Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Central County East CWPP Area

COMMUNITY PROFILE:

Location
The Central County East CWPP area is located east of Interstate 5 approximately between Exits 119 and 135. Interstate 5 divides the Central County CWPP into two regions (Central County East and West CWPP areas). The Northern section of the CWPP area takes in the Communities of Wilbur and Winchester, intersecting with the Calapooya CWPP area near I-5 Exit 135. The Western CWPP Area extends east of I-5, following the North Umpqua River east along North Bank Road, through the Glide UUA, and ending just east of Idleyld Park. Also going west, the CWPP Area extends through the City of Roseburg, along Diamond Lake Boulevard and the North Umpqua Highway to Glide. On the North Umpqua Highway, the CWPP area veers along Buckhorn Road, through the Dixonville Rural Community, connecting to Little River Road, and the Cavitt Creek CWPP area southwest of the Glide UUA. To the south of Dixonville, the Central County East CWPP Area goes along Dixonville and Carnes Road, nearly connecting with the Green UUA and overlapping with the Lookingglass CWPP Area near I-5 Exit 113 and Clarks Branch. The CWPP Area extends south along Interstate 5, encompassing the Green Urban Unincorporated Area, and heading SW along Lookingglass Road, where the CWPP Area overlaps with the Lookingglass CWPP Area. The extent of the Central County East CWPP area contains the Rural Fire District Boundary of Douglas County Fire District 2 and the Glide Rural Fire District buffered one mile. The Central County East CWPP area follows the USFS WUI boundary east of the Cavitt Creek CWPP Area.

Population
The approximate population of the Central County East 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 20,909 people. The City of Roseburg (east of Interstate 5) accounts for 12,753 persons. The Glide UUA’s population also accounts for a large amount of the Central County East CWPP Area population. Due to the overlap of CWPP areas, the population reported here also contains portions of the Calapooya CWPP Areas population as well as the Lookingglass CWPP Areas population.

Housing/Land Use
Using the Douglas County Planning Department’s addressing plats, there are approximately 11945 addressed structures within the Central County East CWPP area. The City of Roseburg accounts for 5,767 addressed structures located east of I-5. The majority of addressed structures are homes, but there are also commercial and Industrial structures. Due to the overlap of CWPP areas, the
addressed structure total reported here also contains portions of the Lookingglass CWPP Areas addressed structures as well as the Calapooya CWPP areas addressed structures. The Central County East CWPP area has zoning designations of RR (Rural Residential 2), 5R (Rural Residential 5), R1 (Single Family Residential), R2 (Multiple Family Residential) and RS (Suburban Residential) zoned property located North of the City of Roseburg along NE Stephens and in the Winchester and Wilbur Rural Communities. 5R and AW (Agriculture and Woodlot) zoned properties are located south of the city in the Shady Community. There is a large section of RR property east of the Clarks Branch community as well. The Dixonville Rural Community and Oak Valley Rural Service Center (NE of Dixonville on Hwy 138) contain 5R and RR Zoned properties. In addition, 5R, RR, RS and 1R properties are located in the Glide UUA. Clustered along North Bank Road, stretching from Wilbur to Glide are RR, 5R and AW zoned properties. These major residential areas along with the City of Roseburg and the Green Urban Unincorporated Area with zoning designations of R1 and R2 (Single & Multiple Family Residential) contain the majority of addressed structures in the CWPP area. For detailed information of zoning in nearby CWPP Areas, please consult the Calapooya, Lookingglass and Cavitt Creek CWPP plans.

Surrounding the residential and AW properties throughout the CWPP Area, parcels are zoned with resource designations of TR (Timberland Resource), FG (Farm Grazing), and FF (Farm Forest). Industrial zoning of M3 (Heavy Industrial) are located near Exit 129 near Winchester and in the Green UUA, with M2 (Medium Industrial zoning also in the Green District. M2 & M3 Zoned property is in the Glide UUA, along with M3 zoned property north of Dixonville and East of the City of Roseburg on Highway 138. Commercial zoning designations of CRC (Rural Community Commercial) are located in the Dixonville Rural Community, and CRS (Rural Service Center Commercial) in the Oak Valley Rural Service Center. Commercial designations of CT (Tourist Commercial), C2 (Community Commercial) and C3 (General Commercial) properties are located in the Glide UUA. The City of Roseburg City Limits falls within the CWPP Area, however the city zoning information was not included in this analysis. The Lookingglass, Cavitt Creek and Calapooya CWPP Plans have further information on land use in the overlapping CWPP Areas. See land use and structure location map on next page for further information.

Transportation
Transportation to and from the Central County East CWPP area is handled primarily via Interstate 5, which at Exit 113, leading east, connects to Clarks Branch Road, and eventually, Dixonville via Carnes and Dixonville Roads. From Exit 124, and east through the City of Roseburg, the North Umpqua Highway follows the CWPP Area past Dixonville and the Oak Valley Rural Service Center, to the Glide UUA and Idleyld Park. The CWPP area extends north along the Interstate, to where it overlaps with the Calapooya CWPP Area near Exit 135. At Exit 129, the CWPP Area extends to the north through Wilbur, and from Wilbur, the CWPP Area follows North Bank Road along the north bank of the North Umpqua River to Glide, where it intersects with Highway 138. I-5 Exits serving the Central County East CWPP Area are: 119, 120, 121, 123, 124, 125, 129, and 135.

Critical Infrastructure
Unique critical infrastructure to the Central County East CWPP area includes:

- Roseburg Airport
- Dixonville Power Station
- Winchester Dam
- Umpqua Community College
- Umpqua National Forest/North Umpqua Ranger District Offices
- Douglas Forest Protective Association Headquarters
- Roseburg Municipal Water Supply (Taken from the North Umpqua River at Winchester Dam)
- Fire, ambulance, and police stations and equipment
- Schools and community centers
- Hospitals
- Power lines/Substations
- 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 42,138, Old Highway 99, US 101, any local road deemed critical as a economic route in or out of the communities)

CENTRAL COUNTY EAST CWPP AREA - LANDUSE AND STRUCTURE LOCATION MAP ON NEXT PAGE
WILDFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT - History Map indicates fire history from 1990 through 2003 for the Central County East CWPP area taken from Douglas Forest Protective Association Data.
Emergency Equipment and Staffing Inventory
As shown on the maps, Douglas County Fire District 2 and the Glide Rural Fire District serve the Central County East CWPP area. Equipment and staffing inventory for each district is as follows:

DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 2
- 36 Firefighters
- 6 Type 1 Class A Structural engines
- 3 Type 2 Water tenders
- 1 Type 1 Water tender
- 6 Type 6 Wildland engines
- 4 First Responder Vehicles

GLIDE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT
- 30 Firefighters
- 2 Type 1 Class A engines
- 3 Type 2 Water tenders
- 1 Type 6 Wildland engine
- 2 BLS Ambulance

For areas outside of the Rural Fire Districts, Wildland Fire Protection is provided by the Umpqua National Forest and supported by the Douglas Forest Protective Associations by mutual aid.

The North Umpqua Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest provides fire protection in the Steamboat CWPP Area, with the following inventory:
1 20-person hand crew  1 Type 6 Engines
2 Type 4 Engines  2 Type 3 Engines
1 Water Tender

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.

Evacuation Routes
In the event of a wildfire, the community would utilize the main evacuation routes of North Umpqua Highway (State Highway 138), Dixonville Road, Carnes Road, Little River Road, Highway 99, North Bank Road, Page Road, Sunshine Road, Whistlers Park Road, Whistlers Lane, South Deer Creek Road, Singleton Road, Cavitt Creek Road, Buckhorn Road and Wild River Drive which feed towards the Interstate and out of the CWPP Area. Secondary evacuation routes are roads and streets leading from home sites to the primary evacuation routes. See evacuation map on next page for further information.
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.

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 in the Umpqua National Forest was to Utilize Wildland Urban Interface Areas previously mapped by The USFS.

Guidance provided in the 10 year Comprehensive Strategy of the National Fire Plan, the Healthy Forest Restoration Act and the Umpqua National Forest’s Land and Resource Management Plan, in addition to the designation of Communities at Risk in the Federal Register, directed the designation of the Wildland Urban Interface Areas included in this CWPP.

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:
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 alongside roads to home sites leading to 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”.

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

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:

[Signatures and dates]

Chief, Douglas County Fire District 2

Chief, Glide Rural Fire District

James Caplan
Forest Supervisor, Umpqua National Forest