

CALIFORNIA FIRE PLAN WORKGROUP

ABRIDGED COMMUNITY FIRE PLAN TEMPLATE OUTLINE

AUGUST 2004 VERSION

PREFACE

This document is a template for local communities and/or Fire Safe Councils to develop appropriate-scale fire plans to prioritize projects for on-the-ground fire-hazard reduction implementation. It can be used as a catalyst to bring together citizens, government, non-governmental organizations, and others to collaborate and collectively create a strategic community fire safe plan. Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) are now required to receive financial support through the Healthy Forests Restoration Act. This document includes reference to CWPP guidelines (marked with a ► throughout the text). Community fire plans provide a process for a community (at whatever scale desirable) to come together to identify local priorities to address fire hazards. The success of a community in its ability to inspire and empower its community members to join in the responsibility of reducing fire hazards is directly linked with diverse participation in an open planning process. Successful planning projects lead to effective implementation of fire hazard reduction projects, especially on private lands.

The California Fire Plan Workgroup, an effort of the California Fire Alliance and the California Fire Safe Council, is dedicated to the development of strategic Local Fire Plans for implementation of the National Fire Plan and the One-Stop Grants Clearinghouse.

A more comprehensive template was created to help local Councils and/or communities guide and organize their process for plan development, and convey a sense of the breadth and depth of topics that can be addressed in creating a successful community fire plan. It was designed to result in DMA 2000-compliant fire hazard mitigation plans. That document is available at the websites listed below.

This document provides a sampling of the types of information to be addressed in developing a successful local fire plan. The **Topic** column lists the issue to be addressed. The **Description** column is a basic introduction to the topic. The **Where to Get Information** column is to help you get started tackling the topic.

This is a work in progress. Please help us make this a useful product by sending us your comments on this version to Tracy Katelman, tracy@sohum.net, 707-443-2400. For questions regarding the project, contact Joe Rawitzer, Monterey Fire Safe Council, rawitzer@mbay.net, 831-455-2498.

This document is available at www.firesafenetwork.org, www.cafirealliance.org, and www.firesafecouncil.org.

Topic	Description	Where to Get Information
1. Executive Summary	This chapter is a 1-page or less summary of the entire document. Often, this is all that is read of your document, so be sure it covers your key points	This is written after the rest of the Plan is completed. It is a summary of the significant elements of the plan.
1.1. Problem Overview	Short description of the scope and magnitude of the wildfire problem and its affect on local communities, both human and non-human.	This is a result of the collective wisdom of your group, the research you’ve done throughout development of this plan, and local fire organizations.
1.2. Process Overview	1-2 sentence overview of the process used to arrive at this document. Explained in more detail in Chapter 4.	Outcome of development of your fire plan, Chapter 4..
1.3. Overall Goals	A summary of the overall goals of your plan as developed by your group.	Your planning group.
1.4. Priority Projects Summary	Summary of the specific actions developed in the <i>mitigation</i> or <i>action plan</i> of Chapter 8, and how those will protect your community and its assets.	Outcome of development of your fire plan, Chapter 8.
1.5. Acknowledgements	List the specific people, organizations, and agencies who contributed to development of your plan. Include those who contributed financial, labor, or material assistance. Give credit where credit is due.	Contributors, meeting minutes, financial records.
2. Introduction	This chapter introduces your document. Give your reader the basic background needed—the context—to understand the rest of the document.	Summarizes the work that preceded the Plan, and the early decisions of the planning body, as well as relevant background information. This section can be very brief.
2.1. Background, History of Accomplishments	Briefly summarize the background of your group, if any previously existed. What happened <u>before</u> you embarked on this planning process? How did you get to the point of developing this Plan? Did it start with a local Fire Safe Council, a community organization, or local government body? What has that group done before this Plan, if anything? Did it undertake any on-the-ground or other projects? If so, briefly describe them.	Refer to meeting minutes from your organization (such as your Fire Safe Council, if it existed prior to this process), or oral anecdotal information from participants. Review previous project summaries.
2.2. Mission Statement Strategic Plan	If you have a pre-established group leading this process such as a Fire Safe Council, describe the mission of that group. What is it that your group can do, and do well? Does your group have a strategic plan of which this plan is a part? If so, briefly summarize it here.	Your mission statement and strategic plan. Examples at www.firesafecouncil.org/about/form7.html .
2.3. Methodology	Short description of the methodology used in Chapters 6 and 7 to develop the final action items in Chapter 8.	Outcome of development of your fire plan.

<p>3. What is Fire Safety? How to be Ready When Fire Comes</p>	<p>This Chapter is designed to educate your readers. It will provide background information to them and suggestions for what they can do individually and collectively to survive a wildfire. This chapter provides background information to understand the concepts in Chapters 5 – 8.</p>	<p>The Applegate Fire Plan includes “When Wildfire Approaches, A Checklist for Action at Home.” p. 175: www.grayback.com/Applegate-Valley/fireplan/index.asp www.washoesherriff.com/pages/safetytips/firesafetywildfire.html www.fire.ca.gov/php/education_homeowner.php www.fire.ca.gov/php/education_content/downloads/beforeduringandafter.pdf osfm.fire.ca.gov/firesafeplanning.html www.firesafecouncil.org</p>
<p>3.1. Before the Fire</p>	<p>There are many steps you can take as a community before a fire arrives to be better prepared for the eventuality of fire.</p>	<p>ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/tensimple.html www.dnr.state.mn.us/firewise/50things.html</p>
<p>3.1.1 Defensible Space</p>	<p>Defensible space is the area between a house and an oncoming wildfire where the vegetation has been modified to reduce the wildfire threat and to provide an opportunity for firefighters to effectively defend the house. Sometimes a defensible space is simply the homeowner’s maintained backyard. This is the place to introduce defensible space to your readers. Describe the basic concepts of defensible space. To what extent has defensible space been instituted in your various communities? Identify and describe already existing examples of local defensible space.</p>	<p>Local fire departments (especially CDF), planning departments, OES, and the collective knowledge of your group Defensible space information is available at www.firesafecouncil.org, and the California Forest Stewardship Program, <i>Forestland Steward</i> newsletter: ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/newsletter.html ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/faqsdef.html www.firelab.org/fbp/fbresearch/wui/home.htm www.fire.ca.gov/php/education_checklist.php www.fire.ca.gov/php/education.php</p>
<p>3.1.1.1 Legal Requirements</p>	<p>In California, PRC 4291 is the law regarding defensible space around your home. CDF and other fire agencies are often available to do 4291 inspections. Describe any proposed projects to inform residents of their requirements under PRC 4291, and how they can get help in meeting that rule, or similar local rules.</p>	<p>Local CDF offices, your list of proposed projects, project coordinators. PRC 4291 is available at www.fire.ca.gov/php/education_publiccode4291.php</p>
<p>3.1.1.2 Fire-Resistant Landscaping</p>	<p>There are many plants that can be used around homes that are less likely to burn. Plants that are fire resistant have moist and supple leaves, little dead wood, tend not to accumulate dry, dead material within the plant, and the sap is water-like and does not have a strong odor.</p>	<p>www.ucfpl.ucop.edu/I-Zone/XIV/vegetati.htm www.ucfpl.ucop.edu/I-Zone/chapter14.pdf ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/Moritz.html ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/landscaping.html www.grewwater.com www.oasisdesign.net/greywater extension.oregonstate.edu/deschutes/forestry/documents/FireResPlantsPictorial.pdf</p>
<p>3.1.1.3 Relocation of Flammable Materials</p>	<p>Moving flammable materials such as wood piles and gas tanks away from structures increases your chance of surviving a wildfire.</p>	
<p>3.1.1.4 Recommended Building</p>	<p>There are many building materials that will resist a fire far better than others, replacing wood shingle roofs with metal or</p>	<p>“Is your home protected from wildfire disaster, A Homeowners Guide to Wildfire Retrofit,”</p>

<p>Materials /Fire Wise Construction</p>	<p>composite roofs is an example of a common first step.</p>	<p>www.firewise.org/pubs/is_your_home/WILDFR2.PDF, www.firewise.org, www.firelab.org/fbp/fbresearch/wui/home.htm www.ucfpl.ucop.edu/WDFireResearch.htm ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/pdf/news-sum04.pdf Kern River Valley Comm. Fire Safe Plan, p. 88 www.krvfiresafecouncil.com/, osfm.fire.ca.gov/uwibs.html, osfm.fire.ca.gov/bmllisting.html</p>
<p>3.1.2 Water Sources</p>	<p>Discuss importance of water sources for fire fighting and the need for water storage, especially in dry, late summer/fall months. Don't do this at the expense of local fish and wildlife. Fill tanks in winter when water is abundant.</p>	<p>www.greywater.com, www.oasisdesign.net/greywater/ www.pioneertanks.com</p>
<p>3.1.3 Neighborhood Emergency Response Teams</p>	<p>A neighborhood emergency response team is a pre-planned group of people who will coordinate local efforts during an emergency. Responsibilities can include communication to agencies and outside entities, ensuring individual safety, and delivery of first aid, or food and water services. Discuss whether such organization exists within your planning area, and if so, describe it. Make specific suggestions for how neighborhoods can organize themselves, and/or how this can be accomplished on a larger scale.</p>	<p>OES, sheriff, police, fire departments, FEMA Starting and Maintaining a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program: training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/cert/new_CERT/index.htm, Downloadable CERT Course Materials training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/cert/mtrls.asp, List of Existing CERT Programs by State: training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/cert/dir.asp</p>
<p>3.1.4 Personal Tools, Equipment, Fire Protection Clothing</p>	<p>Provide a list of recommended personal protective equipment and firefighting tools to have available for home/neighborhood defense, including pumps for drafting out of swimming pools, standpipes and fire hose adapters.</p>	<p>Fire agencies. NFPA 1977 - Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting: www.nfpa.org/Codes/NFPA_Codes_and_Standards/List_of_NFPA_documents/NFPA_1977.asp. Protective Clothing for Wildland Firefighters: www.nationalfirefighter.com/index.php?cPath=6 http://redcross.org/services/disaster/keepsafe/wildfire.html</p>
<p>3.2. During the Fire</p>		<p>“Wildfire ... Are You Prepared?” www.redcross.org/static/file_cont258_lang0_123.pdf</p>
<p>3.2.1 Emergency Communication</p>	<p>Do you have a local phone tree or other way to spread information quickly? What systems are in place for emergency communication, assuming phone lines are down and cellular service is jammed? Are there CB and/or HAM radio operators in your communities?</p>	<p>OES, sheriff, police, fire departments. www.oes.ca.gov The Applegate Fire Plan, Chapter 5, provides a good example of how to do this. www.grayback.com/applegate-valley/fireplan</p>
<p>3.2.2 Evacuation Plans</p>	<p>Do your fire protection agencies have regular evacuation movement drills? Do they include citizens and Neighborhood Response Teams? Are Safety Zones identified?</p>	<p>www.fire.ca.gov/php/fire_er_content/downloads/Evacuation.pdf www.fema.gov/pdf/areyouready/evacuation.pdf www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/evacuation.html</p>
<p>3.2.2.1 Safety Zones</p>	<p>A safety zone is a place people can go to survive a wildfire if they are unable to evacuate the area. It could be an area devoid</p>	<p>Local fire fighting departments/companies, including volunteers, fire chiefs associations, CDF, federal</p>

	<p>of vegetation, or a field that has been back-burned, schoolyards, malls, someplace with a lot of water, and sometimes peoples homes. A firefighter safety zone, which can or cannot be the same as a community safe zone, is an area that will not burn whose radius is three to four times the maximum anticipated flame length. Are there existing designated safety zones? If so, describe them. How many people can they serve? Where are they located? Law enforcement will designate these in an emergency situation. Places you designate may become emergency operations center for fire fighters.</p>	<p>land management agencies, and local planning and OES. www.firelab.org/fbp/fbresearch/safetyzone/frontpg.htm wildfiremag.com/ar/firefighting_zone_2/</p>
<p>3.2.2.2 Preparing Pets and Livestock for Emergencies and Evacuation</p>	<p>Are pet and livestock owners in the plan area prepared for emergencies and evacuation? Note that most shelters will not allow animals other than seeing-eye dogs, etc. Are there locations for sheltering evacuated animals such as local fair grounds?</p>	<p>www.fire.ca.gov/php/fire_er_content/downloads/AnimalEvacuation.pdf training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/is10.asp training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/is11.asp training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/is111.asp www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah/disaster_preparedness.htm www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/animal_safety.html</p>
<p>3.2.3 Shelter-in-Place Plans</p>	<p>Evacuation is not always possible. There are ways to protect yourself if you have to stay where you are and a fire is approaching. Sometimes staying in your home is the safest alternative. Do you have <i>shelter-in-place</i> procedures and is everyone informed?</p>	<p>Work with your fire department, CDF. www.ptsc-program.org/shelter_in_place.htm; www.nicsinfo.org/SIP%20Center.htm</p>
<p>3.3. After the Fire</p>		
<p>3.3.1 Assess Your Success, Evaluate and Plan for How to be Better Prepared Next Time</p>	<p>Take some time immediately after a wildfire to discuss the effectiveness of your fire prevention and suppression. What did you learn? What can you do to be better prepared next time?</p>	<p>ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/pdf/newsspring04.pdf</p>

<p>4. Planning Process</p>	<p>A good planning process is critical to a successful fire plan., one that your community will embrace and provide leadership for project implementation. Take the time to design a process that will ensure widespread, diverse community participation.</p>	<p>There are many great models of a community-driven planning process. Lower Mattole Fire Plan: www.mattole.org/html/publications_main.html Trinity County Fire Plan: www.tcrd.net/pdf/ValuesAtRiskFromFire.pdf Applegate Fire Plan: www.grayback.com/applegate-valley/fireplan Josephine County Integrated Fire Plan: cwch.uoregon.edu/CCWP/JCIFP/updates.htm</p>
<p>4.1. Planning Area Boundaries</p>	<p>What area does this plan cover? If it is for an incorporated area, then that area is already defined, if not, define the area. How did you divide the overall area into sub-areas? Did you use watersheds, local jurisdictions/communities, ecological types, roads and access, or a combination of these factors? Identify each the different sub-areas with a unique name, as they will form the structure of Chapters 5, 6, 7 and 8.</p>	<p>The overall area can be described from maps, available from participating government or agency representatives. The sub-areas will need to be defined by your planning group and then mapped, preferably using GIS technology. CERES has information on California watersheds: ceres.ca.gov/watershed/geographic.html ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Four: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>
<p>4.2. Process and Plan Development</p>	<p>Describe the process used to ensure all stakeholders participated democratically in development of <u>this</u> plan. How did it begin? How did you invite others to participate? What were the steps you took as a group to create this plan? What steps did you take to ensure broad-based community (public) involvement?</p>	<p>Refer to meeting notes that document the steps taken at each meeting and work undertaken in between meetings. Lower Mattole Fire Plan: www.mattole.org/html/publications_main.html Trinity County Fire Plan: www.tcrd.net/pdf/ValuesAtRiskFromFire.pdf ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Steps One, Two, Three, and Eight: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm “A Framework for Community Fire Plans”: cwch.uoregon.edu/CCWP/JCIFP/updates.htm Applegate Fire Plan, Steps to Improve Comm. Prep. www.ncrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/bro/applegate.pdf</p>
<p>4.3. Stakeholders: Who, What, When, Why</p>	<p>Describe the people and organizations who actively participated in the process of developing this plan. All property owners and residents need to be represented, including state and federal land management agencies and the State Department of Forestry. Include large land owners, environmental and watershed groups, industry, utilities, insurance groups, real estate, etc. Include community members involved in wood products utilization, such as sawmills, compost, landscaping, cogeneration, biomass, and forestry. Include representatives from local government. Often local planning or emergency service staff are most appropriate. You can describe participants based on their affiliations and</p>	<p>Meeting notes will list participants. If you have the time and resources, a survey can be developed of all participants asking them to describe the extent of their involvement and why they are involved. ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Steps One, Two, and Three: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>

	interests (e.g. County Planning Dept, Volunteer Fire Dept., local watershed group, etc.), and as individuals. Explain their level of involvement, and why they were in this process (e.g. local school board to incorporate fire safety education in the local schools). Remember, to get a meaningful level of participation, you first need to invite people to participate.	
5. Community Description <i>[For overall area; can divide into sub-areas as well.]</i>	This section provides a general description of the planning area. For most plans, this section will need an overview of the entire planning area, as well as subsections for each of the specific sub-areas of the plan developed in Item 4.1 above.	In general, the information for this section will come from a variety of sources that likely already exist for your area. The Applegate (Oregon) Fire Plan: Balancing Act, Living with Fire in the Applegate, Chapter II is a great example of a community description. www.grayback.com/applegate-valley/fireplan The Orleans-Somes Bar Fire Safe Council has developed a great survey to use to get this information from local residents: www.firesafecouncil.org/ca/attachments/OSB_FSC_.doc ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Four: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
5.1. General Environmental Conditions	This section is intended to give the reader an overall introduction to existing environmental conditions, especially as relating to the physical environment.	Local natural resource agencies, university departments, and/or nonprofit conservation organizations. See below for specific entities.
5.1.1 Topography, Slope, Aspect, Elevation	Provide an overall physical description of the area: Is it generally steep or flat? What are the elevations? Are there long east/west ridges? Where are areas that have topographic issues, such as deep canyons, steep ridges, etc., where fire will either move rapidly, or suppression access will be difficult?	USGS, local natural resource and/or geology/geography agencies, university departments, and/or nonprofit organizations. Free websites: www.geographynetwork.com/maps/index.html (from ESRI), www.topozone.com , http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/ , http://mapserver.maptech.com/homepage/index.cfm Maps for a Fee: www.usgs.gov , www.maptech.com
5.1.2 Meteorology, Climate, Precipitation	What are the general weather conditions? What is the annual precipitation? Is it generally wet in winter and dry in summer? What are the average monthly temperatures and precipitation amounts? Are there areas with microclimates that increase the risk of catastrophic fire, such as areas with high winds, or hot, dry south-facing slopes?	Local natural resource and/or geology/geography agencies, fire agencies, university departments, and/or nonprofit organizations. http://ceres.ca.gov ; cdec.water.ca.gov/snow_rain.html watersupplyconditions.water.ca.gov/ watersupplyconditions.water.ca.gov/hydrologic.cfm
5.1.3 Hydrology	Describe the rivers, creeks, and springs. Name the principle waterways. Include any specific information such as if they are <i>wild and scenic</i> , or <i>303d impaired</i> , etc.	Local natural resource agencies, university departments, and/or nonprofit organizations. ceres.ca.gov , DWR: www.water.ca.gov www.water.ca.gov/nav.cfm?topic=Water_Conditions

		&subtopic=Hydrology and Water Supply Bureau of Reclamation web site for the mid-Pacific region at www.usbr.gov/mp/ .
5.1.4 Ecosystem Types	What are the general ecosystem types? What is their general distribution? Do you have forests, if so, what kind (e.g. mixed evergreen, redwood, Douglas fir)? Are there prairies, chaparral, wetlands?	Local natural resource agencies, university departments, and/or nonprofit organizations ceres.ca.gov
5.1.5 Threatened and Endangered Habitat Types	What are the threatened, endangered, or rare habitat types? How abundant are they? What is their current status? Are there specific requirements for associated wildlife species?	CA Department of Fish and Game Wildlife and Habitat Data Analysis Branch www.dfg.ca.gov/whdab/index.html . Local natural resource agencies, university departments, and/or nonprofit orgs.
5.2. Population, Demographics	What is the overall human population? How is the population distributed over your planning area? Do you get many visitors to your area? How does affect your population, especially during the high-visitor months?	Local planning and tourism departments, US Census data, www.census.gov , Your county’s web site, links to county and city web sites ceres.ca.gov/planning/countylists/county_gov.html
5.3. Community Legal Structure, Jurisdictional Boundaries	How many different jurisdictions are included in your planning area? List all the incorporated communities, as well as the unincorporated ones (separately). In terms of public lands, how many different forests, parks, or other public ownerships exist, and where are they? List them. Identify Community Service Districts, and CDF State Responsibility Areas (SRA). Are any of your communities designated <i>communities at risk</i> in the National Fire Plan?	Local planning departments, maps, CDF, and the collective knowledge of your group. ceres.ca.gov/planning/ and your County web site will have information on your Board of Supervisors. Local offices of federal agencies: www.first.gov . State agencies: www.my.ca.gov/state/portal/myca_homepage.jsp . State Senator information and district maps: www.senate.gov , Assemblymember information and maps: www.assembly.ca.gov/acs/defaulttext.asp www.fireplan.gov/reports/351-358-en.pdf
5.4. Land Use/Development Trends	What are the current trends in land use and development? Are more home being built in the wildland, and/or wildland/urban interface (WUI)? Is wildland being converted to urban? Is there adequate water supply (for fire fighting in late summer/fall) for these new developments?	Local planning departments and the collective knowledge of your group. Some information is available from the general lists for this Chapter. Also consult the appropriate General Plan(s) and/or Community Plan(s) for your area. These are available from the counties and/or cities that your fire plan includes.
5.5. Infrastructure: Roads, Driveways, Utilities, Communication, Water Supply, Schools, Hospitals	Provide a brief, but thorough description of the existing infrastructure. This is to provide background data for the analysis of assets at risk and possible actions. Many of these items will be addressed in more detail in Chapter 7. Think of all of these items in terms of fire prevention and suppression, and how each will contribute to reducing wildfire risks. Where are roads paved vs. unpaved? Is driveway access a problem in any concentrated areas for fire fighters? Is the road “public” as per the Forest Practice Rules? What utilities are present and how are they prepared for	Local planning departments, OES, local CDF Unit Fire Plan, the collective knowledge of your group and the local Yellow Pages. gis.ca.gov Schools by type: ceres.ca.gov/org/edu.list.html Forest Practice Rules re “public road”: www.fire.ca.gov/resourcemanagement/forestpractice.s.asp

	<p>catastrophic fire situations? What communication systems exist, such as microwave or cellular phone towers, and where are they? Describe the existing water supply system. Is it adequate to provide water during the dry months for a large fire? How many school districts are present within your planning area? Where are they generally located? Where are the hospitals? Are there available runways for emergency air landings?</p>	
5.6. Emergency Services	<p>What is the existing level of emergency service? Generally describe the local police, fire, and ambulance services. Identify any known gaps in service (such as areas without quick access to emergency services).</p>	<p>Local planning departments, fire departments/companies, County Fire Chiefs Association, CDF, County OES, and the collective knowledge of your group. See websites above. ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five E: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>
5.6.1.1 Fire Protection Response/Readiness	<p>This section addresses how adequate local fire protection efforts are for stopping a wildfire. It is important to do these assessments for critical times/severe fire weather. This occurs generally in the late summer/fall in California, when local fire fighters and equipment can be fighting fires far away, water supply can be limited, and vegetation extremely flammable. Are there gaps in fire protection service? If so, where are they?</p>	<p>Local fire fighting departments/companies, including volunteers, fire chiefs associations, CDF, federal land management agencies, and local planning and OES.</p>
5.7. Insurance Ratings	<p>How have your communities been rated by the insurance industry in regards to fire insurance? Are there portions of your planning area that are on the insurance industries high-risk list? If so, list those. Insurance Services Organization (ISO) has information about risk.</p>	<p>Ratings are usually done by the individual insurance companies rather than being area-wide. Cities and fire districts may have an ISO rating. Contact your local fire district or city fire department for details. Non-urban areas can be rated 10 where 1 is best and 10 is worst. www.iso.com</p>
5.8. Fire Safe Councils, Watershed Councils, Resource Conservation Districts, Non-Governmental Organizations, Homeowners’ Associations	<p>How many, if any, Fire Safe Councils exist? List them and the areas they cover. Are there any existing watershed councils or RCDs? What non-profit/NGOs exist that address issues such as fire prevention or suppression (e.g. local conservation or restoration organizations, volunteer fire departments or companies, etc.). Are there any homeowners’ associations that deal with collective issues such as roads, water, or other resource management issues?</p>	<p>The California Fire Safe Council has a list of most existing Fire Safe Councils in the state: www.firesafecouncil.org/councils/index.html. Contact any local conservation organizations to inquire about other groups in the area who may be addressing fire-related issues. RCDs: www.carcd.org/frameset.htm. Watershed information: http://ceres.ca.gov/watershed/.</p>
6. Current Fire Environment <i>[For overall area; can divide into sub-areas as well.]</i>	<p>Describe the current situation in terms of fire in your area.</p>	<p>You can generally obtain much of this information from local, state, and/or federal fire agencies. It is a continually and rapidly developing field. http://frap.cdf.ca.gov http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/projects/wui/ ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection</p>

		Plan” Step Five A & B: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
6.1. Wildfire Problem Definition	Define the potential for destructive wildfire in your planning area. Your area may have frequent fires, or not. Keep in mind that just because you do not have frequent fires does not mean you don’t have a problem! You may have a much higher probability of a highly destructive fire such as Oakland Hills.	Fire agencies (local fire departments, CDF, federal, volunteers). Make sure you are using up to date information. Use valid data sets. FRAP: http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/infocenter.html
6.2. Local Fire Ecology	Fire ecology is the study of how fire interacts with the local natural systems. Are there local ecosystem types that have evolved with fire, such as chaparral, redwood, or knobcone pine? If so, how have those been affected by decades of fire suppression? Not all fire is bad! In fact, California evolved with fire. What impacts does the presence or absence of fire have on ecosystem health (e.g. noxious invasive weeds, fire fuel build up, species habitat, etc.)? Some species such as redwood need fire to open their cones.	www.ice.ucdavis.edu/cafe , www.fire-ecology.org/ <i>Fire Ecology of Pacific Northwest Forests</i> , James K. Agee, Island Press, 1993. www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/1559632305/102-8101392-1784141?v=glance CDF Unit Resource Management staff. USGS Western Ecological Research Center: www.werc.usgs.gov/fire/ www.ssrc.org/firebrochurel.htm
6.3. Fire History	When have fires occurred in the past? Where? How often? What size? High intensity, low intensity?	Federal, state, and local fire agencies, maps, CDF Unit Fire Plan. http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/projects/fire_data/fire_perimeters/ ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five B: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
6.4. Fire Weather	What is the occurrence and frequency of severe fire weather; what other weather conditions would contribute to a high intensity fire?	Fire agencies, CDF, FRAP: http://frap.cdf.ca.gov ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five B: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
6.5. Hazardous Fuels	Identify the presence of volatile fire fuels. How are the fuels arranged on the landscape: contiguous fields, mosaic, etc.? Is there horizontal and/or vertical continuity?	Federal, state, and local fire agencies, maps, satellite imagery, orthophotos. FRAP. CDF Pre-fire engineer at local unit. www.fs.fed.us/fire/fuelman/ http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/data/fire_data/fuels/fuelsfr.html ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five A: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
6.5.1 Fuel Hazard Ranking	Fuel Hazard ranking addresses the relative flammability and fire intensity potential of vegetation on the landscape. Generally it is rated simply as Low, Medium, High, or Extreme/Severe.	Existing California Fire Plan criteria for Fuel Hazard Assessment has been updated. http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/data/fire_data/fuel_rank/index.html
6.5.2 Condition Class	Federal fire agencies classify fire fuel hazard according to Condition Class I, II, III.	www.nifc.gov/preved/comm_guide/wildfire/fire_5.html , fire.org/frcc/FrccDefinitionsFinal.pdf
6.5.3 Natural Fire Breaks	Are there any existing natural fire breaks, such as roads, rivers, sparsely vegetated ridgelines, talus fields, or bodies of water?	Fire agencies, local natural resource agencies, university departments, and/or nonprofit organizations, maps.

<p>6.6. Ignition History: Source, Season, Slope, Aspect</p>	<p>What caused the fires? Examine ignitions in terms of the source, time of year, percent slope gradient (steepness), position on slope (lower, middle, upper third), aspect (e.g. south facing), and location and distance from structures, roads, and recreation sites. Based on this information, where and when do you expect fires to start?</p>	<p>Federal, state, and local fire agencies, maps. Shoshone County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan (<i>link changed, search for doc.</i>) CDF State Responsibility Area (SRA) data: frap.cdf.ca.gov/data/frapgisdata/select.asp ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five B: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>
<p>7. Risk Assessment: Identifying and Evaluating Assets at Risk <i>[For overall area; can divide into sub-areas as well.]</i></p>	<p>A fundamental part of any fire plan is identifying what you might lose in a wildfire, known as assets or values at risk. This section is for that identification and evaluation. Here you will estimate which assets are at greatest risk from wildfire.</p> <p>Introductory and background information on assets at risk is available in the California Fire Plan, Chapter 4: Assets at Risk, and Appendix C: Assets at Risk and their Role in the Fire Plan.</p> <p>This is where you will need a good GIS (geographic information system) and GIS operator.</p> <p>Reviewing other fire plans is helpful for this section. Check out Colorado Springs, Kern Valley, and Shoshone for good risk evaluation methods.</p>	<p>California Wildfire Information GIS data website: wildfire.cr.usgs.gov/fire_planning/viewer.htm gis.ca.gov, Cal. Fire Plan: www.fire.ca.gov/FireEmergencyResponse/FirePlan/ireplan.pdf Josephine County Risk Assessment Methodology, cwch.uoregon.edu/CCWP/JCIFP/risk_assessment_1.htm ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Four and Five: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm ESRI book: <i>Disaster Response: GIS for Public Safety</i>, ISBN: 1-879102-88-9, http://gis.esri.com/esripress/display/index.cfm?CFID=335927&CFTOKEN=64578432</p>
<p>7.1. Structures/Density</p>	<p>Where are concentrations of structures? These areas tend to be valued higher both in terms of fire protection resources, as well as being a potential ignition source. Where are structures located within the wildland or WUI? Which are the highest priority to protect in case of wildfire? Which are most vulnerable to wildfire and why? Do structures have fire-resistant roofing materials? What are ISO ratings?</p>	<p>Local planning departments, CDF, the collective knowledge of your group, State OES; applicable General Plans, COGs, FRAP, County Economic Analysis. Josephine County Risk Assessment Methodology, cwch.uoregon.edu/CCWP/JCIFP/risk_assessment_1.htm ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five C: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>
<p>7.2. Infrastructure</p>	<p>Provide a brief, but thorough description of the existing infrastructure in terms of fire prevention and suppression. How will each affect or be affected by wildfire? Which are the highest priority to protect in case of wildfire? Which are most vulnerable to wildfire and why?</p> <p>What utilities are present and how are they prepared for catastrophic fire situations? What communication systems exist, such as microwave or cellular phone towers, and where are they? How many school districts are present within your planning area? Where are they generally located? Where are</p>	<p>Local planning departments, OES, local CDF Unit Fire Plan, the collective knowledge of your group and the local Yellow Pages. Schools by type: ceres.ca.gov/org/edu.list.html ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five C: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>

	the hospitals? Are there available runways for emergency air landings?	
7.3. Access/Transportation, Roads, Driveways, Bridges, Gates, Culverts	How accessible are the various areas for fire suppression efforts? Look at issues such as road surface quality, width, private driveway conditions, where driveways are connected to the primary road network. Identify one way in/out access locations.. Are there narrow bridges, or wooden ones that could be destroyed in a fire? Are there undersized culverts that could plug with increased sediment from a wildfire? Are there locked gates? How does the road network increase or decrease local wildfire risks?	Local planning departments, OES, sheriff/police/fire departments, federal and state land management agencies, and the collective knowledge of your group. ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five C: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm Josephine County Risk Assessment Methodology, cwch.uoregon.edu/CCWP/JCIFP/risk_assessment_1.htm
7.4. Businesses/Commercial	Where are the primary commercial/economic centers of your planning area? How will they be affected by wildfire? How will this affect the local economy? Which are the highest priority to protect in case of wildfire?	Local planning departments, the collective knowledge of your group, State OES; applicable General Plans, COGs, County Economic Analysis, Economic Development Agencies www.caled.org/about_ed/regions/CA_regions.html . Chamber of Commerce: www.calchamber.com/index.cfm?navID=331
7.5. Cultural Resources	What are the existing cultural resources? Include native American and post settlement historical values to determine how they will be affected by fire. Which are the most vulnerable to wildfire and why?	Tribes, historical societies, colleges. www.allianceofcatribes.org/default.htm www.kstrom.net/isk/maps/ca/california.html www.californiahistoricalsociety.org/programs/ccd.html ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five D: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
7.6. Ecologically Sensitive Areas; Wildlife, Habitat, Plants, Ecosystem Health, Primitive Areas	Where are the principle ecologically sensitive areas as described in Item 5.1? How resilient are these areas to disturbance, both natural and man made (i.e. how well and how quickly do they recover)? How will these areas be affected either positively or negatively by wildfire? Which are the highest priority to protect in case of wildfire? Within this section, describe specific issues regarding wildlife and their habitat, threatened or endangered plants, overall ecosystem health, and any existing primitive areas such as wilderness, parks, and Research Natural Areas. How will each of these be affected either positively or negatively by wildfire? Which are the highest priority to protect in case of wildfire?	CA Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Database www.dfg.ca.gov/whdab/html/cnddb.html . Wildlife and Habitat Data Analysis Branch www.dfg.ca.gov/whdab/index.html Local natural resource agencies, university departments, and/or nonprofit organizations. ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five D: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
7.7. Water and Watersheds	Building on the hydrology description from Item 5.1.3, summarize the existing waterways and their surrounding watersheds. How will these systems and supporting wildlands be affected by wildfire? For example: increased or decreased water yields, sedimentation and subsequent removal costs, effects on hydroelectric generation, etc. Which are most	Local natural resource and/or geology/geography agencies, university departments, and/or nonprofit organizations. www.dwr.water.ca.gov/ www.swrcb.ca.gov/contact/index.html gis.ca.gov/meta.epl?oid=5298

<p>7.8. Air Quality</p>	<p>vulnerable to wildfire and why?</p> <p>Are there any air quality issues in the planning area, such as pollutants or topographical conditions that trap smoke? If so, what are they? Where will air quality be most drastically reduced in the case of a wildfire? What are the population centers (such as schools, hospitals, nursing homes, child or adult day care centers, trails, and campgrounds) that might be more susceptible to smoke impacts associated with wildfire <i>or controlled burning</i>? What areas have topographical or meteorological conditions that could result in greater smoke impacts?</p>	<p>Local Air Quality Control Board, fire agencies, and the collective knowledge of your group. California Air Resources Board. For California Air Resources Board: www.arb.ca.gov/smp/smp.htm For Local Air Districts: www.arb.ca.gov/smp/district/district.htm and www.arb.ca.gov/smp/district/adstat.htm For U.S.EPA: www.epa.gov/airnow/</p>
<p>7.9. Recreation</p>	<p>Where are the principle recreation areas? How will they be adversely affected by wildfire? How will wildfire affect the local tourism economy in general? Which areas are most vulnerable to wildfire and why?</p>	<p>Local tourism boards, recreational organizations, outdoor/sporting good stores, and the local knowledge of your group. Recreation on all public lands by state: www.recreation.gov Government agencies that serve CA recreation lands: www.california-recreation.com/agencies.html. National Parks Service CA Wild & Scenic Rivers: www.nps.gov/rivers/wildriverslist.html#ca. United States Forest Service Forests & Grasslands by state: www.fs.fed.us/recreation/map/finder.shtml ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five D: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>
<p>7.10. Natural Resource Management Areas: Range, Timber, Agriculture, Other</p>	<p>Which natural resource-based business/industries exist? Where are they? How will they be positively or negatively affected by wildfire? Which areas are most vulnerable to wildfire and why?</p>	<p>Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Local Chambers of Commerce, planning departments, economic development agencies, and university natural resource departments. NRCS: www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/ CA Dept. of Conservation, www.consrv.ca.gov, UC Cooperative Extension. danr.ucop.edu/regional.htm California Cattleman’s Association, www.calcattlemen.org/, California Forestry Association, www.batnet.com/woodcom/cfa/ Farm Bureau, www.fb.com ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Five D: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>
<p>8. Mitigation Strategy: The Action Plan <i>[For overall area; can divide into</i></p>	<p>This section describes the steps you will take to reduce wildfire risks.</p>	<p>Most of this information will come from your planning group and any project coordinators, if you have any existing or ongoing projects. If not, this process will lead to that.</p>

<i>sub-areas as well.]</i>		<p>►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Six and Seven: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>
8.1. Desired Future Conditions	Given everything you have learned about the current state of affairs in your planning area in relation to wildfire, how is it that you would like your area to look differently in the future, with respect to fire?	Agreement between planning group and community members, based on information gathered in the planning process.
8.2. Mitigation Goals	What are your overall goals to address your fire hazard risks? Describe the specific goals as steps to take to achieve your desired future condition. For example, shaded fuel breaks between all communities and wildlands, ongoing educational programs about fire safety in the public schools, etc.	Agreement between planning group and community members, based on information gathered in the planning process.
8.3. Current Projects	Describe any current or previous projects undertaken to reduce fire risks. These are often excellent building blocks for a long-term proactive fire hazard reduction strategy.	Local FSCs, RCDs, watershed groups, fire departments, conservation organizations, timber/ranch/agriculture industries.
8.4. Prioritization Process	You need to develop a process for prioritizing the myriad projects that will surface throughout this process. The following are several elements of a prioritization process. Keep this in mind when developing your projects/possible actions (item 8.5). Prioritization can be based on factors such as biology/ecology, community concerns, safety, economics, etc.	<p>The Orleans-Somes Bar Fire Safe Council developed a survey and corresponding prioritization chart www.firesafecouncil.org/ca/attachments/OSB_FSC.doc. For a copy of their Excel prioritization scheme spreadsheet, contact wharling@sisqtel.net. A simple version of a prioritization process is available in the Upper Mattole Fire Plan, www.mattole.org/html/publications_main.html. A more complex version is available in the Kern River Valley Community Fire Safe Plan Trinity County (CA) Fire Plan www.tcrd.net/pdf/ValuesAtRiskFromFire.pdf</p> <p>►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Six: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm</p>
8.4.1 Biological, Economic, Community, Safety	Identify priorities in terms of local biology, economy, community needs (as identified in your public process) and safety.	<p>Lower Mattole Fire Plan: www.mattole.org/html/publications_main.html Trinity County Fire Plan: www.tcrd.net/pdf/ValuesAtRiskFromFire.pdf</p>
8.4.2 Resources Available, Project Readiness	How ready is your project to begin? If funding were received, could you start immediately? For example, do you already have signed landowner permission agreements in place for all the areas where you will operate? Will all the equipment and materials be available?	Project coordinators
8.4.2.1 Project Prescription	Do you have a specific prescription in place for the project already? If so, has the methodology been tested elsewhere?	Other Fire Safe Councils, implemented projects.
8.4.2.2 Responsible Parties	Have all the responsible parties been designated? Have they all agreed to the project, including all the landowners/managers and relevant agencies?	Project coordinators

8.4.2.3 Agency Involvement	To what extent are local agencies (local, state, and federal) involved? Are they providing any support for the project? Are they ready to start when funding is secured?	Project coordinator, relevant agencies.
8.5. Possible Actions	This section is where all possible actions to address your desired future conditions and mitigation goals are described.	Other Fire Safe Councils, fire plans, collective experience of your planning group. ►“Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Seven: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
8.5.1 Vegetation Management/Fuel Modification Projects	This section addresses specific actions to take to reduce fuel loads, whether in forests, brush, or grasslands.	Applegate Fire Plan, Table 11: Fuel Reduction Methods www.grayback.com/applegate-valley/fireplan/forest-methods.htm ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/fueloption.html
8.5.1.1 Thinning and Brushing	Thinning is used to reduce fuels in forested areas . It is done by removing the lowest branches of the trees (<i>limbing up</i>), to remove the <i>ladder</i> fuels, those that will allow a fire to climb into the forest canopy. As well, the smallest trees are often removed to create more space between the larger trees (this usually increases your timber values as well). Brushing means to go through and remove most of the brush —especially that which is already dead— on the forest floor. Describe any proposed thinning or brushing projects, where they are intended to happen and why.	www.fire.ca.gov , www.firesafecouncil.org , ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/newsletter.html ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/protectforest.html ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/burnpiles.html ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/prune2.html ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/thinning.html ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/fuelladder.html
8.5.1.2 Prescribed Burning	Prescribed burning—or controlled burning—is a relatively quick and inexpensive way to reduce fuel loads. However, in many situations, especially where there are structures nearby, preparatory work needs to be done to reduce the overall flammability of the site. Describe any proposed burning projects, where they are intended to happen and why. Because prescribed burning projects may have air quality smoke impacts associated with them, describe the smoke management planning approaches that will be used to minimize smoke impacts.	Updated Vegetation Management Program (VMP) Program EIR www.ucfpl.ucop.edu/I-Zone/Chapter16.pdf For California Air Resources Board: www.arb.ca.gov/smp/smp.htm For Local Air Districts: www.arb.ca.gov/smp/district/district.htm www.arb.ca.gov/smp/district/adstat.htm For U.S.EPA: www.epa.gov/airnow/
8.5.1.3 Industrial Resource Management	What activities are proposed for local timber, ranching, and/or agriculture lands? Timber companies often participate in the projects identified in items 8.5.1, 2 & 4.	Local timber, ranching, and agriculture companies. Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators
8.5.1.4 Slash/Biomass Disposal	Are there any projects proposed to remove forest thinnings, brush piles, and/or grass piles? Community chipper day is an example of such a project. Do you have any projects to inform residents of safety requirements for burn piles? Is there potential for biomass facilities in your community? Explore possible product quantities for supporting a biomass facility. Look at your fuel type and overlay a forest prescription to estimate the potential amount of biomass volume. Biomass facilities can be developed on a small-scale to be locally	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators. Applegate Fire Plan, “What you should know before burning debris or slash,” www.grayback.com/applegate-valley/fireplan ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/burnpiles.html www.calbiomass.org , www.fuelsforschools.org

	appropriate and sustainable, without threatening the forest resource.	
8.5.1.4 Forest Products Utilization	What steps can you take to ensure that any forest products removed from your fuel reduction efforts are utilized to the maximum extent possible? This is an excellent way to help offset the costs of forest management. Options include biomass, compost, small diameter lumber, artisan wood products, florals, etc.	//sustainablehardwoods.net/ www.isf-sw.org/ www.communityforestry.net/ www.thewatershedcenter.org/ www.ucfpl.ucop.edu/
8.5.2 Infrastructure Improvements	Are there any proposed projects to improve local infrastructure?	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators
8.5.2.1 Water Supply	Are there any proposed projects to install water tanks for fire suppression water storage? Are there any projects to help residents acquire National Hose (NH) Thread and fire hose?	www.pioneertanks.com , www.bhtank.com/fire_water.asp www.fishertank.com/fpwstank.html
8.5.2.2 Roads/Access	Do you have any projects to widen or improve road conditions to allow unimpeded access by fire fighters?	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators
8.5.3 Emergency Response	Do you have any projects identified to enhance local emergency response capabilities?	Emergency response agencies.
8.5.3.1 Fire Protection Response/Readiness	Are there any projects that can be implemented to improve fire response?	Fire agencies.
8.5.3.2 Equipment	Is there any additional fire suppression equipment needed?	Fire agencies.
8.5.3.3 Firefighter and Public Training, Certification, and Qualification	Are there any firefighting training programs needed? If so, what are they? Are they available locally or regionally?	Fire agencies, County Fire Chief’s Association; California Office of the State Fire Marshal www.fire.ca.gov/FireMarshal/SFMTraining/SFMTraining.asp
8.5.3.4 Defensible Polygons	A defensible polygon is an area where a fire can be contained by fire fighters utilizing strategic fuel breaks and preplanned tactics. The fire plan and tactical operational plan need to be coordinated and dovetailed for effective implementation. Do they exist? Where are they most needed?	Local Fire Management Plans: fire departments/companies, including fire chiefs associations, CDF, federal land management agencies, county OES operational fire plan, and local planning departments.
8.5.3.5 Fuel Breaks (Shaded, Strategic, DFPZs)	Strategic fuel breaks are places on the landscape located to slow a fire down or provide for preplanned tactical containment by fire fighters. Are there any existing strategic fuel breaks? Are there natural barriers that serve as fuel breaks? If so, describe them. When were they established? What are the prescriptions (width, canopy cover, ground cover, etc.)? Are they being maintained? Where are they located? Are several connected? Are there holes in the connectivity? A shaded fuel break is a specific thinning system where the understory vegetation is removed, but the canopy is left completely or relatively intact. The theory is that the closed canopy will create shade on the ground which will reduce regeneration of the understory vegetation, and therefore reduce	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators. www.fire.ca.gov/FireEmergencyResponse/FirePlan/SuccessStories/FuelBreaks.asp www.battle-creek.net/nl_302_p3.html www.cafirealliance.org/projects.php www.qlg.org/pub/miscdoc/agee.htm ams.confex.com/ams/FIRE2003/techprogram/paper_66008.htm www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres/fire/fuels/dfpz.html

	long-term maintenance needs and costs. Describe any proposed shaded fuel break projects, where they are intended to happen and why. Also known as Defensible Fuel Profile Zones (DFPZ) with the USFS, although this term is often applied more broadly to fuel breaks (not necessarily shaded).	
8.5.4 Defensible Space	Defensible Space is a fundamental concept to impart to local residents reading your plan. The basic concept is to reduce the amount of flammable materials surrounding structures so that they are <i>defensible</i> by fire fighters during a wildfire. In this section, describe your proposed defensible space projects.	Local fire departments (especially CDF), planning departments, OES, and the collective knowledge of your group. Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators Defensible space information is available at www.firesafecouncil.org , and the California Forest Stewardship Program, <i>Forestland Steward</i> newsletter, ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/newsletter.html . The Applegate Plan has a great 6-step how-to guide, www.grayback.com/applegate-valley/fireplan
8.5.5 Evacuation Plan	Getting people out of harms way in a fire is critical. This section addresses specific projects designed to move people quickly, safely, and effectively. Describe your evacuation plan in general. Are there gaps? Are there two ways in and out for all areas? If not, what can be done to ensure this whenever possible?	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators, fire agencies
8.5.5.1 Emergency Communication System/Neighborhood Teams	Do you have programs in progress or proposed to create emergency communication systems? These can be as basic as neighborhood phone trees. List and such proposed projects.	www.ci.falcon-heights.mn.us/nlhandbook/app/phonetree.pdf
8.5.5.2 Safety Zones	Is there a need for additional safety zones? Describe any projects to develop safety zones (as described in 3.2.2.1).	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators, fire agencies, law enforcement, OES www.firelab.org/fbp/fbresearch/safetyzone/frontpg.htm wildfiremag.com/ar/firefighting_zone_2/
8.5.5.3 Escape Routes	Sometimes during a fire, regular access roads can be blocked. Development of alternate escape routes can save lives. Describe any projects to maintain, improve, or develop escape routes.	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators
8.5.5.4 Shelter-In-Place Procedure	Describe any projects to develop shelter-in-place procedures for your communities (as described in Section 3.2.3).	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators, fire agencies, OES
8.5.6 Education	Educating residents about wildfire issues is one of the most effective ways to reduce fire hazards, whether that be in K-12 schools, road signs, or programs designed for adults. Describe any educational projects you are proposing, including the target audience, and how you propose to effectively educate them.	California Fire Safe Council, www.firesafecouncil.org Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators.
8.5.7 Fire Safe Councils: Process, Stakeholders, Resources	Development of Fire Safe Councils (at whatever scale) is an extremely effective way to address fire prevention and	California Fire Safe Council, www.firesafecouncil.org Your list of proposed

	suppression issues proactively. Describe any projects to develop new Fire Safe Councils or enhance the efforts of existing Councils. Describe the process, stakeholders, and resources available and needed to ensure an effective Council.	projects, project coordinators.
8.5.8 Fire Safe Inspector Program	Training qualified residents to be “Firesafe Inspectors” is a great way to educate residents about fire safety issues. Describe any existing or proposed inspector programs, and your plans.	www.ucfpl.ucop.edu/I-Zone/Chapter11.pdf Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators.
8.5.9 Senior/Disabled Assistance	People with limited physical abilities, such as senior citizens and disabled persons, need special attention when it comes to both fire prevention and suppression. They often will need assistance in creating a defensible space, as well as in evacuating a fire. Describe any specific projects you have developed to assist this segment of your community.	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators. FEMA Disaster Preparedness For People With Disabilities www.fema.gov/library/disprep.htm . PrepareNow.org www.preparenow.org .
8.6. Watershed Protection	With all of these projects, what are you doing to ensure you are protecting your basic watershed resources? Make sure that you do not sacrifice ecosystem functions and processes for ease of project implementation. Address how your projects will positively, instead of negatively, affect the surrounding environment. This will be very helpful information when you apply for the necessary permits to implement your projects.	A great example of a group doing fire hazard reduction work while improving basic watershed and ecosystem function is Lomakatsi, in southern Oregon. They have created a list of <i>ecological principles</i> to use in implementing fuel reduction projects. www.lomakatsi.org . The Orleans-Somes Bar FSC is another great example: www.co.humboldt.ca.us/planning/fire_safe_council/local_fsc/Orleans/orleans.htm
8.7. Permitting, Exemptions	What steps have you taken to acquire the necessary permits for your proposed projects? Are you eligible for any exemptions, such as a <i>dead, dying, and diseased or fuel hazard</i> exemption from CDF?	Local natural resource agencies and nonprofit organizations, especially those working in restoration. The California Fire Alliance is developing a program for environmental compliance: www.cafirealliance.org . Fuel Hazard Exemptions to the Forest Practices Act: www.fire.ca.gov/ResourceManagement/THinCA.asp
8.8. Prioritized Actions, Implementation Timeline	Now that you have all of these wonderful projects that you prioritized through the process described in Item 8.4 and listed in 8.5, you need to prioritize them in terms of time. Which projects are ready to go first, versus those that will happen later? Which are dependent on other projects to precede them? Develop a timeline for how you propose to implement your various projects over time. Create a table listing: projects in order of implementation, timeline, steps to implement, and monitoring and progress schedules.	Your list of proposed projects, project coordinators. This is where your planning group has to make the hard decisions regarding which projects happen when. If you have done your homework, the analysis you did in the last several chapters, and the prioritization process in 8.4, with the aid of a GIS, will often make this very clear. ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Seven and Eight: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
8.8.1 Short Term (< 1 year)	Identify your simplest, most ready, or most pressing projects that you can begin almost immediately.	Your project list.

8.8.2 Medium Term (1- 10 years)	Identify those projects that are of high – medium priority that you will address in the next decade. Develop a timeline for which projects to implement when.	Your project list.
8.8.3 Long Term (10+ years)	Identify those projects that are either very long-term, or of low priority, to be addressed in the next decade. These projects can be just as important as your immediate projects, but need to wait to be implemented.	Your project list.
8.9. Monitoring and Evaluation	We all learn from our actions, both good and bad. What processes have you developed to monitor your efforts over time and evaluate their successes? Monitoring and evaluation is critical to improving your effectiveness over time.	www.lcri.org/monitoring/ Involve kids: www.nps.gov/olym/hand/field0003.htm www.carc.org/wow/citmont.htm ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Seven: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
9. Summary and Conclusions	This section provides a brief summary of the document and planning process, as well as where to go next.	This is a result of development of this plan. ► “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan” Step Seven and Eight: www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpp.cfm
9.1. Analysis and Findings	Summarize the analysis methods you used to develop your priority action items, and what those action items are.	The previous chapters, especially 7 and 8.
9.2. Plan Update Process	Your review process must include the broad-scale community participation you included in this process for DMA compliance. Describe that process, and how you used the information you learned in item 8.9, Monitoring and Evaluation.	Agendas and meeting notes from plan update meetings. Information generated from monitoring and evaluation (item 8.9)
9.3. Next Steps	Now that this plan is complete, what comes next? How will your group continue in its efforts to implement the prioritized actions you developed? Identify potential funding sources for project implementation.	Consensus of your planning group. www.grants.firesafecouncil.org

Appendices		
Bibliography	Include a list of any reference materials you used or cited in development of your plan. This is also a great place to include references to materials that will be educational to local residents.	Keep a running list of every document, internet site, or key personal communication you use in development of your plan.
Data: GIS, Fuel Models, etc.	What data did you use in developing your hazard ratings for fuels and such, (e.g. fuel models, vegetation types, etc.)?	Your analysis process.
Emergency Contact Lists	Provide a list of key contacts for residents to use in case of emergency, including local media outlets for quick and effective emergency communications.	Local planning departments, OES, sheriff/police/fire departments, federal and state land management agencies, media, yellow pages, and the collective knowledge of your group
Glossary	Provide a glossary of fire terms for your readers. There is a lot of jargon out there. Explain terms in simple English.	There are many good examples of wildfire glossaries. www.fire.ca.gov/cdf/incidents/terminology.html www.ucfpl.ucop.edu/I-Zone/XIX/06_Definitions.pdf www.fire-ecology.org
List of Process Participants	List all process participants. If you developed a MOU (memorandum of understanding) or JPA (joint powers authority) as part of your process, include it as well.	Meeting minutes.
Maps (1:24,000, 1:100,000)	A picture is worth far more than 1,000 words when it comes to fire. Maps help explain your current situation and proposed actions very well.	A good GIS system is key to a good fire plan. California Wildfire Information GIS data website: wildfire.cr.usgs.gov/fire_planning/viewer.htm gis.ca.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning Area 	Identify the area for which your plan covers, including jurisdictional boundaries.	Consensus of your planning group.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fire History: Ignition Points, Spatial Area 	Identify where fires have historically occurred in your planning area.	FRAP: frap.cdf.ca.gov , wildfire.cr.usgs.gov/fire_planning/viewer.htm fire agencies, local CDF unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fuels/Hazards 	Identify concentrations of fuels and hazard rankings for your area.	FRAP: frap.cdf.ca.gov , wildfire.cr.usgs.gov/fire_planning/viewer.htm fire agencies, local CDF unit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prioritized Projects 	Map the projects you have prioritized in Chapter 8. You can map them by area and/or by time period. Include type of project, status, and jurisdiction.	Chapter 8.
Resources	The following list are resources to help community members in their fire safing efforts.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current and Potential Funding Sources 	List sources of funding for individual, organizational, and agency projects.	California Fire Safe Council Grants Clearinghouse, www.grants.firesafecouncil.org
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational Materials, Literature 	Include copies of your favorite educational materials, and/or a list of titles and where to find the documents.	California Fire Safe Council website, www.firesafecouncil.org California Forest Stewardship Program, <i>Forestland</i>

		Steward newsletter, ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/html/newsletter.html CDF: www.fire.ca.gov/php/education/php
▪ Internet Links	Provide a list of your favorite internet links.	Internet, or www.firesafecouncil.org
▪ Resource Managers	List local resource professionals who can assist residents with natural resource issues related to fire, including foresters, range managers, wildlife biologists, and restorationists.	Local university extension office, phone book, and the collective knowledge of your group. Local non-profit organizations, Resource Conservation Districts, www.carcd.org
▪ Organizations/Agencies	The following are a list of agencies that can be helpful before, during, and/or after a fire.	
– American Red Cross	First Aid, medical, emergency supplies.	www.redcross.org
– California Fire Alliance	An organization representing all the state and federal agencies involved in fire in California..	www.cafirealliance.org
– California Fire Chiefs Association	An organization representing California Fire Chiefs.	www.calchiefs.org
– California Fire Safe Council	An organization to help local fire safe councils develop and implement fire safe projects.	www.firesafecouncil.org
– California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF)	A state agency charged with fire protection efforts on state and private lands, as well as timber harvest regulation.	www.fire.ca.gov
– County and State Office of Emergency Services (OES)	Agencies charged with coordinating activities during emergencies.	www.oes.ca.gov
– Fire Protection Districts/Volunteer Fire Fighters	Local government and non-government entities who fight fires, and often provide other emergency services in their communities.	Phone Book, County OES, or local CDF unit (link to CDF units)
– Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP)	The database and research arm of CDF. Lots of good fire data, modeling, and mapping.	frap.cdf.ca.gov/
– Local Fire Safe Councils	Local Fire Safe Councils can be self-appointed for any area, whether it be a neighborhood, town, city, county, or region.	www.firesafecouncil.org/councilsindex.html
– Local Government	Local government agencies and elected officials.	County and city websites: www.my.ca.gov/state/portal/myca_homepage.jsp State Senators and district maps: www.sen.ca.gov State Assembly members and district maps: www.assembly.ca.gov US Senators: www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senator_s_cfm.cfm US Congressmen: www.house.gov US Congressional District Maps: www.nationalatlas.gov/

Abridged Community Fire Plan Template Outline, August 2004

– Media	Use the media to help you spread your message of fire safety to your communities.	Local phone book, yellow pages.
– Non-Profit Conservation	Non-profit conservation organizations can help you identify local conservation issues that you will need to consider in your fire planning efforts. As well, some are involved in restoration, including reducing fuel loads.	Statewide NGOs are listed at http://ceres.ca.gov/org/ngo.html
– Other Local Agencies (State, Federal)	There are often local offices of state and federal agencies in your communities whose charge is to help you the citizens with whatever specific issue for which they were created (e.g. water or air quality).	www.firstgov.gov has links to various agencies
– Resource Conservation Districts (RCD)	RCDs are made up of community stakeholders involved in resource management. In many forested communities, they can be a source of funds for fire hazard reduction projects.	California Association of Resource Conservation Districts: www.carcd.org
– School Districts	Involve your local school districts in your educational efforts. Coordinate evacuation plans.	Schools by type: ceres.ca.gov/org/edu.list.html
– State Fire Marshall	The State Fire Marshall is responsible for inspections of structures to ensure they are safe for humans in the event of fire.	osfm.fire.ca.gov/
– US Dept. of Interior (USDOJ - BIA, BLM, NPS, FWS)	The USDOJ, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is charged with assisting Native Americans on their lands. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages public lands throughout California. The National Park Service (NPS) manages federal park lands throughout the state. The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is responsible for protecting threatened and endangered fish and wildlife.	www.doi.gov
– US Forest Service (USFS)	The Forest Service manages many federal forests throughout the state. They also have funding programs to assist in fire hazard reduction.	www.fs.fed.us/
Technical Methodology (Fuel Ranking, Etc.)	Describe in detail the technical methodology you used in your analyses throughout the plan.	Your planning process.

Acknowledgments: We relied heavily on the following fire plans in preparation of this document: Applegate Fire Plan (Balancing Act, Living with Fire in the Applegate), 2002; California Fire Plan, 1995; Colorado Springs Fire Department, Wildfire Mitigation Plan, 2001; Kern River Valley Community Fire Safe Plan, 2002; Lower Mattole Fire Plan, 2002; Program for Watershed and Community Health, a Framework for Community Fire Plans, 2004; Shoshone County Wildland Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Plan, 2002; State of Utah, Community Fire Planning for the Wildland/Urban Interface, Guidance Document, Upper Mattole Fire Plan, 2004. Thanks to all who made those plans happen for paving the way for the rest of us to do good community fire planning.

Fire Planning Alphabet Soup

BIA – Bureau of Indian Affairs (DOI)	HFRA – Healthy Forest Restoration Act
BLM – Bureau of Land Management (DOI)	HMGP – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program of FEMA
BOF – Board of Forestry and Fire Protection	ICS – Incident Command Center
CDF – California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	ISO – Insurance Service Organization
CEQA – California Environmental Quality Act	JPA – Joint Powers Agreement
CERES – California Environmental Resources System	LRA- Local Responsibility Area
CFIRS – California Fire Incident Reporting System	MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
CFP – California Fire Plan	NDDDB – DFG Natural Diversity Data Base
CFSC – California Fire Safe Council	NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act
(C)DFG – California Department of Fish and Game	NFP – National Fire Plan
COG – Council of Governments	NGO – Non-Governmental Organization
CWPP – Community Wildfire Protection Plan	OES – Office of Emergency Services
DFPZ – Defensible Fuel Profile Zone	PRC – Public Resources Code
DMA – Disaster Mitigation Act 2000 (FEMA)	RCD – Resource Conservation District
DOI – Department of Interior	SAF – Society of American Foresters
EIR – Environmental Impact Report (CEQA)	SHPO – State Historic Preservation Office
EIS – Environmental Impact Statement (NEPA)	SRA – State Responsibility Area
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency	UBC – Uniform Building Code
FMAZ – Fire Management Analysis Zone (CFP)	UCCE – University of California Cooperative Extension
FMP – Forest Management Plan	UFC – Uniform Fire Code
FOFEM – First Order Fire Effects Model	USDA – US Department of Agriculture
FRA – Federal Responsibility Area	USFS – US Forest Service (USDA)
FRAP – Fire and Resource Assessment Program (CDF)	USFWS – US Fish and Wildlife Service (DOI)
FSC – Fire Safe Council	USGS – US Geological Survey
GIS – Geographic Information System	USNPS – US National Park Service (DOI)
GPS – Global Positioning System	VMP – Vegetation Management Program (CDF)
HFI – Healthy Forest Initiative	WGA – Western Governor’s Association
	WUI – Wildland Urban Interface