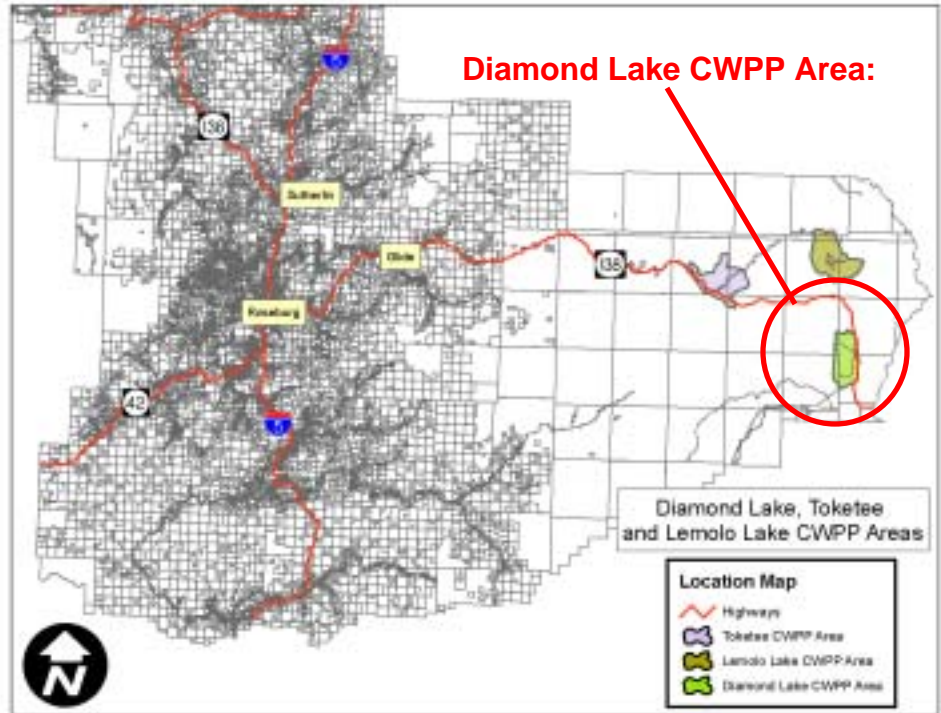


# Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Diamond Lake CWPP Area

## COMMUNITY PROFILE:

### Location

The Diamond Lake CWPP area is located approximately 82 Miles east of Interstate 5 Exit 124, on State Highway 138. The extent of the CWPP area contains the Wildland Urban Interface Area of the Diamond Lake Area as determined by The USFS, following guidelines in the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003.



### Population

The approximate population of the Diamond Lake 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 99 people. The North Umpqua Area, which includes the Umpqua National Forest is a popular camping and vacation area, the population indicated only recognizes year-round residents. The population of people camping/vacationing in the area may be significantly higher throughout the year.

### Housing/Land Use

Using the Douglas County Planning Department's addressing plats, there are many cabins and recreational structures within the Diamond Lake CWPP area.

The Diamond Lake CWPP area has zoning designations of PR (Public Reserve) near trailheads at the north end of the CWPP area, 5R (5 Acre Rural Residential)

along the Diamond Lake shoreline and CT (Tourist Commercial Zoning located at the Diamond Lake Resort Area. The vast majority of land within the CWPP area is zoned with the resource designation of TR (Timberland Resource), reflecting the entire Diamond Lake CWPP Area falling within Umpqua National Forest Managed lands.



## **Transportation**

Roads: Transportation to and from the Diamond Lake CWPP area is handled via State Highway 138, which connects to the CWPP Area to I-5 in Roseburg, leading to Interstate 97 (running North-South to Bend and Klamath Falls), and State Highway 230 connecting to Medford.

## **Critical Infrastructure**

Unique critical infrastructure to the Diamond Lake CWPP area includes:

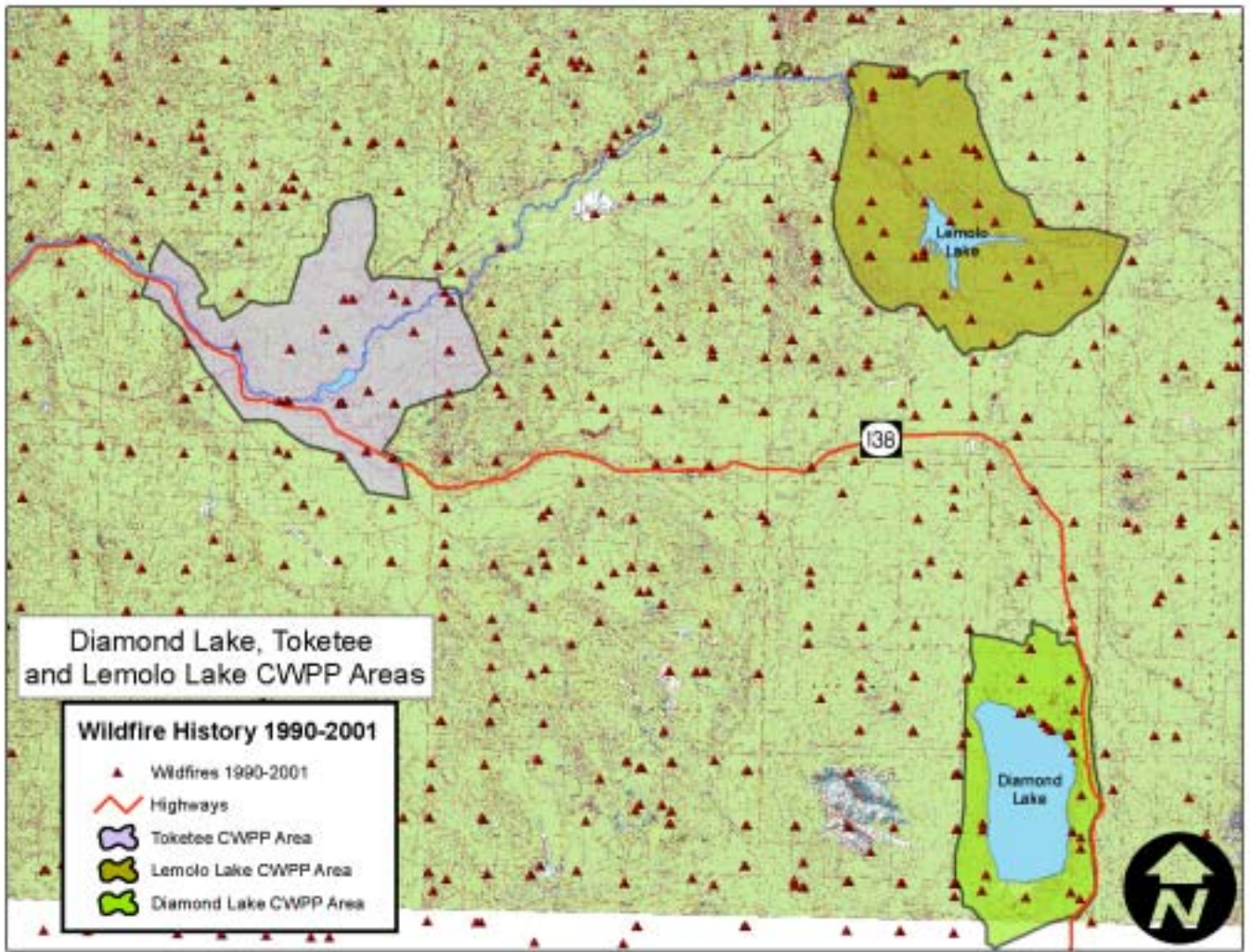
- State Highway 138 (critical as the only transportation route in and out of eastern Douglas County).
- Diamond Lake Resort
- Values to be protected (cultural resources, recreation areas, aquatic mitigation areas, wildlife mitigation measures, threatened, and endangered and sensitive plant considerations) as indicated in the Fire Management Plan of the Roseburg District BLM and Umpqua National Forest

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 an 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 Diamond Lake CWPP area taken from Douglas Forest Protective Association and Umpqua National Forest Data.



**Emergency Equipment and Staffing Inventory**

There is no Rural Fire District servicing Diamond Lake. Wildland Fire Protection is provided by the Umpqua National Forest and supported by the Douglas Forest Protective Associations by mutual aid.

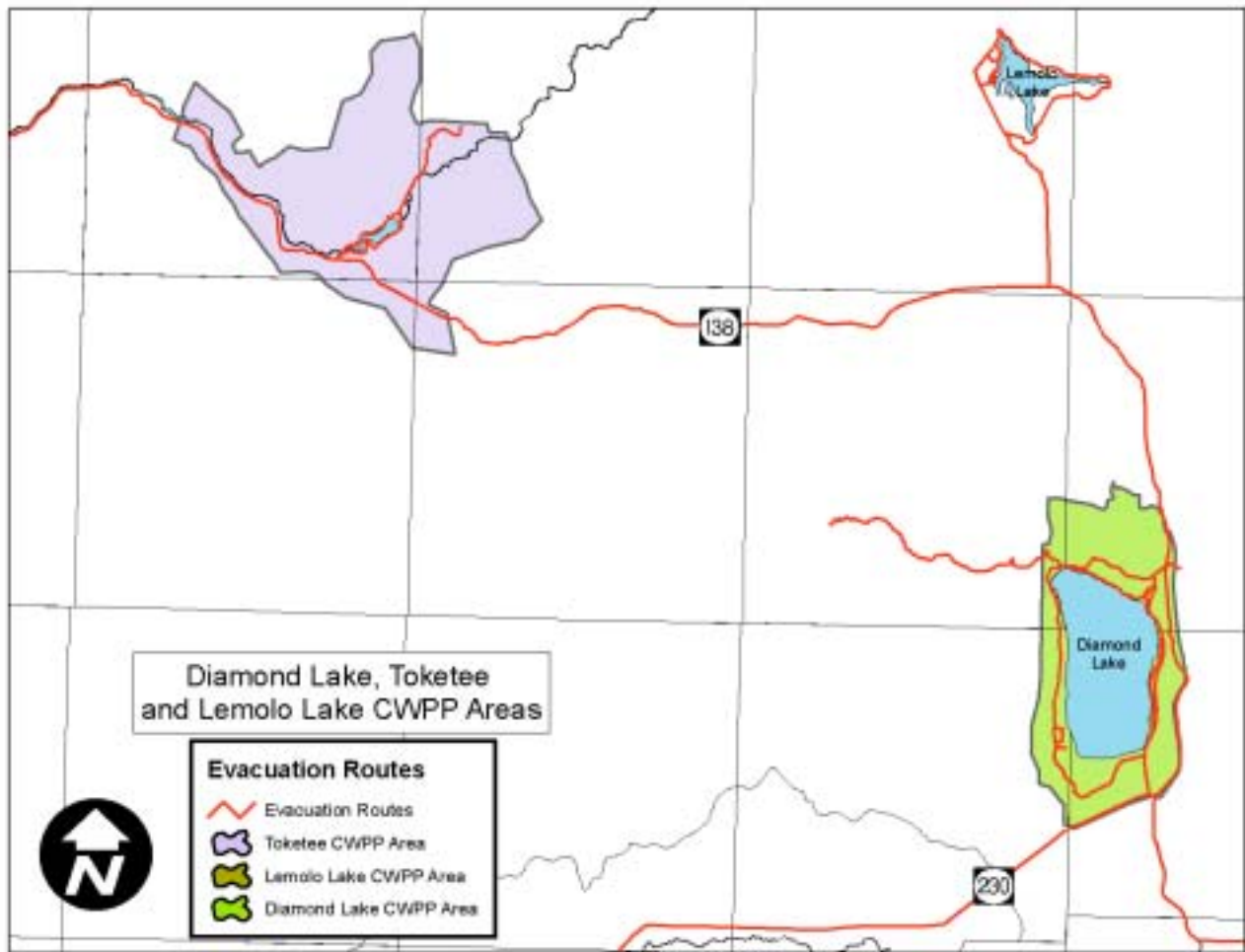
The Diamond Lake Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest provides fire protection in the Diamond Lake CWPP Area, with the following inventory:

- |   |                     |   |                |
|---|---------------------|---|----------------|
| 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 communities would utilize the main evacuation route of Highway 138, either west towards Glide, or southeast towards Crater Lake. Additional Evacuation Routes are the roads around Diamond Lake leading to Highway 138, and State Highway 230 towards Medford. Secondary Evacuation Routes are roads and passageways leading to the primary evacuation routes.

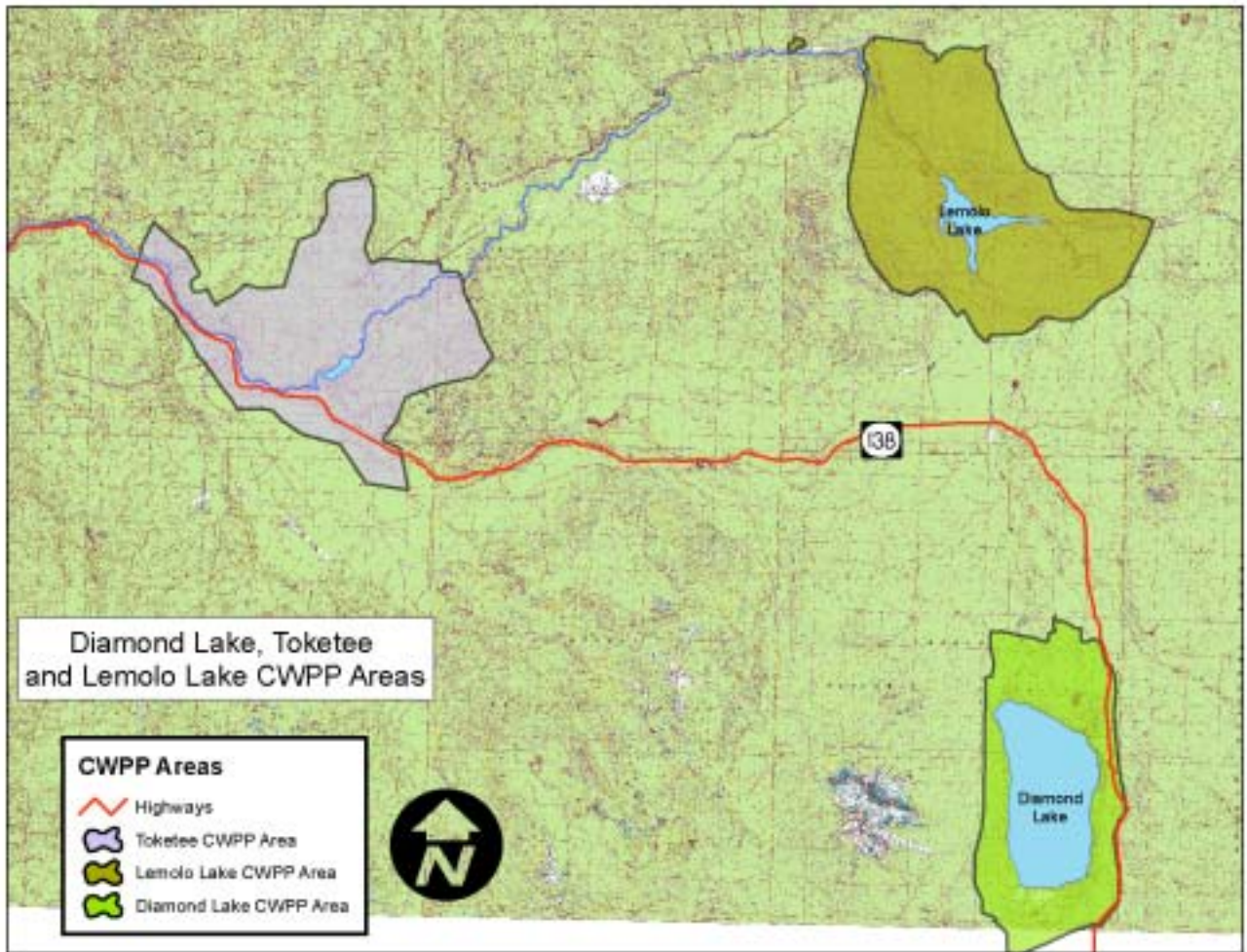


### Priority Fuel Reduction Area Identification

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 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 the CWPP fuel reduction area, this decision will be made based on fire suppression and resource management tactics and determined in the field, 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 critical infrastructure and home sites located to the west and east on main evacuation routes (Highway 138 East and West of the CWPP Area, Highway 203 south towards Medford) Secondary Evacuation Routes (County Roads and Forest Service Roads leading to Highway 138). 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 and areas of recreation 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, Rocky Mountain

#### 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 (example: 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 Umpqua National Forest hereby agrees to the final contents of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan:

James Caplan  
Forest Supervisor, Umpqua National Forest

1/17/06

Date