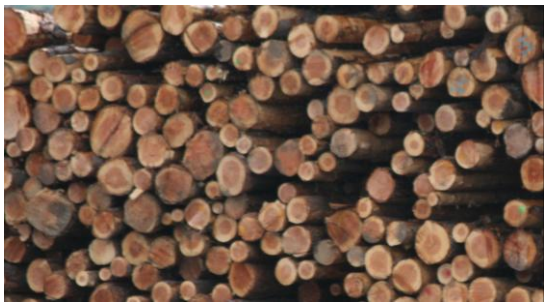
SECTION III: VALUES

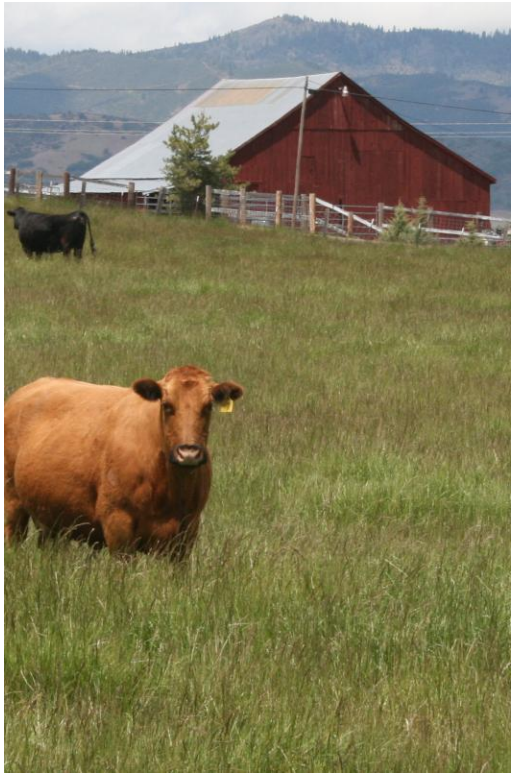
A: VALUES

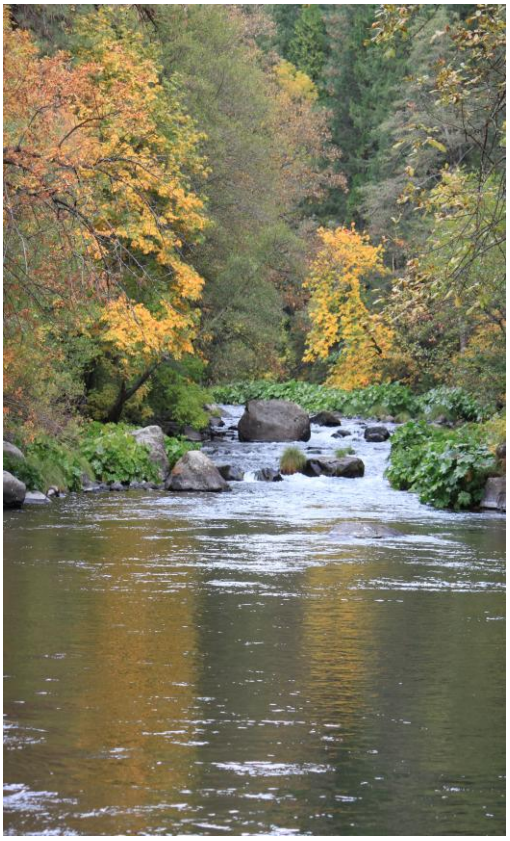
It is the goal of the Siskiyou Unit to protect life and property from the devastating effects of wildfire and other natural disasters. The Siskiyou Unit is vast in size and varied in its makeup of both natural and man-made assets at risk to wildfires.

The following are values identified at risk in the Siskiyou Unit:

- Citizen and firefighter safety
- Structures, residential and commercial
- Watershed and water
- Timber
- Rangelands
- Wildlife and associated habitat
- Infrastructure
- Air quality
- Unique areas (scenic, cultural, and historic)
- Recreation
- Soil erosion
- Hydro electric power







B: COMMUNITIES

To help protect people and their property from potential catastrophic wildfire, the National Fire Plan directs funding to be provided for projects designed to reduce the fire risks to communities. A fundamental step in achieving this goal was the identification of communities that are at high risk of damage from wildfire. These high risk communities identified within the wildland-urban interface (WUI), the area where homes and wildlands intermix, were published in the Federal Register in 2001. At the request of Congress, the Federal Register notice only listed those communities neighboring federal lands. The list represents the collaborative work of the 50 states and five federal agencies using a standardized process, whereby states were asked to submit all communities within their borders that met the criteria of a structure at high risk from wildfire.

The "Communities at Risk" in Siskiyou County listed in the table below are on the National Registry available at the following site: http://www.cafirealliance.org/communities_at_risk_a-d.php .

Community	Federal Threat	Community	Federal Threat
Big Springs	F	Lower Scott River	F
Callahan	F	Macdoel	
Cecilville	F	McCloud	F
Dorris	F	Montague	
Dunsmuir		Mount Shasta	F
Etna		Quartz Valley Indian Reservation	F
Fort Jones	F	Sawyers Bar	F
Gazelle		Scott Bar	F
Greenview	F	Seiad Valley	F
Grenada		Somes Bar	F
Hamburg	F	Tennant	F
Happy Camp	F	Tulelake	F
Hornbrook	F	Weed	F
Horse Creek	F	Yreka	F
Klamath River	F		

1. Federal Threat code of **F** *indicates some or all of the wildland fire threat to that community comes from federal (e.g., US Forest Service, BLM,) lands.*

FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES

While all of Siskiyou County is subject to some degree of fire hazard, there are specific features that make some areas more hazardous than others. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is required by law to map areas of significant fire hazards based on fuels, terrain, weather, and other relevant factors. These maps were developed using science-based and field tested computer models that assign a hazard score based on factors that influence fire likelihood and fire behavior. Many factors are considered such as fire history, existing and potential fuel (natural vegetation), flame length, blowing embers, terrain, and typical weather for the area. There are three hazard zones in state responsibility areas: moderate, high and very high. These maps identify fire hazard, not fire risk. "Hazard" is based on the physical conditions that give a likelihood that an area will burn over a 30-50 year period without considering modifications such as fuel reduction efforts. "Risk" is the potential damage a fire can do to the area under existing conditions, including any modifications such as defensible space, irrigation and sprinklers, and ignition resistant building construction which can reduce fire risk. Risk considers the susceptibility of what is being protected.

These maps are intended to be used for:

- Implementing wildland-urban interface building standards for new construction.
- Natural hazard real estate disclosure at time of sale.
- 100-foot defensible space clearance requirements around buildings.
- Property development standards such as road widths, water supply and signage.
- Consideration in city and county general plans.

Visit the CAL FIRE Website at www.fire.ca.gov to determine the fire hazard severity in a specific area.