

Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Elkton/Scottsburg/Kellogg Area

COMMUNITY PROFILE:

Location

The Elkton Scottsburg/Kellogg CWPP area is located approximately 15 miles southwest of interstate 5 Exit 162, at the intersection of State Highways 38 and 138. The CWPP Area extends south of the intersection of Highways 138 and 38 approximately 14 miles, northeast approximately 5 miles and west approximately 12 miles. The extent of the CWPP area contains the Rural Fire District Boundaries of the Elkton, Scottsburg and Kellogg Rural Fire Districts, buffered one mile.

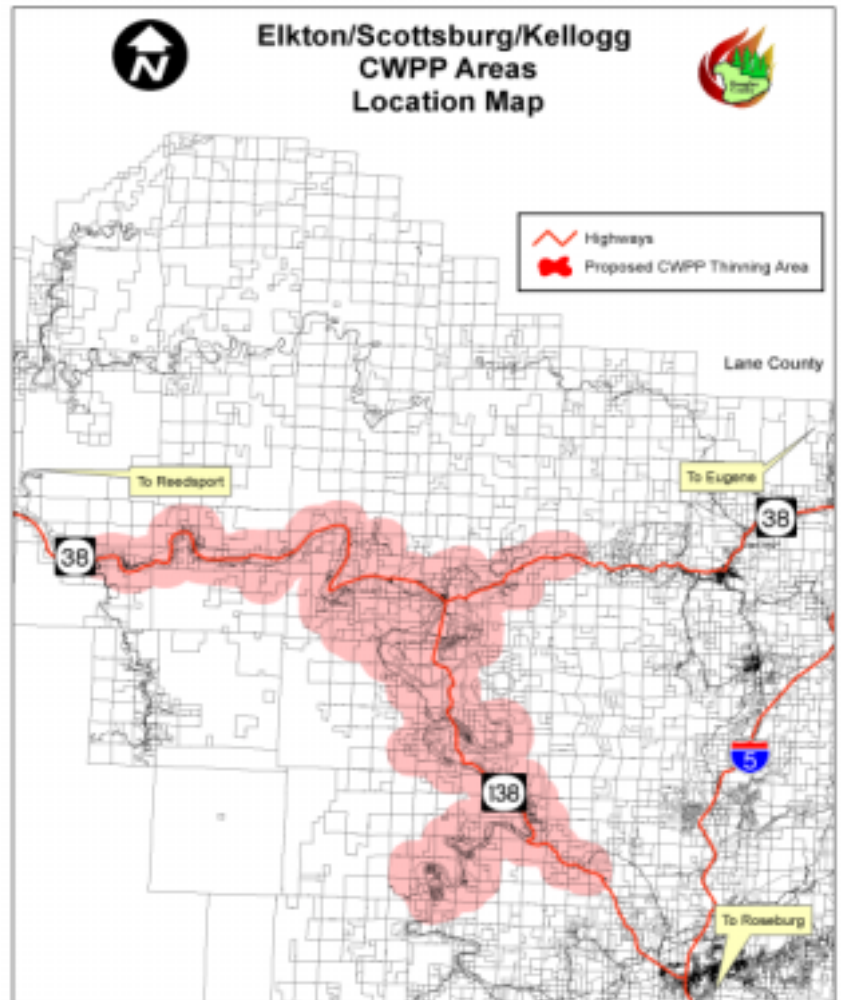
Population

The approximate population of the Elkton Scottsburg/Kellogg CWPP area (Which includes portions of Census Blocks whose populations may or may not be in the CWPP Area), according to the 2000 census, was approximately 2355 people.

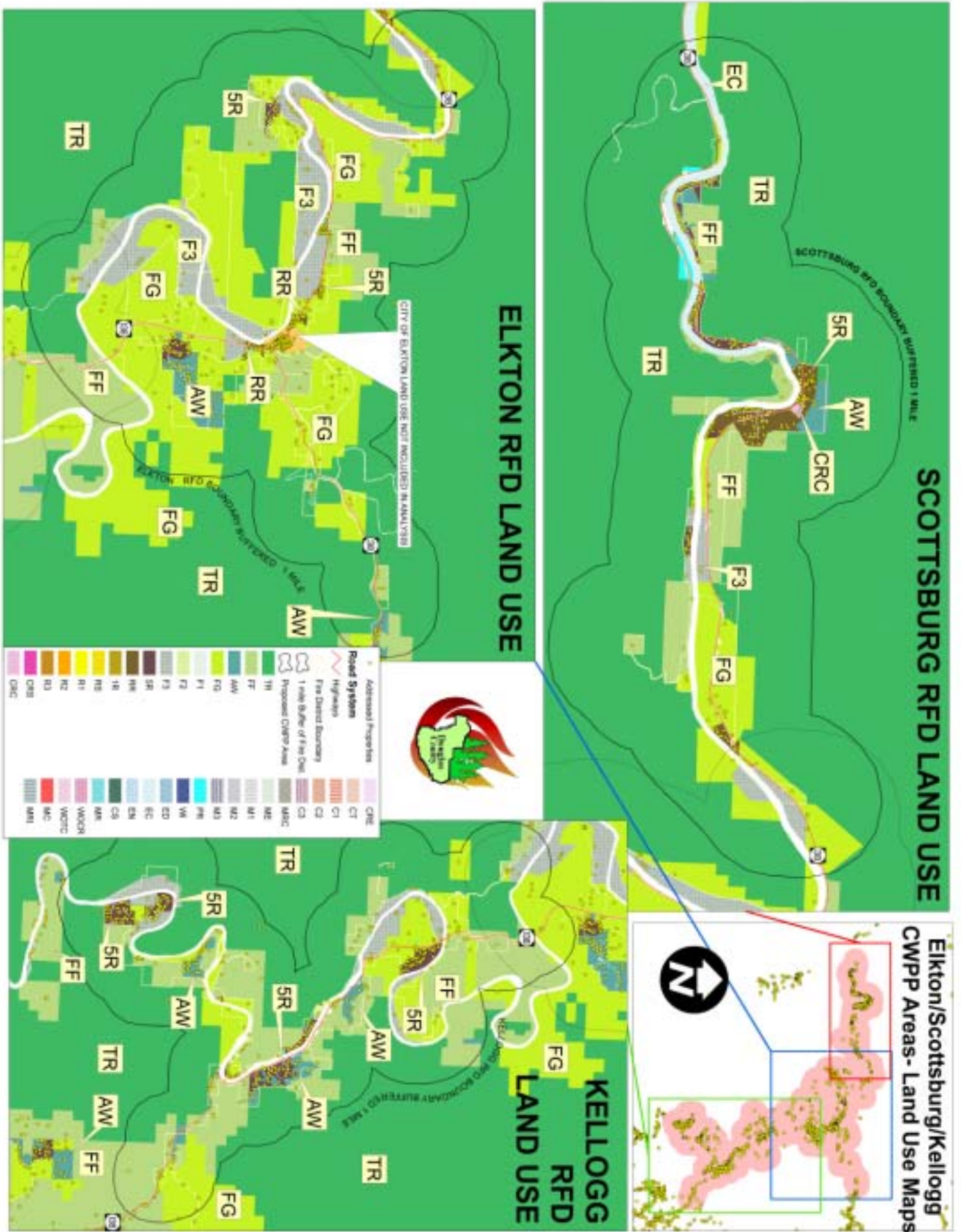
Housing/Land Use

Using the Douglas County Planning Department's addressing plats, there are approximately 1176 addressed structures within the Elkton Scottsburg/Kellogg CWPP area. The majority of these are homes, but there are also commercial structures.

The Elkton Scottsburg/Kellogg CWPP area has zoning designations of RR (Rural Residential 2) 5R (Rural Residential 5) and AW (Agriculture and Woodlot) along areas near the river in all three Rural Fire District Boundaries; these areas contain the majority of addressed structures in the CWPP area. Surrounding the residential and AW properties, parcels are zoned with resource designations of TR (Timberland Resource), FG (Farm Grazing), F3 (Exclusive Farm Use Cropland) and FF (Farm Forest). There are also properties zoned PR (Public Reserve) and CRC (Rural Community Commercial) in the Scottsburg Rural Community along Highway 38. The City of Elkton City Limits falls within the Elkton Rural Fire District Boundary, however the city zoning information was not included in this analysis.



ELKTON/SCOTTSBURG/KELLOGG CWPP AREA - LANDUSE AND STRUCTURE LOCATION MAP



Transportation

Roads: Transportation to and from the Elkton/Scottsburg/Kellogg CWPP area is handled via State Highway 138, which connects the community to Interstate 5 southeast of the CWPP Area at exit 136 in Sutherlin; also State Highway 38, which to the east connects the community to the City of Drain and further to Interstate 5 at exit 162 near Curtin; to the west, State Highway 38 connects the community to US 101 in Reedsport.

Critical Infrastructure

Unique critical infrastructure to the Elkton/Scottsburg/Kellogg CWPP area includes:

- Highway 38 tunnel east of Elkton
- Phipps State Nursery South of Elkton on Wells Road
- City of Drain - Bear Creek Municipal Watershed

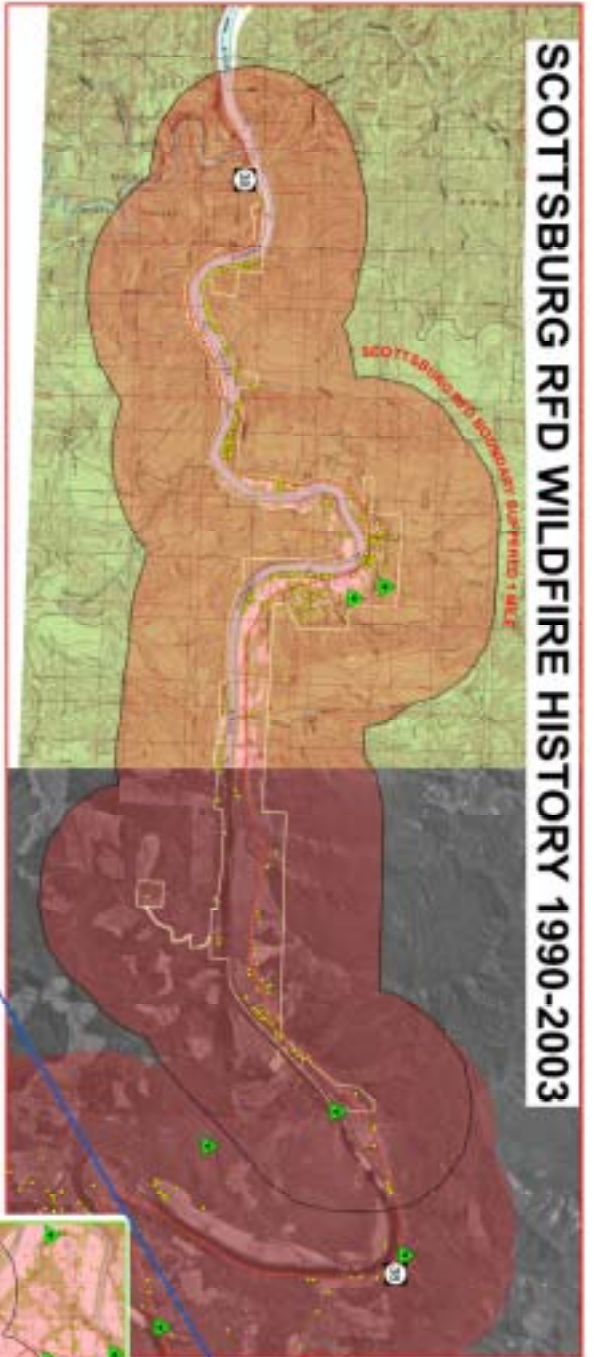
Infrastructure listed as Critical, common to some or all CWPP areas in Douglas County includes:

- Fire, ambulance, and police stations and equipment
- Schools and community centers
- Hospitals
- Power lines
- Industrial sites
- Water treatment/reservoirs/well head areas/water pumping and supply areas
- Dams
- Railroads and railroad tunnels
- Emergency Communication towers
- Historical and cultural sites
- Commercial areas of economic value to the communities
- Gas and fuel pipelines
- Main highways for transit (Interstate 5, State Highways 38,42,138, Old Highway 99, US 101, any local road deemed critical as a economic route in or out of the communities)

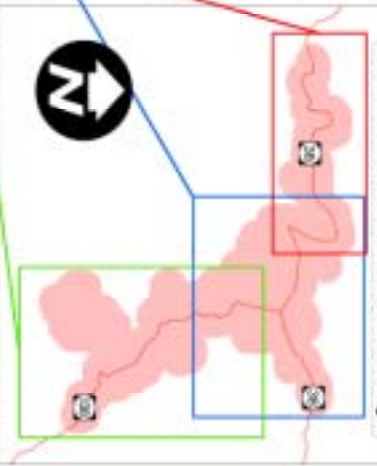
WILDFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT- History

Map on next page indicates fire history from 1990 through 2003 for the Elkton/Scottsburg/Kellogg CWPP area taken from Douglas Forest Protective Association Data.

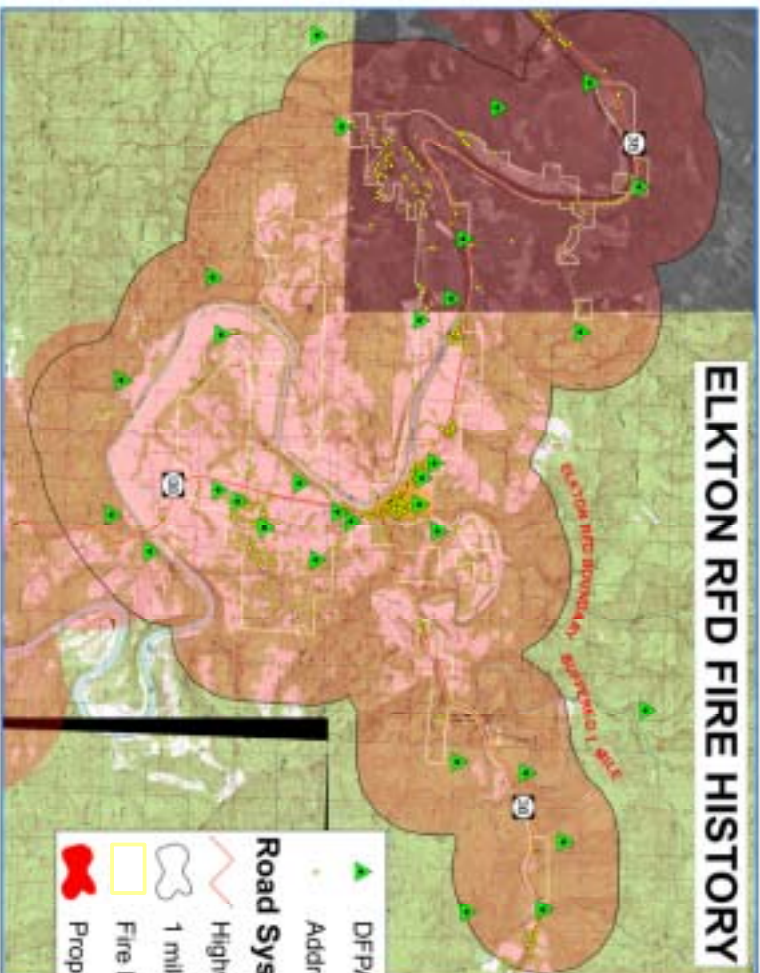
SCOTTSBURG RFD WILDFIRE HISTORY 1990-2003



Elkton/Scottsburg/Kellogg CWPP Areas - Fire History

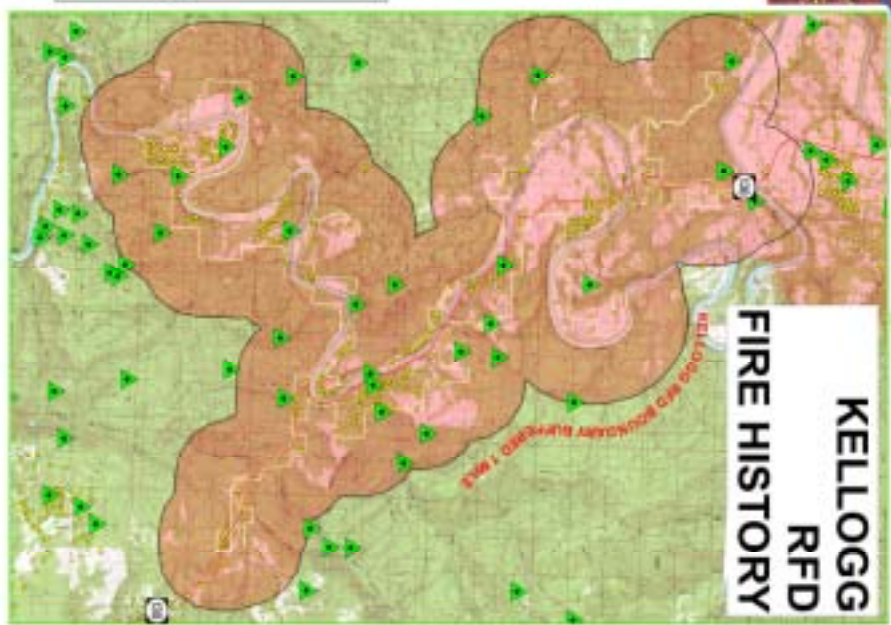


ELKTON RFD FIRE HISTORY



- DFPA Fires 1990-2003
- Addressed Properties
- Road System**
- Highways
- 1 mile Buffer of Fire Dist.
- Fire District Boundary
- Proposed CWPP Area

KELLOGG RFD FIRE HISTORY



Emergency Equipment and Staffing Inventory

As shown on the maps, the Elkton Rural Fire District (RFD), the Scottsburg RFD, and the Kellogg RFD serve the Elkton/Scottsburg/Kellogg CWPP area. Equipment and staffing inventory for each of the districts is as follows:

ELKTON RURAL FIRE DISTRICT:

- 15 Firefighters
- 2 Type 1 Class A engines
- 1 Type 2 Class A engine
- 1 Type 2 Water tender
- 1 Type 6 Wildland engine

SCOTTSBURG RURAL FIRE DISTRICT:

- 20 Firefighters
- 1 Type 1 Class A Structural engine
- 3 Type 3 Water tenders
- 1 EMS Resp. Unit 4791

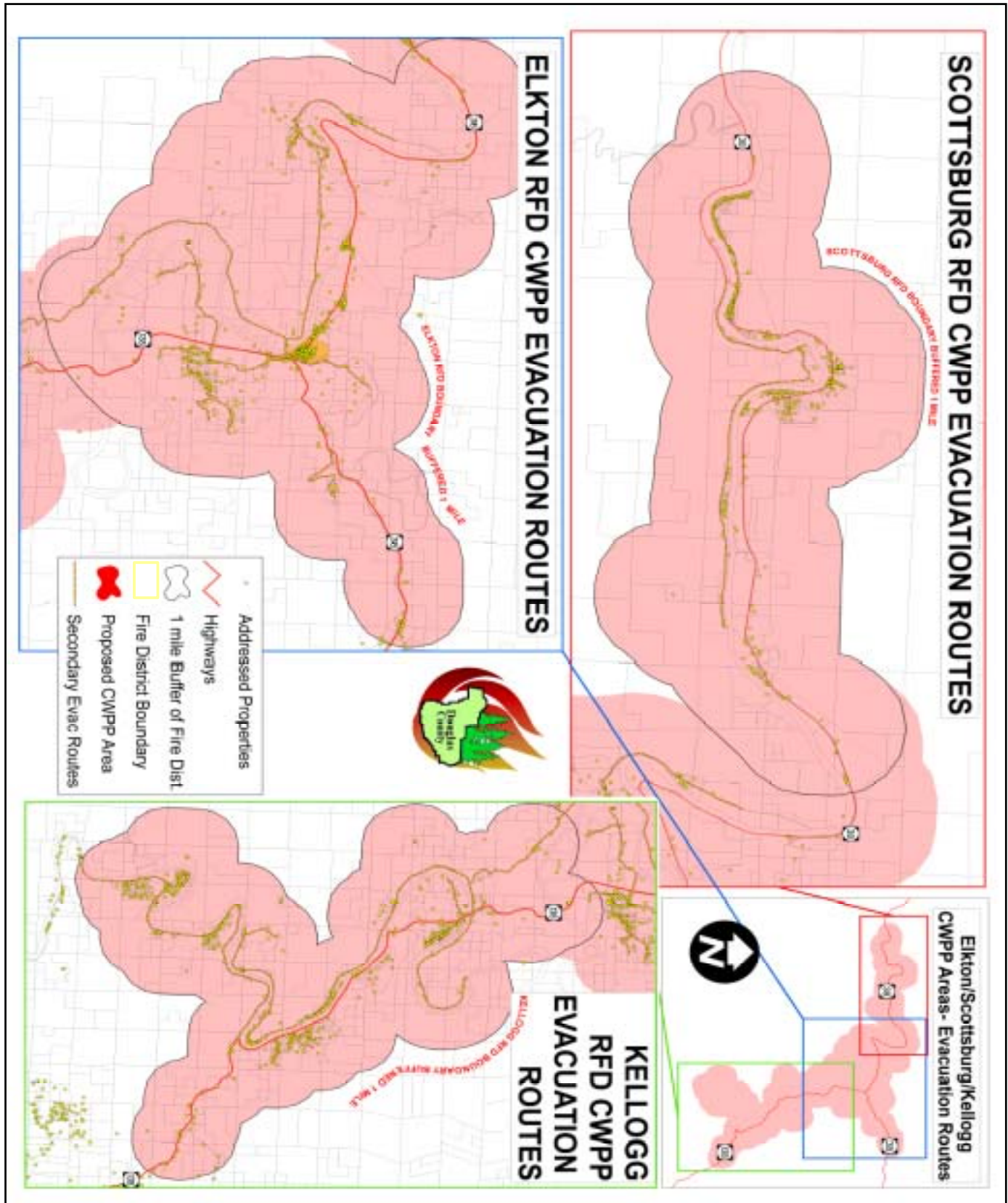
KELLOGG RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

- 10 Firefighters
- 1 Type 2 Class A Structural engine
- 1 Type 2 Water tender
- 1 Type 6 Wildland engine

Douglas Forest Protective Association serves the Douglas District of the Oregon Department of Forestry with 10 fire suppression crews, wildland fire engines ranging from 200 to 3,000 gallons, three bulldozers, and a fire suppression helicopter. Wildland Fire Protection is provided by Douglas and Coos Forest Protective Associations and supported by mutual aid agreements by neighboring fire districts, U.S. Forest Service, and Oregon Department of Forestry Districts.

Evacuation Routes

In the event of a wildfire, the community would utilize the main evacuation routes of State Highways 138 northward or southward, State Highway 38 Road west towards Reedsport or east towards Drain. Secondary evacuation routes are roads and streets leading from home sites to the primary evacuation routes.



Priority Fuel Reduction Area Identification

It was the Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plans Core Team's conclusion that the most efficient way to identify fuel reduction areas of concern near rural home sites in the communities identified was to utilize the Rural Fire District Boundaries, which already encompass the majority of home sites in the area.

In order to identify areas of concern, a decision was made by the Core Team to buffer the Fire District Boundaries by one mile. Further analysis of the one mile buffer showed that by using concentrations of homes, maintaining evacuation routes, and vegetation types as a guide, the Fire District Boundaries one mile buffer met the fuel reduction and public safety goals of the fire professionals on the Core Team.

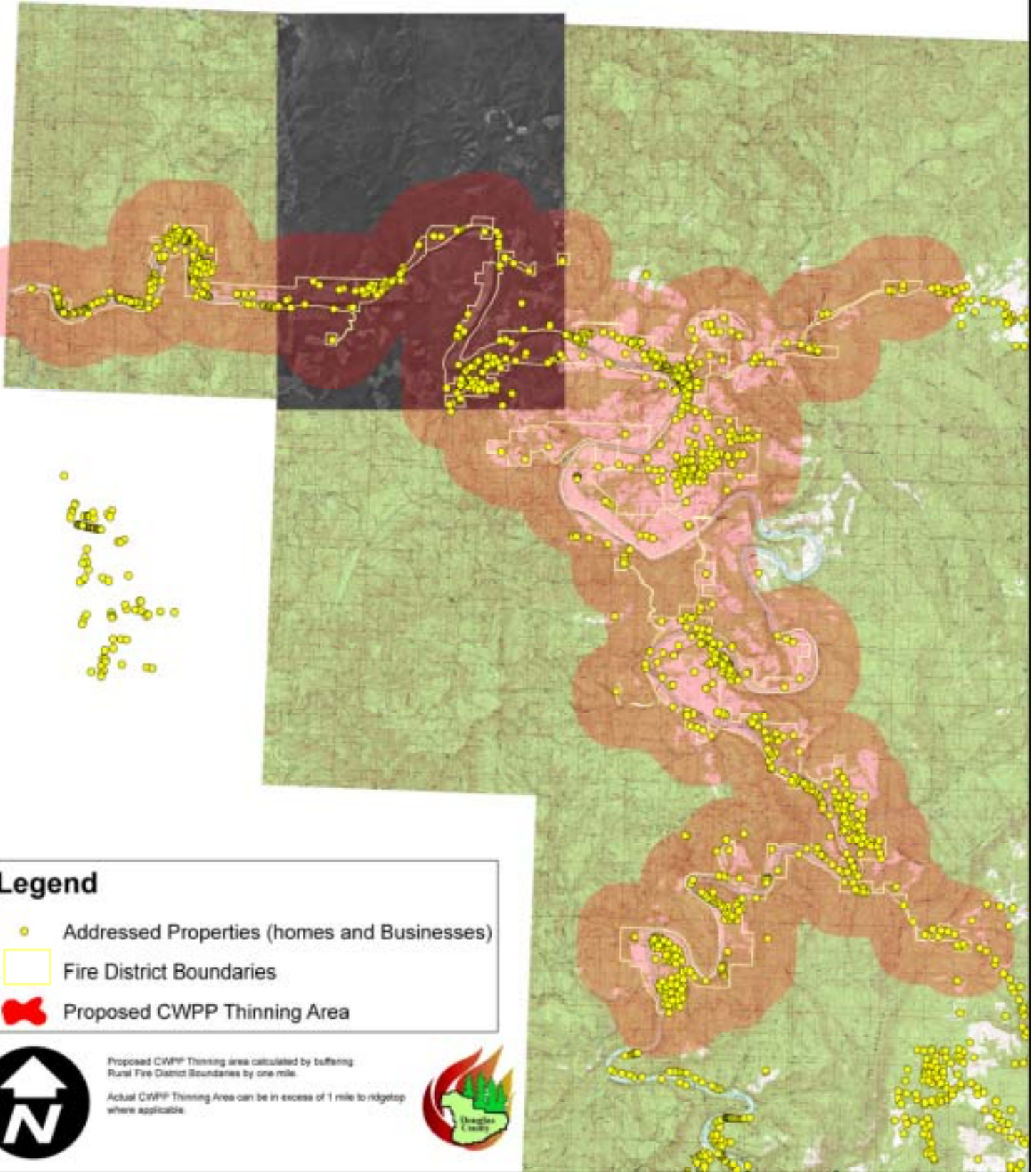
While the Priority Fuel Reduction Area map contains farm, residential and some urban land, which would have small or no value in a fuel reduction program, it was decided that buffering the Fire District Boundaries would be the most efficient way of incorporating the areas/home sites of the highest danger, identify areas of the highest potential for a fuel mitigation program, and provide an easily recognizable and definable area to identify the Priority Fuel Reduction Area.

On occasion, based on topography, the Priority Fuel Reduction Area may be in excess, of one mile, as the Core Team identified that the area should be defined as "to ridgetop" for resource management and fire fighting.

The following map was created, identifying priority treatment areas:

PRIORITY FUEL REDUCTION AREA MAP IS ON THE NEXT PAGE

Elkton/Scottsburg/Kellogg PRIORITY FUEL REDUCTION AREA MAP



MITIGATION ACTION PLAN

Fuels Reduction

Identification and prioritization of treatment areas

Treatment Areas 1: Clearing 100' from homes and structures and critical infrastructure areas- concentrated along the evacuation routes, and home sites located to the west and east on State Highway 38, north and south along State Highway 138, and along Secondary Evacuation Routes (roads to home sites leading to the priority evacuation routes.) Thinning 300' around structures and critical infrastructure. Maintain all roads for fire fighting access during initial and extended attack.

Treatment Areas 2: Clear and thin escape routes for homes identified in the priority fuel reduction area. Use of prescribed burning as a tool for fuels reduction.

Treatment Areas 3: Clear and thin areas identified in the priority fuel reduction area.

Type of fuel reduction treatment

Mechanical clearing and thinning in fuel reduction areas identified by the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Core Team, including harvesting, thinning, mowing, chipping, cutting and piling.

Chemical treatment is to be done where appropriate and consistent with State and Federal Regulations.

Prescribed burning where appropriate shall be pursued as a method of fuels reduction.

Biologic treatment of areas (Grazing, etc.) is to be encouraged where use would be a benefit to agriculture as well as fuel reduction projects.

Structural Ignitability

Structural ignitability, defined as the home and its immediate surroundings, separates the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) structure fire loss problem from other wildfire management issues.

Highly ignitable homes can be destroyed during lower-intensity wildfires, whereas homes with low home ignitability can survive high-intensity wildfires.

Structural ignitability, rather than wildland fuels, is the principal cause of structural losses during wildland/urban interface fires. Key items are flammable roofing materials (e.g. cedar shingles) and the presence of burnable vegetation (e.g. ornamental trees, shrubs, wood piles) immediately adjacent to homes, also referred to as "survivable space".

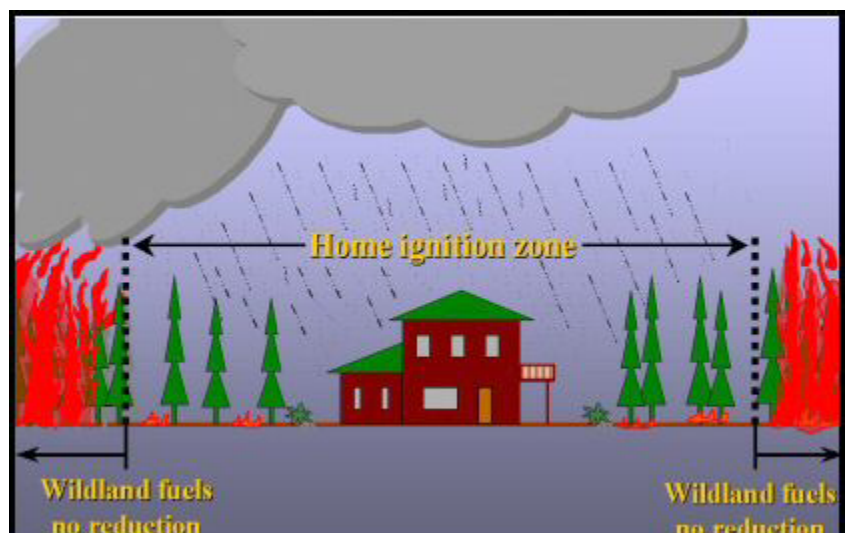


Image and Text Source: *Emerging Knowledge about Wildland-Urban Interface Home Ignition Potential*; Jack D. Cohen, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Rockv Mountain Research Station Fire Sciences Laboratory

Action Items:

- Education of homeowners regarding reducing structural ignitability, and promotion of reduced ignitability building products and development of survivable space adjacent to their homes
- Seek assistance (technical, financial) for homeowners to replace highly ignitable building materials and thinning of burnable vegetation adjacent to homes

Education

Promote existing education and outreach programs (an example would be the Firewise Program, www.firewise.org) and develop community specific education programs which enhance and implement information on community escape routes, wildfire mitigation activities and reducing the risk to citizens, property and community values.

Action Items:

- Use and maintain the Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plans website for wildfire status and evacuation plans (<http://healthyforest.info/cwpp/Oregon/Douglas/>)
- Identification, and public awareness of community wildfire escape routes
- Presentations and awareness campaigns to local schools
- Structural ignitability awareness and replacement of flammable building materials

Through involvement and consultation in the development of the Douglas County Wildfire Protection Plans, the Local Rural Fire Protection District(s) hereby agree to the final contents of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan:

Paul Ellis Dist Chief

12/21/05

Chief, Elkton Rural Fire District

Date

(The Kellogg Rural Fire District received copies of this plan. At the time of this printing we have not received a signature from their Fire Chief. As soon as the signature is received, it will be included in this document as well as any changes requested by the Fire District)

Chief, Kellogg Rural Fire District

Date

Steve Row Chief

By Tom House 12-13-05

Chief, Scottsburg Rural Fire District

Date