

# Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Cavitt Creek

## COMMUNITY PROFILE:

### Location

Cavitt Creek is located southeast of the intersection of Little River Road and Buckhorn Road, up Little River Road and southwest on Cavitt Creek Road, approximately 20 Miles east from the intersection of Interstate 5 exit 124 in Roseburg.

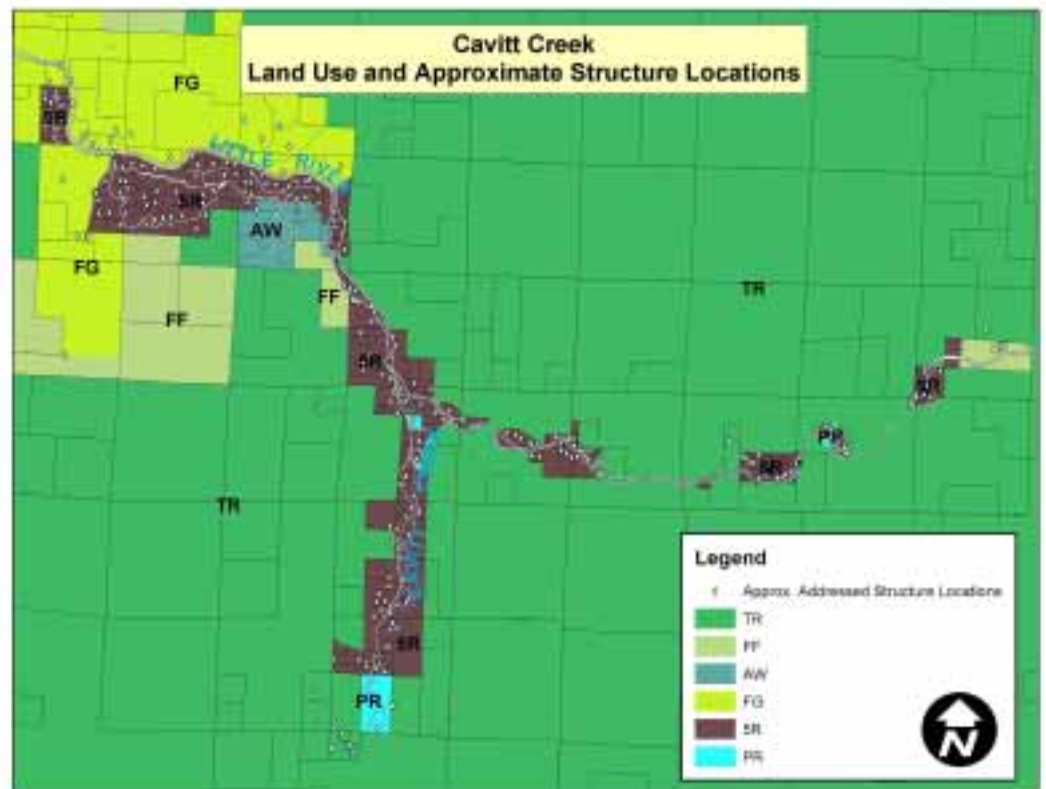
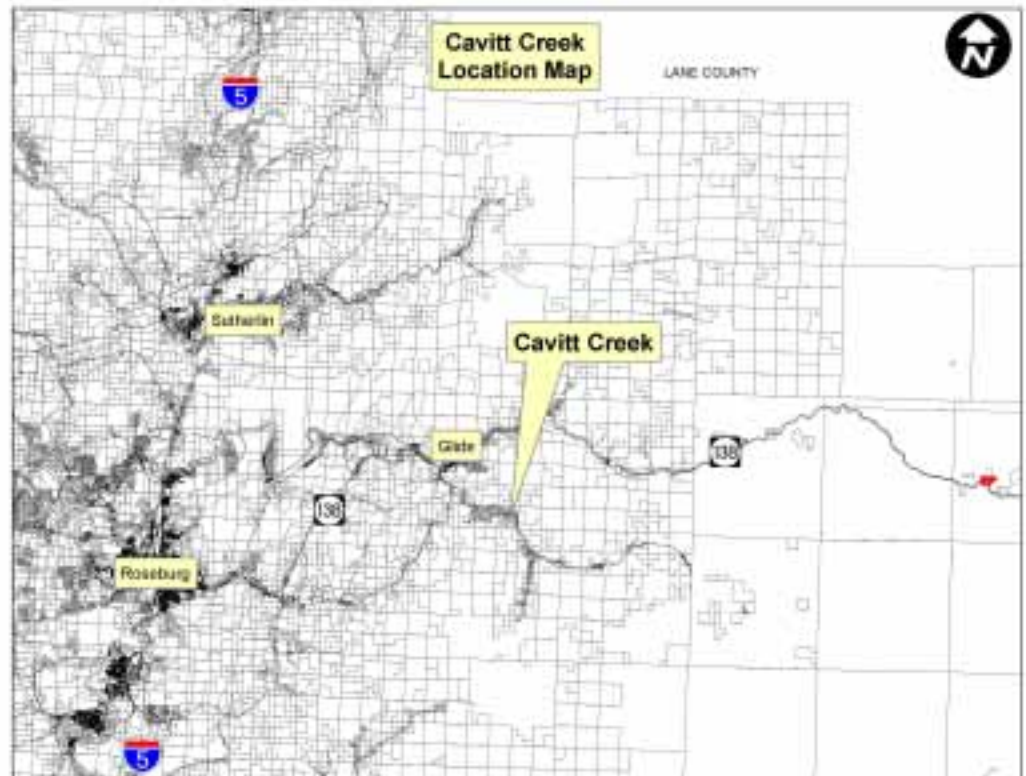
### Population

The approximate population of the Cavitt Creek area (Which includes portions of the population of areas to the north and south on Little River Road and Cavitt Creek Road depending on Census Block Location), according to the 2000 census, was approximately 1054 people.

### Housing/Land Use

Using the Douglas County Planning Department's addressing plats, there are approximately 352 addressed structures within the Cavitt Creek Area. The majority of these are homes, but there are also commercial structures.

The Cavitt Creek area has zoning designations of 5R (Rural Residential 5) and AW (Agriculture and Woodlot along Little River and Cavitt Creek Road. Properties



surrounding the properties along the roads are zoned with resource designations of TR (Timberland Resource), FG (Farm Grazing), and FF (Farm Forest). There are also properties zoned PR (Public Reserve) on Cavitt Creek Road and Little River Road

### Transportation

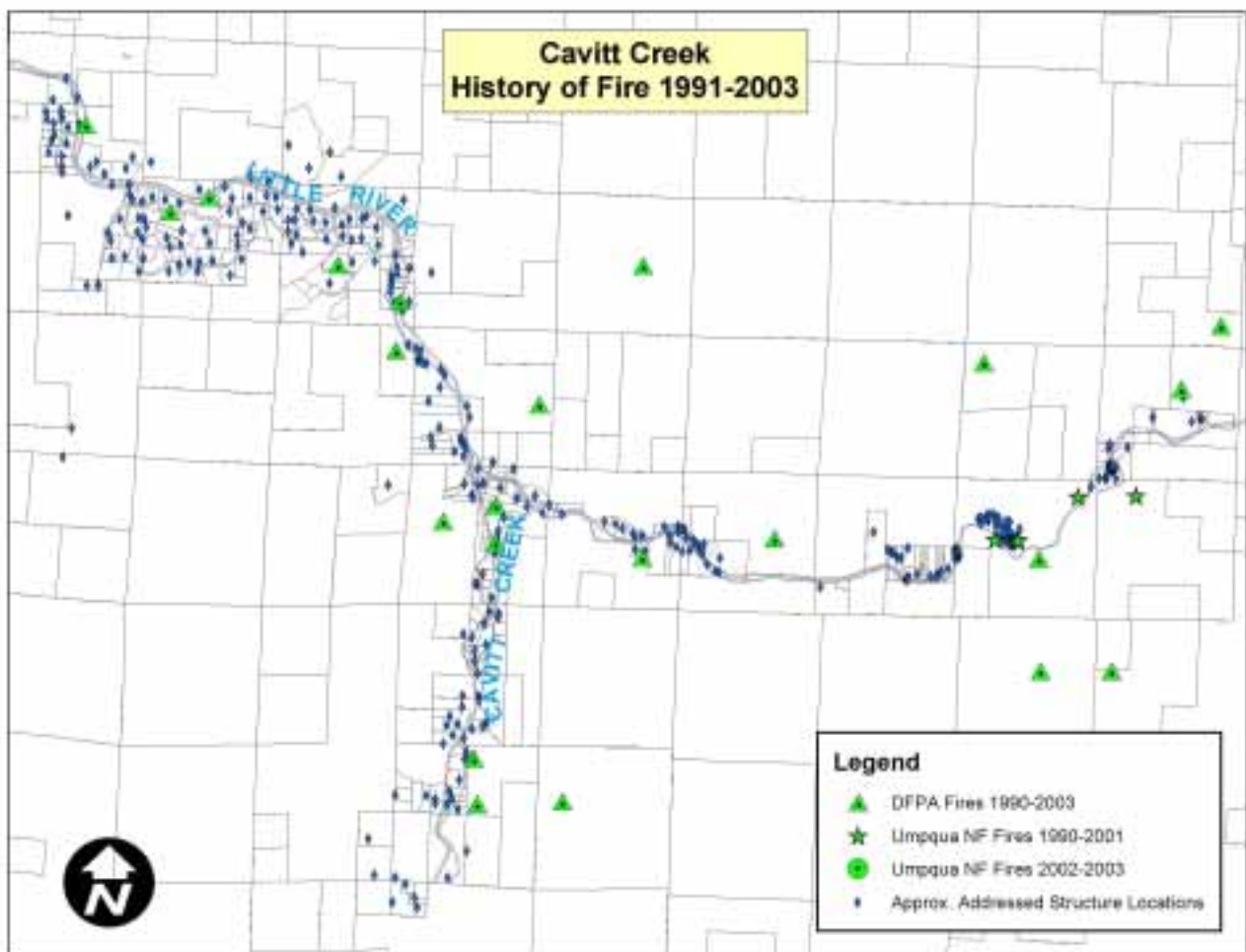
Roads: Transportation to and from Cavitt Creek is handled via Little River Road and Cavitt Creek Road, which intersects State Highway 138, which connects the community to Interstate 5 west of the community at exit 124 in Roseburg.

### Critical Infrastructure

There is a powerline, which crosses Little River Road and runs east-west. The Cavitt Creek covered bridge would be another important critical infrastructure point.

## WILDFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT

### History



### Emergency Equipment and Staffing Inventory

The Glide Rural Fire District services Cavitt Creek. Below is the current equipment inventory as of this writing:

- 30 firefighters
- 2 Type 2 Class A structural engines
- 1 Type 6 Wild land engines
- 3 Type 2 water tenders
- 2 BLS ambulance

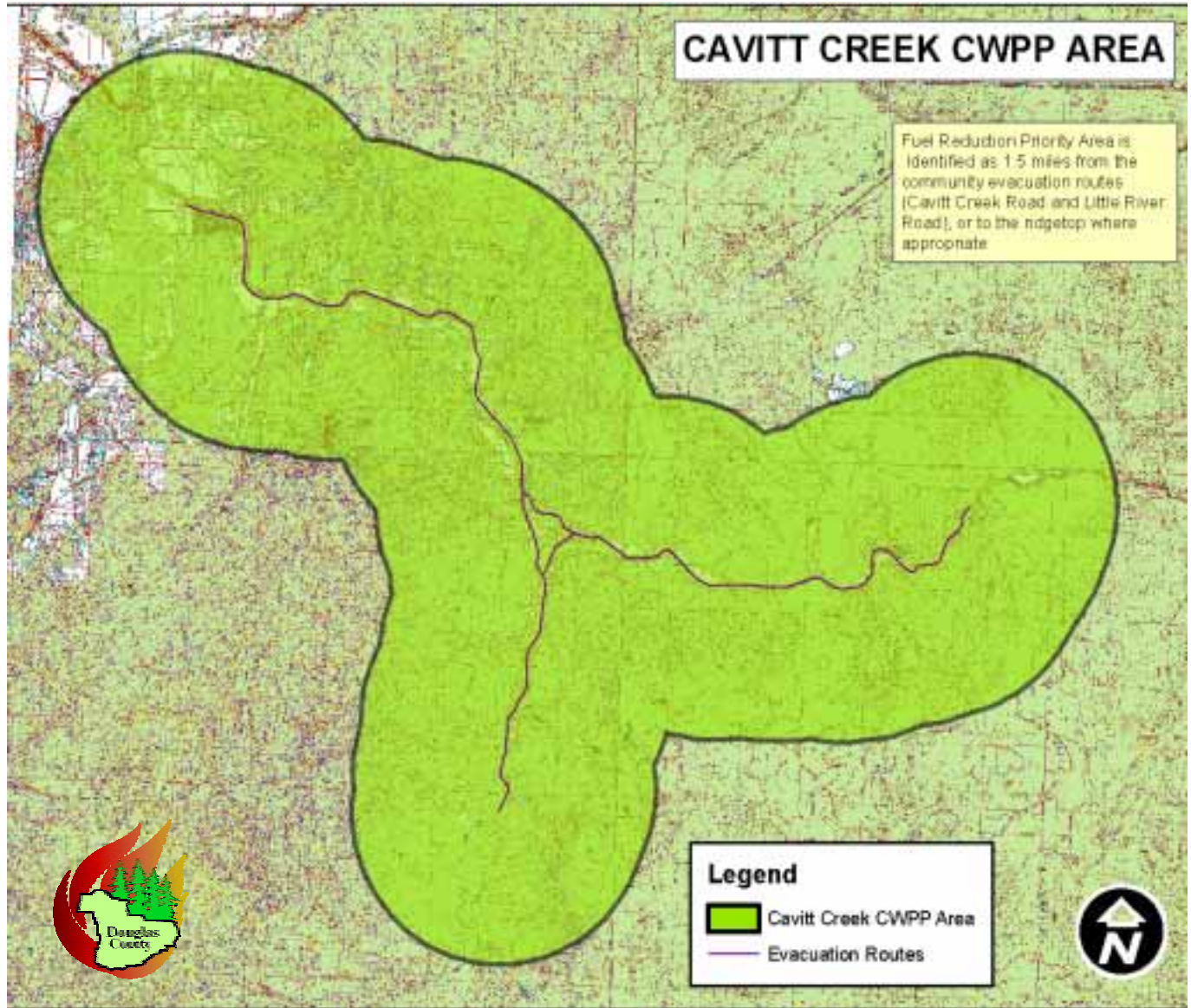


## Escape Routes

In the event of a wildfire, the community would utilize the main evacuation route of Cavitt Creek Road northward towards Little River Road, and Little River Road west towards Glide.

## Priority Fuel Reduction Area Identification

The Douglas County Community Wildfire Protection Plans Core Team has identified priority fuel treatment areas for the Cavitt Creek area. Using concentrations of homes, maintaining evacuation routes, and vegetation types as a guide, the following map was created, identifying priority treatment areas:



## 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 Cavitt Creek Road and Little River Road. 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.

#### Type of fuel reduction treatment

Mechanical clearing and thinning in fuel reduction areas identified by the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Core, 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, Rocky 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

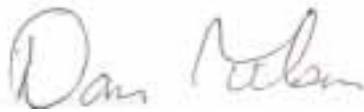
## Education

Promote existing education and outreach programs (an example would be the Firewise Program, [www.firewise.org](http://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 hereby agrees to the final contents of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan:



Dan Tilson  
Chief, Glide Rural Fire Protection District

Date