

# THE HISTORY THAT LED TO SIFCo 1974 - 2002

Residents of the Slocan Valley had been dreaming and working towards community management of the forest that surrounds them since the mid-1970s



**Between 1974-1978 The Slocan Valley Plan is developed and released.** This was a landmark community-driven initiative aimed at guiding land use and development in the Slocan Valley. It emphasized local control, environmental stewardship, and sustainable resource management.



**The Slocan Valley Watershed Alliance (SVWA) is formed,** becoming the first area in North America to have a resident-led, bioregional-wide Watershed Alliance. This Alliance consisted of multiple watershed user groups advocating for water protection and local decision making in regards to logging.



**The Hasty Creek Protest,** just south of Silverton BC, was the largest resident arrest in Canadian history at the time, with 83 arrests. That year also saw the formation of **The Silva Forest Foundation led by Herb Hammond.**



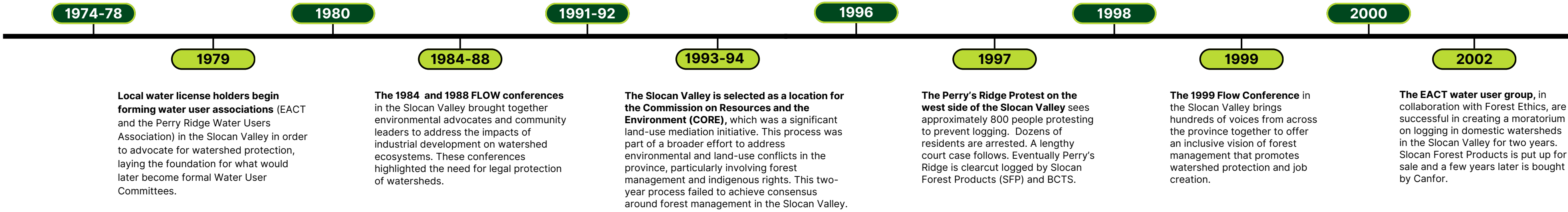
**The Slocan Valley Ecosystem- Based Plan** is released by the Slocan Valley Watershed Alliance and The Silva Forest Foundation, proposing a valley-wide community forest managed by and for the residents of the Slocan Valley. Although unsuccessful, this created the foundation for the Community Forest program to begin across British Columbia.



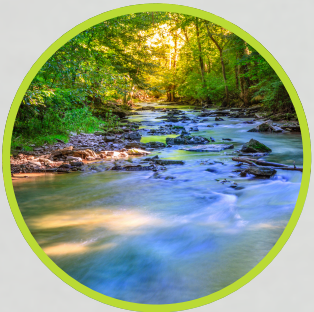
**The Hills Protest** - Slocan Valley residents gathered near Hills at the mouth of Bonanza Creek to protest planned logging in the surrounding watershed, calling for a moratorium to protect old-growth forests in BC. The first five pilot community forests are awarded in British Columbia.



**The Trozzo Creek Protest** leads to more resident arrests. Slocan Forest Products goes ahead and begins logging in the Trozzo Watershed.



# THE CREATION AND EVOLUTION OF SIFCo 2003 - 2025



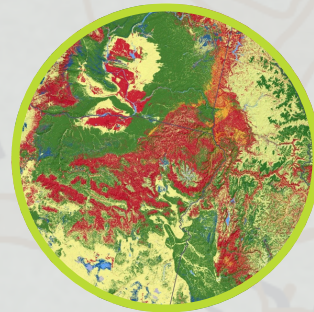
**The Minister of Forests announces the availability of Community Forest Licenses** as part of a broader tenure reallocation process in BC. Members of the Red Mountain Residents' Association, EACT & the Winlaw Watershed Committee begin a partnership to apply jointly for a Community Forest. These three groups formed the core of what became SIFCo.



Community meetings are held, the proposal receives over 70 letters of support from local governments, businesses, community organizations and individuals. **This led to an official invitation by the provincial government to apply for a Community Forest in the Slocan Valley.**



**The Springer Creek Wildfire occurs (the largest wildfire event in the Slocan Valley in decades).** SIFCo's CFA application is successful. Twenty-five years of residents' efforts leads to a portion of the Slocan Valley being managed by local residents.



**SIFCo imports Flammap from the U.S. Forest Service** and develops a first-of-its-kind Landscape-Level Strategic Wildfire Protection Plan for the Slocan Valley. SIFCo spends the next decade implementing this plan.

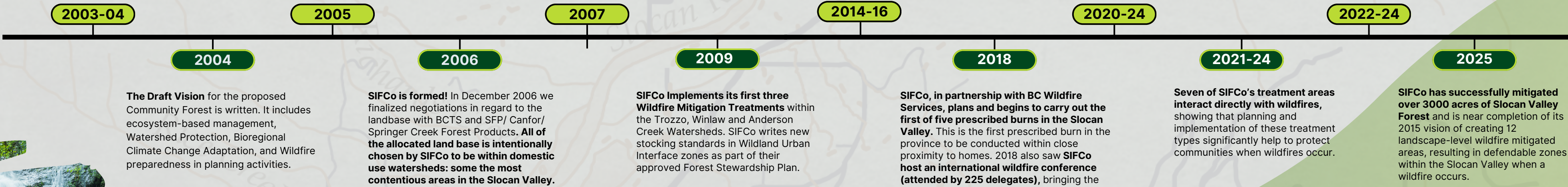


**Wildfire becomes a very common occurrence in The Slocan Valley**

- 2020 Talbott Wildfire
- 2021 Lemon/Trozzo/Winlaw Wildfire
- 2024 Slocan Lake Complex Wildfire



**SIFCo enters into an agreement with the Appledale Progressive Association in order to create a Resiliency Centre** for the Slocan Valley. The centre opens at the beginning of one of the worst fire seasons in recent history in the valley, the "Slocan Complex Wildfire of 2024".



SIFCo