

DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN

LAST REVISED 2017



A collaborative project created with assistance from the following agencies:



**Douglas County
Emergency Management**



**Douglas Forest
Protective Association**



**Cow Creek Band of
Umpqua Tribe of Indians**



**US Forest Service
Umpqua National Forest**



**Bureau of Land
Management -
Roseburg**



**Douglas County
Fire District No. 2**



**Douglas County
Planning Department**

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Prepared by the
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INTRODUCTION

The impacts of wildfire on the landscape and the inhabitants of Douglas County have been profound. Historically, fire has played an important role in the biological health and diversity of Douglas County's forests. Many plant and animal species evolved in a forest environment subject to frequent wildfire events. Some tree species, for example, require fire to reproduce. For centuries, Native Americans used wildfire as a tool to manage the forest for food (e.g. nut trees), shelter, and other needs. The settlement of Douglas County by European Americans ultimately disrupted these natural regimes and human practices.

Over a century of timber harvest and aggressive fire suppression have significantly altered forest composition and structure from historic conditions. These activities have resulted in the accumulation of forest vegetation and a more closed, tighter forest structure. Such conditions contribute to wildfires that burn at higher intensity than in the past. More severe fire events have also become increasingly costly to taxpayers, who ultimately shoulder the expense of fire suppression efforts.

As recent catastrophic fires in the American West have demonstrated, the human cost of wildfire is felt most acutely in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), where residential and other development has increasingly encroached into these altered forest environments. In the WUI, homes, pets, crops, livestock, and human lives are vulnerable. Long term damage to the environment and to critical infrastructure is also a real danger.

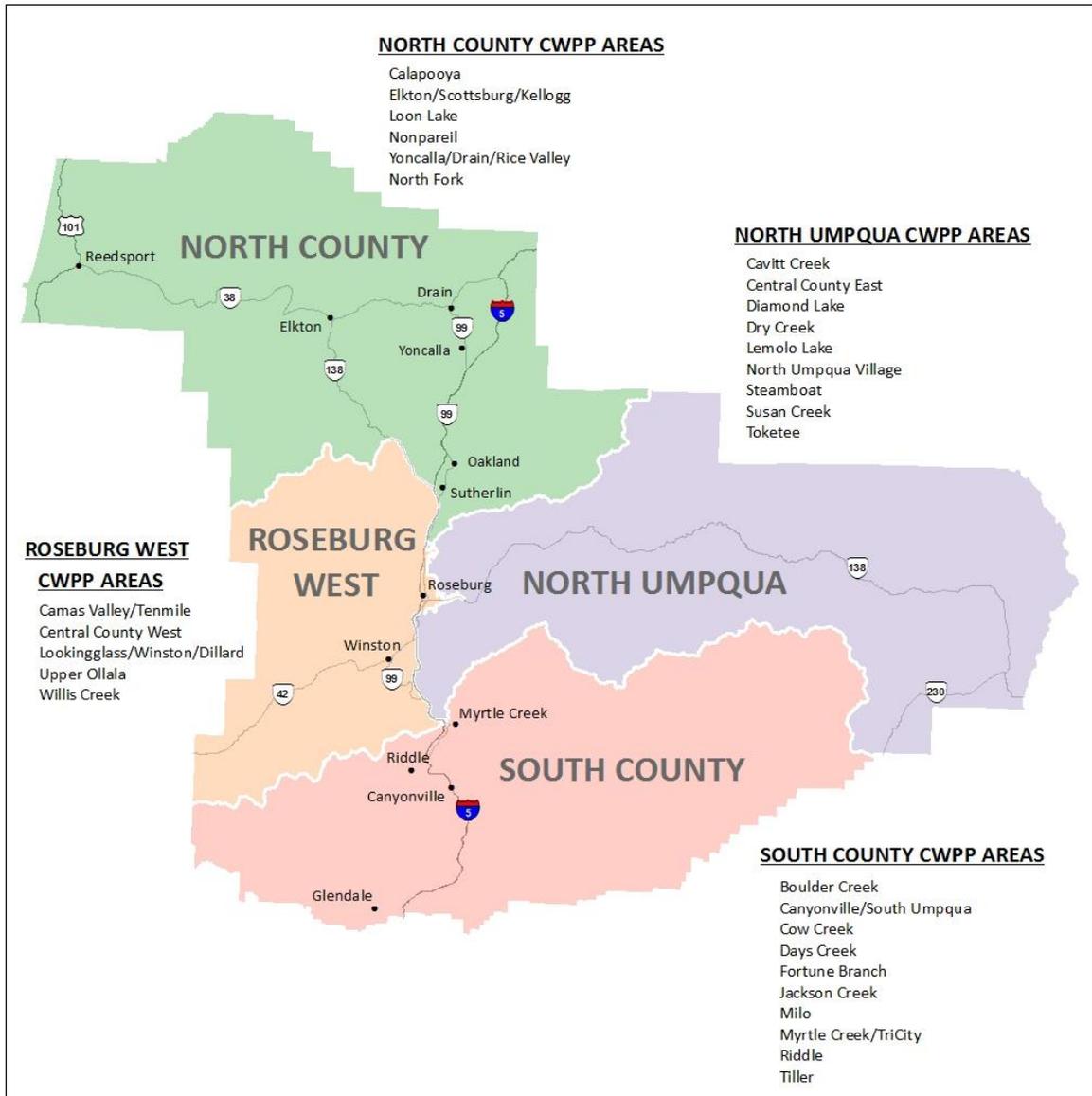
This Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) provides a wildfire-based approach to managing County forestlands and development in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). The development of CWPPs for communities in Douglas County became a priority of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners following landmark state and federal legislation, which encouraged communities to develop Community Wildfire Protection Plans. The CWPP was developed collaboratively over a number of years with input from local, state and federal agencies, community organizations, and interested individuals. The planning effort identified wildfire risks and priority treatment areas, and developed action items to reduce the risk of wildfires to citizens and communities in Douglas County. All recommendations should be viewed through the lens of personal responsibility and collaboration between governmental officials, community leaders and citizens.

Note on 2017 Update:

Updates to the Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan made by the Douglas County Planning Department in 2017 are primarily intended to consolidate the original 31 CWPPs into four CWPP regions: North County, North Umpqua, Roseburg West, and South County. See Image 1.1 for a map of the updates. The updates also include limited revisions to the organization and content of the CWPP. A more comprehensive update of the Douglas County CWPP is planned for fiscal year 2019-2020 and will accomplish any necessary remaining updates.

The updates were partially supported by funds allocated under Title III of the Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, which provides funding to counties for projects that fall within certain categories, including planning efforts to increase the protection of people and property from wildfire.

IMAGE 1.1 MAP CWPP REGIONS



MISSION

The mission of the Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan is to reduce the wildfire threat to life, property, and natural resources in Douglas County.

The guiding principles of the fire plan are to:

- Engage in community-developed landscape-scale fuels treatment projects that reduce wildfire vulnerability to communities at risk on private and public lands;
- Improve survivability to people, homes, and the environment when wildfire occurs;
- Promote wildfire awareness and public safety;

- Support and enhance the roles and functions of the County's Fire Districts, Douglas Forest Protective Association, Coos Forest Protective Association, Western Lane District: Oregon Department of Forestry and Fire and Emergency Service Providers;
- Provide education and wildfire prevention knowledge to citizens located in wildfire risk areas.

DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE HISTORY

Some of Oregon's most catastrophic fire events have taken place in Douglas County. Some fire seasons stand out above others. In 1951, four large fires burned over 40,000 acres and took one life. The Hubbard Creek Fire accounted for much of the damage, burning 15,574 acres, a fire lookout tower and 19 homes. The most costly fire that year took place near Riddle on the Russell Creek Fire when a Good Samaritan lost his life while helping put the fire out. The uncanny Bland Mountain Fires of 1987 and 2004 started less than 100 yards apart from one another and followed the same path of destruction. The 1987 fire burned 10,300 acres and took two lives, while the 2004 blaze scorched 4,700 acres. An additional 30,000 acres burned in 1987 that resulted from hundreds of lightning strikes during the Douglas Complex. The 1961 Clarks Branch Fire burned 5,000 acres and claimed the life of retired DFPA employee John J. Richards. In 2013, the Douglas Complex fires near Glendale burned an additional 48,679 acres.

2017 was an especially severe fire season across Oregon and other western United States. In Northern California, wildfire contributed to at least 43 deaths and destroyed approximately 14,000 homes. Many urban areas in Oregon and California saw extremely smoky conditions and poor air quality for prolonged periods of time. Nearly every community in Douglas County faced these conditions to some extent. In Douglas County, the Umpqua North Complex fires in the Diamond Lake and North Umpqua

ranger districts of the Umpqua National Forest burned 43,158 acres. In the Tiller Ranger District, 18,838 acres burned in the Falcon and High Cascades West Zone complex fires. The Horse Prairie fire burned 16,436 acres of private and BLM land. See Table 1.1 for a list of significant historic fires in Douglas County.



TABLE 1.1 NOTABLE HISTORIC WILDFIRE EVENTS IN DOUGLAS COUNTY

YEAR	EVENT	ACRES BURNED	HOMES LOST	CASUALTIES
1973	Doe Creek Fire	2,300 Acres	NA	NA
1979	Cougar Ridge Fire	259 Acres	NA	1 Death
1980	Tyee Mountain Fire	1,056 Acres	NA	NA
2002	Apple Fire	17,600 acres	NA	NA
2002	Tiller Complex	68,862 acres	NA	NA
2013	Douglas Complex	48,679 acres	NA	NA
2017	Umpqua North Complex	43,158 acres	NA	NA

In addition to past large fires in Douglas County, recent fires in Oregon and across the western United States have increased public awareness to the potential losses to life, property, and natural resources.

HEALTHY FOREST RESTORATION ACT

The Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) was signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2003 in response to the threat of destructive wildfires to our forests. The HFRA was designed to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire events while upholding environmental standards. The HFRA emphasizes the need for federal agencies to work collaboratively with communities to develop hazardous fuel reduction projects.

Among the most important outcomes of the HFRA was an incentive for communities to create a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). An approved CWPP is the mechanism for identifying priority fuel reduction areas. A CWPP can influence and prioritize future funding for hazardous fuel reduction projects, including where and how federal agencies implement fuel reduction projects on federal lands. Projects identified in a Community Wildfire Protection Plan are given priority.

BACKGROUND

In 2002, President Bush announced the Healthy Forests Initiative (HFI), which was designed to identify and remove barriers to the implementation of projects that were developed to restore the health of the nation's forests. The HFI was focused on renewed efforts to be more effective and efficient in carrying out restoration projects. Under HFI, new categorical exclusions were developed to allow the agencies to move quickly through National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review processes under appropriate circumstances, streamlined administrative review processes for NEPA and created new regulations under the Endangered Species Act for National Fire Plan projects to streamline consultation with federal regulatory agencies. It also set the stage for extensive discussion between the administration and Congress that resulted in new legislation addressing forest health.

Congress enacted the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) in November 2003. It provided new tools and additional authorities to treat more acres more quickly to expedite our restoration goal. The HFRA strengthens public participation and provides incentives for local communities to develop

community protection plans. It limits the complexity of environmental analyses for hazard reduction projects and provides a more effective appeal process and instructs the Courts that are being asked to halt projects, to balance the short-term effects of implementing the projects against the harm from undue delay and long-term benefits of a restored forest.

Title I of the Act addresses vegetation treatments on certain types of National Forest System and Bureau of Land Management lands that are at risk of wildland fire or insect and disease epidemics.

- Encourages streamlined environmental analysis of HFRA projects;
- Provides for administrative review of proposed HFRA projects on National Forest System lands before decisions are issued;
- Contains requirements governing the maintenance and restoration of old-growth forest stands when the Forest Service and BLM conduct HFRA projects in such stands;
- Requires HFRA projects in the Forest Service and BLM to maximize retention of larger trees in areas other than old-growth stands, consistent with the objective of restoring fire-resilient stands and protecting at-risk communities and Federal lands;
- Encourages collaboration between Federal agencies and local communities when community wildland fire protection plans are prepared;
- Requires using at least 50% of the dollars allocated to HFRA projects to protect communities at risk of wildland fire if identified in Community Wildfire Protection Plans;
- Requires performance to be monitored when agencies conduct hazardous-fuel reduction projects and encourages multiparty monitoring that includes communities and other interested parties; and
- Encourages courts that consider a request for an injunction on an HFRA-authorized project to balance environmental effects of undertaking the project against the effects of failing to do so.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND MANAGEMENT PLANNING RULE

The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976 requires every national forest managed by the Forest Service to develop and maintain a Land Management Plan (also known as a forest plan). In 1979 the first planning regulations (Planning Rule) were adopted for the NFMA. The Planning Rule requires the Forest Service to develop more specific requirements on how to implement the NFMA.

In 2012, the Department of Agriculture adopted a new National Forest System Land Management Planning rule. This Planning Rule (36 CFR Part 219) guides the development, amendment, and revision of land management plans for the National Forest System (NFS). The Planning Rule is designed to ensure that plans provide for the sustainability of ecosystems and resources; meet the need for forest restoration and conservation, watershed protection, species diversity and conservation. The Rule ensures uses of NFS lands provide jobs and contribute to the economic and social sustainability of communities. The Planning Rule requires approval of new plans, amendments or revisions to take science into account in the planning process and document how the science was considered.

The new Planning Rule that is adaptive and science-based, engages the public, and is designed to be efficient, effective, and implementable. The Planning Rule framework includes three phases: assessment, plan development/revision, and monitoring. The Planning Rule must address the

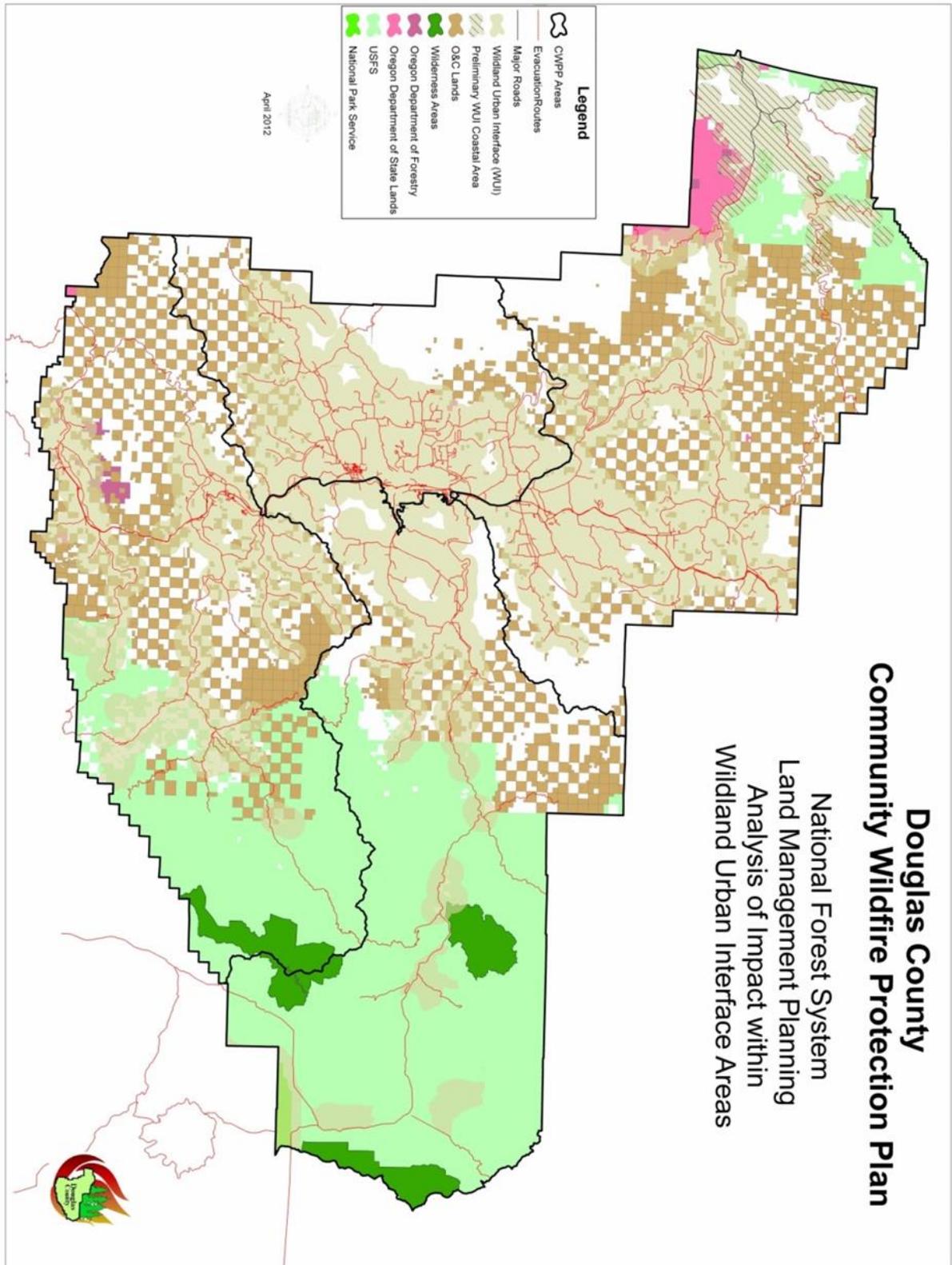
following purposes and needs:

- Emphasize restoration of natural resources to make lands more resilient to climate change, protect water resources, and improve forest health.
- Contribute to ecological, social, and economic sustainability by ensuring that all plans will be responsive and adaptive to issues.
- Be consistent with NFMA and Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960.
- Be consistent with Federal policy on the use of scientific information and experience gained in over thirty years of land management planning.
- Provide for a collaborative process that allows effective public participation.
- Ensure planning takes an "all-lands approach."
- Be within the Agency's capability to implement on all NFS units; provide an efficient framework for planning; and be within the financial capacity of the Agency.
- Be effective by requiring a consistent approach to ensure that all plans address the issues outlined by the Secretary and allow for land management plans to be implemented that address social, economic, and ecological needs.

The revised rule (Section 219.4(a)), encourages participation by other Federal agencies, Tribes, States, counties, and local governments, including State fish and wildlife agencies, State foresters and other relevant State agencies. The revised rule (Section 219.4(b)) requires opportunities for the unit plan to contribute to joint objectives and opportunities to resolve or reduce conflicts where they exist.

In addition, the assessment phase of the review is required to identify and consider relevant existing information, which may include neighboring land management plans and local knowledge. This information may include State forest assessments and strategies, eco-regional assessments, nongovernmental reports, State comprehensive outdoor recreation plans, *community wildfire protection plans*, public transportation plans, and State wildlife action plans, among others.

The following map identifies the complex relationship between National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, State Forest and the Wildland Urban Interface and the evacuation routes for communities at risk identified in this Community Wildfire Protection Plan.



DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS

Title I of the HFRA encourages communities to develop CWPPs and designate Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas, where HFRA projects may take place. Half of all fuel reduction projects under the HFRA will occur in the community protection zone as defined by HFRA. HFRA also encourages biomass energy production through grants and assistance to local communities to create market incentives for removal of otherwise valueless forest material.

The Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) is linked to the Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, PL 106-393, through funding provisions found in two separate Titles of PL 106-393. Title III provides counties with funds for expenditure on projects that fall within certain categories, one of which is county planning efforts to increase the protection of people and property from wildfire. The CWPP planning process under HFRA is clearly an authorized use of Title III funds under PL 106-393, and Douglas County utilized Title III funds to create its CWPPs. In addition, Title II of PL 106-393 allows counties to direct the expenditure of federal funds on projects recommended by local Resource Advisory Committees (RACs) if projects are conducted on federal lands or affect federal resources. Reducing potential wildfire fuels on federal lands or near federal lands easily meets this standard.

CWPP PLANNING HISTORY

In the summers of 2004 and 2005, the Douglas County Board of County Commissioners directed the County Planning Department to work with state and federal agencies, fire protection agencies and the County Emergency Management Director to develop Community Wildfire Protection Plans for Douglas County's at-risk communities. This countywide effort was initiated to reduce wildfire risk to citizens, improve forest health, and quality of life within Douglas County.

Since the beginning of the CWPP planning process, wildfire professionals, county staff, emergency responders, state and federal agency representatives and Douglas County Citizens have worked together to develop Community Wildfire Protection Plans for thirty Communities at Risk (CARs) located throughout Douglas County. Upon completion of the thirty Community CWPP's, it became apparent that the County needed a cohesive regional CWPP boundary to successfully implement fuels reduction projects, fire



prevention education campaigns, and other fire-related programs. The County CWPP helps Douglas County, and Federal, State and Local agencies within the County, stay competitive for federal funding programs such as the Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, PL 106-393, the National Fire Plan and FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program.

Table 1.2 describes the planning processes undertaken by Douglas County to create the Douglas County CWPP.

TABLE 1.2 CWPP PLANNING HISTORY IN DOUGLAS COUNTY

YEAR	PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION
2004	Phase I CWPPs	Fourteen (14) original CWPPs were adopted by resolution for: Cavitt Creek, Days Creek, Dry Creek, Fortune Branch, Jackson Creek, Loon Lake, Milo, Nonpareil, North Fork, North Umpqua Village, Susan Creek, Tiller, Upper Olalla, and Willis Creek.
2006	Phase II CWPPs	Sixteen (16) original CWPPs were adopted by resolution for: Calapooya, Camas Valley/Tenmile, Canyonville/South Umpqua, Central County East, Central County West, Cow Creek, Elkton/Scottsburg/Kellogg, Lookingglass/Winston/Dillard, Myrtle Creek/Tri City, North Douglas (Yoncalla/Drain/Rice Hill), and Riddle. CWPPs were also adopted for Boulder Creek, Diamond Lake, Lemolo Lake, Steamboat, and Toketee WUI areas at the request of USFS.
2010	Appendix A	North Umpqua CWPP adopted by resolution.
2011	Appendix B	South County CWPP adopted by resolution.
2012	Appendix C	Roseburg West CWPP adopted by resolution.
2013	Appendix D	North County CWPP adopted by resolution.
2017	Update	Update project consolidates original Phase I and Phase II CWPPs, and Appendices A, B, C and D into 4 geographic CWPP regions based on the Appendices A, B, C, and D.

As indicated above, Phase I of the Douglas County CWPP adopted fourteen (14) CWPP's on September 22, 2004.

Phase II CWPPs were completed in 2005. For Phase II, Fire District Boundaries plus a one mile buffer were used to identify the CWPP boundaries. The Steering Committee believed that utilization of the fire district boundaries would be the most efficient way of encompassing structures located in areas of wildfire concern, and also makes for a more easily understandable CWPP boundary.

The Umpqua National Forest also requested that the areas identified in their WUI be added to locations already within completed CWPP's. These areas are: Tiller, Susan Creek, Jackson Creek, Dry Creek, Cow Creek and Central County East CWPP Areas, which added over 148,000 acres of Umpqua National Forest administered lands to the Douglas County CWPP. The Phase Two CWPP areas were adopted by Resolution by the Douglas County Board of Commissioners on January 18, 2006.

Coordination and collaboration with Federal, State, and Local Fire Fighting agencies was completed to create four regional appendices which encompass the entire County. These appendices include: Appendix A, the "North Umpqua CWPP" which was adopted by resolution by the Douglas County Commissioners on June 23, 2010; Appendix B, the "South County CWPP" which was adopted by resolution on June 29, 2011; Appendix C, the "Roseburg West CWPP" which was adopted by resolution on June 20, 2012; and Appendix D, the "North County CWPP" which was adopted by resolution on June 19, 2013. These agencies also participated as the 2011 CWPP Steering Committee, which gave direction on how to define the CWPP and CWPPR boundaries.

The 2017 update of the Douglas County CWPP reformatted the document and consolidated the four Appendices with the applicable Community-at-Risk (CAR) profiles for each regional CWPP area, in order to streamline the document and make it easier to use. The introduction was also revised to address the recent wildfires in Douglas County as well as update language related to fuel reduction areas and WUI boundaries along escape and evacuation routes.

INTEGRATION WITH OTHER PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Several planning and management documents were reviewed during the development of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan for consistency, including:

- Douglas County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (2016)¹
- Douglas County Land Use and Development Ordinance (LUDO)
- Douglas County Comprehensive Plan
- Douglas Forest Protective Association – Douglas District Fire Operations Plan (2017)
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians – Tribal Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (2012)²
- Oregon State Fire Marshall – Oregon Fire Service Mobilization Plan (2017)
- Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act (1997)³
- Oregon Statewide Planning Goals and Guidelines – Goal 7: Areas Subject to Natural Hazards
- US Department of the Interior – Pacific Northwest Operating Plan (2014)

The relationship between the Douglas County CWPP and the Douglas County Multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) is particularly important. The wildfire chapter of the Douglas County NHMP assesses the vulnerability and risk posed by wildfire to areas of the County most susceptible to wildfire, particularly areas within the WUI, and outlines actions to reduce the risk, including the implementation of education and outreach programs, the development of partnerships, and the employment of preventative activities, such as land use programs. The actions described in the NHMP are intended to be implemented through existing plans and programs governing unincorporated Douglas County and the incorporated cities of the County, including the County CWPP.

PLANNING AREA BOUNDARIES

The Douglas County CWPP utilizes Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) boundaries, as developed by the US Department of Agriculture, to define the extent of the four CWPP *Regions*. A hydrologic unit is defined as the extent of a hydrological feature like a river, lake, or watershed. The USDA has organized these features into increasingly smaller sub-units. The CWPP Regions align with 8 digit HUC boundaries (cataloging unit) or HUC 8. The following considerations also guided decisions around CWPP Region boundaries.

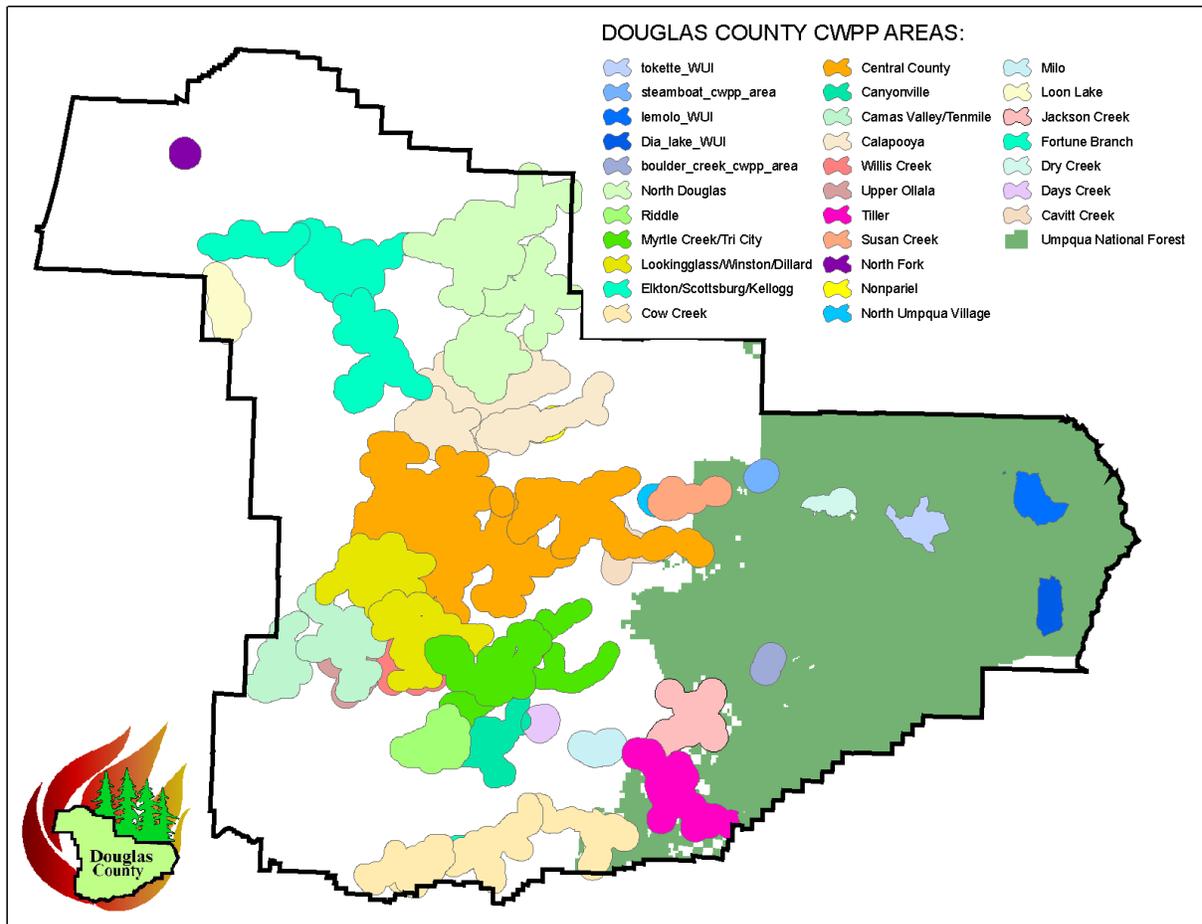
¹ Plan available online at http://www.co.douglas.or.us/planning/Natural_Hazard/pdf/DC_Multi_Jur_NHMP.pdf

² Plan available online at http://www.cowcreek.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/cow_creek_hazard_mitigation.pdf

³ The Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act is fully described in [Oregon Revised Statute \(ORS\) 477.015 through 477.061](#) and [Oregon Administrative Rules \(OAR\) 629-044-1000 through 629-044-1110](#).

To the extent possible, the four CWPP regions are oriented around a larger regional watershed or drainage area like the North Umpqua or South Umpqua Rivers. However, there are areas of the County where this is not advisable or practicable. In these cases, staff relied on existing geopolitical boundaries, such as fire district boundaries, to decide which HUC areas to include in a particular CWPP region. Finally, staff took into consideration the amount of WUI area within a CWPP region, to accommodate evacuation routes, protect infrastructure, and consider fire movement, management, and protection. This connection between the WUI boundaries, the evacuation routes, and the HUC 8 boundaries provides clear logical guidance on where the CWPP region boundaries are located.

FIGURE 1.1 CWPP AREAS IN DOUGLAS COUNTY



In addition to CWPP boundaries, a *Community Wildfire Protection Plan Resource (CWPPR)* boundary has also been defined. The CWPPR boundary also utilizes HUC 8 boundaries and includes all lands within the county not already included in the CWPP boundary.

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas used in this plan are defined as any area within 1 mile of rural

fire district boundaries.⁴

OTHER GEOGRAPHIC CONSIDERATIONS

CWPP and CWPPR areas within the boundaries of the Boulder Creek Wilderness, the Mount Thielsen Wilderness, and the Umpqua- Rogue Divide Wilderness are subject to applicable Federal law.

CWPP REQUIREMENTS

The HFRA requires that a CWPP contain the following specific components.

1. Collaboration: A CWPP must be collaboratively developed by local and state government representatives, in consultation with federal agencies and with input from the public.

The original CWPPs were created in collaboration with the Douglas Forest Protective Association, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Forest Service, the Douglas County Sheriffs Office of Emergency Management, and the Douglas County Planning Department. Subsequent updates have involved these same entities.

The CWPPs were presented to the public in Douglas County through the Douglas County Planning Department's Planning Advisory Committees (PACs). Citizens in the community staff the PACs and their meetings are announced in the local newspaper beforehand. There are six PACS in Douglas County, with each PAC containing communities identified in CWPPs.

Each Community Profile includes a signature sheet, which provides official approval to the Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plans by each of the agencies represented by the Core team.

2. Prioritized Fuel Reduction: A CWPP must identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommend the types and method of treatments to protect at-risk communities and essential infrastructure on private and public lands

The Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plans contains a section, which identifies the individual community's priority fuel reduction area. The CWPP Core team determined fuel reduction areas for the communities based on a community's boundary, evacuation routes or unique topographic and physical factors.

Upon identification of the fuel reduction areas of concern, specific areas within the fuel reduction areas were prioritized based on the primary goals of protection of life and property, and secondly determining areas that will have the greatest effect on making the communities more resistant to catastrophic wildfire.

⁴ The WUI areas defined on the map for Diamond Lake, Lemolo Lake, and Dry Creek do not currently show the entire 1 mile buffer area utilized around other communities in the CWPP. However, this is merely a graphic representation. This buffer area is included within most WUI areas to better protect those sites, given the fuels, topography and vegetation types present. To be consistent with the remainder of the plan, and in recognition of the substantial presence of homes, investments and heavy use by thousands of citizens a year at these three (3) sites, the same buffer area of 1 mile should be recognized around these areas. This change will be formally incorporated into the next revision of this plan. In the meantime, the WUI areas for the communities listed above should be administered like all other WUI areas.

In addition, it was the Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plans Core Team's conclusion that the most efficient way to identify fuel reduction areas of concern in the Umpqua National Forest was to Utilize Wildland Urban Interface Areas previously mapped by the USFS.

Guidance provided in the 10 year Comprehensive Strategy of the National Fire Plan, the Healthy Forest Restoration Act and the Umpqua National Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan, in addition to the designation of Communities at Risk in the Federal Register, directed the designation of the Wildland Urban Interface Areas included in this CWPP.

On occasion, based on topography, the Priority Fuel Reduction Area may be in excess of the CWPP fuel reduction area, this decision will be made based on fire suppression and resource management tactics and determined in the field, The Core Team identified that the area should be defined as "to ridge top" for resource management and firefighting.

Finally specific types and methods of fuel reduction activities were discussed for the priority fuel reduction areas for each community.

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.

Each of the Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plans contain action items for reducing structural ignitability, and educating homeowners on the importance of defensible space for their homes.

ADDITIONAL NEEDS

The CWPP steering committee identified the following additional needs, which will be addressed as action items in the Mitigation Action Plan sections of each CWPP Region:

EDUCATION

Each CWPP Region profile contains a Mitigation Acton Plan, listing action items for reducing structural ignitability and educating homeowners on the importance of defensible space for their homes.

Promote existing education and outreach programs (e.g. the Firewise Program, www.firewise.org) and develop community specific education programs which enhance and implement information on community escape routes, wildfire mitigation activities and reducing the risk to citizens, property and community values.

TRAINING

Many small rural fire departments would not be in existence today if it were not for community members volunteering their time to keep them afloat. Recognized as volunteer firefighters, the fire fighters must adhere to the same Oregon State training guidelines as career paid firefighters. Constant training refines skills that are necessary to stay prepared for the diversity of calls that fire fighters are summoned to on any given day, at any given time and in all types of weather conditions. Decisions often need to be made in a quick, logical manner in a sometimes hectic and chaotic scene. The needed level of training will be funded through Title III funding from the Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, PL 106-393.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Protecting a community's critical infrastructure has been identified as a priority of the Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Critical infrastructure includes those assets that are essential for the functioning of the society and economy of that community: transportation facilities, utilities and civic institutions. Protecting and ensuring the continuity and resilience of these assets is essential to a community's security, public health and safety, economic vitality, and way of life.

The following is a list of typical critical infrastructure that may be at risk during a wildfire event in the WUI area —

Transportation Systems:

- Airports
- Bridges
- Railroad
- Roads (Freeways, highways, and arterial/collector/local roads)

Utilities:

- Communication facilities
- Dams
- Gas and fuel pipelines
- Natural gas lines
- Propane tanks
- Power transmission lines/substations
- Wastewater treatment facilities
- Water treatment/reservoirs/well head areas/water pumping and supply areas

Other Facilities/Services:

- Churches
- Commercial areas of economic value to the communities
- Community centers
- Fire, ambulance, and police stations and equipment
- Gas Stations
- Government offices
- Grocery
- Historical and cultural sites and structures
- Libraries
- Post Offices
- Recreational facilities/amenities
- Schools/colleges

Each CWPP Region and CWPP Area contains unique infrastructure that falls within the categories outlined above. Each chapter and community profile includes a brief inventory of the critical infrastructure found in that CWPP Region and Area.

PAST FUEL REDUCTION EFFORTS

The following map indicates past fuel treatment projects/WUI (Wildland/Urban Interface) Projects:

