

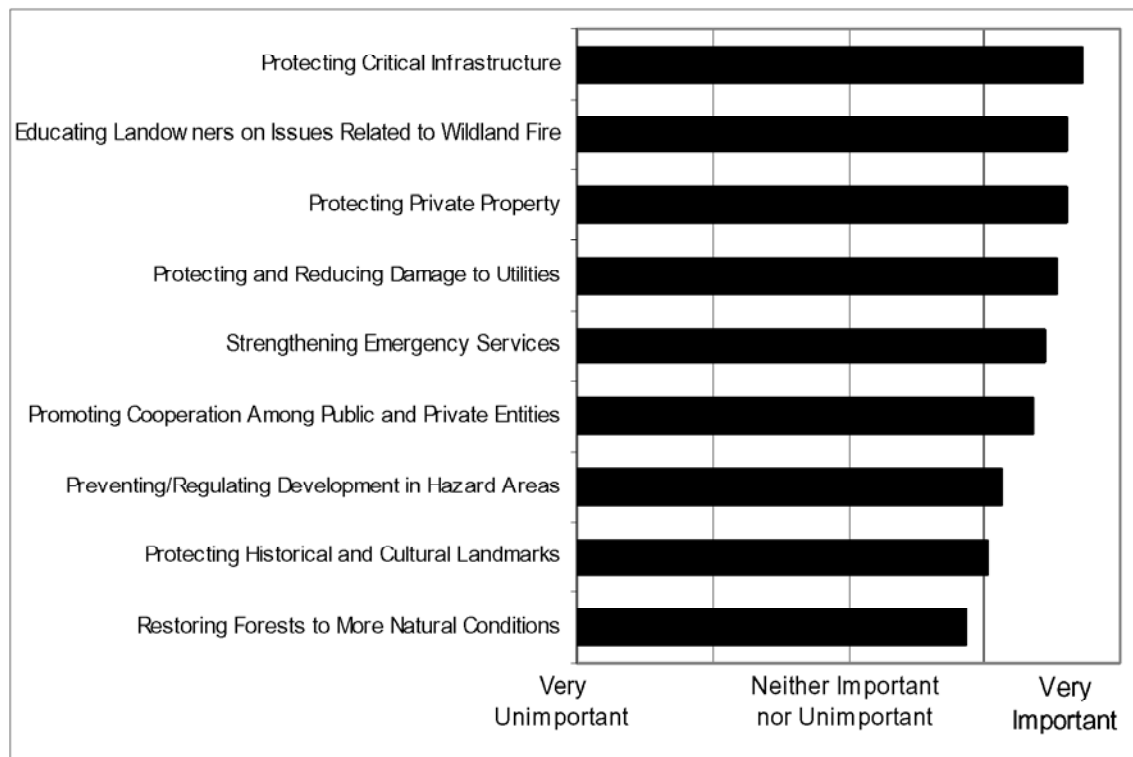
Hazardous Fuels Treatment

Respondents indicated their levels of support for four methods of hazardous fuels treatments in their communities. The treatments included: no action, mechanical thinning, prescribed burning, and chemical treatments. Of the four, the two preferred methods of hazardous fuels reduction were mechanical thinning (92%) and prescribed burning (74%). Respondents support for chemical treatments were split; 48% supported and 43% unsupported. Sixty-nine percent of respondents were unsupportive of no action being taken to reduce hazardous fuels.

Landowner Priorities for Future Wildland Fire Planning

The survey asked landowners about their opinions on the importance of different planning priorities for wildland fire. Table 3.5 shows the level of importance placed on different planning priorities by respondents. The majority of respondents indicated that each of the planning priorities listed were very or somewhat important. Protecting critical infrastructure, educating landowners, and protecting private property were the priorities ranked with highest importance. Of the priorities listed, respondents indicated that restoring forests to natural conditions was the least important.

Table 3.5. Priorities for Wildland Fire Planning (Q-11)

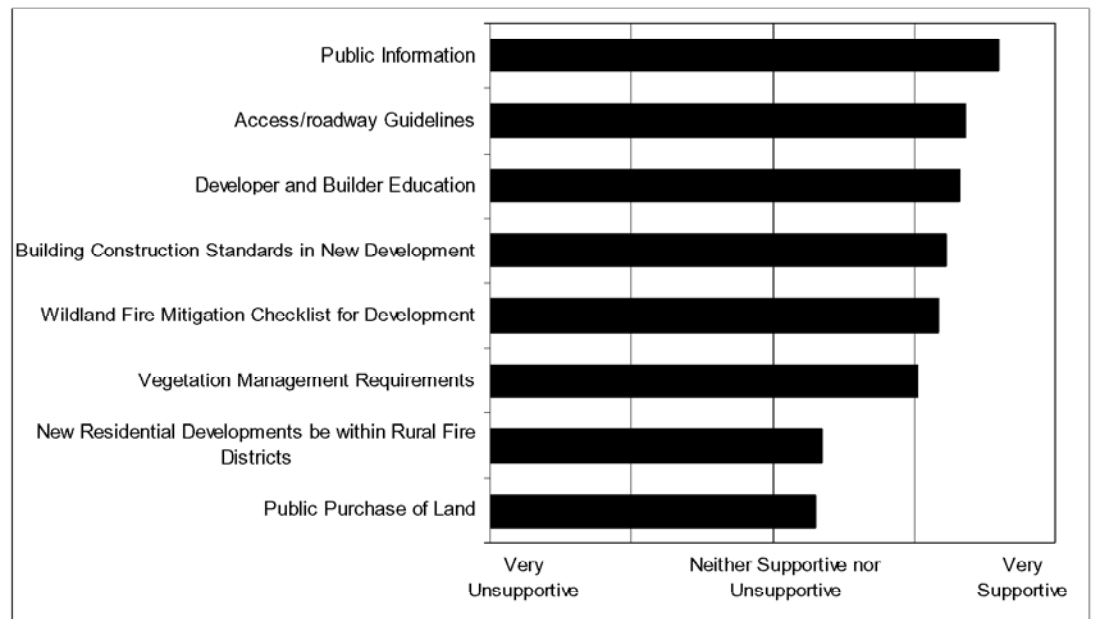


Source: ONHW/CPW, 2005

The survey asked respondents' opinions on responsibility for protecting property against wildland fire. The majority (94%) of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the responsibility for protecting property is shared between private landowners, local, state and federal agencies. Eighty-four percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that property owners are responsible for wildland fire protection. Fewer respondents agreed that the Oregon Department of Forestry or the community fire department is solely responsible.

There are a number of regulatory and non-regulatory activities that communities can implement to reduce wildland fire risk. Figure 3.5 shows respondents' levels of support for different risk reduction strategies. Respondents indicated the highest level of support for a public information strategy; 95% were very or somewhat supportive. Seventy-eight percent or greater of respondents were very or somewhat supportive of four out of five of the regulatory strategies listed. The most popular were access/roadway guidelines (88%) and building construction standards for new development in high hazard areas (83%). Of the risk reduction strategies listed in the survey, respondents indicated the least support for requiring that new rural residential developments be within rural fire protection district boundaries (50%) and for public acquisition of land in high hazard areas for open space (46%).

Figure 3.5: Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Strategies Wildland Fire Risk Reduction



Source: ONHW/CPW, 2005

Conclusions drawn from the landowner survey have been synthesized with the other outreach activities and are included in the closing section of this section.

Stakeholder Interviews

Purpose

ONHW conducted telephone interviews with 18 stakeholders identified by the steering committee for the Lane County CWPP. The purpose of the stakeholder interviews was to document key issues, concerns, and current activities related to the CWPP requirements of collaboration, hazardous fuel reduction, and the treatment of structural ignitability. For more information and a list of the stakeholders interviewed, see *Appendix F: Stakeholder Interview Summary*.

Methods

Stakeholders came from a pool that included both public and private interests. All stakeholders have expertise in either fire issues or the authority to help with implementation of the plan. Each interview lasted approximately 30 minutes. ONHW completed the interviews in February and March 2005. Interviews were transcribed by hand during the interview, and then typed into a computer template afterward. Following completion of the interviews, all of the answers were documented then analyzed for common themes.

Interview questions corresponded to four main areas:

- **Risk Perception and Current Activities**
- **Key Issues Related to Hazardous Fuel Reduction**
- **Key Issues Related to Structural Ignition**
- **Collaboration and Participation**

Findings

Stakeholders mentioned several themes repeatedly through all categories of questions: 1) funding obstacles; 2) follow-up and maintenance of policies and programs; and 3) education of landowners. The remainder of this section summarizes other themes of the interviews within the four areas of interview questions.

Risk Perception and Current Activities

The following is a brief summary of the stakeholders' perception of wildland-urban interface fire risk, current policies and programs, and funding for programs related to wildland-urban interface fire.

Perception of Wildland Fire Risk

- There is a perceived threat from fire in the wildland-urban interface area by all of the stakeholders.
- The wildland-urban interface conditions exist and the threat is increasing. Increasing protection capabilities is difficult without strategic planning.

- The main fire threat is from the build-up of hazardous fuels when debris accumulates on the forest floor after thinning or other treatments.
- There is a need for outreach in areas that are unprotected by a Rural Fire Protection District.

Current Policies and Programs

- Lane County zoning codes, including Chapter 15 and Chapter 16 sections 10 and 11, were mentioned as mitigation elements.
- Fire Defense Board and Fire Prevention Co-op activities were identified as existing programs.
- Stakeholders identified a current emphasis is on response plans.
- Oregon Department of Forestry's current plans and programs focus on prevention and response.
- Oregon Forest Land Urban Interface Protection Act of 1997 (better known as Senate Bill 360) was also mentioned.

Funding

- Nearly 50% of the stakeholders have received some form of grant funding for various activities related to WUI fire issues.
- Government agencies and Rural Fire Protection Districts currently apply for grants and matching funds for mitigation projects, fire planning, outreach, equipment needs, and GIS mapping.
- Private sector stakeholders raised questions on their eligibility.

Key Issues Related to Hazardous Fuels Reduction

Stakeholders provided their issues and concerns related to identifying and prioritizing fuel reduction treatments. They were also asked about their concerns regarding fuel treatments and about resources to help the plan move forward with fuel reduction projects.

Identifying and Prioritizing Fuel Reduction Treatments

- The risk assessment can and should be used to identify and prioritize hazardous fuels projects.
- Urban and under-protected areas should be a priority.
- Fuels need to be treated on a landscape scale vs. a site-specific scale (e.g. defensible space projects and landscape scale projects should be done in conjunction with one another).
- Public and private projects need to be more coordinated and can facilitate the sharing of labor, tools, and knowledge.

Types and Methods for Fuel Reduction Treatments

- Most methods have been proven to work well, but the effectiveness of a particular method is dependent upon the nature of the hazard and the topography of the area.
- Prescribed burning presents unique challenges in Lane County, specifically around smoke management, diminished air quality, and complaints from residents. Another concern is that safety fuels can hold heat and flare up long after the fire crews have left. However, some stakeholders believe prescribed burning is good for forest health on a larger landscape scale.
- Opinions over the use of chemical treatments are split. Some stakeholders see chemical treatments as an affordable means of fuel reduction, while others had concerns about their environmental impacts.
- Brush cutting is effective, but is costly and requires dedicated maintenance.
- Debris removal is an important component of fuel reduction but is costly.

Key Issues Related to Structural Ignition

Stakeholders provided insight on regulatory and non-regulatory policies and programs that might be effective in motivating property owners to reduce their risk to wildfire. A follow-up question was then asked regarding the obstacles that may hinder implementation of these policies and programs.

Non-Regulatory Policies and Programs

- Homeowner and landowner awareness plays an important role in reducing structural ignitability, but current levels of education and awareness are lacking.
- Free or easy debris removal programs are lacking but would be a great resource to enable the public to reduce their risk by removing hazardous fuels from their properties.
- Firewise Workshops and Firewise Communities USA programs at the local level (fire district, town, or neighborhood levels) could help educate homeowners and landowners.

Regulatory Policies and Programs

- Defensible space incentives or fire protection requirements from the insurance industry should be explored.
- County building ordinances that regulate building and roofing materials are needed, and need to be followed up on and maintained over the long-term.

Obstacles

- Funding for both non-regulatory and regulatory policies and programs is lacking.
- Human resources for long-term follow-up and maintenance of policies and programs could be a problem.
- Lack of education of landowners and the public of their responsibilities in following regulations.

Collaboration and Participation

Stakeholders answered questions related to their current level of participation in reducing the wildland-urban interface fire risk to Lane County. Other questions asked about current and future collaboration opportunities among stakeholders or other agencies. All stakeholders interviewed stated that their organizations are willing to collaborate on more site-specific local community fire plans that follow the countywide plan.

- There is currently limited collaboration among several agencies regarding wildland-urban interface or disaster protection issues. Examples of such agencies include the following:
 - US Forest Service and BLM Interagency office collaborates with the Oregon Department of Forestry on wildfire response
 - Lane County Fire Defense Board
 - Lane County Fire Prevention Co-op
 - Lane County Interagency Emergency Response Team
 - EWEB collaborated with 27 agencies to develop a Hazardous Materials GIS Tool
- Opportunities for collaboration will be increased through the process of this plan.
- The plan will need to designate a leader to drive the process and keep up the interest in the issues in order to ensure long-term collaboration and participation.
- Careful consideration must be given on how to establish effective collaborative process to accomplish risk reduction.

Conclusions drawn from the stakeholder interviews have been synthesized with the other outreach activities and are included in the closing section of this section.

Firewise Communities Workshop

Purpose

ONHW and Oregon Department of Forestry conducted a Firewise Communities Workshop on April 5, 2005 at the University of Oregon for CWPP stakeholders. Participants in the workshop included representatives of federal and state fire and forestry agencies, rural fire protection districts, local planning and emergency management departments, utility providers, the private forestry industry, the real estate industry, watershed councils, and elected officials, among others. For more information about the Firewise Workshop see *Appendix G: Firewise Workshop Summary*.

Methods

The National Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Program developed Firewise Communities Workshops in 2000 to address the wildland-urban interface fire problem at a community level. The workshops have three main goals:

1. To improve safety in the wildland-urban interface by learning to share responsibility.
2. To create and nurture local partnerships for improved decisions in communities.
3. To encourage the integration of Firewise concepts into community and disaster mitigation planning.

These goals are consistent with the emphasis that CWPP planning puts on collaboration. Workshop participants worked in small groups to complete interactive scenarios designed to assess and reduce the wildfire risk of a fictional community.

During the workshop facilitators asked participants to consider how Firewise concepts apply to issues in Lane County. A worksheet was created for the workshop participants to identify opportunities and obstacles in Lane County for each of the three requirements of the CWPP: 1) reducing structural ignitability, 2) prioritizing fuel reduction projects, and 3) collaboration. Participants discussed their ideas in small groups and shared these results with the whole group at the end of the workshop. ONHW analyzed the worksheets to compile the opportunities and obstacles most commonly identified by participants. In each section below, the ideas identified most frequently occur at the top of the list.

Findings

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. Workshop participants

were asked to list opportunities and obstacles to implementing structural ignition reduction projects in Lane County.

Opportunities

- Education and outreach through various sources including media, town hall meetings, and publications.
- Incentive programs, especially the use of insurance related incentives, to encourage participation in projects to reduce risk.
- Collaboration with community groups, developers, neighbors, fire agencies, and others to better educate residents and implement projects.
- Available grant money from the National Fire Plan and other sources for implementing projects to reduce structural ignitability.
- Updating or revising Lane County codes and ordinances to reduce structural ignitability.

Obstacles

- Lack of homeowner education and awareness regarding the true risk of wildfire in Lane County and how defensible space can reduce risk.
- Lack of funding to implement projects, along with the cost of fire resistant building materials for homeowners.
- Lack of collaboration and involvement among homeowners, agencies, and developers to implement projects.
- Lack of regulations to enforce the use of fire resistant building materials and practices within the county.

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. Participants were asked to list opportunities and obstacles to implementing prioritized fuel reduction projects in Lane County.

Opportunities

- Education using community outreach, public forums, media and other sources emphasizing examples of fuel reduction projects and homes saved by defensible space.
- Incentive programs such as rebates or other support to help landowners with debris removal, as well as insurance or property tax incentives to encourage fuel reduction.

- Collaboration and participation to share costs, tools, and manpower to implement fuel reduction projects on a larger scale.
- Finding uses for the biomass generated from fuel reduction projects, such as selling the chips or using it as an energy source.
- Available grant money from the National Fire Plan and other sources to aid in implementation of fuel reduction projects.

Obstacles

- Debate surrounding the best method to conduct fuel reduction treatments on private and public lands based on differing topography, environmental issues, public perception, and cost.
- Long term maintenance of fuel reduction treatments.
- The size and scope of the county and the sheer volume of work that is needed to begin and maintain fuel reduction projects as the wildland-urban interface continues to increase.
- Public perception of low wildfire risk and of fuel reduction projects as aesthetically unpleasant.
- The cost of implementing fuel reduction treatments on properties and removing debris.
- Special needs populations who require extra assistance with fuel reduction projects.

Collaboration

A CWPP must be collaboratively developed by local and state government representatives, in consultation with federal agencies and other interested parties. Participants were asked to list opportunities and obstacles to collaboration.

Opportunities

- Brings people with diverse expertise together for better solutions to problems.
- Exhibiting collaboration increases success with grant applications.
- Work with real estate agencies and other groups and businesses to raise awareness of wildland-urban interface wildfire issues.
- Use the media to capture public attention of current collaboration efforts and encourage future efforts.

Obstacles

- Differing priorities, values, and interests among partners.
- Lack of time and communication needed to foster working relationships among partners.

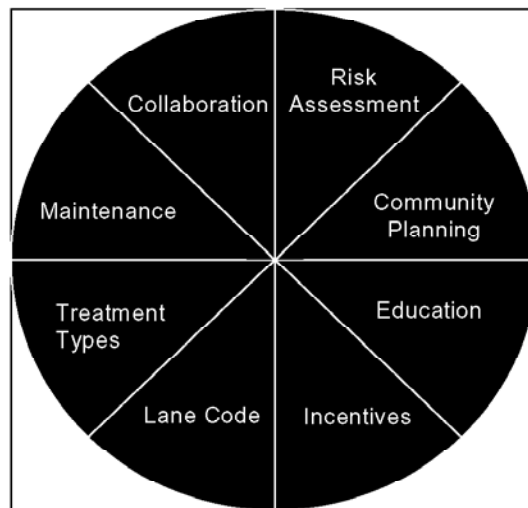
- “Turf battles” and conflicts over jurisdictional authority.
- Resistance or lack of interest in collaborating with others.

Conclusions drawn from the Firewise Workshop have been synthesized with the other outreach activities and are included in the closing section of this section.

Summary of Key Findings

Several common themes emerged from the landowner survey, the stakeholder interviews, and the Firewise Workshop. The section below summarizes these common themes into eight key findings, which are depicted in Figure 3.6.

Figure 3.6. Lane County CWPP Key Findings



Source: ONHW/CPW, 2005

Risk Assessment

Overall, Lane County has a moderate risk to wildland-urban interface fire, but high-risk areas exist throughout the county. The wildfire risk assessment should be used as a decision-making tool to help prioritize fuels reduction projects. Information in the risk assessment should be shared with local communities and updated and enhanced over time with local data.

Community Planning

Information sharing with local communities is especially important due to the large scale of Lane County. The ability of the CWPP to address structural ignitability issues is limited at the countywide level due to

the lack of site-specific data. The Lane County CWPP should encourage the development of more refined community fire plans in local communities and neighborhoods through the development of partnerships and resource sharing.

Education

Although fire prevention education programs exist, one-quarter of landowners surveyed indicated that they are not receiving any information. Community outreach results identified a need for improved coordination and dissemination of educational activities regarding wildland-urban interface fire risk. Educational messages should come from trusted sources, such as fire protection districts and Oregon Department of Forestry. Information should be distributed through the preferred methods identified in the landowner survey, including mail, newspaper, and television.

Incentives

Many stakeholders interviewed expressed support for incentive programs, such as tax breaks and insurance benefits, as effective non-regulatory approaches to increasing participation in wildfire mitigation activities. Two-thirds of landowner survey respondents indicated that tax and/or insurance incentives would motivate them to take additional steps towards reducing risk to their property.

Lane Code

Multiple sources in the stakeholder interviews and Firewise Workshop identified the need to update the Lane Code to require wildfire safety measures in rural residential zones similar to those required in areas zoned as forestlands. Most new development occurs in rural residential areas. The landowner survey results indicate that the majority of property owners are supportive of requiring standards for building materials, emergency access, and vegetation management for new development in wildfire hazard areas.

Treatment Types

Community outreach results indicate high levels of support for reducing hazardous vegetative fuels in Lane County. Debate exists over which treatment methods are most appropriate due to environmental and health concerns and to the range of forest types and topography found in the County.

Maintenance

The Lane County CWPP and its components require long-term maintenance to continue to effectively support efforts to protect people and property from wildfire. Stakeholders identified the need to institutionalize a process and establish a coordinator position to facilitate ongoing planning and coordination of wildfire mitigation activities in Lane County. This will help to ensure that the CWPP remains a functional document.

Collaboration

Stakeholders and community members within the county recognize that reducing risk to wildfire is a shared responsibility and requires collaboration between citizens, non-profit organizations, agencies, and the business community. Collaboration creates opportunities to develop better solutions, share resources, and more efficiently utilize limited funding. The Lane County CWPP can help to initiate improved coordination and establish a process for ongoing collaboration.

Section 4

Action Plan

Action Plan Framework

This section provides information on the process used to develop the goals, objectives, and action items in the Lane County CWPP. It also presents the Action Plan matrix, which is the overall framework for wildfire mitigation strategies. The framework consists of three parts—Goals, Objectives, and Action Items:

- **Goals**— Goals are intended to represent the general ends toward which the Lane County CWPP is directed. Goals identify how the area intends to work toward mitigating risk from wildland-urban interface fire. They do not specify how Lane County is to achieve the level of performance. The goals are guiding principles for the specific recommendations outlined in the action items.
- **Objectives**— Objectives link goals and action items. Objectives are the direction, methods, processes or steps used to accomplish or achieve the goals.
- **Action Items**— The action items are detailed recommendations for activities that local departments, citizens and others could engage in to reduce wildland-urban interface fire risk.

Figure 4-1 illustrates the framework of the action plan and depicts the level of specificity for each of the action plan components.

Figure 4.1: Framework for Goals, Objectives and Action Items



Source: ONHW/CPW, 2005

Action Plan Methods

The Action Plan was developed through an analysis of the issues identified in the risk assessment, the landowner survey, stakeholder interviews, and the Firewise Workshop, as well as through background research on the wildland-urban interface and a review of other community wildfire protection plans.

The Steering Committee reviewed and approved goals, objectives, and action items on April 20, 2005. Committee members were assigned responsibility for the implementation of individual action items. The Steering Committee assigned each action item with a priority ranking and identified potential funding opportunities at a meeting on May 24, 2005.

Lane County CWPP Goals

The plan goals help to guide the direction of future activities aimed at reducing risk and preventing losses from wildfire. The goals listed here serve as the guiding principles for agencies and organizations as they begin implementing action items.

GOAL 1: Provide countywide leadership through partnerships to implement wildland-urban interface fire mitigation strategies in Lane County.

GOAL 2: Improve community strategies for reducing the impacts of wildland-urban interface fires.

GOAL 3: Promote wildfire risk reduction activities for private and public lands in Lane County.

Lane County CWPP Objectives

The objectives connect the goals and action items and help organize the action plan for efficient implementation and evaluation. The Lane County CWPP identifies six objectives for achieving goals and providing guidance for action items.

Lane County CWPP Action Items

The plan identifies action items developed through various plan inputs and data collection and research. CWPP activities may be considered for funding through state and federal grant programs, including the National Fire Plan or Title II/Title III funding.

To facilitate implementation, each action item is described in a worksheet, which includes information on key issues addressed, ideas for implementation, coordinating and partner organizations, timeline, and plan goals addressed.

Key Issues Addressed:

Each action item includes a list of the key issues that the activity will address. Action items should be fact based and tied directly to issues or needs identified throughout the planning process. Action items can be developed from a number of sources including participants of the planning process, noted deficiencies in local capability, or issues identified through the risk assessment.

Ideas for Implementation:

Each action item includes ideas for implementation and potential resources. This information offers a transition from theory to practice. The ideas for implementation serve as a starting point for this plan. This component of the action items is dynamic as some ideas may be not feasible and new ideas can be added during the plan maintenance process. (For more information on how this plan will be implemented and evaluated, refer to Section 5 of the CWPP).

The action items are suggestions for ways to implement the plan goals. Ideas for implementation include things such as collaboration with relevant organizations, grant programs, tax incentives, human resources, education and outreach, research, and physical manipulation of buildings and infrastructure. A list of potential resources outlines what organization or agency will be most qualified and capable to perform the implementation strategy. Potential resources often include utility companies, non-profits, schools, and other community organizations.

Coordinating Organization:

The coordinating organization is the organization that is willing and able to organize resources, find appropriate funding, and oversee activity implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

Internal Partners:

Internal partners are within the CWPP advisory committee and may be able to assist in the implementation of action items by providing relevant resources to the coordinating organization.

External Partners:

External partner organizations can assist the coordinating organization in implementing the action items in various functions and may include local, regional, state, or federal agencies, as well as local and regional public and private sector organizations. The internal and external partner organizations listed in the CWPP are potential partners recommended by the project steering committee, but not necessarily contacted during the development of the plan. The coordinating organization should contact the identified partner organizations to see if they are capable of and interested in participation. This initial contact is also to gain a commitment of time and or resources towards completion of the action items.

Timeline:

Action items include both short and long-term activities. Each action item includes an estimate of the timeline for implementation. *Short-term action items* are activities that may be implemented with existing resources and authorities within one to two years. *Long-term action items* may require new or additional resources and/or authorities, and may take between one and five years to implement.

Action Plan Matrix

The Action Plan matrix portrays the overall framework and linkages between the goals, objectives and action items of the Lane County CWPP. The matrix is modeled after one developed by the *National Committee on Wildland Urban Interface Fire*. The matrix links the action items to the three HFRA requirements that they address: collaboration, prioritized fuel reduction, and treatment of structural ignitability. Each action item has a corresponding action item worksheet describing the project, identifying the rationale for the project, identifying potential ideas for implementation and assigning coordinating and supporting organizations. These action item forms are located in *Appendix A – Action Item Worksheets*.

Lane County: Community Wildfire Protection Plan Matrix

| Goals & Objectives | Action Item: | Coordinating Organization | Funding Sources | | | | Priority (H,M,L) |
|--|---|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|--------|------------------|
| | | | Title II | Title III | National Fire Plan | Others | |
| GOAL 1: Provide countywide leadership through partnerships to implement wildland-urban interface fire mitigation strategies in Lane County | | | | | | | |
| Objective 1.1. Establish and maintain a structure and methods for coordinating the implementation of the Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. | | | | | | | |
| <i>Short-Term</i> | Action 1.1.1. Create and formalize a Lane County CWPP Advisory Committee to oversee implementation, identify and coordinate funding opportunities, and sustain the Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. | Lane County Emergency Management | | ✓ | ✓ | | H |
| <i>Short-Term</i> | Action 1.1.2. Establish a sub-committee to coordinate and sustain effective countywide public education and outreach activities through the support of the Lane County Fire Prevention Co-op and other programs. | Lane County Fire Co-Op | | ✓ | ✓ | | M |
| <i>Short-Term</i> | Action 1.1.3. Establish and support a sub-committee to address fuel reduction methods and resource management practices. | Oregon Department of Forestry | | ✓ | ✓ | | M |
| Objective 1.2. Strengthen communication and coordination among Local Districts, County, State, and Federal agencies to effectively deliver wildland-urban interface risk reduction programs and messages. | | | | | | | |
| <i>Short-Term</i> | Action 1.2.1. Develop formal agreements with municipalities and special districts. | Lane County Land Management | | ✓ | | | H |
| <i>Ongoing</i> | Action 1.2.2. Establish a consistent communication strategy among intergovernmental partners using appropriate conduits and delivery mechanisms (Lane County Fire Defense Board, ODF, USFS, etc). | Oregon Department of Forestry | | ✓ | | | H |

| Goals & Objectives | Action Item: | Coordinating Organization | Funding Sources | | | | Priority (H,M,L) |
|--|--|--|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|--------|------------------|
| | | | Title II | Title III | National Fire Plan | Others | |
| GOAL 2: Improve community strategies for reducing the impacts of wildland-urban interface fires | | | | | | | |
| Objective 2.1. Review existing policies and regulations to reduce the impact of wildland-urban interface fires. | | | | | | | |
| Short-Term | Action 2.1.1. Review and develop recommendations to the Lane County Board of Commissioners for revisions to land use regulations, such as: Implementation of fire safety standards within rural residential zoning districts; Distribution of educational materials at the outset of the building permit review process; and Outreach services with neighborhood organizations and special interest groups. | Lane County Land Management | | ✓ | | | H |
| Short-Term | Action 2.1.2 Review and enhance the Lane County building permit process within the wildland-urban interface. | Lane County Land Management | | ✓ | | | H |
| Objective 2.2. Enhance the Lane County Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment. | | | | | | | |
| Short-Term | Action 2.2.1. Incorporate refined BLM/USFS road and response time data into the Lane County Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment. | Lane County Public Works GIS | | ✓ | | | |
| Short-Term | Action 2.2.2. Digitize and correct fire district boundary data | Lane County Land Management/Public Works GIS | | | | | |
| Short-Term | Action 2.2.3. Incorporate, maintain, and update Lane County's Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment GIS data elements. | Lane County Public Works GIS | | ✓ | | | |
| Ongoing | Action 2.2.4. Incorporate structural vulnerability assessments developed at the community level into the Lane County Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment. | Lane County Land Management | | ✓ | | | |
| Short-Term | Action 2.2.5. Complete rural addressing data collection project for county. | Lane County Land Management | | | | | |
| Short-Term | Action 2.2.6. Obtain LIDAR data for high risk areas to enhance Lane County's Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment. | Lane County Public Works GIS | | | | | |
| Objective 2.3. Support and prioritize fuels reduction projects by watershed. | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------|--------|-------------------------|---|
| Ongoing | Action 2.3.1. Utilize the Lane County Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment as a tool for prioritizing proposed fuel reduction projects. | Lane County Land Management | | ✓ | | | | H |
| Short-Term | Action 2.3.2. Develop appropriate fuels treatment method matrix for Lane County fuel reduction projects. | Lane County Emergency Management | | ✓ | | | | H |
| Short-Term | Action 2.3.3. Complete (5) watershed-based pilot projects that focus on infrastructure protection and exemplify the County's leadership in project implementation. | Oregon Department of Forestry | ✓ | | ✓ | | | H |
| Goals & Objectives | Action Item: | Coordinating Organization | Funding Sources | | | | Priority (H,M,L) | |
| | | | Title II | Title III | National Fire Plan | Others | | |
| GOAL 3: Promote wildfire risk reduction activities for private and public lands in Lane County | | | | | | | | |
| Objective 3.1. Increase individual awareness and promote risk reduction activities through education and outreach. | | | | | | | | |
| Ongoing | Action 3.1.1 Develop and coordinate a seasonal outreach campaign that promotes effective risk reduction practices in the wildland/urban interface. | Lane County Fire Prevention Co-Op | | ✓ | ✓ | | | H |
| Short-Term | Action 3.1.2 Establish a communication strategy that uses existing channels to disseminate risk reduction messages. | Oregon Department of Forestry | | ✓ | ✓ | | | H |
| Short-Term | Action 3.1.3. Create and maintain a website to promote Lane County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan. | Lane County Land Management | | ✓ | | | | H |
| Objective 3.2. Promote the use of non-regulatory incentives to reduce structural ignitability. | | | | | | | | |
| Short-Term | Action 3.2.1. Implement cost-share programs or tax incentives to assist landowners with hazardous fuels removal and disposal. | Oregon Department of Forestry | ✓ | | ✓ | | | M |
| Long-Term | Action 3.2.2. Collaborate with homeowner insurance companies to promote incentives that reward structural ignition risk reduction and fuels reduction activities in the wildland-urban interface. | Office of State Fire Marshall | ✓ | | ✓ | | | M |

Section 5:

Plan Implementation and Maintenance

Overview

The plan implementation and maintenance section of this document details the formal process that will ensure that the Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) remains an active and relevant document. This section provides the foundation for the formation of the Lane County's CWPP Advisory Committee, hereby referred to as the Committee. This section outlines how the Committee will prioritize community wildfire protection projects. Finally, this section includes a schedule for maintaining and updating the plan.

It is critical for Lane County to have a “living document” and not a plan that will simply sit and gather dust on the shelf. The plan's format allows the Committee to review and update sections as new data becomes available. New data can be easily incorporated, resulting in a community wildfire protection plan that remains current and relevant to Lane County and all the CWPP partners. The benefits of a current and relevant CWPP include:

- Allowing communities to identify local priorities and shape management decisions on public lands around them;
- Building community partnerships and collaboration between fire districts, fire departments, local/state/federal governments, and private landowners;
- Opening a variety of funding sources and opportunities to communities; and
- Facilitating fuels reduction and forest health treatments across the landscapes, in accordance with Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) and Healthy Forests Initiative goals.¹

Plan Implementation

The Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) requires that three entities must mutually agree to the final contents of a CWPP:

- Lane County Board of Commissioners;
- Lane County Fire Defense Board; and
- Oregon Department of Forestry

The Lane County CWPP is a shared plan and was developed and implemented based upon a collaborative process. The plan will be adopted by resolution by the Lane County Board of Commissioners and acknowledged by the Lane County Fire Defense Board and Oregon Department of Forestry in order to meet HFRA and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation requirements. The effectiveness of the Lane County non-regulatory CWPP will be contingent upon the implementation of the plan and action items identified therein. The action items provide a framework for building and sustaining partnerships to support wildfire risk reduction projects.

Advisory Committee

In accordance with action item 1.1.1, the plan development steering committee will become the advisory committee (the committee), and will: oversee implementation, identify and coordinate funding opportunities and sustain the CWPP. The Committee will act as the coordinating body and serve as a centralized resource for wildfire risk reduction and wildland-urban interface issues in Lane County. Additional roles and responsibilities of the committee include:

- Serving as the local evaluation committee for wildfire funding programs such as National Fire Plan grants, Senate Bill 360, and the Pre-Disaster Mitigation program;
- Developing and coordinating ad hoc and/or standing subcommittees as needed;
- Prioritizing and recommending funding wildfire risk reduction projects;
- Documenting successes and lessons learned; and
- Evaluating and updating the CWPP in accordance with the prescribed maintenance schedule.

Co-Conveners

Lane County Emergency Management and Lane County Land Management Division will serve as co-conveners to oversee the plan's implementation and maintenance. They will co-chair the CWPP advisory committee and fulfill the chair responsibilities. These two entities will be responsible for calling meetings to order at scheduled times or when issues arise, (e.g., when funding becomes available or following a major wildfire event).

Emergency Management roles:

- Coordinate Committee meeting dates, times, locations, agendas, and member notification;
- Document outcomes of Committee meetings in *Appendix B: Implementation and Maintenance Documentation*;

- Serve as a communication conduit between the Committee and key plan stakeholders, (e.g., monthly meetings of the Fire Defense Board); and
- Identify emergency management related funding sources for wildfire mitigation projects.

Land Management roles:

- Serve as gatekeeper to the project prioritization process;
- Incorporate, maintain, and update Lane County's Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment GIS data elements (Action 2.2.3); and
- Utilize the Lane County Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment as a tool for prioritizing proposed fuel reduction projects (Action 2.3.1).

Members

The following organizations were represented and served on the Committee during the development of the CWPP. These groups will continue to be members of the Committee in the implementation and maintenance phases of the CWPP.

- Lane County Emergency Management
- Lane County Land Management Division
- Oregon Department of Forestry – East Lane and South Cascade Districts
- Lane County Fire Prevention Cooperative
- Lane County Fire Defense Board
- Lane County Public Works, GIS Unit
- United States Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management

Because of the importance that the CWPP planning process places on collaboration and the fact that wildfire mitigation is a shared responsibility among a number of diverse stakeholders, the Committee may look to expand the current membership of the Committee.

Potential future committee members may include:

- Siuslaw, Long Tom, McKenzie, Coast Fork Willamette and Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Councils
- Eugene Water and Electric Board
- Home Builders Association
- Insurance representatives

- Local elected officials
- Oregon Small Woodlands Association (non-industrial forest land owners) Lane County Tax Equalization Group (industrial forest land owners)

Plan Maintenance

Plan maintenance is a critical component of the CWPP plan. Proper maintenance of the plan will ensure that this plan will benefit Lane County’s efforts to reduce risk in the wildland-urban interface. Lane County and CWPP partners have developed a method to ensure that a regular review and update of the CWPP occurs. The Committee will be responsible for maintaining and updating the CWPP through a series of meetings outlined in the maintenance schedule below.

Table 5.1: Plan Maintenance Meeting Schedule

| Semi-Annual Meeting | Annual Meeting | Five-Year Review |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Review Current Actions | Update Risk Assessment Data and Findings | Evaluate and Update CWPP and Integrate it into the Lane County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Wildfire Annex |
| Identify New Issues and Needs | Updates on Local Planning Efforts | |
| Prioritize Potential Projects | Discussion of Methods of Continued Public Involvement | |
| | Documenting Successes and Lessons Learned | |

Source: ONHW/CPW, 2005

Semi-Annual Meeting

The Committee will meet on a semi-annual bases to:

- review existing action items to determine ‘ripeness’;
- identify issues that may not have been identified when the plan was developed; and
- prioritize potential wildfire mitigation projects.

Lane County Emergency Management will be responsible for documenting the outcome of the semi-annual meetings. The process the Committee will use to prioritize all projects, including fuel reduction projects, is detailed in the section below.

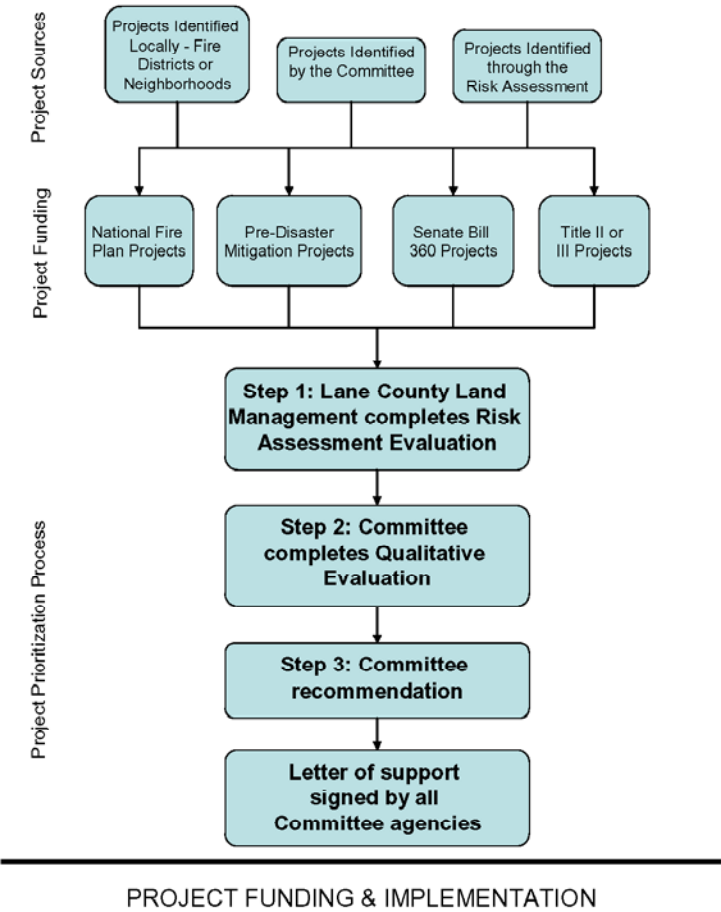
Project Prioritization Process

The requirements of HFRA state that the CWPP Advisory Committee will establish community hazard reduction priorities for projects. In accordance with Objective 2.3 the CWPP Advisory Committee will

support and prioritize wildfire risk reduction projects within Lane County.

The projects that are presented to the CWPP Advisory Committee will often come from a variety of sources; therefore project prioritization process needs to be flexible. Examples of methods in which projects may be identified include: Committee members, local fire districts or professionals, or the Risk Assessment may identify issues. Depending on the potential project’s intent and implementation methods, several funding sources may be appropriate. Examples of wildfire mitigation funding sources include: National Fire Plan, Title II funds, Title III funds, Pre-Disaster Mitigation grants, and Senate Bill 360 funds. These examples are used in the figure below to illustrate the project prioritization process. The prioritization process utilizes the countywide Risk Assessment to prioritize projects to help ensure that mitigation dollars are used effectively.

Figure 5.1: Project Prioritization Process Overview



Source: ONHW/CPW, 2005

Step 1: Risk Assessment Evaluation

The Lane County Land Management Division will use the Risk Assessment to document the risk rating and characteristics of proposed projects for the Committee. During this step, no decision is made, LCLMD only documents the risk rating from the Risk Assessment (high, medium, or low) and documents the characteristics of the site that contribute to its rating (fuels, protection capabilities, access, etc).

Step 2: Qualitative Evaluation

The Committee will evaluate the proposed projects according to qualitative criteria drawn from the Risk Assessment, current wildfire research, and funding source criteria. The qualitative evaluation worksheet is located in at the end of this section.

Step 3: Committee Recommendation

Once the Risk Assessment and qualitative evaluations are complete, the Committee will make its recommendations on whether or not the project should receive the Committees support.

If **NO**, the submitter is notified of the decision and provided with rationale behind the decision.

If **YES**, the Committee lists of the project under the appropriate goal and objective in the Action Item Matrix and provides the submitter with a signed copy of the Project Evaluation Worksheet. The worksheet will be signed by all agencies represented on the Committee and can be used by the submitter as documentation of support in the grant applications.

Annual Meeting

The Committee will meet annually to review updates of the Risk Assessment data and findings, get updates on local CWPP planning efforts, discuss methods of continued public involvement, and document successes and lessons learned based on actions that were accomplished during the past year.

On an annual basis, LCLMD and LCPW will complete the following tasks in an effort to incorporate, maintain, and update Lanc County's Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment GIS data elements (Action 2.2.3).

- Meet semi-annually with rural fire protection district boards and fire departments representatives to update community maps and digitize local data as appropriate to the RFPD and FD needs;
- Update the Risk Assessment GIS data layers on a timely basis as new Oregon Department of Forestry, U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management studies or assessments are available;

- Create a standardized format for local communities to use in submitting risk assessment data to supplement the CWPP GIS layers;
- Integrate local CWPP assessments and mapping when available into the Lane County CWPP;
- Update local and regional CWPP websites with information provided by the Lane County Fire Cooperative and Fire Defense Board;
- Support community efforts in the drafting of local CWPPs by providing access to the Risk Assessment GIS data;
- Assist local community efforts in identifying potential fuels reduction projects and drafting of Title II RAC grant applications; and
- Coordinate with local communities for involvement of the Lane County Forest Work Camp personnel in local fuels reduction projects.

Lane County Emergency Management will be responsible for documenting the outcomes of the annual meetings in *Appendix B: Implementation and Maintenance Documentation*.

Five-Year Review of Plan

Because the CWPP will be integrated into the wildfire annex of the Lane County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, complete plan updates will be set for five-year intervals to meet the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. During this plan update, the following questions should be asked to determine what actions are necessary to update the plan. Lane County Emergency Management will be responsible for documenting the outcomes of the five-year plan review in the *Appendix B: Implementation and Maintenance Documentation*. Table 5.2 provides a list of questions that can be used by the Committee to update the CWPP.

Table 5.2: Five-Year Plan Review Questions

5-year Plan Review Questions

Background Data - Section 1

Has the wildfire protection framework at the local, state, or federal level changed?
Have responsibilities of partner agencies changed?
Has recent fire occurrence been accurately reflected in the plan?

Risk Assessment Data - Section 2

Has the wildfire risk across the County changed?
Have new tools emerged to better evaluate the wildfire hazard?
Have local communities developed plans and implemented activities that might change the County's overall risk?

Outreach Data - Section 3

Are there new players that should be brought to the table?

Action Plan Data - Section 4

Do the CWPP goals, objectives and actions address current or expected conditions?
Have actions been effectively implemented?
Are there new funding sources available to mitigation the wildfire hazard?
Are there new actions that should be added to action plan matrix?

Plan Implementation Data - Section 5

Are the structures and methods established for implementing the plan still relevant?
Have there been any lessons learned documented from significant wildfires in other parts of the state that might be applicable to Lane County?
Has implementation occurred as anticipated?
What obstacles and challenges have arisen that have prevented or delayed implementation? Legal? Financial? Institutional?
What opportunities have arisen that could accelerate implementation?

Source: ONHW/CPW, 2005

¹ Tucker, Lena. 2005. Testimony for the House Resource Committee, Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health. *Development and Implementation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans in Oregon*.

Project Evaluation Worksheet

Coordinating Organization:

Phone:

Address:

Project Title:

Project Description and Location:

Completed by Lane County Land Management Division:

Risk Assessment Evaluation: **High** **Medium** **Low**

Risk Assessment Evaluation Rationale: Proposed fuel reduction sites should be located on the appropriate assessment area map. A simple review of the overall fire risk will be the most telling factor. Projects in areas of high risk should be considered likely candidates. Projects in moderate and even low risk areas may also be considered. The merits of each project should be weighed on a case-by-case basis. The use of the assessment as a "decision-making tool" requires a careful approach that considers the overall context of each site.

| Completed by Advisory Committee: | | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| Qualitative Evaluation Checklist | | |
| Does the proposed project align with one or more goals of the Lane County CWPP? | YES | NO |
| Is the proposed project politically and economically feasible? | YES | NO |
| Is the proposed project's timeline within the grant's performance period? | YES | NO |
| Are there partners for the proposed project? | YES | NO |
| Are there matching funds available for the proposed project? | YES | NO |
| Is there a benefit-cost ratio available for the project? | YES | NO |
| Does the project address critical infrastructure? | YES | NO |

Appendix A

Action Item Worksheets

This appendix includes the completed worksheets for each of the action items identified during the CWPP planning process.

The plan identifies action items developed through various plan inputs and data collection and research. CWPP activities may be considered for funding through state and federal grant programs, including the National Fire Plan or Title II/Title III funding.

To facilitate implementation, each action item is described in a worksheet, which includes information on key issues addressed, ideas for implementation, coordinating and partner organizations, timeline, and plan goals addressed.

Key Issues Addressed:

Each action item includes a list of the key issues that the activity will address. Action items should be fact based and tied directly to issues or needs identified throughout the planning process. Action items can be developed from a number of sources including participants of the planning process, noted deficiencies in local capability, or issues identified through the risk assessment.

Ideas for Implementation:

Each action item includes ideas for implementation and potential resources. This information offers a transition from theory to practice. The ideas for implementation serve as a starting point for this plan. This component of the action items is dynamic as some ideas may be not feasible and new ideas can be added during the plan maintenance process. (For more information on how this plan will be implemented and evaluated, refer to Section 5 of the CWPP).

The action items are suggestions for ways to implement the plan goals. Ideas for implementation include things such as collaboration with relevant organizations, grant programs, tax incentives, human resources, education and outreach, research, and physical manipulation of buildings and infrastructure. A list of potential resources outlines what organization or agency will be most qualified and capable to perform the implementation strategy. Potential resources often include utility companies, non-profits, schools, and other community organizations.

Coordinating Organization:

The coordinating organization is the organization that is willing and able to organize resources, find appropriate funding, and oversee activity implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

Internal Partners:

Internal partners are within the advisory committee and may be able to assist in the implementation of action items by providing relevant resources to the coordinating organization.

External Partners:

External partner organizations can assist the coordinating organization in implementing the action items in various functions and may include local, regional, state, or federal agencies, as well as local and regional public and private sector organizations. The internal and external partner organizations listed in the CWPP are potential partners recommended by the project steering committee, but not necessarily contacted during the development of the plan. The coordinating organization should contact the identified partner organizations to see if they are capable of and interested in participation. This initial contact is also to gain a commitment of time and or resources towards completion of the action items.

Timeline:

Action items include both short and long-term activities. Each action item includes an estimate of the timeline for implementation. *Short-term action items* are activities that may be implemented with existing resources and authorities within one to two years. *Long-term action items* may require new or additional resources and/or authorities, and may take between one and five years to implement.

Lane County CWPP Action Item

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Proposed Action Item Identification: | | |
| ST: 1.1.1 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 1 Objective 1.1 | | |
| Proposed Action Title/Description: | | |
| Create and formalize the Lane County wildland-urban interface committee to oversee implementation, identify and coordinate funding opportunities, and sustain the Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. | | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HFRA- Collaboration ▪ Oregon Senate Bill 360- Wildland-Urban Interface Classification Committee ▪ National Fire Plan 10-year implementation strategy- Collaboration ▪ Stakeholder interviews, Firewise Workshop-Identified an opportunity for a central committee to provide leadership by prioritizing and setting guidelines for fuels reduction projects and cut across jurisdictional boundaries ▪ Example Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mariposa County, CA- Fire Safe Council (part of larger California Fire Safe Council network): “Plays an important role of coordination of activities for fuel reduction within the County. Council has organized chipping projects for area residents, developed a risk assessment study, and maintained an information table at County Fairs.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Plumas County, CA- Fire Safe Council: Procuring funding for homeowner demonstration projects and chipping programs. – Grant County, NM National Fire Plan Implementation Team | | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expand current Lane County CWPP steering committee to include a variety of stakeholders that would satisfy the committee requirements of Oregon Senate Bill 360, as well as those of the National Fire Plan 10-year implementation strategy ▪ Create rules and guidelines for implementing collaborative fuel reduction projects throughout Lane County, including sharing of resources and manpower to complete the projects ▪ Convene the steering committee and sign a MOU for each calendar year depicting agency commitments and reimbursement for staff time. ▪ Hold quarterly meetings to review the plan and identify highest priority projects most feasible for implementation. ▪ Coordinate timelines to take advantage of funding opportunities available through Resource Advisory Committees that award Title II project funds. ▪ The Committee has the ability to add sub-committees as needed. | | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Emergency Management | |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: | |
| LCLMD, LCPW GIS, ODF | Oregon State Fire Marshal. Lane County Fire Chiefs | |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: | |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | \$3,000 (\$2,800 for staff reimbursement and \$300 for refreshments) |
| 6-7 Months | | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item

| | |
|---|---|
| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST 1.1.2 Would be a Short Term Action Item proposed under Goal 1 Objective 1.1 | |
| Proposed Action Title: | |
| Establish a sub-committee to coordinate and sustain effective countywide public education and outreach activities through the support of the Lane County Fire Prevention Co-op and other programs. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews, Firewise Workshop - Identified an opportunity to increase education and wildland-urban interface fire awareness of residents of Lane County to increase public involvement in wildfire risk reduction activities. | |
| Ideas for Implementation: (Optional) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate the Lane County Fire Prevention Co-op with the <i>CWPP Advisory Committee</i> to steer the implementation of the Lane County CWPP outreach strategy. ▪ The Lane County Fire Prevention Co-op can oversee implementation of <i>Action 3.1.2</i> as the Education and Outreach committee ▪ Encourage the support of rural fire districts for outreach and education activities, as 27% of landowner survey respondents indicated that they have never received information about protecting their property from wildland fire. ▪ Create and deliver an annual standardized direct mailing to landowners, as 59% of the landowner survey respondents identified mail as the method they would most prefer used to disseminate information in the future. ▪ Coordinate countywide funding opportunities for education and outreach activities. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Fire Prevention Co-op |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| ODF | USFS, BLM, Keep Oregon Green, Lane County RFD's Eugene/Springfield/Cottage Grove FD's |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <i>Depends on future activities</i> |
| <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | |
| 3-6 months | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification | | |
| ST 1.1.3 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 1 Objective 1.1 | | |
| Proposed Action Title: | | |
| Establish and support a sub-committee to address fuel reduction methods and resources management practices. | | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews, Firewise Workshop – A committee is needed to prioritize and set guidelines for the implementation of prioritized fuel reduction projects. A committee is also needed to collaboratively decide the best method of treatment to be used during fuel reduction projects. | | |
| Ideas for Implementation: (Optional) | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recruit members for sub-committee from partners listed below ▪ Hold monthly meetings until the rules, goals, methods, and practices of the sub-committee are established ▪ After sub-committee is established, hold monitoring meetings as needed for upkcep | | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Oregon Department of Forestry | |
| Internal Partners: | | External Partners: |
| LC Fire Defense Board | | USFS, BLM, LC Planning Department, Oregon State Fire Marshal. (Oregon State Department of Agriculture, Oregon State Extension Service can provide technical expertise) |
| Timeline: | | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | No estimated associated cost |
| 0-6 months | | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | | |
| ST: 1.2.1 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 1 Objective 1.2 | | |
| Proposed Action Title/Description: | | |
| Develop formal agreements with municipalities and special districts. | | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews, Firewise Workshop Feedback- Identified a need for the development of partnerships and county leadership and direction. Identified a need for structured, formalized collaboration and a need to overcome the potential obstacles of bringing diverse agencies and stakeholders together | | |
| Ideas for Implementation: (Optional) | | |
| <p>This action would develop formal agreements with <u>incorporated communities</u> and <u>service providers</u> for mutual benefits and collaboration in Lane County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Formal agreements will help create an internal organizational structure of the plan's public and quasi-public partners and ensure the long term viability of Lane County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Complete intergovernmental agreements with the twelve municipalities; ○ Complete coordination agreements with twenty-four rural fire protection districts; ○ Complete coordination agreements with ten water districts; and ○ Complete coordination agreements with five electric <u>utility</u> districts. ○ Open discussions amongst municipalities, Lane County and RFPDs on a more effective means of annexing lands into RFPD service boundaries as necessary to ensure structural coverage within service district boundaries of the WUI. | | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Land Management Division | |
| Municipal Partners: | Special District Partners: | |
| Florence, Dunes City, Veneta, Junction City, Coburg, Eugene, Springfield, Creswell, Cottage Grove, Lowell, Westfir, Oakridge. | <p>Rural Fire Protection Districts: Bailey-Spencer, Coburg, Creswell, Dexter, Goshen, Hazeldell, Lake Creek, Lane County No. 1, Lane Rural Fire/Rescue, Lorane, Lowell, McKenzie, Pleasant Hill, Santa Clara, Siuslaw, South Lane County Fire & Rescue, Swisshome-Deadwood, Upper McKenzie, Willakenzie, Zumwalt.</p> <p>Rural Fire Departments: Junction City, Mapleton, Mohawk Valley, Oakridge</p> <p>Water Districts: Blue River, Coburg, Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB), Glenwood, Heceta, Junction City, Mapleton, Rainbow, Springfield Utility Board (SUB), Willamette</p> <p>Electric Districts: Blachly-Lane Electric Cooperative, Central Lincoln Peoples Utility District, Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB), Emerald Peoples Utility District (EPUD), and Lane Electric Cooperative</p> | |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: | |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | \$ 15,535.00 |
| <u>FY 05/06</u> | | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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|---|---|
| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST 1.2.2 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 1 Objective 1.2 | |
| Proposed Action Title: | |
| Establish a consistent communication strategy among intergovernmental partners using appropriate conduits and delivery mechanisms (Lane County Fire Defense Board, ODF, USFS, etc). | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews, Firewise Workshop Feedback - Identified a lack of communication of information and a need to compile and consolidate information regarding wildland-urban interface issues. | |
| Ideas for Implementation: (Optional) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide feedback and information in conjunction with Action Item 3.1.3 to help Lane County create a centralized website for information sharing ▪ Establish email distribution lists to forward information to appropriate partners ▪ Coordinate with the Lane County Fire Defense Board and use their monthly meetings as a forum to share information with appropriate partners ▪ Contact the US Forest Service and BLM to invite them to attend Lane County Fire Defense Board meetings that will be used for the purpose of sharing information about the Lane County CWPP | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Oregon Department of Forestry |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| ODF, LC Fire Defense Board | US Forest Service, BLM, LC Fire Prevention Co-op, Lane County Land Management |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | Cost of establishing and maintaining a centralized website |
| 0-18 months | |
| <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | | |
| ST: 2.1.1 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.1 | | |
| Proposed Action Title: | | |
| Review and develop recommendations to the Lane County Board of Commissioners for revisions to land use regulations, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Implementation of fire safety standards within rural residential zoning districts;</u> ○ <u>Distribution of educational materials at the outset of the building permit review process; and</u> ○ <u>Outreach services with neighborhood organizations and special interest groups.</u> | | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews, Firewise Workshop Feedback- Identified the use of regulatory policies to reduce WUI wildfire risk ▪ Example Programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ashland, Oregon Fire Plan- Has building codes that require development standards regarding the reduction of structural ignitability and vegetation management – Florida Wildfire Mitigation Handbook- Discusses the use of land development regulations to reduce WUI wildfire risk | | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | | |
| <p>This action would review and <u>could</u> result in voluntary actions by landowners or amendments to Lane County land use regulations to promote actions such as fuel breaks and road standards that reduce wildfire risk to lives and property in the wildland-urban interface.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review and potentially update the Lane County building and land use ordinances to promote the use of fire resistant building materials for new structures within the WUI. ▪ Review and potentially update the Lane County building and land use ordinances to promote or require fuel break and safety zone standards for new structures and minimum access road standards within the Rural Residential Zone of the WUI. | | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Land Management Division | |
| Internal Partners: | | External Partners: |
| ODF | | Rural Fire Protection Districts |
| Timeline | | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | \$4,500.00 |
| FY 05/06 | | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | | |
| ST: 2.1.2 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.1 | | |
| Proposed Action Title: | | |
| Review and enhance the Lane County building permit process within the wildland-urban interface. | | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Firewise Workshop Feedback- Identified a need to streamline the permit process to remove inefficiencies | | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | | |
| <p>This action will review the building permit process by identifying current steps, and the roles and responsibilities of the participants involved in the process. The review will identify areas and methods within the permit process to be improved for increased efficiency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve Fire Chiefs’ review of new plans earlier in the permit process. • Prepare information brochure for distribution to prospective land owners and contractors supporting the voluntary implementation of fuel breaks for new structures in the rural areas. • Create and display wildfire safety information (diagrams in the Land Management Lobby, on the LMD and Building Program website and in the building permit review meeting room. • Propose implementation by the Board of County Commissioners of <i>Oregon Residential Specialty Code Section R324 – Wildlife Hazard Mitigation</i> regulations for all dwellings and accessory structures in the rural areas of the County and within the WUI. | | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Land Management Division (Building and Planning) | |
| Internal Partners: | | External Partners: |
| Lane County Land Management Building Program | | Rural Fire Protection Districts, ODF |
| Timeline: | | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | \$3,375.00 |
| FY 05/06 | | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | | |
| ST: 2.2.1 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.2 | | |
| Proposed Action Title: | | |
| Incorporate refined BLM/USFS road and response time data into the Lane County Wildland-Urban interface Risk Assessment. | | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk assessment team request. BLM/USFS is currently updating road data and it will need to be incorporated into Risk Assessment to replace existing poor data. | | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Compile and sort existing GIS data for BLM/USFS roads. ▪ Correct overlapping road lines. ▪ Align intersection and control data. ▪ Coordinate with appropriate agency staff. | | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Public Works GIS | |
| Internal Partners: | | External Partners: |
| ODF, LC Land Management Division | | USFS/BLM, LCOG |
| Timeline: | | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | \$ 2,520.00 |
| FY 05/06 | | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

| | |
|---|---|
| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST: 2.2.2 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.2 | |
| Proposed Action Title: | |
| Digitize and correct fire district boundary data. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk assessment team request- The CWPP has value primarily as a shared information record utilized by all of the implementing partners on a weekly, monthly and annual basis as the need arises. Risk assessment information provided by fire districts is an essential part of that record. By digitizing district input the data is in a format that can be made widely available to all those who need it. Currently, there are discrepancies between fire district boundaries recorded by LCOG and the information provided by the fire protection districts surveys. | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate annual review of base map data compiled during initial risk assessment (2004-2005). ▪ Update RFPD GIS data to reflect wildfire and structural fire occurrences in CWPP data base. ▪ Incorporate Oregon Department of Forestry records and tracking of occurrences into CWPP data base. ▪ Download local fuel reduction efforts implemented through RAC funding in CWPP data base. ▪ Continue to pursue the involvement of local fire chiefs in wildfire risk assessment. ▪ Follow up with districts that have been unable to complete wildfire risk mapping ▪ Work with LCOG and Fire Defense Board to refine district boundaries. ▪ Address issues between NAD 27 and NAD 83 | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Land Management/ Lane County Public Works GIS |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| Lane County Public Works: GIS Project, LMD Planning. | Rural Fire Protection Districts (rural fire districts), Municipalities (City – Fire Districts) LCOG |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) |
| <u>FY 05/06</u> | <u>Annual allocation</u> |
| | \$ 2,520.00 |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

| | |
|--|---|
| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST + LT: 2.2.3 Would be a Short Term and Long Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.2 | |
| Proposed Action Title: | |
| Incorporate, maintain, and update Lane County's Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment GIS data elements. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews- Identified the use of GIS and local communities' risk assessments to update the county's risk assessment ▪ Example Programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – California State Fire Plan- Uses community information regarding GIS overlays of different wildfire factors to prioritize pre-fire management projects – Idaho State Fire Plan- Identified the use of GIS to develop "National Fire Plan related projects" – Josephine County Integrated Fire Plan- Uses GIS to develop and maintain Josephine County's risk assessment | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <p>This action would use new risk assessment data provided by local communities, agencies, utilities and municipalities to continually update and improve the accuracy of the county's wildland-urban interface risk assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create a working group that can update Lane County's GIS data elements with the information provided to the county by local communities. This group would include a representative from the Oregon Department of Forestry, Lane County Land Management and PW GIS. ▪ Encourage local communities to provide the county with their completed risk assessment data in a standardized format. ▪ Maintain a state-of-the art website for access by local interests, municipalities, state and federal agencies for development of local CWPP planning and implementation. ▪ Support local drafting of RAC applications for implementation of fuel reduction and structural protection efforts. ▪ Work with local utilities and municipalities to maintain an up-to-date inventory of critical infrastructure. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Public Works |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| Lane County Public Works: GIS Project, LMD Planning, | ODF, Rural Fire Protection Districts, Municipalities, Utilities |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) |
| FY 05/06 | Annual allocation |
| | \$3,500.00 |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST: 2.2.4 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.2 | |
| Proposed Action Title: | |
| Incorporate structural vulnerability assessments developed at the community level into the Lane County Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk assessment team request No comprehensive dataset of structural vulnerability exists for Lane County. Fuel breaks, landscaping, roof and building materials are all factors that should be considered when evaluating risk. As data is gathered at the local level it should be incorporated into the countywide assessment | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue coordination of review with Rural Fire Protection Districts and municipality fire districts of prioritization of risks within district boundaries. ▪ Create factual base data relating to fuel loads and lack of reductions of vegetation posing threats to existing residential structures in rural areas. ▪ Create factual base data relating to private access driveway and road conditions in districts that are inadequate for fire protection vehicles in response to an emergency. Factors to consider would include but are not limited to: excessive grade; inadequate width and depth of base and surface gravels; encroachment of roadside and overhang vegetation; limited or lack of turnouts; adequate load capacity of bridges or culverts to allow passage of emergency vehicle; onsite or subarea storage of water supplies; turnarounds at terminus including cul-de-sac or hammerhead. ▪ Create factual base data relating to excessive response times due to proximity of residences to RFPD facilities. ▪ Create factual base data to identify areas and number of existing residences in the rural areas that are inside RFPD boundaries and outside without protection. ▪ Coordinate with Oregon Department of Forestry project collecting on-the-ground structural characteristics data (NFPA digital format). ▪ Explore connections between County Public Works road video project ▪ Prepare annual report to Lane County Board of Commissioners with the above data. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Land Management Division |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| Lane County Public Works – GIS Project | ODF, Rural Fire Protection Districts |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) |
| <u>FY 05/06</u> | <u>Annual allocation</u> |
| | \$5,035.00 |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Proposal Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: <i>(Example ST: 1.1.1. Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 1 Objective 1.1 — or — LT: 3.3.1 Would be a Long Term Action proposed under Goal 3 Objective 3.1)</i> | |
| S.T. 2.2.5 Would be a Short-Term action item proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.2 | |
| Proposed Action Title/Description: | |
| Complete Rural Addressing data collection project for county. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: <i>(What critical issues will the action address?)</i> | |
| <p>Lane County Public Works currently is developing the Rural Addressing Project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The project would refine current information to a point layer for structural locations. ▪ The project will improve emergency response times, providing benefits to multiple objectives ▪ The information will improve the accuracy of the wildland-urban interface boundary by refining the density layer. ▪ Public Works indicates that this project is only about 18% complete and that there are 44,000 addresses to map ▪ | |
| Ideas for Implementation: (Optional) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The point database will provide a structure to input structural vulnerability data currently being collected by ODF. If possible, this action should be completed before Action 2.2.4 ▪ Information should be coordinated with 911 Services, who currently use a range, instead of points, for addressing information. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Public Works GIS |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| Lane County Land Management | 911 Services ODF |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | \$6,500 |
| <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | |
| | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Proposal Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: <i>(Example ST: 1.1.1. Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 1 Objective 1.1 — or — LT: 3.3.1 Would be a Long Term Action proposed under Goal 3 Objective 3.1)</i> | |
| ST 2.2.6 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.2 | |
| Proposed Action Title/Description: | |
| Obtain LiDAR data for high risk areas to enhance the Lane County Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: <i>(What critical issues will the action address?)</i> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This data will enhance the on-the ground structural vulnerability assessments currently being completed by ODF and the accuracy of the Lane County Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment. ▪ The data provides better information for a multitude of planning projects including the Lane County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Risk Assessment. | |
| Ideas for Implementation: (Optional) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Align with current ODF structural vulnerability assessments project. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Public Works GIS |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| Lane County Land Management | ODF |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) |
| | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST + LT: 2.3.1 Would be a Short Term and Long Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.3 | |
| Proposed Action Title: | |
| Utilize the Lane County Wildland-Urban Interface Risk Assessment to as a tool for prioritizing proposed fuel reduction projects. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews, Firewise Workshop Feedback- Identified a need for the prioritization of fuels reduction ▪ Example Programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - California State Fire Plan- Uses GIS overlays of different wildfire factors to prioritize pre-fire management projects | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use Lane County’s Risk Assessment to identify areas of high wildfire risk within the county. ▪ Develop a method for prioritization of proposed fuel reduction projects. ▪ Steering committee can use the risk assessment as a guideline for determining which projects to bring forward for requested funding. The risk assessment will be referred to at every quarterly meeting. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Emergency Management |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| CWPP steering committee | Lane County Fire Chiefs, LCPW, Sheriff’s Office Personnel, Board of Commissioners, Legislative Committees, Northwest Youth Corps, Owners of sites identified for potential projects |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| Short Term (0-2 years) | Same as Action Item 1.1.1: \$3,000 |
| Long Term (2-4 or more years) | |
| Methodology Creation: 9 months | Ongoing |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST + LT: 2.3.2 Would be a Short Term and Long Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.3 | |
| Proposed Action Title: | |
| Evaluate and recommend appropriate fuels treatment methods for Lane County | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews, Firewise Workshop Feedback- Identified differing values, attitudes, and opinions regarding various fuels treatment options | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a method for determining community values and concerns about various fuel treatment options. • Develop a method that can translate the community values, concerns, and input regarding various fuel treatment options into recommended options appropriate for the community. • Engage local fire chiefs, ODF, and the US Forest Service personnel to do site visits to “hot spots” and make recommendations to landowners regarding fuel treatment options. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Emergency Management |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| ODF, CWPP steering committee | Lane County Fire Chiefs, USFS |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| Short Term (0-2 years) | \$500 personnel compensation per visit |
| Long Term (2-4 or more years) | |
| Methodology Creation: 9 months | Ongoing |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST & LT 2.3.3 would be both a Short Term and Long Term Action proposed under Goal 2 Objective 2.3 | |
| Proposed Action Title | |
| Complete (5) watershed-based pilot projects that focus on infrastructure protection and exemplify the County's leadership in project implementation. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews, Firewise Workshop Feedback- Identified a need to demonstrate aesthetic fuels reduction and defensible space creation to homeowners and landowners | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The selected projects include Triangle Lake School, Leaburg Utility, <i>etc</i> ▪ Use GIS to screen locations and identify areas at risk ▪ Complete field assessments of potential sites for pilot projects ▪ Compare, evaluate, and recommend the best sites for pilot projects based on the field assessments and GIS evaluations ▪ Pass the recommendations on to the <i>steering committee</i> for adoption | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Oregon Department of Forestry |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| ODF | Rural Fire Districts, Lane County GIS |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) |
| Evaluation process (0-9 months) | Completion timeline is dependent upon funding. |
| Cost will vary depending on the sites selected | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST & LT 3.1.1 Would be a Short and Long Term Action proposed under Goal 3 Objective 3.1 | |
| Proposed Action Title: | |
| Develop and coordinate a seasonal outreach campaign that promotes effective risk reduction practices in the wildland/urban interface. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HFRA Goals- collaboration, reduction of hazardous fuels, and reduction of structural ignitability. ▪ Stakeholder interviews, Firewise workshop- Identified an opportunity to develop a “model” home or property recognition program to encourage greater participation by homeowners in risk reduction projects. Identified an opportunity to educate the public and dispel negative perceptions about the aesthetics of fuel reduction and defensible space. Seasonal community events such as "free chipping or dump days" encourages public participation in fuels reduction projects as well as provides a venue for disseminating information about wildfire risk reduction. | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to staff an information booth at community events to publicize and encourage participation in these and other wildfire mitigation programs ▪ At an early spring LC Fire Prevention Co-op meeting, each RFD could submit nominees by district for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An award for a “model” home or property site that has reduced structural ignitability or hazardous fuels. Offer an incentive prize, such as a gift certificate to a home improvement store (possibly donated). Use winners as demonstration homes to the rest of the public to show that “Firewise landscaping can be attractive as well as safe” (Firesafe Spokane) ○ Completed prioritized fuels reduction pilot projects including before and after photos of the site ▪ The LC Co-op could then select award winners, and compile the results for distribution to rural landowners, potentially through applicable media outlets. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Fire Prevention Co-op |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| ODF | USFS, BLM, RFD’s, OSFM, Local Media outlets (rural newspapers, newsletters, radio, TV) |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <i>Check with ONHW for materials production costs</i> |
| <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | |
| | Program operational in two years |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST 3.1.2 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 3 Objective 3.1 | |
| Proposed Action Title: | |
| Establish a communication strategy that uses existing channels to disseminate risk reduction messages. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landowner survey – 27% of respondents had not received any information about protecting property against wildfire, highlighting a need for increased communication. When asked how they would prefer to receive information in the future about protecting property from wildfire, respondents identified the following as their top three methods: 59% stated they would prefer information by mail; 49% stated from newspapers; and 42% stated from fact sheets or brochures. ▪ Stakeholder interviews, Firewise workshop – Education and awareness of Lane County residents could be done through media sources, pamphlets, the use of real estate agents, door-to-door, home shows, and fairs ▪ Example Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Many counties staff information booths at County Fairs and local events and use media outreach ○ Douglas Forest Protective Association, OR – “Public education is provided predominantly through the newspaper and local radio and television stations. They also reach out to the public at the County Fair, the Sportsmen and Outdoor Show, Home Show, and other community festivals. DFPA teaches fire safety to children and adults during National Fire Prevention Week.” ○ Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, CA – “Educational efforts include the distribution of publications such as the CDF’s Homeowner’s Checklist, news releases, radio, television and newspaper coverage about fire safety and defensible space. Also use door-to-door contact and bulk mailings.” | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collaborate with Lane County Land Management in conjunction with Action Item 3.1.3 to create and maintain a centralized website. ▪ Collaborate with the Lane County Fire Prevention Co-op on their prevention strategies and outreach campaigns. ▪ Coordinate with the Lane County Fire Defense Board to disseminate information throughout rural fire protection districts. ▪ Utilize agency public information officers. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Oregon Department of Forestry |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| LC Fire Defense Board, LC Land Management | LC Fire Prevention Co-op, Oregon State Fire Marshal, Media sources (newspaper, radio, TV, etc.) |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| Short Term (0-2 years) | Cost of establishing and maintaining a centralized website |
| 0-18 months | |
| Long Term (2-4 or more years) | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| ST 3.1.3 Would be a Short Term Action Item proposed under Goal 3 Objective 3.1 | |
| Proposed Action Title/Description: | |
| Create and maintain a website to promote Lane County’s Community Wildfire Protection Plan. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholder interviews, Firewise workshop- Identified a need to make information more accessible to the public. A website would be a good central place to promote educational efforts and provide tips on how to reduce wildfire risk. ▪ Example Programs- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Douglas Forest Protective Association, OR- Has a website with information on their fire prevention programs – Spokane County, WA - “FireSafe Spokane” website contains information on how to create defensible space around a home and remove other hazards. The website gives an email address and a phone number where homeowners can sign-up for free inspections. | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <p>Create a website that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan • Tips to reduce structural ignitability and hazardous fuels • Photos of defensible space or “model” homes or properties and fire safe landscaping • Informational or educational tools that RFPDs can implement within their districts for public outreach • Maps and information about identified at risk areas • How-to information for community organizers that want to pursue fuel reduction projects • Links to the ODF website, Firewise, and other fire prevention websites. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Lane County Land Management Division |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| Lane County Sheriff Office- Emergency Management Services, ODF | US Forest Service, Rural Fire Protection Districts |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) |
| 0-6 months FY 05/06 | <u>Annual allocation</u> \$1,572.00 |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | | | | | |
| ST 3.2.1 Would be a Short Term Action proposed under Goal 3 Objective 3.2 | | | | | |
| Proposed Action Title/Description: | | | | | |
| Implement cost-share or tax incentive programs to assist landowners with hazardous fuels removal and disposal | | | | | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HFRA Goals- Prioritized Fuels Reduction and the Reduction of Structural Ignitability ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews, Firewise Workshop Feedback - Debris is costly for homeowners and landowners to remove and dispose of and can be labor intensive at a larger scale. In addition, many elderly or special needs populations cannot complete fuel reduction projects and remove hazardous fuels by themselves without additional help. ▪ Landowner survey results - 79% of respondents indicated that they would be likely to partake in vegetation management to reduce the risk of wildland fire on their properties. Developing collaborative programs between governmental agencies and landowners around vegetation management would likely receive the most landowner support and participation. ▪ Example Programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grant County, NM – “Grant County WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE Landowner Assistance Program”: Provides cost-sharing between the State (70%) and the landowner (30%) for fuels treatments - Summit County, CO – 2002 Economic Action Program NFP Grant funds cost-share thinning and recycling of wastes - Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, CA – Free chipping for residents through the Community Chipping Program - Helena, MT – Project Impact Homeowner Assistance Program: A cost-share program to clear defensible space | | | | | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide home assessments of defensible space to landowners ▪ Explore cost-sharing programs with local landscaping businesses for chipping programs ▪ Collaborate with Lane County Waste Management to sponsor free dump days ▪ Coordinate with LRAPA to suspend burning fees on large debris piles for selected days/weeks ▪ Develop an informational list of existing incentive programs for landowners ▪ Explore tax incentive options ▪ Explore a participatory agreement with other agencies (i.e. LCLMD, ODOT, EWEB, etc.) for use of chippers and/or other fuel reduction/removal equipment ▪ Explore establishing a list of participating contractors who will do fuels removal at reduced rates ▪ Establish a workgroup to assist special needs populations with fuels removal | | | | | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Oregon Department of Forestry | | | | |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: | | | | |
| Lane County Land Management | Lane County Waste Management, , LRAPA, ODOT, EWEB, local contractors, local landscaping businesses | | | | |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: | | | | |
| <table border="1"> <tr> <td><u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years)</td> <td><u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-2 years</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | 0-2 years | | |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) | | | | |
| 0-2 years | | | | | |

Lane County CWPP Action Item Form

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| Proposed Action Item Identification: | |
| LT 3.2.2 Would be both a Short and Long Term Action proposed under Goal 3 Objective 3.2 | |
| Proposed Action Title/Description: | |
| Collaborate with homeowner insurance companies to promote incentives that reward structural ignition risk reduction and fuels reduction activities in the wildland-urban interface. | |
| Rationale for Proposed Action Item: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HFRA goals- Collaboration, hazardous fuels reduction, and reduction of structural ignitability ▪ Stakeholder Phone Interviews & Firewise Workshop Feedback- Identified an opportunity to use insurance incentives to motivate more people to be involved in reducing the wildfire risk on private property ▪ Landowner survey results- 70% of respondents supported insurance incentives as an appropriate way to promote property protection against wildland fire ▪ Western Governors Association- "New insurance efforts will probably need to be developed in harmony with a national standardized hazard/risk assessment process and the implementation of building standards/codes that are enforced by local/state government." (westgov.org) ▪ Insurance Services Office- The Public Protection Classification system generally offers lower premiums in places with lower wildfire risk scores, which produce desirable PPC scores | |
| Ideas for Implementation: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collaborate with insurance companies to set standards for defensible space surrounding homes and also for fire resistant building materials to be used on homes. These standards could then be used to influence a homeowner's risk rating and provide incentives for lower insurance rates. ▪ Explore methods and an efficient timeframe for site visits to validate maintenance activities. | |
| Coordinating Organization: | Oregon State Fire Marshal: Lane County Office |
| Internal Partners: | External Partners: |
| | OSFM, HBA, homeowners insurance companies |
| Timeline: | If available, estimated cost: |
| <u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years) | <u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years) |
| Outreach (6 mos-1 year) | Ongoing |

Appendix B

Implementation and Maintenance Documentation

This appendix serves as documentation for the implementation and maintenance of the Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. This appendix includes documentation of the Steering Committee's efforts to implement and maintain the plan. Documentation may include meeting agendas, meeting minutes and success stories.

Success Story: Triangle Lake Pilot Project

Fuels Reduction Project

Triangle Lake School Pilot Project

Collaboration between Lane County agencies and Northwest Youth Corps allowed for successful fuels reduction at Triangle Lake School.

TRIANGLE LAKE, OREGON – Collaborating with LCEM, LCLMD, and ODF, Northwest Youth Corps spent the week of April 18th, 2005 clearing hazardous fuels by hand from within 40 feet of the Triangle Lake School building, propane tank, storage sheds, fueling station, and the rental home owned by Triangle Lake School. When possible, ignitable building materials were replaced with fire resistant materials. The site was identified by the Lane County CWPP Risk Assessment as critical infrastructure in need of protection from wildland fire. Clearing 40 feet of defensible space around the structures and reducing their ignitability reduces the risk of fire reaching the structures and damaging property in the event of a wildland fire. The project additionally demonstrates to the public what vegetation management looks like, and how easily it can be done. An important observation resulting from the project is the need to set up a continual low-cost maintenance of the school grounds for future vegetation management.

Towards Lane County CWPP Goal 2: Improve community strategies for reducing the impacts of wildland-urban interface fires.

Short-Term Action 2.3.3 Met in Part: Complete (5) watershed-based pilot projects that focus on infrastructure protection and exemplify the County's leadership in project implementation.

Lead Agencies: LCEM, LCLMD, LCPW, and ODF.

Support Agencies: Northwest Youth Corps.

Project Cost: \$6,900

Project Benefits: The low-cost project reduced the vulnerability of critical infrastructure by minimizing the potential for loss of property, lives, and essential services in the event of a wildland fire. The project additionally demonstrated the concepts of vegetation management to the public, and helped meet one of the five pilot projects of Action 2.3.3 by completing a pilot project in Assessment Area 1.



Problem: Wildfire can travel quickly up ladder fuels, spreading to and igniting larger trees. Heavy concentrations of ladder fuels and other vegetative fuels around structures increase the vulnerability of the structures to wildland fire. Removing vegetative fuel buildups is crucial to protecting structures and reducing their risk to wildland fire.

Solution: A 40 foot zone of cleared vegetation around the structures at the Triangle Lake School grounds creates a buffer of defensible space. In the event of a wildland fire, the only vegetative fuel for the fire is far enough a way to significantly reduce the risk of the buildings igniting.



Appendix C

Risk Assessment Methods

The following section outlines the specific methods, data, and values used to evaluate wildfire risk in Lane County.

Identifying the Wildland Urban Interface

The wildland urban Interface (WUI) is the area where development meets and intermingles with undeveloped wildland vegetation. Identifying the WUI is an important first step in a wildfire risk assessment. The WUI broadly outlines all areas potentially threatened by wildfire where impacts on humans are likely.

The Lane County WUI was developed by analyzing structural density and 6th field watersheds. A ¼ mile buffer was established around each address point represented in a countywide address file. These address points, each indicating a dwelling or other structure, created a density surface layer. This density surface is combined with the boundaries of all 6th field watersheds intersecting with it, resulting in the WUI boundary. The 6th field watershed refers to a classification method used to identify and rank drainage basins. Extending the WUI boundary to the 6th field watershed generally pushes the WUI boundary to the nearest ridgelines or points of 6th field watershed stream origin. Wildfire behavior analysts have determined that 6th field watershed-based WUIs are significant because ridgelines often form natural firebreaks and can be used to generally identify impacted areas.

Within the broadly defined wildland urban interface zone there are areas where wildland fires are not possible due to the lack vegetative fuels. These areas include bodies of water and highly developed urban centers. By excluding surface water polygons and areas identified as urban within the crown fire and vegetation data sets these areas have been masked.

Risk

To determine the relative risk of a wildland fire starting the risk layer was modeled using the density of historic fire ignitions. The data is derived from ODF and federal fire ignition databases. Ignition data from the State Fire Marshal's office was also available but was not calculated into this assessment. The majority of Fire Marshall data represents fire ignitions within Eugene/Springfield metro area. These ignitions are typically lawn or field fire events and not true wildland fires. Fire ignition points were given a 1.5 mile buffer and then converted to a density layer. Calculations were run to generate fires per 1000 acres per 10 years and the results were broken into 3 classes:

0-.1 (low) has a point value of 5, .1-1.1 (moderate) has a point value of 20, 1.1+ (high) is given a point value of 40. See Table C.1 below.

Table C.1: Risk Layer Scores

| Historic Fire Occurrences: (per 1000 acres) | Points: | Risk Ranking: | From: | To: |
|---|---------|---------------|-------|-----|
| 0 to .1 | 5 | Low | 5 | 13 |
| .1 to 1.1 | 20 | Moderate | 13 | 27 |
| 1.1+ | 40 | High | 27 | 40 |

Source: Lane County Land Management Division, 2005

Hazards

Hazards evaluated within this assessment are broken down into four categories: weather, topography, vegetation and crown fire potential. See Table C.2 below.

Weather accounts for the largest point value in the hazard layer. The weather hazard factor is derived from data provided by ODF, which was developed following an analysis of daily wildfire danger rating indices in each regulated use area of the state. The weather is classed from 1(lowest) to 3 (highest). The majority of Lane County has a classification of 2 (medium-moderate). There is, however, a significant break along the coast range, in which the area of the county west of the coast range is classified as 1 (low). The area classed as 1 is given a point value of 0, while the area classed as 2 has a point value of 20.

Weather: 0-40 (0-20 for Lane County – no risk-high weather areas are present)

The topographic layers: slope, aspect, and elevation were generated from 10-meter DEMs (Digital Elevation Models). Slopes are classed by percent slope ranges: 0-25%, 26-40% and 41%+. These ranges carry values ranging from 0 (least slope) to 3 (most slope). Aspect is broken into three classes: 0 (N, NW, NE), 3 (W, E), 5 (S, SW, SE). A higher value corresponds to the amount of exposure to sunlight or excessive heat an area receives based on its aspect. Slope and aspect affect both the intensity and rate of spread of a wildfire. Elevation ranges are broken at 3,000 and 5,000 ft. Elevation affects the type of vegetation and length of fire season. Lower elevations are considered more hazardous. This layer ranges in value from 0 (high elevation) to 2 (low elevation).

Topography: 0-10

The vegetation layer comes from BLM data displaying vegetation types. Vegetation is broken into three different fuel model types based on the fire behavior and common fire characteristics of the vegetation within each fuel model type. Each fuel model type is given a fuel hazard factor (value) from 1(low) to 3 (high).

Vegetation: 0-20

Crown fire potential is produced by first isolating areas with coniferous trees with trunk sizes over 5 inches in diameter at breast height. These areas are then split into three classes; conifer cover less than 30 percent has low crown fire potential (0), conifer cover between 30 and 70 percent has moderate potential (5), and conifer cover over 70 percent has the highest crown fire potential (10). Crown fire data is derived from Bureau of Land Management’s Interagency Vegetation Mapping Project (IVMP).

Crown Fire Potential: 0-10

Table C.2: Hazard Layer Scores

| Hazard Factor | Risk and Point Breakdown | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------|------|
| | Low | Moderate | High |
| Weather | 0 | 20 | N/A |
| Slope | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| Aspect | 0 | 3 | 5 |
| Elevation | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Fuel | 5 | 15 | 20 |
| Crown Fire Potential | 0 | 5 | 10 |

Source: Lane County Land Management, 2005

Community Values at Risk

Interface fires can be devastating events especially when their path crosses with highly populated or developed areas or those areas where important community infrastructure is located. In order to determine what values are for areas at risk to wildfire two main categories were analyzed.

First, the values for residences were modeled using the Lane County regional address dataset. Each address point (structure) was first given a ¼ mile buffer. A surface was then created displaying home density per 10 acres. The results were broken into 3 classes and given associated point values. .1-.9 (rural) has a value of 2, 1-5 (suburban) has a value of 15 and 5.1+ (urban) is given a value of 30.

Second, the presence of community infrastructure was analyzed in conjunction with housing density. Lane County recently concluded an exhaustive inventory of all industrial, commercial and public facility zoned lands as part of its periodic review work program. This inventory was used to identify and map a range of critical facilities and community establishments including: schools, churches, community

centers, health care facilities, major manufacturing, utility and fuel storage facilities. To the extent possible, the location of public utilities - municipal watersheds, water storage sites and power substations and generation sites were identified and mapped.

The presence, or lack of, community infrastructure was determined and assigned the following point values: 0 (none present), 10 (one present), and 20 (more than one present). These values have been combined with those generated from the home density analysis to make up the total Values Protected layer. See Table C.3, below.

Table C.3: Community Values at Risk Layer Scores

| Housing Density Units: (homes per 10 acres) | Points | Presence of Community Infrastructure: | Points | Values Protected Rating: | From: | To: |
|--|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|-------|-----|
| Rural .1-.9 | 2 | None present | 0 | Low | 2 | 15 |
| Suburban 1-5.0 | 15 | One present | 10 | Moderate | 16 | 30 |
| Urban 5.1+ | 30 | More than one present | 20 | High | 31 | 50 |

Source: Lane County Land Management Division, 2005

Protection Capability

The capacity of communities to prepare for and respond to the threat of wildfire is a critical component of a wildfire risk assessment. This capacity is determined by analyzing three features:

1. **Structural fire protection:** In Lane County, areas that fall within one of the twenty-five fire protection districts receive structural fire protection. All other (unprotected) areas receive only wildland fire protection from the Oregon Department of Forestry or the US Forest Service.
2. **Response time:** Areas inside of fire protection districts are broken into two groups – those areas that receive an assistance response in less than ten minutes and those areas where a response takes longer than ten minutes. In unprotected areas, the wildland protection is divided into areas where a response takes under or over twenty minutes.
3. **Community preparedness:** The level of mitigation efforts undertaken by the community to enhance wildfire awareness or to augment the effectiveness of fire response can be a very telling feature when calculating the overall protection capability of a community. Areas with involvement led by community stakeholder groups such as phone trees or other citizen backed mitigation efforts are considered more effective than areas where such efforts are conducted solely by fire protection districts or other government agencies.

In order to model response times inside and outside of a fire district it was necessary to use a road centerline layer that contained speed limits for each road segment. A countywide road centerline layer existed that contained values for “posted” speed zones. Posted speed zones ranged from 5mph to 65mph. Posted speed zones represented only a small portion of roads in Lane County, the remaining roads are officially considered “basic rule” which has a maximum speed of 55mph. It was decided to use the posted speed limits for the analysis but to use a different method for speed limits for the roads under “basic rule” since they didn’t adequately represent true driving speed. For the roads with no posted speed zones a speed limit was assigned to roads based on the functional classification of the road:

Major Arterial – 55mph

Major Collector – 45mph

Minor Arterial – 45mph

Minor Collector – 40mph

Local Access Road – 25mph

Private Road – 25mph

Once all roads contained a speed value it was converted to a 30-meter grid. Any cell outside of a road was assigned 3mph. Values were calculated for each cell that represented the amount of time in minutes it would take to travel across each 30-meter cell. This travel time grid along with a point based fire station location layer were then used to perform a “cost grid” analysis that created a response time grid with values in minutes. Areas within a fire district with a response time of less than 10 minutes were assigned a point value of 0 and those areas within a fire district and a response time of greater than 10 minutes were assigned 8 points. Outside of the fire district boundary those areas with response times less than 20 minutes were assigned 15 and the areas outside a fire district and having response times greater than 20 minutes were assigned 36 points.

The level of community preparedness was determined through fire district surveys and interviews with Oregon Department of Forestry personnel. Areas where known community led mitigation and preparedness activities occur received a better, (0 points) ranking. Areas where mitigation activities are conducted by agency personnel only received 2 points. Areas with no known mitigation of preparedness efforts received 4 points. See Table C.4 below.

Table C.4: Protection Capability Layer Scores

| Structural Fire Protection | Response Time | Points |
|--|----------------------|---------------|
| Structural protection response: | < 10 minutes | 0 |
| Structural protection response | > 10 minutes | 8 |
| No structural protection, wildland response: | < 20 minutes | 15 |
| No structural protection, wildland response: | > 20 minutes | 36 |
| Community Preparedness | | Points |
| Organized community efforts | | 0 |
| Primarily agency effort | | 2 |
| No effort | | 4 |
| Protection Capability Rating: | | From: |
| Low | 0 | 9 |
| Moderate | 10 | 16 |
| High | 17 | 40 |

Source: Lane County Land Management Division, 2005

Weighting of Factors

Table C.5: Weighting of Factors Used in the Risk Assessment

| Risk Assessment Layer | Points Possible |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Risk | 5-40 |
| Hazard | 0-40 |
| Values at Risk | 15-50 |
| Protection Capabilities | 10-50 |
| Total Possible | 39-190 |

Source: Lane County Land Management Division, 2005

Overall Risk

Table C.6: Overall Risk Rating Used in the Risk Assessment

| Risk Rating | Point Ranges |
|-------------|--------------|
| Low | 39-89 |
| Medium | 89.1-139 |
| High | 139.1-190 |

Source: Lane County Land Management Division, 2005