the effectiveness of rehabilitation treatments on this fire and others. In its report, the Board noted that although fire guards and other disturbed sites were seeded with grass, germination was almost non-existent at the time of the site visits. The Board report is available at: [http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca/special/investigations/SIR12/Fire_Rehab_Plans\(SIR12\).pdf](http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca/special/investigations/SIR12/Fire_Rehab_Plans(SIR12).pdf).

After the fire, BC Parks established plots in the park to assess the effects of wildfire and fire guards on ecosystem health and function. In October 2005, a wildfire effects monitoring report was released, including a number of photographs taken shortly after the fire and again at the same locations a year later. Interestingly, fire guards are successfully revegetating with native species, and not with grass that was applied after the fire.

The BC Parks report is available at:

http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca/special/investigations/SIR12/Nuntsi_Fire_Monitoring_Report_2005.pdf.

Special thanks to Glen Davidson of the Ministry of Environment and Doug Walker of the Cariboo Fire Centre for this information.