



Municipality of Anchorage Community Wildfire Protection Plan



Quick Start Guide

A Message from AFD Fire Chief Doug Schrage



The risk of a major wildfire in Anchorage and on the slopes of the Chugach Range threatens lives, homes, and our economy. It affects every one of us. This Community Wildfire Protection Plan is the result of concerned residents, business owners, public officials, and others coming together to chart planning and mitigation efforts for the next ten years. With continued community engagement, we can enjoy a future that is safer from the risk of wildfire.



What is a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)?

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is our community’s plan for living safely with wildfire. Everyone has a voice in shaping the plan—and in how it’s carried out—to protect our homes, neighborhoods, and natural spaces.

- **Community-driven:** Built from local input and participation.
- **Guidance, not mandates:** Contains recommendations that can adapt as conditions and funding change.
- **Key to funding:** Required for many grants that help Anchorage reduce wildfire risk and strengthen resilience.

Find the plan and more information on our CWPP web page. wildfire.muni.org/cwpp

Key Definitions

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI): the area where human development meets or intermixes with undeveloped wildlands

Fuel: burnable material- such as trees, brush, grass, or structures- that feeds a wildfire

Mitigation: actions taken to reduce wildfire risk or impact

Defensible Space: the cleared, managed area around a structure that helps protect it from fire

Ignitability: how easily something can catch fire

Critical Infrastructure: essential systems and facilities - like power, water, and roads - needed for community safety and function

Egress: refers to the routes used to exit an area during an emergency

Hillside: land along mountainsides - a topographical, not geographic, reference found in multiple areas across the MOA

Suppression Planning Unit (SPU): The densest residential areas within the WUI were divided into 30 SPUs based on shared wildfire hazards. SPU boundaries organize information, not risk. Wildfire resilience is everyone's responsibility.





Components of the CWPP

Main Document

Provides an overview of the Municipality and the CWPP. It introduces what was assessed, highlights key findings, and offers the first look at how our community can strengthen its resilience to wildfire. It also outlines preliminary recommendations and priority actions.

Appendix A: Suppression Planning Units

Descriptions of the 30 segments the WUI was divided into and their associated hazard ratings.

Appendix B: Resident Handbook

A practical guide for what you can do to protect your home, prepare for a wildfire, and what you should know about evacuating.

Appendix C: Methodology

Description of the framework for establishing the hazard ratings that help prioritize mitigation efforts.

Appendix D: Mitigation Recommendations

Overview of existing and recommended wildfire mitigation projects and strategies.

Appendix E: Community Engagement

Summary of public outreach, meetings, surveys, and key themes from community feedback.

SPU Hazard Ratings

Hazard ratings were established for each SPU. They are used as a **tool** to compare risk and set priorities. However, they are not the only factor considered when planning mitigation projects. These hazard ratings, ranging from Low to Extreme were created using a detailed methodology and have been endorsed by AFD, AK-DOF, and interagency partners. Learn more about SPUs in Appendix A and Hazard ratings in Appendix C.

Extreme	Very High	High
Moderate	Low	

Bear Valley	Glen Alps
Lower Eagle River	Potter Heights
Rainbow	Stuckagain
Upper Eagle River	Abbott/Elmore
Eklutna Lake	East Muldoon
Hiland	South Rabbit Creek
Upper Hillside	Birch
DeArmoun	East Chugiak
Girdwood	Kincaid
Lower Hillside	Baxter
Lake Otis	Merrill
Turnagain	West Chugiak
West Muldoon	Campbell Creek
Chester Creek	Eagle River Loop
Eklutna Village	Oceanview

Questions?

While many partners contributed to the CWPP, AFD is responsible for addressing questions about the document. Direct inquiries to **wildfire@muni.org**



What Happens Next

We'll work with the community and our interagency partners to turn recommendations into action—securing funding for priority projects and keeping Anchorage informed every step of the way. Make sure you follow the AFD on social media and visit wildfire.muni.org for updates.

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