

Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire



Wildfire Planning International



Table of Contents

Wildfire Trends	Slide #3
What Is CPAW?	Slide #10
How Does CPAW Work?	Slide #15
CPAW Framework	Slide #18
How to Apply to CPAW	Slide #20
References	Slide #21

Wildfires Are Getting Bigger

The # of acres burned has more than doubled, from 4.5 million acres in 1960, to 10.2 million acres in 2015.



Source: See slide #21, references #1.

More Wildfires

Since the 1970s, the # of annual large fires (1,000+ acres) has quadrupled.



Wildfires Are Lasting Longer

The active fire season has increased by 78 days.



Days between first and last fire greater than 1,000 acres (decade average). States: CA, NV, OR, WA, ID, MT, WY, UT, CO, AZ

More Homes Are Burning

Since 1990s, average number of homes burned per year has more than tripled.



Source: See slide #21, references #5.

More Firefighter Deaths

There has been a nearly 50% increase in the average # of firefighter deaths per year from the 1960s to 2000s.



The Costs Are Soaring

Wildfire suppression costs now consume more than half of the U.S. Forest Service budget (\$1.7 billion).



In Response...

The National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (2009) identified three main goals:

- Resilient Landscapes
- Fire-Adapted Communities
- Wildfire Response

The Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire (CPAW) Program Focuses on:

- Resilient Landscapes
- Fire-Adapted Communities
- Wildfire Response

Creating "Fire-Adapted Communities" Includes Land Use Planning Tools



Helping Communities Live with Wildfire on the Landscape

Assistance is in the form of land use planning, forestry expertise, risk assessment, research, and science.

Teams deliver planning recommendations tailored to local needs and at no cost to the community.

About CPAW

Partnership between:



CPAW is funded through the U.S. Forest Service and private foundations.

Where Does CPAW Work?



The CPAW Process

Working to identify wildfire planning challenges with local community contacts, including:

- Land Use Planning Department
- Fire Department
- Land Management Agencies
- Other Contacts

How Does CPAW Work?

Providing recommendations to the community to reduce wildfire risks through:

Land Use Planning

Risk Assessment

Research & Science

Capacity Building

Examples of CPAW Outcomes:

- Reviewing development & planning documents
- Developing geospatial mapping tools
- Publishing reports, data, and interactive tools
- Hosting educational workshops, training events, and other learning opportunities

CPAW Framework

- Services come at no cost to the community
- Addresses both existing & future development
- All recommendations are voluntary
- Outcomes leverage local assets & resources
- Complements other wildfire mitigation programs

What CPAW Is Not...

 Mandatory requirements

- Emergency management plans
- One-size-fits-all approach
- Fuel treatment plans

How To Apply To CPAW

To learn more and apply for CPAW, please visit the CPAW website at: <u>www.planningforwildfire.org</u>

- Applications open in the Summer 2017
- Towns, cities, tribes, and counties are eligible to apply
- At least one contact from both the land use planning department and fire department required

References

- 1. National Interagency Fire Center. Total Wildland Fires and Acres (1960-2015). https://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/fireInfo_stats_totalFires.html.
- Westerling, A.L, Hidalgo, H.G., and Swetnam, T.W. 2006. Warming and earlier spring increase western U.S. forest wildfire activity. *Science* (13). <u>http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1957/17534/Warming%20and%20earlier%20spring.pdf?seq</u>. See also: Running, S. 2006. Is global warming causing more, larger wildfires? *Science* (13). <u>http://people.sc.fsu.edu/~pbeerli/BSC3052/restricted/papers/wildfire-climate-perspective.pdf</u>.
- 3.Westering, A.L. 2016. Increasing western US forest wildfire activity: sensitivity to changes in the timing of spring. *Philosophical Transactions B*. <u>http://ulmo.ucmerced.edu/pdffiles/16RSTB_Westerling.pdf</u>.; Kenward, A., Sanford, T., Bronzan, J. 2016. Western Wildfires: A Fiery Future. Climate Central. <u>http://assets.climatecentral.org/pdfs/westernwildfires2016vfinal.pdf</u>.
- 4.Westerling, A.L, Hidalgo, H.G., and Swetnam, T.W. 2006. Warming and earlier spring increase western U.S. forest wildfire activity. *Science* (13). <u>http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1957/17534/Warming%20and%20earlier%20spring.pdf?seq</u>. Jolly, M.W., et al. 2015. Climate-induced variations in global wildfire danger from 1979-2013. *Nature Communications*. <u>http://www.nature.com/articles/ncomms8537#f2</u>. Chart: McDonnel, T. ClimateDesk.
- 5. Dan Bailey, <u>http://firechief.com/wui/backstory-part-i-its-all-about-wui-facts</u>, using figures from National Interagency Fire Center, InciWeb, & International Organization for Standardization. 2013 figures from CRS report R43077 Wildfire Management: Federal Funding and Related Statistics. March 5, 2014. <u>http://nationalaglawcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/assets/crs/R43077.pdf</u>. Figures include all structures; most are homes.
- 6. National Interagency Fire Center. Historical Wildland Firefighter Fatality. <u>https://www.nifc.gov/safety/safety_documents/year.pdf</u>.
- 7.United States Department of Agriculture. 2014. The Rising Cost of Wildfire Operations: Effects on the Forest Service's Non-Fire Work. <u>http://www.fs.fed.us/about-agency/budget-performance/cost-fire-operations</u>. See also references cited in #2 above.
- 8.National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. <u>https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy</u>



Questions?

Molly Mowery molly@wildfireplanning.com 303-358-9589

Kimiko Barrett, Ph.D. kimi@headwaterseconomics.org

406-224-1837



Wildfire Planning International

