

APPENDIX A: PRE- FIRE PROJECTS

Overview

The Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit has developed an objective ranking process to prioritize prospective fuels modification projects. The ranking process is designed to emphasize the benefits to public safety and to assist in the prevention of large costly fires.

Identification of communities at risk was determined by California Fire Alliance. Information from the Fire Threat Map developed using statistical information from the Fire and Rescue Assessment Program (FRAP) was also utilized. A formula using fire history, potential fire threat and proximity to fire suppression resources was developed to aid in the prioritizing of projects for communities at risk for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

Listed below are the descriptions and the values assigned to the ranking process;

Fire History within 3 miles of a “Community at Risk” to a wildfire

10-100 acres within past 10 years; **1 Point per fire**

100+ acres with in past 10 years; **2 Points per fire**

Any major fire having threatened a community within the last 10 years; **2 Points per fire**

FRAP Fire Threat

Non-Fuel; **0 Points**

Moderate; **2 Points**

High; **4 Points**

Very High; **6 Points**

Extreme; **8 Points**

Response Times to a “Community at Risk” to a wildfire

< 10 minutes; **0 Points**

10-20 minutes; **1 Point**

20-30 minutes; **2 Points**

> 30 minutes; **3 Points**

Community proximity to a “Community at Risk” to a wildfire

For each community within approximately 3 miles of a project; **1 Point**

BATTALION 1

Battalion 1 is working closely with the Lassen County Fire Safe Council (LCFSC), and Local Government Fire Fighting Agencies towards community preparedness in the event of wildland fire threats. Communities at risk from wildland fires, along the escarpment from Milford north to the Susan River area west of Susanville and the Lake Forest area have been prioritized. Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) has been addressed by focusing on communities at risk within Battalion 1. WUI maps have been and are continuing to be developed for targeted areas that contain roads, dwellings, hazards, water sources, areas of safe refuge among other information to assist in wildfire suppression efforts.

Battalion 1 is also working closely with the Lassen County Sheriffs Office (LCSO) on evacuation plans. Using WUI maps as a guide, evacuation zones will be established by the LCSO. In the event of a wildland incident requiring evacuations, fire agencies and the LCSO will have a preplanned evacuation process in place for a cooperative effort to insure public safety as a priority for such an event.

In an effort to protect communities at risk there are projects underway indentified in the CWPP. Working in cooperation, Antelope Camp fire crews and the LCFSC are engaged in fuel modification projects. Through thinning and disposal of excess vegetation on private and federally owned lands a fuel break is proposed to protect communities at the base of the escarpment from Milford north to the Susan River area west of Susanville.

To this effort, the following communities and projects have been identified.

Lake Forest Estates

In the community of Lake Forest, an evacuation map has been developed and distributed that has designated lookouts, safety zones and escape routes for the residents. In addition, a shaded fuel break was completed and is being maintained around the area. This project directly benefits approximately 650 people and 215 structures.

Elysian Valley/Baxter Creek

In the communities of Elysian Valley & Baxter Creek, an evacuation map has been developed and distributed that has designated water sources, safety zones and escape routes for the residents. This project directly benefits approximately 225 people and 70 structures.

BATTALION 2

Battalion 2 is actively working with the communities of Westwood, Clear Creek and the Lake Almanor Basin. The Basin Communities include Hamilton Branch, Peninsula, West Almanor, Prattville and Chester. Battalion 2 is also working closely with the Plumas County Fire Safe Council, Lassen County Fire Safe Council and Lake Almanor Fire Safe Council, as well as the Plumas and Lassen county Sherriff's Offices to devise a fire and evacuation plan for the communities at risk. All the departments meet annually to discuss any concerns dealing with emergency responds or fire concerns.

Several different methods have been utilized to educate the public in these areas, including the use of the Fire Wise community literature, the CAL FIRE's "Ready, Set, Go" program, public meeting and regular 4290 and 4291 inspections.

To this effort, the following communities and projects have been identified.

Clear Creek

A fuels reduction project has been applied for and funded for the area surrounding the community of Clear Creek. This project will directly benefit approximately 300 people and 100 structures.

Almanor Basin

The structure count for the area is approximately 20,000 structures with a seasonal population fluctuation between 8,000 to 25,000 people a year. Through grant and fundraising efforts the fire safe councils have been able to do community fire safe projects in the area by the utilization if inmate and forest service crew to do brush clearing project which are used as fire breaks around some of the communities in the area.

West Almanor

In the community of West Almanor, a fuels reduction project is active and ongoing. West Almanor Fire Department is working on their evacuation plan. They have adopted the fire wise community plan as well as the 4290 and 4291 inspection process along with the "Ready, Set, Go" literature to help reach their goals, and are working on identifying public places of refuge. These projects will directly benefit approximately 2,000 people and 1,000 structures.

Peninsula

The Peninsula community is home to approximately 2,000 people and 1,500 structures. The Peninsula Fire Department also has a fire and evacuation plan in place with identified areas of safe refuge.

Hamilton Branch

The community of Hamilton Branch is home to approximately 1600 people and 800 structures.

Prattville

The community of Prattville is home to approximately 200 people and 90 structures.

BATTALION 3

Battalion 3 is working closely with the Modoc County Fire Safe Council, The Lassen County Fire Safe Council and the Day Road Area Fire Safe Council, as well as Local Government Fire Fighting Agencies towards community preparedness in the event of wildland fire threats. To this effort, the following communities and projects have been identified.

Butte Creek Estates

In the area of Butte Creek Estates an evacuation map has been developed and distributed that has designated water sources, safety zones and escape routes for the residents. This project will directly benefit approximately 50 people and 28 structures.

Day Road

In the community of Day Road, a WUI evacuation map has been developed and distributed that has designated water sources, safety zones and escapes routes for the residents. Because this area is a boundary between LMU and SHU, we continue to work closely with that Unit and the Shasta County Fire Safe Councils to identify hazardous areas and what preventative action will be taken. This project will directly benefit approximately 250 people and approximately 225 structures.

Little Valley

A fuels reduction project has been applied for and funded for the area surrounding the community of Little Valley. This project will directly benefit approximately 50 people and 35 structures.

Ash Valley

A fuels reduction project has been applied for and funded for the area surrounding the community of Ash Valley. This project will directly benefit approximately 20 people and 15 structures.

Kramer Ranch

A fuels reduction project has been applied for and funded for the area surrounding the community known as Kramer Ranch, south of Lookout. This project will directly benefit approximately 150 people and approximately 50 structures, as well as the Intermountain Conservation Camp.

BATTALION 4

Battalion 4 is working closely with the Modoc County Fire Safe Council (MCFSC), Modoc County Sheriffs Office (MCSO) and Local Government Fire Fighting Agencies towards community preparedness in the event of wildland fire threats. To this effort, the following communities and projects have been identified.

Modoc Recreation Estates (MRE)

In MRE a WUI evacuation map has been developed and distributed that has designated water sources, safety zones and escape routes for the residents. We have been working with the Modoc fire safe council on brushing operations for fire breaks on several roads. This project will directly benefit approximately 300 people and 200 structures. We have been in contact with the USFS on improving Co Rd 55 to the north for an escape route onto the Devil's Garden area.

Thomas Creek

In the community of Thomas Creek, a WUI evacuation map has been developed and posted that designates water sources, safety zones and escapes routes for the residents. We are still working with this area to identify hazardous areas and what preventative action will be taken. This project will directly benefit approximately 150 people and 75 structures.

Summerland

In the community of Summerland, a WUI evacuation map has been developed and distributed that designates water sources, safety zones and escapes routes for the residents. We are still working with this area to identify hazardous areas and what preventative action will be taken. This project will directly benefit approximately 50 people and 25 structures.

Cal Pines

The Cal Pines community is just starting the process of getting information for mapping and identifying safety zones, water sources, and escape routes. Several hazardous locations need to be addressed in upper Cal Pines. Due to the size and complexity of Upper and Lower Cal Pines this project may be broken into multiple phases.

Batt	Project Number	Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
1/2		Children's Fair Susanville	O	Annual	Education	
3/4		Prevention Expo McAthur	O	Annual	Education	
1/2		Wildland Field Day with local Departments	O	Annual	Education	
3/4		Wildland Field Day with local Departments	O	Annual	Education	
3/4	0716	Rush Creek Estate Fuel Reduction	P	2012	Reduction	
3/4	0479	Rush Creek Fuel Reduction	P	2012	Reduction	
2		Clear Creek	P	2013	Reduction	
3		Little Valley	P	2013	Reduction	
1		Janesville	O	2013	Reduction	
1		Milford	P	2013	Reduction	
1		Diamond Mtn. Forest and Meadow Restoration	P	2014	Restoration	
3		Ash Valley	O	2014	Reduction	
3		Lookout	P	2013	WUI	
3		Kramer Ranch	P	2014	Reduction	

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.