

City of Kelowna Okanagan Mountain Fire 2003



- 25,912 ha burned
- 239 homes lost
- 30,000 people evacuated
- Deeper, Bertram, Lebanon and Varty Creeks 100% burned
- Priest, KLO and Bellevue Creeks 40-50% burned

Environmental Impacts of Fire

- Increased erosion of surface soils
- Increased sedimentation of creeks
- Debris flows and floods
- Changes in runoff and peak flows
- Shallow translational slides
- Loss of fish and wildlife habitat
- Hydrophobic Soils



Responses to Impacts



Grass Seeding early spring and late summer



Culvert upgrades at Bertram and Lebanon creeks



- **Provincial Grass Seeding:** government aerial seeded 7,850 ha of crown and private land in late 2003.
- **City of Kelowna Culvert Improvements:** spent 2 million dollars upgrading culvert crossing to anticipate the increased flows due to the loss of trees and hydrophobic soils
- **City of Kelowna's Central Okanagan Post Fire Rehabilitation Project**
 - started restoration work at 4 high priority sites in 2004
 - 2005 will see the continuation of restoration work started in 2004
 - 35,000 trees and shrubs have been planted in 2005 to accelerate natural recovery



Contour Log Falling



Stump Revetment



Live Staking