



# OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT



EXHIBIT B-10  
30 Pages

## OLYMPIC VALLEY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN

**DATE:** April 23, 2021

**TO:** District Board Members

**FROM:** Jessica Asher, Board Secretary

**SUBJECT:** Olympic Valley Community Wildfire Protection Plan – Project Kickoff

**BACKGROUND:** In response to increased concern about wildfire danger, earlier this year, the District executed a consulting contract with Deer Creek Resources and Wildland Rx to prepare a *Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)* with support from the Olympic Valley Firewise Community members including Friends of Squaw Valley, Squaw Valley Resort, and the Resort at Squaw Creek. The cost to prepare the CWPP is \$28,800 and is expected to be complete by April 2022. The CWPP will identify and prioritize the fuels reduction and wildfire prevention strategy for Olympic Valley Fire Department's jurisdiction. A CWPP will address issues such as wildfire response, hazard mitigation, community preparedness, home hardening, and/or structure protection. A CWPP will allow our community to take advantage of the opportunities associated with being a *Firewise Community* and be eligible for potential grant funding for forest management activities. The plan will include all interest groups and stakeholders within the Valley, address a broad range of wildfire protection issues, establish a well-defined fuels management program, and define public safety priorities.

**DISCUSSION:** The project was kicked off this past month with a virtual meeting held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> as described in Task 1 of the project scope, '*Convene Decision Makers.*' The project team was introduced, which includes Mike Geary, Chief Riley, Captain De Deo, and Jessica Asher representing the District; David Stepner representing the Firewise Council, Friends of Squaw Valley and the Community; and the Consulting team including Paul Lackovic of Deer Creek Resources, Barry Callenberger of Wildland Rx and Jeff Dowling, registered professional forester.

The Team discussed the schedule, scope and contract administration and initiated work on Task 1 and 2 of the scope. The consulting team, lead by Mr. Lackovic will work with the District, other agencies, and stakeholders to assemble an initial base map. This map will include data such as the topography

(elevation, slope, aspect), vegetation, and the sphere of influence of the project. The sphere of influence is the boundary of the CWPP and does not need to be coterminous with the District or Firewise community boundaries. It may make sense to consider using the watershed boundaries or abut existing CWPP boundaries. Neighboring CWPP areas (i.e. North Tahoe, Northstar, and Truckee) will be identified so we do not duplicate their work and so that we can identify possible cooperative fire mitigation efforts.

After a draft base map is developed, the team will have an initial project design meeting with the community and stakeholders. This could include the District; funding partners; agencies such as the United States Forest Service (USFS), CalFIRE, Placer County, and peer Fire Departments; large landowners; and Firewise Council representatives. The purpose of this initial meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for mid-June, is to develop fuel reduction projects for high-hazard areas with a known hazard of structural ignitability. Stakeholders will be present at the meeting to share their issues, concerns, and opportunities, and contribute their knowledge of the firescape.

After the initial project design meeting, the consultant team would continue work on the CWPP- developing fire behavior models; determining priorities to protect life, property, and infrastructure; and establishing recommendations to reduce fuels and structural ignitability. After a draft CWPP with prioritized project list has been developed, a second meeting with the community will occur to request stakeholder comments on the draft document. Once finalized, the CWPP will be approved by agencies such as the District and Fire Department, the Placer County Board of Supervisors, Cal Fire, and the USFS.

The first steps for staff are to gather and supply GIS data to the project team and to develop a list of key stakeholders and contacts for the project. This work is already underway.

**ALTERNATIVES:** This report is for information only.

**FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACTS:** At this time, the only fiscal and resource impact incurred to date is associated with staff labor. The District has committed \$10,000 to the total project cost of \$28,800 to prepare the CWPP and the Board will be updated on the funds spent to date each month through progress payment approval.

**RECOMMENDATION:** This report is for information only.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Executed CWPP Agreement with Scope. Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, March 2004

**DATE PREPARED:** April 23, 2021

**OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT  
COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN**

This Agreement is made and entered into on the last day of signing by and between the OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT, a California Special District ("District"), AND DEER CREEK RESOURCES C/O/ FIRESTORM WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION INC. whose address is 1100 Fortress St. Ste. 2 Chico, CA 95973, providing professional services and herein referred to as "Consultant."

**AGREEMENT**

**1. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

Subject to the terms and conditions herein, Consultant shall provide those services set forth in the **Scope of Work** attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, dated November 6, 2020 in general: **PREPARING A COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN**. Consultant hereby agrees to perform the services, provide all labor, and to furnish or procure the use of incidental materials, services, equipment, and facilities necessary for the completion of the Services.

**2. ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

Any work in addition to the Services set forth in the attached correspondence shall be undertaken only upon District's prior written authorization.

If, at any time, Consultant has reason to believe that the total cost to the District for the performance of this Agreement will be greater than the estimated cost set forth in Exhibit "A," Consultant shall immediately notify the District in writing to that effect, giving the revised estimate of such total cost for the performance of this Agreement and reasons for change. Consultant shall not incur costs, fees, compensation or expenses greater than the established amount set forth in Exhibit "A" without prior authorization of the District.

**3. QUALIFICATIONS**

Consultant warrants that it is specially trained, experienced and competent to perform all work and services specified herein. All work performed by Consultant under this Agreement shall meet the standard of care and quality ordinarily to be expected of competent, licensed professionals in Consultant's field of expertise.

Consultant hereby assigns Barry Callenberger, as the Principal, who shall represent Consultant to District in connection with the Services. Consultant warrants that the Principal is qualified to do the work under this Agreement. The Principal shall perform or supervise all work and the report or plans submitted shall bear the appropriate certification to that effect. Consultant shall not change the Principal without District's written consent.

**4. SCHEDULE OF PERFORMANCE**

The services shall be completed in accordance with the timing requirements of the District. In general, the Project will be completed by **April 1, 2022**. Notwithstanding the foregoing, neither party shall hold the other responsible for damages or delays in performance caused by acts of God, strikes, lock outs, accidents, or other events beyond the control of the other or the other's employees or agents. Consultant understands and agrees that time is of the essence in the completion of the Services.

## 5. COMPENSATION

This Agreement is for professional services based on the **Scope of Work (Exhibit A)**. Payment for the Services shall not exceed **twenty-eight thousand, eight-hundred dollars and no cents (\$28,800.00), without prior authorization**. Such payments to Consultant shall be considered full compensation for all costs, provisional overhead, personnel, consultants, materials, supplies, services and equipment used in carrying out the work or performing services hereunder. Payment for additional services authorized pursuant to Section 2 of this Agreement shall be as set forth in the authorization for said services.

### Time of Payment:

Consultant shall submit statements at monthly intervals containing a brief written progress report of the work to date, showing a summary of and the percentage of work completed, and all salaries, wages, and fees paid, and expenses incurred for all work. Such statements, if determined to be correct by the District, shall be paid within sixty (60) days of receipt.

## 6. SUB-CONSULTANTS

The following sub-consultants are acceptable to both parties:

(None for this Agreement)

District approves the use of the sub-consultants as identified above. Consultant will pay all fees for the sub-consultants, the costs of which are included within the compensation that District pays to Consultant, as provided under Section 5. All sub-consultants are, for purposes of this Agreement, deemed to be employees of Consultant, and Consultant will be solely responsible for their performance. Consultant understands that it will not be compensated for services provided using unauthorized sub-consultants.

## 7. ASSIGNMENT

Consultant's services are unique and personal. Consultant shall not sub-contract or assign this contract or any portion of the work without District's prior written consent. Any assignment without such approval shall be void, and at District's option, shall terminate this Agreement. Consultant shall not assign or transfer any of its interest or obligation under this Agreement without the District's written consent. The assignment of any work to sub-consultants in no way modifies Consultant's responsibility to the District under this Agreement.

## 8. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

Consultant shall provide the services to District as an independent contractor as defined in Labor Code 3353, under the control of the District as to the result of the work but not the means by which the result is accomplished, and nothing herein contained shall be construed to make Consultant an agent or employee of District while providing these services. Consultant shall be entitled to no other benefits or compensation except as provided in this Agreement.

## 9. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

Consultant shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, codes, ordinances, regulations, orders and decrees. Consultant represents and warrants to District that it has and shall, at its own cost and expense, keep in effect or obtain at all times during the term of this Agreement all licenses, permits, qualifications, insurance and approvals of any nature that are legally required for Consultant to practice its profession and

incident to the due and lawful prosecution of the Services. Consultant shall provide District with written proof of such licenses, permits, insurance and approvals. District is not responsible or liable for Consultant's failure to comply with the requirements contained in this Section.

## 10. INSURANCE

A. Workers' Compensation. Such insurance as will protect Consultant from claims under Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability Acts; such insurance to be maintained as to type and amount shall be in strict compliance with state and federal statutes.

B. Comprehensive General and Automobile Liability, Property Damage and Personal Injury. Such comprehensive general and automobile liability insurance as shall protect the District, its officers, agents, and employees and Consultant from claims which may arise from Consultant's operations under this Agreement, whether such operations are by Consultant or by its employees, sub-consultants, consultants, agents, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of the foregoing. The liability insurance shall include, but not be limited to, protection against claims arising from bodily or personal injury or damage to property resulting from operations, equipment, or products of Consultant or by its employees, sub-consultants, consultants, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by the foregoing. The amount of insurance shall be no less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) single limit coverage applying to bodily and personal injury and property damage, or a combination of both.

C. Errors and Omissions. Such errors and omissions insurance as shall protect Consultant from claims based on alleged error or negligent or wrongful act or omissions which may arise from Consultant's operations under this Agreement, whether such claims be made during or subsequent to the terms of this Agreement, and whether such operations be by Consultant or by its employees, sub-consultants, consultants, agents, or anyone else directly or indirectly employed by any of the foregoing. The amount of this insurance shall not be less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000).

D. Certificates of Insurance. Promptly upon execution of this Agreement, and prior to commencement of any work, Consultant shall provide the District with certificates of insurance to which shall be attached certified copies of policies required by Paragraph A, B, and C of this article. Approval of the insurance by the District shall not relieve or decrease the liability of consultant. The certificates and policies shall provide that thirty (30) days written notice of any change or cancellation of the insurance policies will be provided to the District.

Such insurance shall include an endorsement naming the District, its officers, employees, and agents as additional insured, with respect to liability arising out of the performance of any work under this Agreement, and providing that such insurance is primary insurance with respect to the interests of the District and that any other insurance maintained by the District is excess, not contributing insurance with the insurance required hereunder.

## 11. INDEMNITY

Consultant, at its expense, shall indemnify and hold harmless the District, its officers, agents, employees, and independent consultants from any and all claims, demands or charges and from any loss or liability, including attorney's fees and expenses of litigation, arising out of errors, negligent or wrongful acts or omissions, breaches of warranty, willful misconduct or fraudulent representations or concealments of Consultant, its employees or agents in the performance of this Agreement, to the proportional extent that such loss or liability results from Consultant's negligence.

## **12. NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Other than Consultant's interest in this Agreement, Consultant covenants and represents that it presently has no investment or interest, and shall not acquire any investment or interest, direct or indirect, financial or otherwise, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of the Services. Consultant further covenants and represents that it does not now have and shall not acquire any source of income, interest in a business entity, interest in real property, or investment which would be affected in any manner or degree by the performance of the Services. Consultant further covenants and represents that no person having any such investment or interest shall perform any of the Services.

## **13. LITIGATION**

In the event District desires Consultant to prepare for or appear in litigation on behalf of District, and Consultant agrees to perform said services, other than herein specified, District shall pay Consultant the usual and customary fees charged by Consultant for such services, and Consultant agrees to perform said services.

## **14. INSPECTION**

Consultant shall provide District with every reasonable opportunity for District to ascertain that the Services are being performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Inspection of the Services and materials provided, if any, shall not relieve Consultant of any of its obligations under this Agreement.

Consultant shall maintain records and documents related to the performance of this Agreement, including but not limited to documentation to substantiate all charges for services provided in the performance of this Agreement, hours worked, materials used, and expenses incurred and shall allow District access to such records, upon request, for a period of three years from the date of this Agreement's termination. Consultant shall provide copies of these records and documentation if they are requested by District.

## **15. LIQUIDATED DAMAGES**

District operates under budgetary constraints and time limitations brought about by a limited construction season. Delays in performance of the Services will result in damages to District for which Consultant agrees to reimburse District liquidated damages in the amount of N/A. Any sums which would be payable under this Section are in the nature of liquidated damages, are not a penalty. It is agreed that the amount of damages as may be sustained by District is difficult of ascertainment. Accordingly, it is agreed that the amount agreed upon herein represents a fair and reasonable estimate of compensation for the losses that may reasonably be anticipated from the failure of Consultant to provide the Services within the time set forth therefore in the Schedule of Performance.

## **16. TERM; SUSPENSION; TERMINATION**

This Agreement shall commence upon execution of this Agreement and shall continue in full force and effect until completed or otherwise terminated as provided herein. District may suspend or terminate this Agreement with or without cause by giving ten days' written notice to Consultant. Upon receipt of such notice, Consultant shall immediately discontinue its performance under this Agreement.

District shall pay all charges incurred prior to said termination, together with associated expenses reasonably incurred by Consultant prior to said termination and charges for other commitments outstanding at the time of termination (such as work termination of the sub-consultants, rental agreements, orders for printing, etc.) within 30 days following submission of Consultant's final statement; provided, however, if this Agreement is

suspended or terminated for fault of Consultant, District shall be obligated to compensate Consultant only for that portion of the Services which are of benefit to District in District's sole and reasonable discretion. Moreover, if termination of this Agreement with Consultant occurs at the completion of a specific phase of the project, Consultant shall only be entitled to compensation through said specific phase. If District terminates this Agreement for fault and it is later determined that the fault termination was wrongful, such termination automatically shall be converted to and treated as a termination for convenience under this Section, and Consultant shall be entitled to receive only the amounts payable hereunder in the event of a termination for convenience.

#### **17. RETURN OF MATERIALS**

Upon such suspension or termination, Consultant shall turn over to District immediately any and all copies of studies, sketches, drawings, computations and other data, whether or not completed, prepared by Consultant or its subcontractors, if any, or given to Consultant or its subcontractors, if any, in connection with this Agreement.

Consultant shall not disclose or make use of confidential or proprietary information or knowledge which may be disclosed to Consultant, directly or indirectly, in the course of any performance under this Agreement, except specifically and directly to provide the Services. This Section shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

#### **18. OWNERSHIP OF PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND OTHER MATERIAL**

The original documents, electronic files, plans, drawings, specifications, studies or reports (collectively hereafter "documents") prepared under or in any manner in connection with this Agreement, whether or not completed, prepared by Consultant or its sub-consultant, if any, or given to Consultant or sub-consultant, if any, except working notes and internal documents, shall become and remain the property of District. Consultant shall without delay surrender the documents to District upon the completion of the work under this Agreement, or on the completion of specific phases of the work, or upon the termination of this Agreement. Consultant may retain copies of the documents in their files, but the documents shall not be released to any other party without District's express written consent.

District's reuse of any of the documents or other work products of Consultant for other than the specific project covered in this Agreement shall be at District's risk.

#### **19. NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Consultant warrants that they are an Equal Opportunity Employer and shall comply with applicable regulations governing equal employment opportunity. Neither Consultant nor any of its sub-consultants shall discriminate in the employment of any person because of race, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, sex, or age, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification pursuant to the California Fair Employment and Housing Act.

#### **20. MEDIATION/ARBITRATION**

Should any dispute arise concerning this Agreement or any provision hereof, the parties agree to mediate in good faith the dispute before a neutral mediator located in either Placer or Nevada County, California to be mutually selected by the parties. There shall be a single mediator chosen from the list of authorized mediators maintained by the Superior Courts of Placer and Nevada Counties, California. The parties agree to equally pay any and all costs and expenses of mediation.

In the event that the parties are unsuccessful in resolving all or any portion of said dispute through mediation, such remaining dispute shall be settled by arbitration. Notice of Demand for Arbitration shall be given by one party to the other pursuant to the Notice provisions of Paragraph 28 of this AGREEMENT. There shall be a single arbitrator chosen from the list of authorized arbitrators maintained by the Superior Courts of Placer and Nevada Counties. Each party may reject one arbitrator, and if the parties fail to agree to the selection of an arbitrator from such list(s) within 10 days of the date of notice of demand for arbitration, then each party may appoint an arbitrator and those arbitrators shall agree to the selection of a neutral arbitrator. Arbitration shall be conducted pursuant to *California Code of Civil Procedure* sections 1280, et seq.

Arbitration shall occur in Placer or Nevada County, California, and any action to compel arbitration or to enforce an arbitration award shall be commenced in the proper court of Placer County, California.

## **21. AGREEMENT BINDING**

The terms, covenants and conditions of this Agreement shall apply to, and shall bind, the heirs, successors, executors, administrators, assigns and subcontractors of both parties.

## **22. WAIVERS**

The waiver by either party of any breach or violation of any term or condition of this Agreement or of law shall not be deemed to be a waiver of that particular or any other term, condition or law. The subsequent acceptance by either party of anything that may be due under this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver by that party of any preceding breach or violation by the other party.

## **23. COSTS AND ATTORNEYS' FEES**

If either party commences any legal action against the other party arising out of this Agreement or the performance thereof, the prevailing party in such action may recover its reasonable litigation expenses, including court costs, expert witness fees, discovery expenses and attorneys' fees.

## **24. AGREEMENT CONTAINS ALL UNDERSTANDINGS**

This document represents the entire and integrated Agreement between District and Consultant and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations or Agreements, either written or oral. This document may be amended only by written instrument, signed by both District and Consultant. All provisions of this Agreement are expressly made conditions.

## **25. NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES**

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create and the parties do not intend to create any rights in third parties.

## **26. APPLICABLE LAW AND FORUM**

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and interpreted according to the law of California as if written by both parties. Any action to enforce the terms of this Agreement or for breach thereof shall be brought and tried in Placer County, California.

## **27. SEVERABILITY**



If any court of competent jurisdiction or subsequent preemptive legislation holds or renders any of the provisions of this Agreement unenforceable or invalid, the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions, or portions thereof, shall not be affected.


**28. NOTICES**

All notices that are required to be given by one party to the other under this AGREEMENT shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been given if delivered personally or enclosed in the properly addressed envelope and deposited in a United States Post Office for delivery by registered or certified mail addressed to the parties at the following addresses, unless such addresses are changed by notice to the other party:

DISTRICT:  
Olympic Valley Public Service District  
Attn: Michael T. Geary, General Manager  
Post Office Box 2026  
Olympic Valley, CA 96146-2026

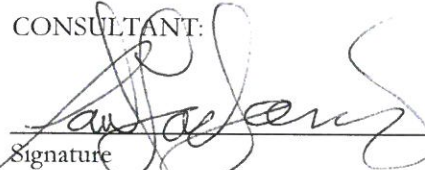
CONSULTANT:  
Deer Creek Resources  
C/O Firestorm Wildfire Suppression Inc.  
Attn: Barry Callenberger  
1110 Fortress St. Ste. 2  
Chico, CA 95973

DATED: 12/21/20

DISTRICT:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael T. Geary, General Manager

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Asher, Board Secretary

DATED: 12/14/20

CONSULTANT:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Paul Lackovic  
Name

General Manager  
Title

## EXHIBIT A

# Olympic Valley Community Wildfire Protection Plan

## Bid Proposal by Deer Creek Resources (DCR)

### Scope of Work and Deliverables

Deer Creek Resources will fulfill the following tasks:

#### **Task 1: Convene Decision Makers and Involve Land Management Agencies.**

As part of this process WildlandRx (WRx) will identify and contact stakeholders with the assistance of the Olympic Valley Fire Department throughout the community, informing them about the CWPP update and soliciting any relevant GIS data. Due to COVID 19 restrictions this will be a Zoom meeting.

#### **Task 2: Gather Existing GIS Data.**

DCR will work with Olympic Valley Fire Department (OVF) to obtain data layers compiled by the Olympic Valley Public Service District (OVPSD) and Placer County GIS, which will be used to establish a community base map. Layers will include but are not limited to terrain, roads, fire and ignition history, existing fuels breaks and fuel reduction projects, sensitive habitat, etc.

#### **Task 3: Develop a Community Risk Assessment Map**

WRx's process for developing the Community Risk Assessment map involves these subtasks:

- 3.1 - Establish a base map
- 3.2 - Conduct community risk assessments – using interviews, surveys, modeling
- 3.3 – Develop Fire Behavior Modeling
- 3.4 - Establish a local definition and boundary for the WUI
- 3.5 - Determine local priorities for protection of life, property, and infrastructure
- 3.6 - Establish recommendations on hazardous fuel and structure ignitability reduction

#### **Subtask 3.1 Establish a base map**

Creating a base map that outlines the communities is the foundation of a CWPP. It is crucial that key individuals in the communities, private land managers, fire district reps, USFS, and CAL FIRE participate in the process of developing the base map.

Our planning process is completely map-based. At the beginning of the project, DCR will create a paper base map, which will be brought to every meeting, interview, or site-survey, and updated with new information as we receive it. The initial map will include roads, streams, topography, and water source and fuels project data from all previous Tasks. We will add parcels, building footprints, community boundaries as delineated by the US Census Bureau, fire district boundaries, and any other available GIS data which helps to tell the story.

#### **Subtask 3.2 Conduct community risk assessments – interviews, surveys, modeling**

Wildfire hazard and risk are not constant across the landscape. Wildfires need an ignition source (lightning, humans, powerlines), and are affected by weather, topography and fuels. Where these

elements come into alignment, *(a fire is ignited in a place where a dry wind can blow it up a steep, sunny, fuel-covered slope)* fire behavior is the most dangerous. We will use fire behavior models to identify areas with potentially dangerous wildfire hazard.

### **Task 3.3: Develop Fire Behavior Modeling**

Modeling wildfire behavior

Fire behavior modeling uses computers and fuels, weather, and topographic information data to illustrate potential wildland fire behavior in easily-understood graphics. WildlandRx develops and runs the FARSITE and FLAMMAP fire behavior models. These programs were created by the US Forest Service for use in quantifying wildfire hazard across landscapes. The models will use local weather data and fuel model data from Land Fire

We will create a computer model of potential wildfire behavior across the CWPP area, and use the results to:

- Identify high wildfire hazard areas
- Identify tactically useful locations for fuels management projects
- Prioritize areas for fuels treatment

We will add the fire hazard data from our modeling exercises to the project base map and bring these maps to meetings with key stakeholders. Also, we will use these maps to identify areas that we will visit to determine if the modeling gives a true picture of the fire behavior.

### **Subtask 3.4 Establish local definition and boundary for Wildland Urban Interface**

We will use our preliminary wildfire hazard mapping/modeling data, information contributed by locals during our meetings and interviews, and County GIS data showing improved parcels, building footprints, and contiguous blocks of hazardous vegetation to delineate the WUI within the project area.

### **Subtask 3.5 Determine** priorities for protection of life, property and infrastructure

We will use historic fire ignition data from the USFS to identify areas of high, moderate, and low risk of ignition. We will overlay ignition hazard, potential wildfire behavior (from our modeling efforts), and parcel data from the County Assessor. High risk areas with high housing densities will be ranked as the highest priority for projects. This evaluation will also be used to identify moderate and low priority areas for fuel treatments. Paper maps showing the ranking data from this process will be printed for each of the community areas identified and will be used in meetings with the OVF and other stakeholders to prioritize potential hazard reduction projects. Potential treatment methods for those projects that are field reviewed will be identified by a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) during field reconnaissance.

### **Subtask 3.6 Establish** recommendations to reduce fuels and structural ignitability

The fire behavior modeling will help us to prioritize areas with high exposure to damage by wildfire. Meeting with the fire protection district personnel and the community with these maps will assist in the prioritization of projects and needs of the community to better protect them from a wildfire. Reducing potential structure ignitability will require surveys of high-risk area homes to look at their ignitability

**Task 4: Develop Fuels Treatments and Community needs assessment:** Work with the project RPF, OVF, and stakeholders to develop proposed fuel reduction treatment areas consistent with overall community hazard reduction priorities. Identify any other wildfire protection needs that the community may have that are not fuels reduction projects such as community education, water resources, fire protection assistance, or other community needs that can help protect the community from wildfires

DCR will use the layers gathered in the previous task to develop a community basemap to be used at stakeholder meetings. Agency and District representatives will be able to draw potential projects onto the master paper map, validate mapping of existing fuel hazard reduction projects, document their areas of greatest fire-related concern, and record any good background information on past fires, successful firefighting tactics, and site-specific recommendations. The community basemap will also be used at community meetings to allow community members to identify their greatest areas of concern. The information drawn on the paper map will be digitized for use in the final plan. Barry Callenberger will facilitate the meetings.

The purpose of the stakeholder meetings is to develop fuel reduction projects for high-hazard areas with a known hazard of structural ignitability. It is assumed that stakeholders will be present at the meeting to share their issues, concerns, and opportunities, and contribute their knowledge of the firescape.

WRx and the community will work closely to coordinate this ‘project design’ meeting, with OVPSD providing meeting locations, and identifying the potential public and private partners who should attend. A community representative will coordinate the process of inviting people to the meeting.

Before and during the meeting WRx will secure updated information related to:

- Background Information
- Existing risks, hazards, values and fire suppression capability public education about wildfire risks and fire prevention needs.
- Evaluate evacuation plans and identify potential weaknesses or need for improvement.
- Organizational structure including any community, district or regional groups actively involved in supporting community outreach/education, fuel modification projects, fundraising or other activities to support defensible communities.
- Priority values to be protected and strategies to achieve desired future conditions.
- Action and Methodology (Implementation Strategy)
- Specific projects and actions required to meet goals and objectives, implement strategies and create the desired conditions.
- Proposed projects will be listed by priority and included in an Appendix. Project list will be designed as five-year plan that can be updated annually (or as needed).
- Roles and Responsibilities Describes roles and responsibilities of individual landowners, and communities, county, state and federal agencies.

After the design meeting, DCR will use information from Task 3 and the design meeting to develop a spreadsheet and map of priority projects.

Subtask 4.1 The project RFP will review the projects developed for the CWPP to determine their potential effectiveness. Any treatments that do not serve to moderate fire behavior and reduce fire hazard will be eliminated from the project list spreadsheet. The RFP will also make specific treatment recommendations for each project including suggestions for the type of equipment that should be used.

This spreadsheet will be sent back to the stakeholder groups for their review and approval. Prior to publication of the draft CWPP, WRx will meet with the group for a second time (again in coordination and with support from OVPSD) to ensure the final projects are consistent with the fuels committee's original guidance, and to make any minor adjustments to the proposed projects list. This second meeting will also give key stakeholders an opportunity to preview the draft CWPP before public meetings begin.

Subtask 4.2 Develop a list of other community needs such as evacuation strategies, reducing structure ignitability, prevention needs, landowner CPRC 4291 enforcement or other local regulation enforcement, water resources, fire protection needs and any other wildfire protection community needs as identified.

### **Task 5 Facilitate 1 Community and Stake holder meeting in the Community.**

WRx will facilitate the meetings by developing the agenda and provide notes from the meetings to become part of the project Package. With the help of OVPSD to arrange the meeting locations and provide a list of the county stakeholders and interested parties.

Participate one community meeting and develop draft CWPP document

An important step in the development of a CWPP is convening stakeholders and interested public in a collaborative effort to develop the CWPP. OVPSD and WRx will work together to develop the community meeting agendas during the CWPP process.

Meetings will occur in this order:

1. Project kick off meeting
2. Facilitate one stakeholder meeting
3. Facilitate one community meeting
4. Review of the final CWPP draft
5. Final Stakeholder meeting to ask for stakeholder comments on draft CWPP.

\*The stakeholder meeting will be held to familiarize the stakeholders with the CWPP process, to gather data needed for the GIS mapping, and to identify potential projects. **All meetings will be conducted on line with a Zoom meeting format due to Covid 19 restrictions.**

The draft CWPP will be distributed as a Microsoft Word document, and stakeholders can either submit written comments, or make their changes directly into the digital document using Word's 'Track Changes' feature.

### **Task 6 Finalize the CWPP with updated prioritized project list**

After the community meetings and stakeholder/community review of the draft CWPP, DCR will prepare a final CWPP document that will be submitted to OVPSD. One electronic copy of the document and one paper copy will be submitted as the final package.

All work will be in compliance with the requirements of the Community Wildfire Prevention plan set forth in the National Fire Plan and recommendations found in “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan A Handbook for Wildland Urban Interface Communities” March 2004

**Wildland Rx will:**

- Work closely with OVPSD to independently gather the appropriate data and/or information from various sources, and to adequately address identified tasks.
- Provide clear and thorough deliverables, incorporating solutions to address gap analysis or best practices, as needed, in a timely manner to meet deadlines.
- Meet with OVPSD to provide project updates to receive review input.
- Attend only the meetings as set forth in our proposal to effectively complete the project. Meetings are costly and will only be added to the proposal at an additional cost.

**BID Break down:**

<b>TASK</b>	<b><i>Deer Creek Hrs</i></b>	<b><i>Wildland Rx Hrs</i></b>	<b><i>Cost</i></b>
<b>TASK 1 Convene Decision Makers &amp; Stakeholders</b>		10	
<b>TASK 2 Gather Existing GIS Data</b>	20		
<b>TASK 3 Develop a Community Risk Assessment Map</b>	30	20	
<b>TASK 4 Develop Community Wildfire Protection needs, establish project areas and priorities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuels Treatment</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Fire protection</li> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Enforcement</li> </ul>	30	80	
<b>TASK 5 Meeting; 1 Community &amp; Stakeholder</b>	8	10	
<b>TASK 6 Finalize CWPP and Develop Project List</b>	20	40	
<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	108	160	
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	\$10,800	\$18,000	<b>\$28,800</b>

**Project Timeline**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Begin Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
<b>TASK 1 Convene Decision Makers &amp; Stakeholders</b>	4/1/2021	
<b>TASK 2 Gather Existing GIS Data</b>		
<b>TASK 3 Develop a Community Risk Assessment Map</b>		
<b>TASK 4 Develop Community Wildfire Protection needs establish project areas and priorities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuels Treatment,</li> <li>• Education,</li> <li>• Fire protection</li> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Enforcement</li> </ul>		
<b>TASK 5 Meetings; 2 Community &amp; 3 Stakeholder</b>		
<b>TASK 6 Finalize CWPP and Develop Project List</b>		4/1/2022



# Statement of Qualifications for Wildland RX and Deer Creek Resources

## WildlandRx

Based in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California, WildlandRx provides consulting services to those seeking a safer co-existence with wildfire. We use our personal experience as wildland firefighters, coupled with modern mapping and planning tools, to develop mitigation strategies for communities at risk of wildfire. Our products include wildland fire behavior analysis, Community Wildfire Protection Planning, project implementation, expert witness testimony, and wildland fire training. These services lead to development of strategies and tactics to reduce the losses from wildfires to natural resources and private property. We also provide training courses as a course coordinator and instructor for wildland fire courses covering both prescribed fire and wildfire suppression operation positions. Upon request Wildland Rx can provide the services of a Registered Professional Forester

## Barry Callenberger - Principal

Barry has over 48 years of wildfire experience. During this time, he has worked as a firefighter, Hotshot Crew Superintendent, district fuels officer, and as deputy regional chief. Since 1997, he has worked in the private sector, consulting on numerous wildland hazard mitigation projects throughout the western United States.

As owner and principal for Wildland Rx, Barry has done numerous projects in fuels consulting work. Prior to opening his own business he was, for seven years, in charge of the Prescribed Fire and Fuels Management Division of [North Tree Fire](#). North Tree Fire is a private contracting company that provides support equipment and services for wildland fire suppression and fuels management. Barry began his career with the U. S. Forest Service on the Cleveland National Forest (R-5) in 1972. From 1982-1987, Barry ran the [Eldorado Interregional Hotshot Crew](#). In 1987 Barry became the Fuels Officer on the Placerville District of the El Dorado National Forest. In 1993, Barry was promoted into the Regional Prescribed Fire/Fuels Specialist position with the Pacific Southwest Region of the Forest Service, where he finished his Federal career.

Mr. Callenberger is skilled in the use of fire behavior analysis computer programs such as BEHAVE, FARSITE FLAMAP, NEXUS, FUELS MANAGEMENT ANALYST PLUS, FIREFAMILY Plus, NFSPUFF, SASEM, RAMS, PCHA, IIAA, and FOFEM. As an employee of North Tree Fire, he managed contracts for prescribed fire and fuels management, developed prescribed fire burn plans, and provided direction on suppression approaches, conducted fuels analysis, and managed heavy equipment and burn personnel on prescribed burns and fuels projects.

## Wildland Rx Community Wildfire Protection Planning Projects

- **Tulare County Mountain Communities CWPP** Worked with Steve Holl Consulting to develop a CWPP for the mountain communities of Tulare County. Designing Treatment areas, treatments, and modeling the fire hazard for the numerous communities within the mountains of Tulare County
- **Sierra County CWPP** : Updated the Sierra County CWPP in 2014 added new projects and identified community needs for protecting it from Wildfires. Facilitated the stakeholder and



community meetings, provided the fire behavior assessment developed fuels treatments and assisted in developing treatment priorities

- **Foothill Communities of Yuba County CWPP:** Worked with Deer Creek Resources to create the CWPP for the foothill communities of Yuba County, Facilitated the stakeholder and community meetings, provided the fire behavior assessment developed fuels treatments and assisted in developing treatment priorities
- **Community Wildfire Protection Plan for the West Slope of the Sierra Nevada in Placer County Community CWPP** Worked with Steve Holl Consulting to develop the CWPP designing treatment areas, treatments and modeling the fire hazard assessment for the communities.
- **Amador County Fire Safe Council CWPP** Wrote a CWPP for the community of Volcano
- **El Dorado Fire Safe Council CWPP** Wrote a Community Wildfire Protection Plan for Grizzly Flat, and a CWPP for Central El Dorado County Communities which included the communities of Placerville, Pollock Pines, Diamond Springs, Camino, Pleasant Valley, Sly Park, and El Dorado developed Evacuation Planning tools that can be used by the communities to plan evacuations. Also have written Fire Plans for the communities of Gold Ridge, Royal Equestrian Estates
- **Tahoe Regional Planning Authority (TRPA)** Combining all the Tahoe Basin Community Wildfire Protection Plans into one document containing all the Basin CWPPs analyzing projects and establishing project priorities based on Risk and Hazard analysis.
- **Tahoe Basin California Fire Safe Council CWPP** Develop a fuels treatment strategy for the four fire protection districts on the California side of the Tahoe Basin. Present the strategy to the fire districts and the community as part of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- **California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Cameron Park Fire District** Developed Risk and Hazard maps for Cameron Park and Fire behavior programs for community meetings using FARSITE and FLAMMAP
- **Truckee Fire Protection District** Developed a CWPP for the district and risk assessment

### **Technical Wildfire Fuels Assessment, Planning, and NEPA Experience**

- **Region 5 USFS Hazardous Fuels Review** Evaluate the Fuels program on 8 National Forests in California
- **Hoopa Valley Tribal Forestry** Write a Fuels Management Plan and the necessary NEPA documentation for the Hoopa Valley Reservation which will allow them to create a funding stream for fuels treatment projects. Prioritize Projects to provide wildland fire safety for resources and the community
- **Plumas Corporation, Plumas County Fire Safe Council** Validation of existing fuel profiles, analysis expected fire behavior using BEHAVE and FLAMAP, identify and map fuel treatment projects, and [prioritize fuels treatment projects for the county.](#)
- **Eddy Environmental Impact Statement:** Participated as a subcontractor to Red Inc. on the development of an EIS on the Klamath National Forest. Providing fire behavior modeling and fuels and fire input to the document and providing a Fire Shed Assessment for the project



# Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan

*A Handbook for Wildland-Urban Interface Communities*

*Sponsored By:*

Communities Committee • Society of American Foresters  
National Association of Counties • National Association of State Foresters

Communities  
Committee



March 2004



Photo: Western Forestry Leadership Coalition

## Introduction

The idea for community-based forest planning and prioritization is neither novel nor new. However, the incentive for communities to engage in comprehensive forest planning and prioritization was given new and unprecedented impetus with the enactment of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) in 2003.

This landmark legislation includes the first meaningful statutory incentives for the US Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to give consideration to the priorities of local communities as they develop and implement forest management and hazardous fuel reduction projects.

In order for a community to take full advantage of this new opportunity, it must first prepare a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Local wildfire protection plans can take a variety of forms, based on the needs of the people involved in their development. Community Wildfire Protection Plans may address issues such as wildfire response, hazard mitigation, community preparedness, or structure protection—or all of the above.

The process of developing a CWPP can help a community clarify and refine its priorities for the protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure in the wildland–urban interface. It also can lead community members through valuable discussions regarding management options and implications for the surrounding watershed.

The language in the HFRA provides maximum flexibility for communities to determine the substance and detail of their plans and the procedures they use to develop them. Because the legislation is general in nature, some communities may benefit from assistance on how to prepare such a plan.

This *Handbook* is intended to provide communities with a concise, step-by-step guide to use in developing a CWPP. It addresses, in a straightforward manner, issues such as who to involve in developing a plan, how to convene other interested parties, what elements to consider in assessing community risks and priorities, and how to develop a mitigation or protection plan to address those risks.

This guide is not a legal document, although the recommendations contained here carefully conform to both the spirit and the letter of the HFRA. The outline provided offers one of several possible approaches to planning. We hope it will prove useful in helping at-risk communities establish recommendations and priorities that protect their citizens, homes, and essential infrastructure and resources from the destruction of catastrophic wildfire.

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### Cover images



Photo: David McNew/Getty Images



Photo: Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

## Discussion

### Communities and the Wildland–Urban Interface

The wildland–urban interface (WUI) is commonly described as the zone where structures and other human development meet and intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. This WUI zone poses tremendous risks to life, property, and infrastructure in associated communities and is one of the most dangerous and complicated situations firefighters face.

Both the National Fire Plan and the Ten-Year Comprehensive Strategy for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment place a priority on working collaboratively within communities in the WUI to reduce their risk from large-scale wildfire.

The HFRA builds on existing efforts to restore healthy forest conditions near communities and essential community infrastructure by authorizing expedited environmental assessment, administrative appeals, and legal review for hazardous fuels projects on federal land.

The Act emphasizes the need for federal agencies to work collaboratively with communities in developing hazardous fuel reduction projects, and it places priority on treatment areas identified by communities themselves in a CWPP.

### Role of Community Wildfire Protection Plans

The HFRA provides communities with a tremendous opportunity to influence where and how federal agencies implement fuel reduction projects on federal lands and how additional federal funds may be distributed for projects on nonfederal lands. A CWPP is the most effective way to take advantage of this opportunity.

Local wildfire protection plans can take a variety of forms, based on the needs of those involved in their development. They can be as simple or complex as a community desires.

The *minimum requirements* for a CWPP as described in the HFRA are:

- (1) **Collaboration:** A CWPP must be collaboratively developed by local and state government representatives, in consultation with federal agencies and other interested parties.
- (2) **Prioritized Fuel Reduction:** A CWPP must identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommend the types and methods of treatment that will protect one or more at-risk communities and essential infrastructure.
- (3) **Treatment of Structural Ignitability:** A CWPP must recommend measures that homeowners and communities can take to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.

The HFRA requires that three entities must mutually agree to the final contents of a CWPP:

- The applicable local government (i.e., counties or cities);
- The local fire department(s); and
- The state entity responsible for forest management.

In addition, these entities are directed to consult with and involve local representatives of the USFS and BLM and other interested parties or persons in the development of the plan. The process is intended to be open and collaborative, as



Photo: Western Forestry Leadership Coalition

described in the Ten-Year Strategy, involving local and state officials, federal land managers, and the broad range of interested stakeholders.

If a community already has a plan that meets these requirements, the community need not develop an additional plan for the purposes of the HFRA.

### **Benefits to Communities**

In the context of the HFRA, a CWPP offers a variety of benefits to communities at risk from wildland fire. Among those benefits is the opportunity to establish a localized definition and boundary for the wildland–urban interface.

In the absence of a CWPP, the HFRA limits the WUI to within ½ mile of a community’s boundary or within 1½ miles when mitigating circumstances exist, such as sustained steep slopes or geographic features aiding in creating a fire break. Fuels treatments can occur along evacuation routes regardless of their distance from the community. At least 50 percent of all funds appropriated for projects under the HFRA must be used within the WUI as defined by either a CWPP or by the limited definition provided in the HFRA when no CWPP exists.<sup>1</sup>

In addition to giving communities the flexibility to define their own WUI, the HFRA also gives priority to projects and treatment areas identified in a CWPP by directing federal agencies to give specific consideration to fuel reduction projects that implement those plans. If a federal agency proposes a fuel treatment project in an area addressed by a community plan but identifies a different treatment method, the agency must also evaluate the community’s recommendation as part of the project’s environmental assessment process.

## **Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan**

- These step-by-step recommendations are intended to help communities develop a wildfire protection plan that addresses the core elements of community protection. Items required under the HFRA are addressed, as are some additional issues that often are incorporated into wildfire protection planning. Actions beyond those listed in the legislation are not required for the purposes of the HFRA.
- Community fire planning need not be a complex process. A community can use this outline to develop a fire plan that is as extensive or as basic as is appropriate and desired by the community.
- A key element in community fire planning should be the meaningful discussion it promotes among community members regarding their priorities for local fire protection and forest management. This handbook should help to facilitate these local discussions.

<sup>1</sup> In the absence of a CWPP, Section 101 (16) of the HFRA defines the wildland–urban interface as “ (i) an area extending ½ mile from the boundary of an at-risk community; (ii) an area within 1½ miles of the boundary of an at-risk community, including any land that (I) has a sustained steep slope that creates the potential for wildfire behavior endangering the at-risk community; (II) has a geographic feature that aids in creating an effective fire break, such as a road or ridge top; or (III) is in condition class 3, as documented by the Secretary in the project-specific environmental analysis; (iii) an area that is adjacent to an evacuation route for an at-risk community that the Secretary determines, in cooperation with the at-risk community, requires hazardous fuels reduction to provide safer evacuation form the at-risk community.”



### ✓ **STEP ONE:** Convene Decisionmakers

The initial step in developing a CWPP should be formation of an operating group with representation from local government, local fire authorities, and the state agency responsible for forest management.

Together, these three entities form the core decision-making team responsible for the development of a CWPP as described in the HFRA. The core team members must mutually agree on the plan's final contents.

In communities where several local governments and fire departments are within the planning area, each level of government/authority may need to convene ahead of time and identify a single representative to participate, on its behalf, as a core team member.

### ✓ **STEP TWO:** Involve Federal Agencies<sup>2</sup>

Once convened, members of the core team should engage local representatives of the USFS and BLM to begin sharing perspectives, priorities, and other information relevant to the planning process.<sup>3</sup>

Because of their on-the-ground experience, mapping capabilities, and knowledge of natural resource planning, these local land management professionals will be key partners for the core team. In some landscapes, they will also be largely responsible for implementing the priorities established in the resulting CWPP.

### ✓ **STEP THREE:** Engage Interested Parties

The success of a CWPP also hinges on the ability of the core team to effectively involve a broad range of local stakeholders, particularly when the landscape includes active and organized neighborhood associations, community forestry organizations that work in forest management, and other stakeholder groups that display a commitment to fire protection and fuels management.

Substantive input from a diversity of interests will ensure that the final document reflects the highest priorities of the community. It will also help to facilitate timely implementation of recommended projects. In some circumstances, the core team may wish to invite local community leaders or stakeholder representatives to work along with them in final decisionmaking.

As early as possible, core team members should contact and seek active involvement from key stakeholders and constituencies such as:

- Existing collaborative forest management groups
- City Council members
- Resource Advisory Committees
- Homeowners Associations—particularly those representing subdivisions in the WUI
- Division of Wildlife/Fish and Game—to identify locally significant habitats
- Department of Transportation—to identify key escape corridors
- Local and/or state emergency management agencies
- Water districts—to identify key water infrastructure
- Utilities
- Recreation organizations
- Environmental organizations
- Forest products interests
- Local Chambers of Commerce
- Watershed councils

This list provides a starting point and is by no means exhaustive.



<sup>2</sup> Sec. 103 (b)(2) of the Act states that “the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the planning process and recommendations concerning community wildfire protection plans.”

<sup>3</sup> A CWPP is legally applicable to federal lands only if they are managed by the USFS or the BLM. Nothing in the Act requires a community to exclude other federal agencies—such as the Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Park Service—from planning efforts, but those agencies are not bound by the provisions of the HFRA.



In addition to directly contacting key individuals and organizations, core team members may want to consider using a public notice or public meeting process to acquire additional, more generalized input as the plan is developed.

#### ✓ **STEP FOUR:** Establish a Community Base Map

Using available technology and local expertise, the core team and key partners should develop a base map of the community and adjacent landscapes of interest within the WUI. This map will provide a visual information baseline from which community members can assess and make recommendations regarding protection and risk-reduction priorities.

To the extent practicable, the map should identify:

- Inhabited areas at potential risk to wildland fire;
- Areas containing critical human infrastructure—such as escape routes, municipal water supply structures, and major power or communication lines—that are at risk from fire disturbance events; and
- A preliminary designation of the community's WUI zone.

#### ✓ **STEP FIVE:** Develop a Community Risk Assessment

The development of a community risk assessment will help the core team and community members more effectively prioritize areas for treatment and identify the highest priority uses for available financial and human resources.

A meaningful community assessment can be developed by considering the risk factors identified below. Choose an appropriate adjective rating (such as high, medium, and low) that best represents the risk to the community posed by each factor. Display the results on the base map to develop a useful tool for the final decision-making process.

State and federal land managers will be a valuable resource in helping communities locate the best available data and in producing quality maps that display and aid assessment of that data. Engaging key stakeholders in the rating process will be essential to a successful outcome.

##### **A. Fuel Hazards**

To the extent practicable, evaluate the vegetative fuels on federal and nonfederal land within or near the community. Identify specific areas where the condition of vegetative fuels is such that, if ignited, they would pose a significant threat to the community or essential community infrastructure. Consider how the local topography (such as slope, aspect, and elevation) may affect potential fire behavior.

Identify areas affected by windthrow, ice storms, or insect and disease epidemics where fuels treatment would reduce wildfire risks to communities and/or their essential infrastructure.

State and federal resource planning documents can be a valuable source of information on local forest and rangeland conditions.

Rate each area of identified hazardous fuels and show each on the base map as a high, medium, or low threat to the community.

## B. Risk of Wildfire Occurrence

Using historical data and local knowledge, determine the common causes and relative frequency of wildfires in the vicinity of the community. Consider the range of factors, including critical weather patterns, that may contribute to the probability of fire ignitions and/or extreme fire behavior.

Use relative ratings such as high, medium, and low to show areas of concern for fire starts on the base map.

## C. Homes, Businesses, and Essential Infrastructure at Risk

Assess the vulnerability of structures within the community to ignition from firebrands, radiation, and convection. Document areas of concern.

Identify specific human improvements within or adjacent to the community, such as homes, businesses, and essential infrastructure (e.g., escape routes, municipal water supply structures, and major power and communication lines) that would be adversely impacted by wildfire.

Categorize all identified areas needing protection using ratings of high, medium, or low, and show them on the base map.

## D. Other Community Values at Risk

At the community's option, the risk assessment may also consider other areas of community importance, such as critical wildlife habitat; significant recreation and scenic areas; and landscapes of historical, economic, or cultural value that would benefit from treatment to reduce wildfire risks. Additional recommendations from local stakeholders should be incorporated as appropriate.

Categorize all identified areas that warrant protection using the ratings of high, medium, or low, and show them on the base map.

## E. Local Preparedness and Firefighting Capability

Assess the level of the community's emergency preparedness, including evacuation planning, safety zones, and fire assistance agreements, as well as the response capability of community and cooperator fire protection forces. Consider the insurance industry ISO rating, if available and applicable. Use the knowledge and experience of local officials to identify areas in need of improvement.

Incorporate local preparedness information into the base map as appropriate.

## ✓ **STEP SIX:** Establish Community Hazard Reduction Priorities and Recommendations to Reduce Structural Ignitability

Once the community assessment and base map are completed, the core team should convene all interested parties to discuss the results and their implications for local protection and hazard mitigation needs. A key objective of these discussions is to develop the community's prioritized recommendations for fuel treatment projects on federal and nonfederal lands in the WUI, along with the preferred treatment methods for those projects.

Recommendations should also be developed regarding actions that individuals and the community can take to reduce the ignitability of homes and other structures in the community's WUI zone.

While local interests are gathered, communities may also want to take this opportunity to identify and develop strategies to improve their emergency preparedness and fire response capability.

The discussion and identification of community priorities should be as open and collaborative as possible. Diverse community involvement at this stage is critical to the ultimate success of the CWPP.





Recommendations included in the final CWPP should clearly indicate whether priority projects directly relate to protection of the community and its essential infrastructure or are geared toward reducing risks to other community values. Under the provisions of the HFRA, only projects that directly protect communities and essential infrastructure are eligible for the minimum 50 percent WUI funding specified in the legislation.

✓ **STEP SEVEN: Develop an Action Plan and Assessment Strategy**

Before finalizing the CWPP, core team members and key community partners should consider developing an action plan that identifies roles and responsibilities, funding needs, and timetables for carrying out the highest priority projects.

Additional consideration should be given to establishing an assessment strategy for the CWPP to ensure that the document maintains its relevance and effectiveness over the long term.<sup>4</sup>

✓ **STEP EIGHT: Finalize the Community Wildfire Protection Plan<sup>5</sup>**

The final step in developing a CWPP is for the core team to reconvene and mutually agree on the fuels treatment priorities, preferred methods for fuels treatment projects, the location of the wildland-urban interface, structural ignitability recommendations, and other information and actions to be contained in the final document.

If an associated action plan has not been developed, the core team should identify a strategy for communicating the results of the planning process to community members and key land management partners in a timely manner.

<sup>4</sup> Community planning participants may also want to participate in multiparty monitoring of USFS and BLM projects developed under the HFRA as provided for in Sec.102 (g)(5) of the legislation: “In an area where significant interest is expressed in multiparty monitoring, the Secretary shall establish a multiparty monitoring, evaluation, and accountability process in order to assess the positive or negative ecological and social effects of authorized hazardous fuels reductions projects.”

<sup>5</sup> Some states have statutes that may require an environmental analysis for plans adopted by local or state agencies. In such states, core team members should determine whether formal environmental analysis is required before finalizing their plans.

## Summary and Checklist

- ✓ **Step One: Convene Decisionmakers**
  - Form a core team made up of representatives from the appropriate local governments, local fire authority, and state agency responsible for forest management.
  
- ✓ **Step Two: Involve Federal Agencies**
  - Identify and engage local representatives of the USFS and BLM.
  - Contact and involve other land management agencies as appropriate.
  
- ✓ **Step Three: Engage Interested Parties**
  - Contact and encourage active involvement in plan development from a broad range of interested organizations and stakeholders.
  
- ✓ **Step Four: Establish a Community Base Map**
  - Work with partners to establish a baseline map of the community that defines the community's WUI and displays inhabited areas at risk, forested areas that contain critical human infrastructure, and forest areas at risk for large-scale fire disturbance.
  
- ✓ **Step Five: Develop a Community Risk Assessment**
  - Work with partners to develop a community risk assessment that considers fuel hazards; risk of wildfire occurrence; homes, businesses, and essential infrastructure at risk; other community values at risk; and local preparedness capability.
  - Rate the level of risk for each factor and incorporate into the base map as appropriate.
  
- ✓ **Step Six: Establish Community Priorities and Recommendations**
  - Use the base map and community risk assessment to facilitate a collaborative community discussion that leads to the identification of local priorities for fuel treatment, reducing structural ignitability, and other issues of interest, such as improving fire response capability.
  - Clearly indicate whether priority projects are directly related to protection of communities and essential infrastructure or to reducing wildfire risks to other community values.
  
- ✓ **Step Seven: Develop an Action Plan and Assessment Strategy**
  - Consider developing a detailed implementation strategy to accompany the CWPP, as well as a monitoring plan that will ensure its long-term success.
  
- ✓ **Step Eight: Finalize Community Wildfire Protection Plan**
  - Finalize the CWPP and communicate the results to community and key partners.

## Sponsor Organizations

### **Communities Committee of the Seventh American Forest Congress**

[www.communitiescommittee.org](http://www.communitiescommittee.org)

919 Elk Park Rd.

Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Phone: 406-892-8155

Fax: 406-892-8161

### **Society of American Foresters**

[www.safnet.org](http://www.safnet.org)

5400 Grosvenor Lane

Bethesda, MD 20814-2198

Phone: (301) 897-3690

Fax: (301) 897-3690

### **National Association of Counties**

[www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)

440 First Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

Phone: (202) 393-6226

Fax: (202) 393-2630

### **National Association of State Foresters**

[www.stateforesters.org](http://www.stateforesters.org)

444 N. Capitol St., NW Suite 540

Washington, DC 20001

Phone: (202) 624-5415

Fax: (202) 624-5407

For an electronic version of this Handbook and the latest information visit:  
[www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm](http://www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm)

### **Additional Resources on the Web:**

- Federal Agency Implementation Guidance for the Healthy Forest Initiative and the Healthy Forest Restoration Act: [www.fs.fed.us/projects/hfi/field-guide/](http://www.fs.fed.us/projects/hfi/field-guide/)
- Field Guidance for Identifying and Prioritizing Communities at Risk: [www.stateforesters.org/reports/COMMUNITIESATRISKFG.pdf](http://www.stateforesters.org/reports/COMMUNITIESATRISKFG.pdf)
- The National Fire Plan: [www.fireplan.gov](http://www.fireplan.gov)
- Fire Safe Councils: [www.firesafecouncil.org](http://www.firesafecouncil.org)
- Western Governors Association: [www.westgov.org](http://www.westgov.org)
- Collaboration:  
[www.redlodgeclearinghouse.org](http://www.redlodgeclearinghouse.org)  
[www.snre.umich.edu/emi/lessons/index.htm](http://www.snre.umich.edu/emi/lessons/index.htm)

### **Examples of Community Fire Plans**

*(Note: these plans may not meet the requirements of HFRA, because they were created prior to its enactment)*

Josephine County, Oregon: [www.co.josephine.or.us/wildfire/index.htm](http://www.co.josephine.or.us/wildfire/index.htm)

Applegate Fire Plan: [www.grayback.com/applegate-valley/fireplan/index.asp](http://www.grayback.com/applegate-valley/fireplan/index.asp)


Colorado Springs, CO: [csfd.springsgov.com/wildfiremitigation.pdf](http://csfd.springsgov.com/wildfiremitigation.pdf)

Jefferson County, Colorado: [www.co.jefferson.co.us/ext/dpt/admin\\_svcs/emergmgmt/index.htm](http://www.co.jefferson.co.us/ext/dpt/admin_svcs/emergmgmt/index.htm)

Lower Mattole Fire Plan: [www.mattole.org/html/publications\\_publication\\_2.html](http://www.mattole.org/html/publications_publication_2.html)

Trinity County Fire Management Plan: [users.snowcrest.net/tcrd/](http://users.snowcrest.net/tcrd/)

Society of American Foresters  
5400 Grosvenor Lane  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814-2198  
www.safnet.org



# Want to help protect your community from wildfire risk?

Check out this *NEW* Handbook  
for preparing community wildfire protection plans!

Communities  
Committee



area. Fire Shed Assessment is an interdisciplinary approach to modeling fire behavior and developing a collaborative approach to solving fire and fuels problems with the communities.

- **San Bernardino NF Environmental Assessment:** Presently participation as a subcontractor to Tetra Tech, in the development of three Environmental Assessments on the San Bernardino National Forest. Providing fire behavior modeling and fuels and fire input to the documents as well as the Air Quality section to the Baldwin Lake and Bluff Mesa Environmental Assessment and the Santa Ana Environmental Impact Statement.

- 

### **Other Wildfire Management and Planning Experience**

- **Instructor for S490 Advanced Fire Behavior:** US Forest Service
- **Cadre leader and Instructor for the US Forest Service Prescribed fire Burn Boss RX 300 Class and Smoke Management RX450** I have instructed and lead the classes for the Pacific Southwest Region of the Forest Service. The Classes involved teaching the students all aspects of Burn Plan development through proper layout of burns, developing resource objectives, and prescriptions. Rx 450 focuses on proper smoke management and smoke management plans
- **Amador County Fire Safe Council** Fuel reduction project layout and administration of contracts for fuels reduction.
- **El Dorado County Fire Safe Council:** Wrote grants for eight projects for the FSC and administered ten grant awarded projects for mastication and hand clearing for the FSC
- **Army Corp of Engineers, Fort Ord,** Assisting the Corps and the Presidio of Monterey Fire Department in developing a prescribed fire program for ordinance removal developing the burn plan and implementing the prescribed burn and aerial ignition.

### **Deer Creek Resources, LLC**

Deer Creek Resources (DCR) provides consulting, mapping, predictive modeling, and media design services to land fire management agencies. We use technology, storytelling, photos, and maps to bridge the divides, bringing people to the table with a common frame of reference. Our staff of 12 call-when-needed GIS professionals are available on short notice for both mapping projects and emergency response GIS assignments.