

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS CWPP - Alabama

The CWPP goes beyond our traditional fire prevention efforts. The CWPPs address total wildfire protection through cooperation with others because no single agency is capable of protecting multiple structures while fighting a large wildland fire in the interface.

- Prevention of wildfires
- Preparedness of the community at risk
- Readiness of personnel and equipment
- Plans for logistics, suppression, communications, dispatch, evacuation

In most counties, the initial CWPP will be for the entire county.

Initially this will be done in counties with National Forests or National Wildlife Refuges
The information from past Fire Readiness Plans and Fire Prevention Plans will be useful
The Protection Division will distribute background on why AFC is doing CWPPs
The Protection Division will prepare CWPP templates and instructions

The CWPP must address:

- Collaboration with county, state, local, and federal representatives
- Priorities for hazardous fuel reduction projects
- Treatment of structural ignitability – creation of defensible space
- Information and education

Eight steps in preparation the CWPP:

- Convene decision makers, fire service reps/officials/resource professionals/landowners
- Involve federal, state, and local agencies
- Engage other interested parties or stakeholders – develop solutions jointly
- Establish a community based map (protection area/county)
- Develop a risk assessment for the plan area – identify high value assets
- Establish priorities and recommendations – define roles and responsibilities
- Develop an action plan and mitigation strategy
- Finalize the CWPP with all partners in agreement (involves commitment)

Results

- Communities are better prepared; property owners get involved in their own protection
- Better coordination of suppression efforts in the event of a wildfire
- Increased level of cooperation and trust among key players
- Operating plans are refined with after action review

Tools

- Alabama Wildfire Risk Assessment maps
- Homeowner Wildfire Risk Assessments & Hazard Mitigation Recommendations (FC-48)
- Subdivision Hazard Rating
- Firewise Communities, USA
- Wildland/Urban Interface Training

“Wildland/Urban Interface isn’t a geographical region; it’s a set of conditions.”