

Welcome to the Anchorage Wildfire Town Hall

***Working together to build a wildfire-resilient
community***

The meeting begins at 6:00 PM

Begins
At
6:00 PM

Have you signed up for Smart911?

The municipality's emergency alerting system

Text ANCHORAGE to 67283
or scan the QR code



<https://www.smart911.com/smart911/ref/reg.action?pa=anchorageak>

Anchorage Fire Department
Fall 2025 Wildfire Town Hall

Begins
At
6:00 PM

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan DRAFT is Available now!

Visit our website to view the documents and provide comment



wildfire.muni.org/CWPP

Anchorage Fire Department
Fall 2025 Wildfire Town Hall

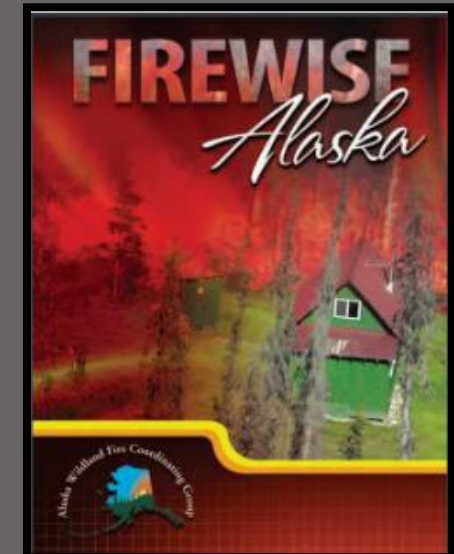
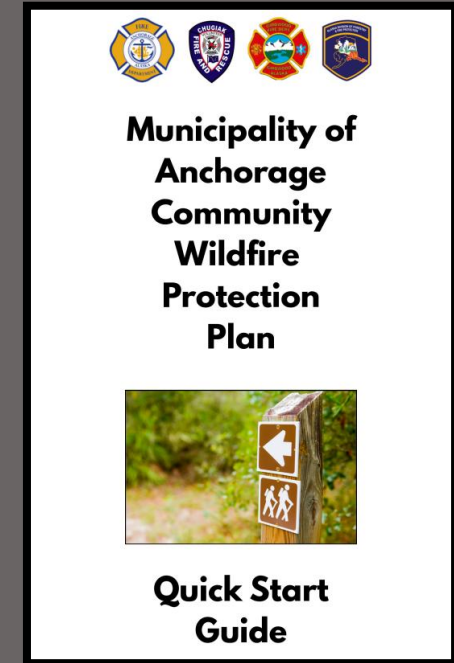
Begins
At
6:00 PM

Help us get the word out

We have materials at the back table and can provide copies upon request. Share them with your neighbors, friends, family, and coworkers.

Email wildfire@muni.org to request copies.

All are available in electronic format for easy sharing via email and social media!



**Anchorage Fire Department
Fall 2025 Wildfire Town Hall**

**Begins
At
6:00 PM**

Thank You

More than 50 subject matter experts participated in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Project

Hundreds of community members participated in meetings like this, completed the survey, and have contributed to our success.



Anchorage Fire Department Fall 2025 Wildfire Town Hall

November 12, 2025



Opening Remarks

Mayor Suzanne LaFrance

AFD Operational Update

Jon Glover

AFD Wildfire Division Chief



Wildfire Division: From Concept to Action

- Updated AFD's wildfire response plans for faster, more effective dispatch
- Developed AFD's first Wildfire Operations Guide
- AFD hosted first interagency wildfire workshop with 30+ partners for unified planning
- Strengthened partnerships with AWWU, Chugach Electric, and Municipal Departments.
- Coordinated wildfire response with DOF, BLM, JBER, Parks & Rec, and APD across the municipality
- Trained all APD patrol officers on wildfire awareness and evacuation procedures to strengthen coordinated response

Wildfire Division: From Concept to Action

- Worked with elected officials including Assembly Members, various State Representatives, and Mayor LaFrance
- Supported new Unauthorized Burning Ordinance (AO 25-61) to strengthen prevention
- Partnered with Mayor's Office to link wildfire risk mitigation with city road safety projects
- Expanded wood lot operations, helping residents dispose of fuels safely and reduce wildfire risk
- Integrated wildfire readiness into camp abatement projects
- Worked with Traffic Engineering to deploy wildfire evacuation signage along single egress routes from Eagle River to Potter Heights

East West Connector

- Enhanced protection of community values and strengthened interagency coordination
- Funded and supported by the Alaska Division of Forestry (DOF)
- Involved three DOF crews, providing valuable preseason training and hands-on field experience



Campbell Airstrip Road

- Anchorage's largest fuels project, first major mechanical treatment in city history
- Coordinated contractors, land managers, and community partners for success
- Completed July 2025, earning multiple community commendations
- Built strong partnerships and broad public support
- Set the standard for future wildfire mitigation projects



HALO Projects

Heights Hill

- Re-treated original 2004 mitigation line, first of its kind in Anchorage
- Restored 100-ft corridor along west side of road with light-touch methods
- Completed November 2025



Forsythe Park

- Completed fuels treatment along park trail system



2025 Wildfire Division Deployments First

Deployment Season Since 2019 — Marking a Major Return to Statewide Operations

- Under the Annual Operating Plan (AOP), AFD can deploy firefighters statewide to support wildfire incidents
- All deployment costs are reimbursed, including backfill staffing, meaning the municipality is fully repaid for personnel and equipment time
- Generated cost savings by having wildfire deployments cover training, firefighter qualifications, and vehicle maintenance
- All competed while maintaining full wildfire readiness within the Municipality



2025 Wildfire Division Deployments

First Deployment Season Since 2019 — Marking a Major Return to Statewide Operations

Wildfire Deployments

- 18 personnel deployed across Alaska for 176 total days of wildfire support
- Cooperative response with CVFRD and GFRD
- 3 firefighter deployments to the Lower 48 for 48 total days

All-Hazard Support

- 1 firefighter deployed for Typhoon Halong (2025) for 16 days, supporting disaster response

Key qualifications earned

- 12 New qualifications completed
- 14 New training profiles opened

Wildfire Division Programs & Outreach Update

Stephanie Dufek

AFD Wildfire Division Project Manager



Numbers: 2025

125+

12

182

14

3

2

$112,134 + 114,371 = 297,480$

$19,019 + 23,688 = 42,707$

Community meetings & events

Monthly WUI-CAT meetings

Firewise assessments

Wildfire Wednesdays

Professionally recorded videos

Multimedia campaigns

Ads delivered

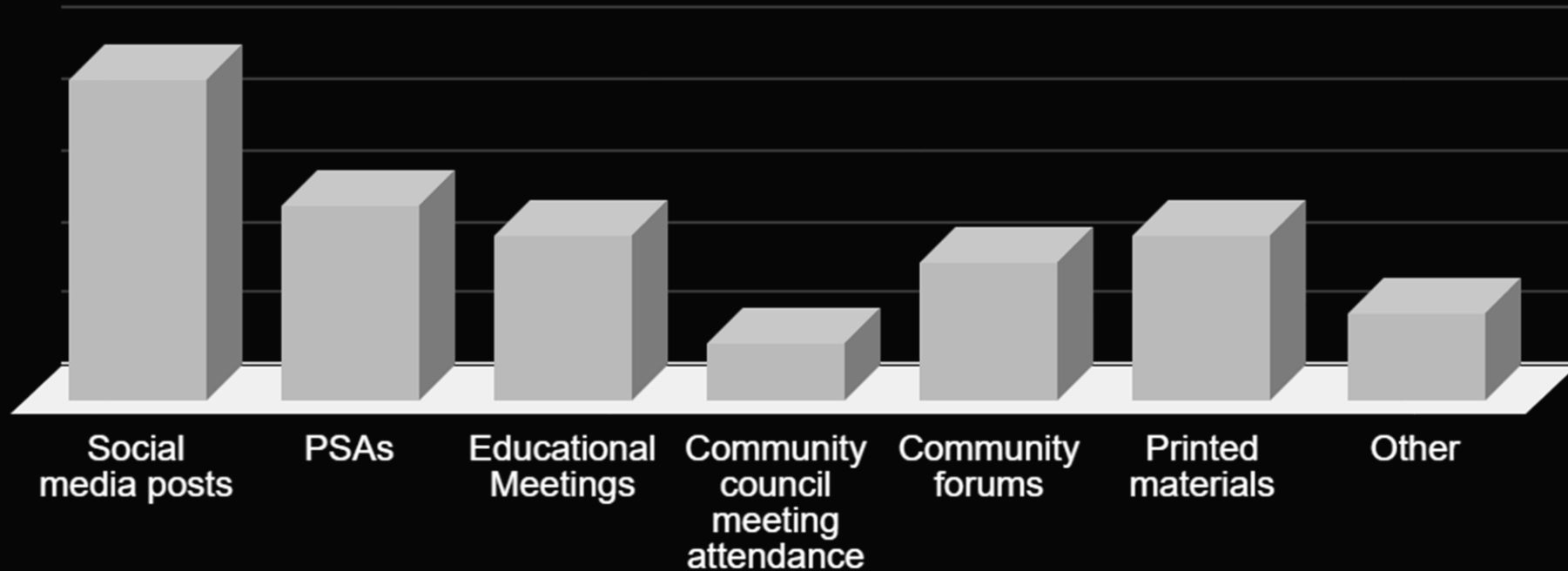
Postcards delivered

Numbers: 2026



Community Wildfire Protection Plan Community Survey

What Form of Community Outreach is Most Beneficial?



wildfire.muni.org/CWPP



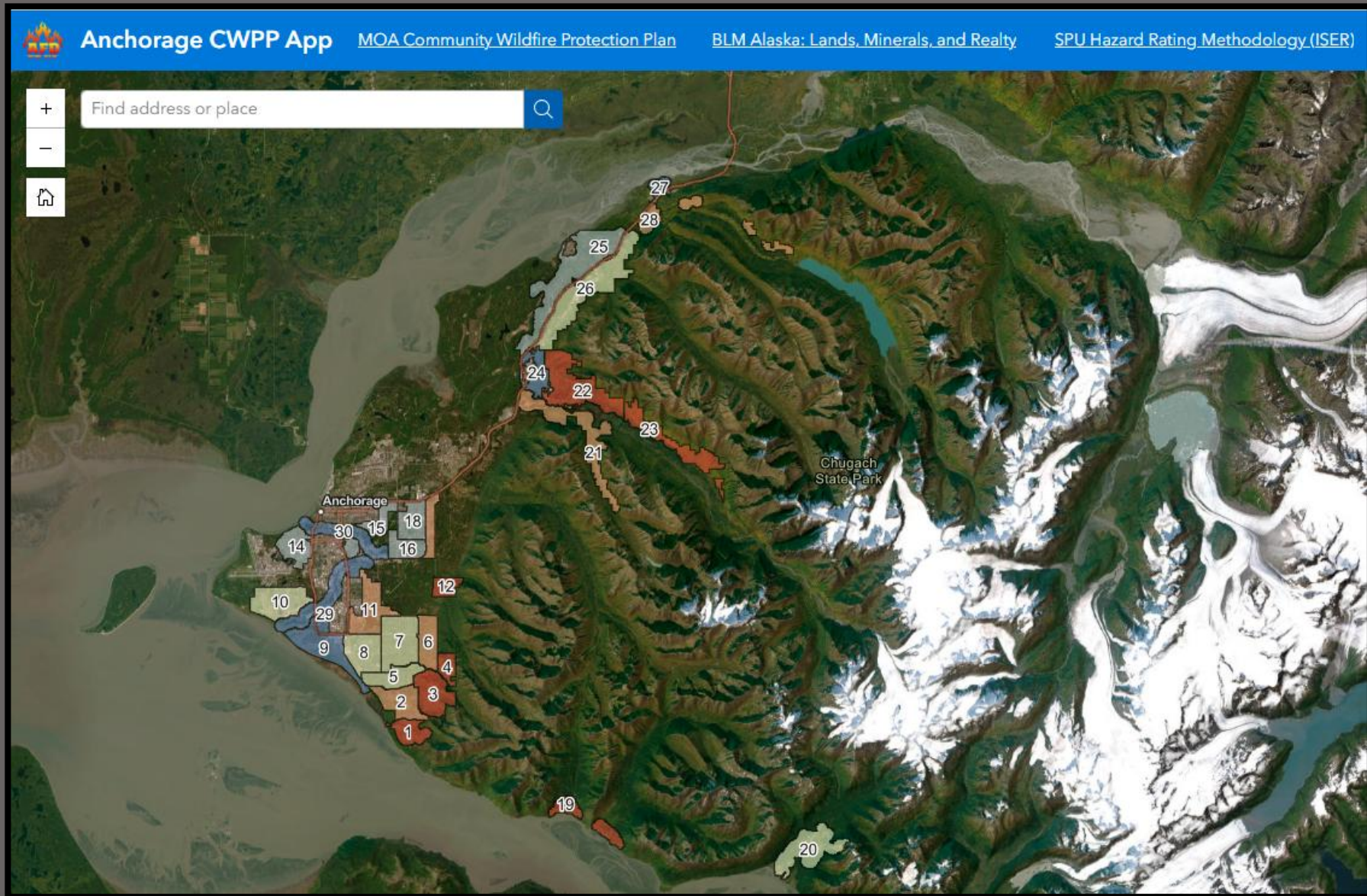
Municipality of Anchorage Community Wildfire Protection Plan



Quick Start Guide



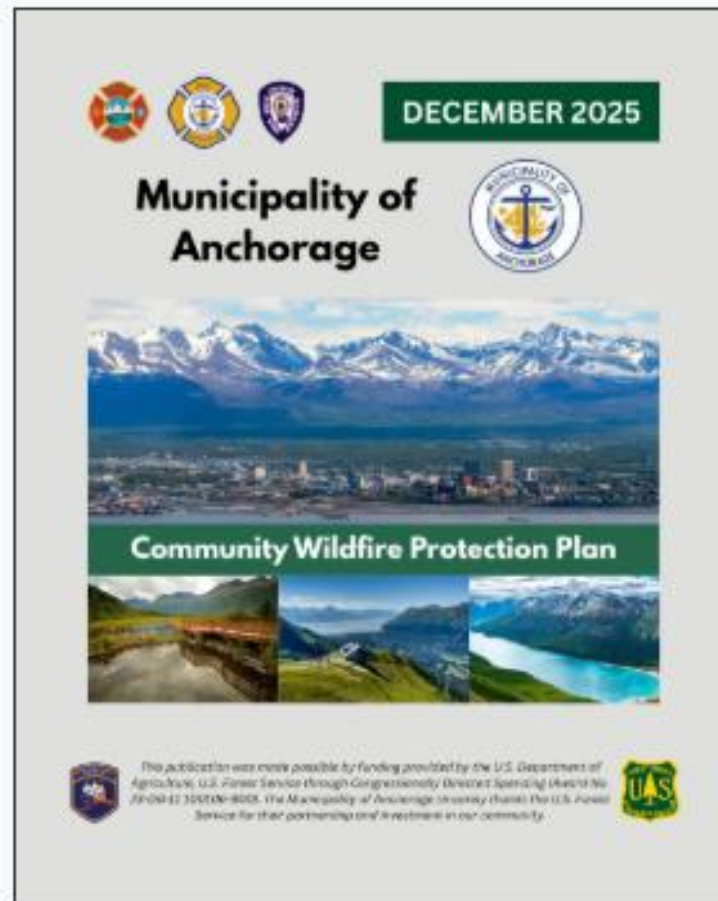
wildfire.muni.org/CWPP



wildfire.muni.org/CWPP

Click on the thumbnails below to access the CWPP documents.

Main Document



wildfire.muni.org/CWPP

Community Wildfire Protection Plan Draft: Public Review

Thank you for taking time to review and provide comments on the draft Anchorage Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Your input helps guide priorities for wildfire mitigation, response planning, and community resilience. The comment period is open from November 11–30, 2025.

Note:

If you are completing this survey with a cellular device, it is recommended that you do so in landscape mode.



Community Wildfire Protection Plan Municipality of Anchorage Town Hall

Meeting November 12, 2025

Community Wildfire Protection Plan Draft

- A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a collaborative and strategic plan that recommends wildfire risk reduction measures to protect people, property, and natural and cultural resources. The CWPP is developed with the participation of residents, community leaders, land managers, fire personnel, and other stakeholders. CWPPs can also be used as a tactical tool for wildfire prevention and management, as it provides a roadmap for how a community can reduce its wildfire risk and improve its resiliency in the face of wildfire events.

- Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection



DECEMBER 2025

**Municipality of
Anchorage**



Community Wildfire Protection Plan



This publication was made possible by funding provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service through Congressionally Directed Spending (Award No. 23-DG-11 100106-900). The Municipality of Anchorage sincerely thanks the Forest Service for their partnership and investment in our community.



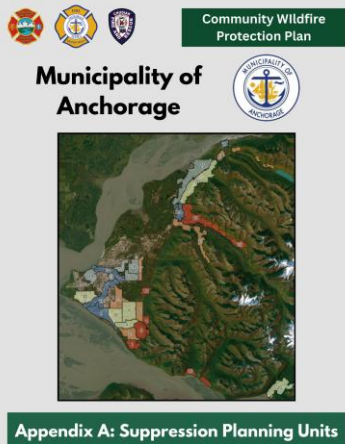
Collaborators & Contributors

- Municipality of Anchorage (MOA)
 - Anchorage Fire Department
 - Anchorage Geographic Data & Information Center
 - Anchorage Health Department
 - Anchorage Office of Emergency Management
 - Anchorage Office of the Mayor
 - Anchorage Parks & Recreation
 - Anchorage Police Department
 - Anchorage School District
 - Anchorage Solid Waste Services
 - Anchorage Traffic Engineering Department
 - Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility
- Chugiak Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department
- Girdwood Fire and Rescue Department
- State of Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection
- Alaska Department of Fish & Game
- Alaska Venture Fund
- Bureau of Land Management
- Chugach Electric Association
- Chugach State Park
- Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation
- Girdwood Parks & Recreation
- Heritage Land Bank
- Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
- Matanuska Electric Association
- National Park Service
- National Weather Service
- UAA Institute of Social and Economic Research
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Native Village of Eklutna

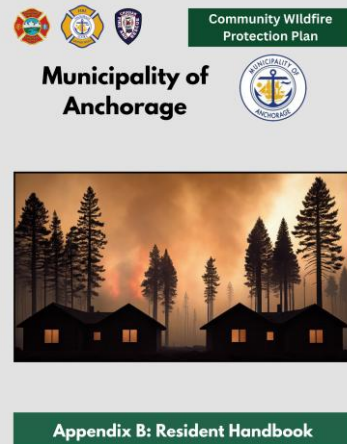
CWPP Main Plan Sections

1. Introduction
2. Study Area Overview
3. Fire History
4. Wildfire Behavior Analysis
5. Suppression Planning Units
6. Areas of Special Interest
7. Firefighting Capabilities & Water Supplies
8. Access/Egress & Evacuation
9. National Wildland Strategy
10. Fuel Management & Wildfire Mitigation
11. Recommendations
12. Top Priorities
13. Grant Resources

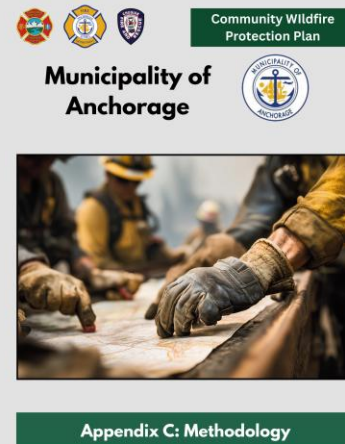
CWPP Draft



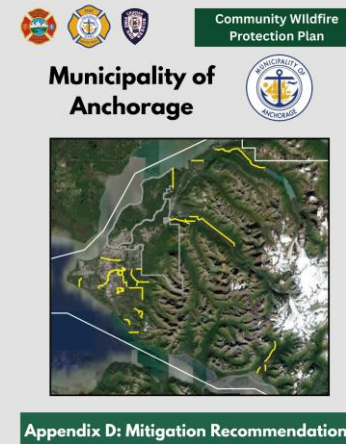
Appendix A
Suppression
Planning
Units



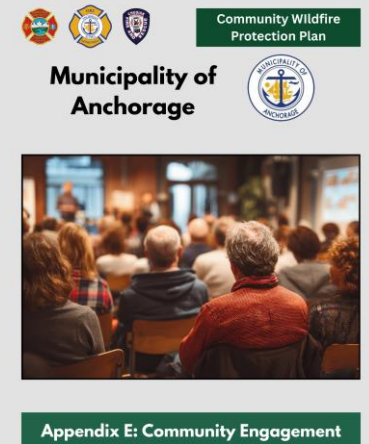
Appendix B
Resident
Handbook



Appendix C
Methodology



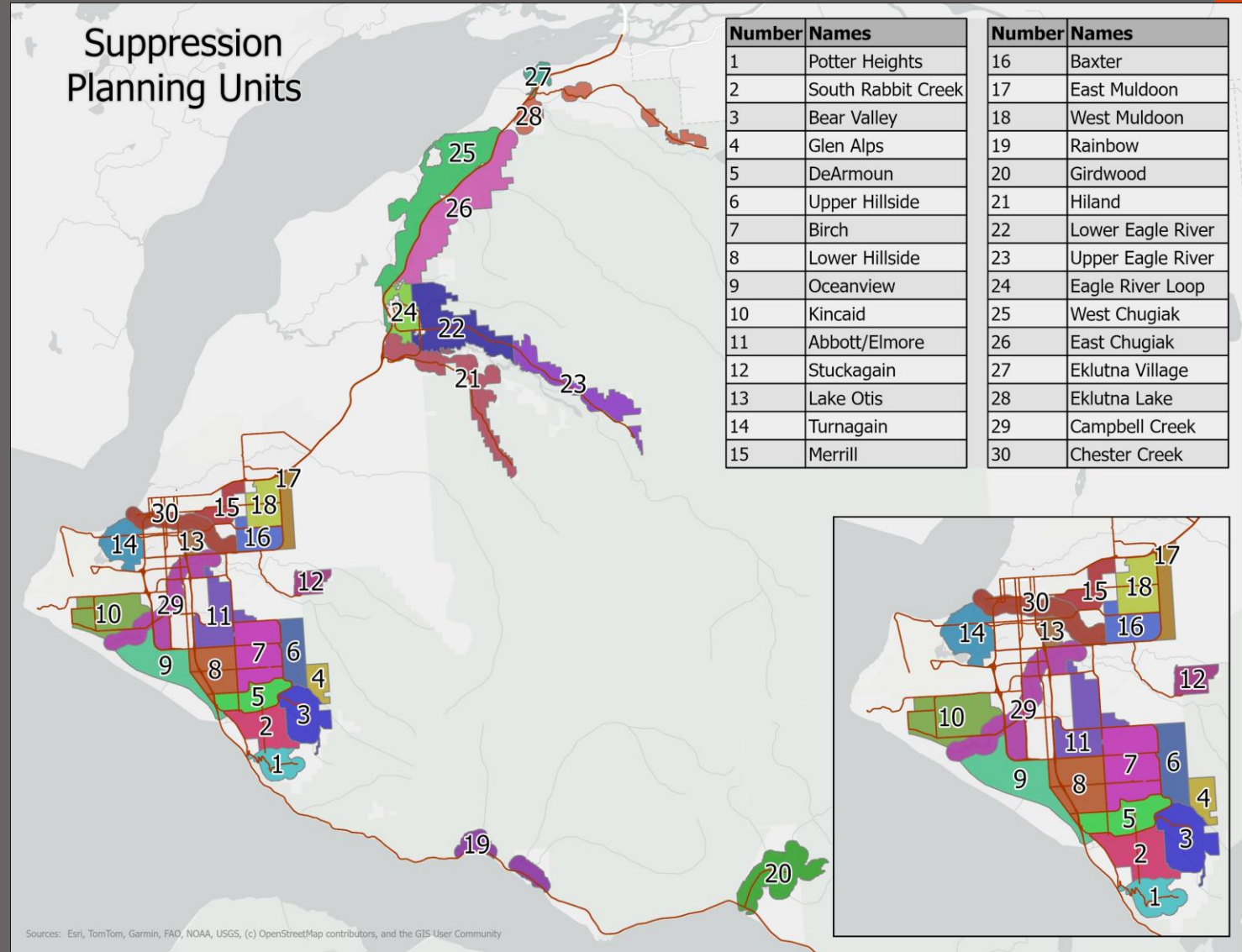
Appendix D
Mitigation
Recommendations



Appendix E
Community
Engagement

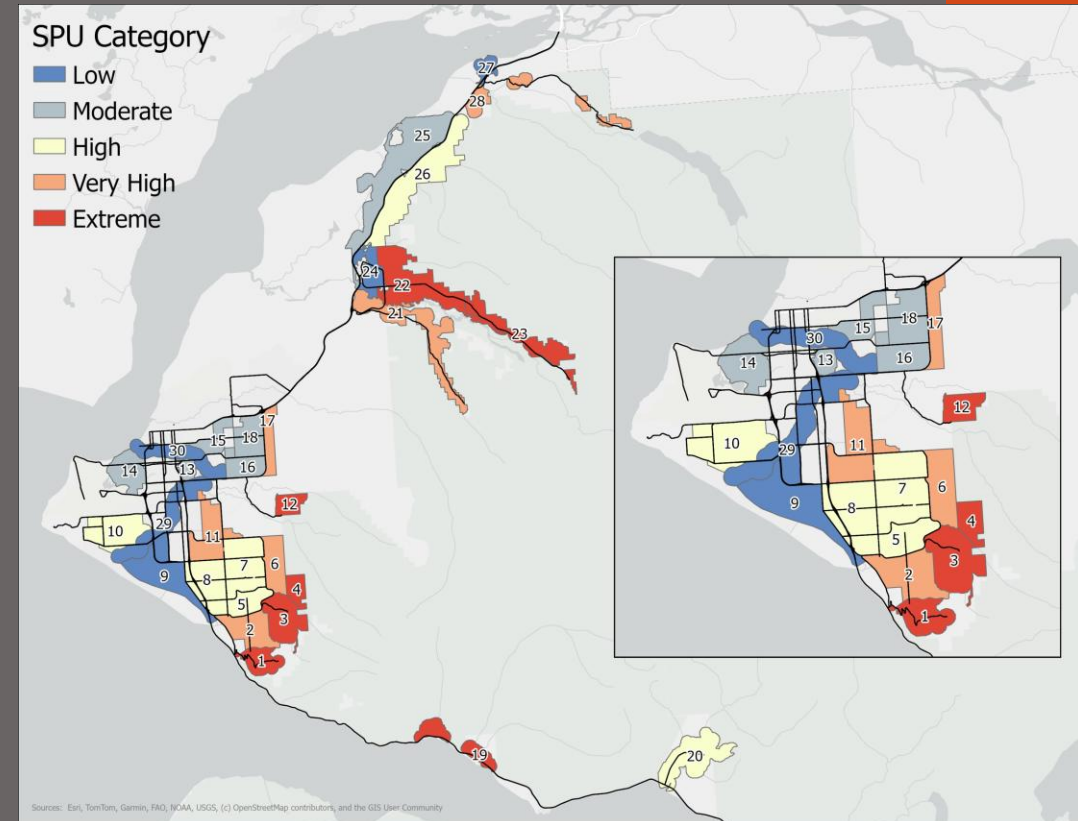
Appendix A – Suppression Planning Units

- A key requirement of the CWPP is to identify and rate the hazard in the WUI communities with significant wildfire exposure. For this report these are defined as
- **Suppression Planning Units**



Appendix A – Suppression Planning Units Hazard Ratings

SPU No.	Name	Rating	SPU No.	Name	Rating
1	Potter Heights	Extreme	16	Baxter	Moderate
2	South Rabbit Creek	Very High	17	East Muldoon	Very High
3	Bear Valley	Extreme	18	West Muldoon	Moderate
4	Glen Alps	Extreme	19	Rainbow	Extreme
5	DeArmoun	High	20	Girdwood	High
6	Upper Hillside	Very High	21	Hiland	Very High
7	Birch	High	22	Lower Eagle River	Extreme
8	Lower Hillside	High	23	Upper Eagle River	Extreme
9	Oceanview	Low	24	Eagle River Loop	Low
10	Kincaid	High	25	West Chugiak	Moderate
11	Abbott/Elmore	Very High	26	East Chugiak	High
12	Stuckagain	Extreme	27	Eklutna Village	Low
13	Lake Otis	Moderate	28	Eklutna Lake	Very High
14	Turnagain	Moderate	29	Campbell Creek	Low
15	Merrill	Moderate	30	Chester Creek	Low



Appendix B – Resident Handbook

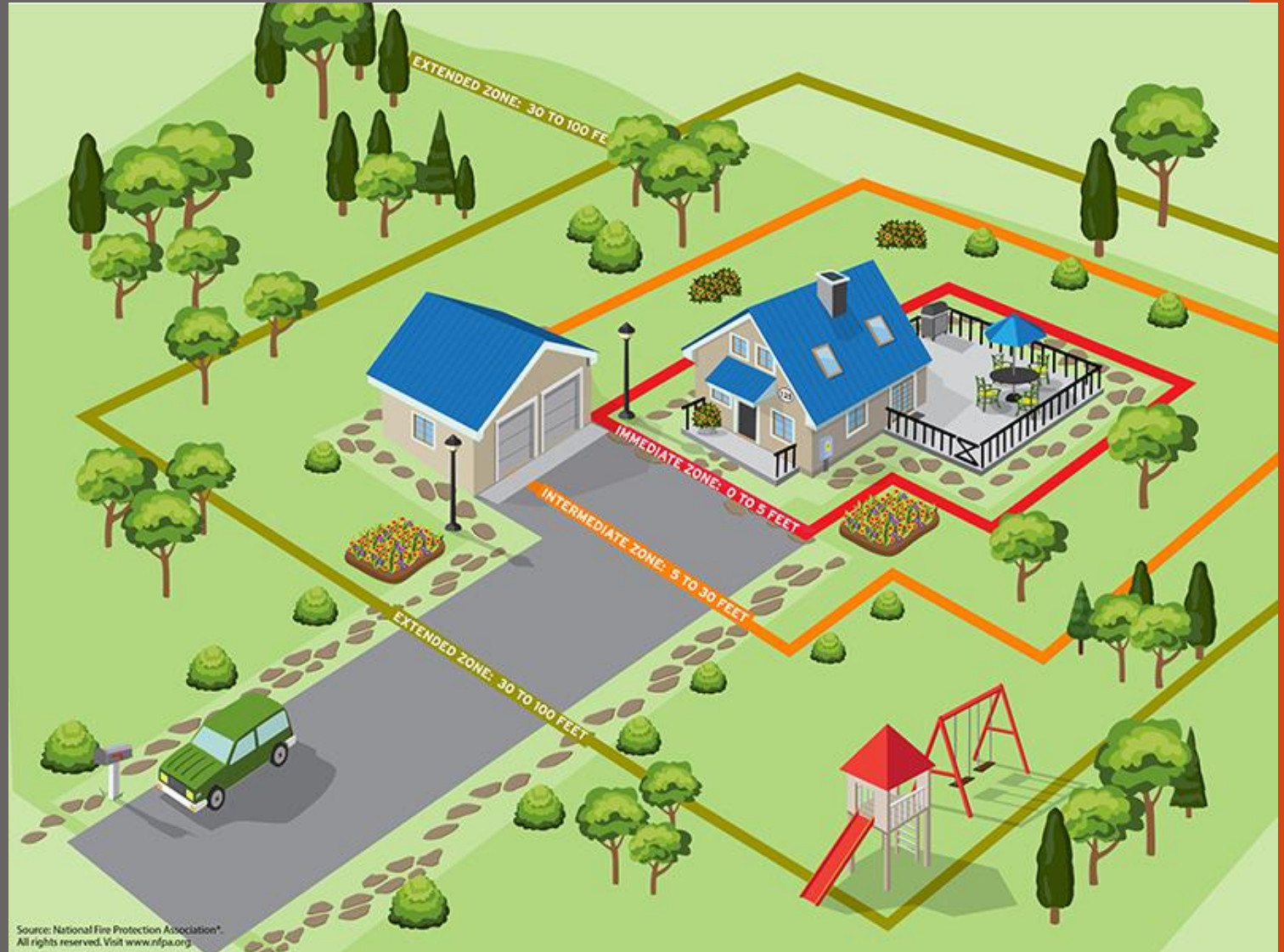
- Appendix B was designed as a handbook for MOA residents. It follows the Ready, Set, Go! framework, Alaska's wildfire preparedness program that helps residents and communities understand what actions to take before and during a fire.
- **Ready: Be Prepared**
- **Long before the emergency of a wildfire, prepare yourself and your property.**
- Emergency alerts, emergency action plan, go bag, fire danger, defensible space and structure hardening
- **Set: Be Alert**
- **A wildfire has been announced. Now is the time to be vigilant.**
- Sourcing Information during a wildfire, home and property readiness, pets and livestock, safety and coordination
- **Go: Act Now**
- **Evacuate NOW.**
- Follow emergency management instructions, evacuation notifications, evacuation rights and statutes

Appendix B – Resident Handbook

Structure Hardening and Defensible Space

Remember, progress begins with action. Residents should tackle what they can, and team up with friends and neighbors for bigger tasks. Every item completed is a win for each residence and for the community.

Start small. Keep going. It all counts.



Appendix C - Methodology

Low

Moderate

High

Very High

Extreme

- Bintel, Dr. Jen Schmidt of UAA, and AFD partnered to complete the fire behavior modeling and develop the SPUHR algorithm localized for the unique attributes of the MOA. This analysis produces ratings and maps that aid in the placement, type, and priority of mitigation recommendations.
- How the SPU boundaries were drawn
- SPU Hazard Rating (SPUHR) methodology
 - Hazard Rating Factors
- Maps of a selected hazard rating factors for the SPUs
- Fire Behavior

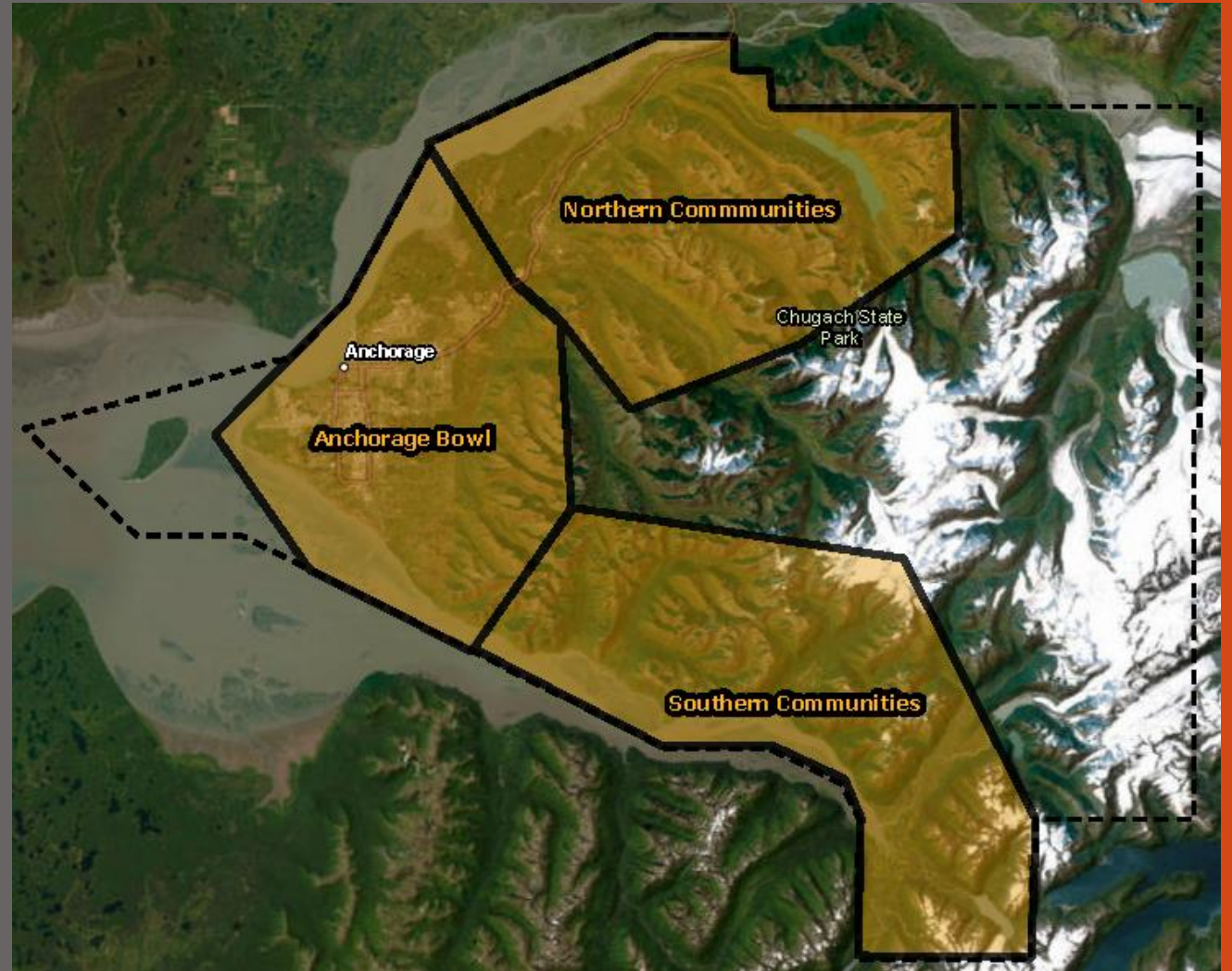
Appendix C - Methodology

SPU Hazard Ratings (SPUHR) Factors

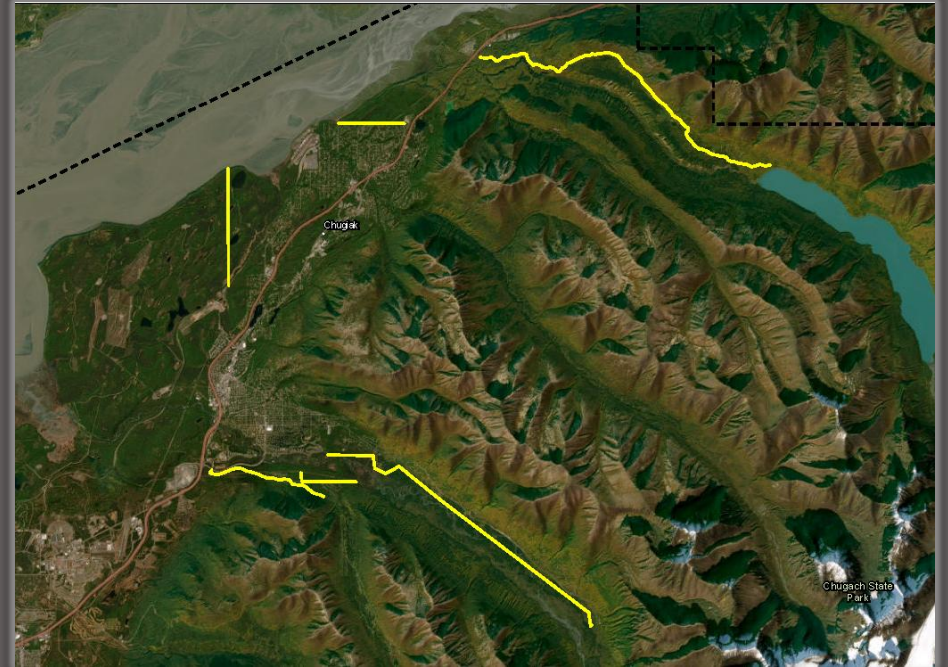
- Average 2024 wildfire exposure
- Average Integrated Hazard
- Average wildfire structure risk
- Terrain Ruggedness 90th percentile
- Percent of the area with a south-facing slope
- Density of wildland fire starts (2001-2021)
- Ratio of hazardous fuel area to SPU area
- Percent of structures not within a 200m buffer of a fire hydrant
- Percent of the area outside of a fire service area
- Average response time from nearest fire station to parcels
- Percent of the road length of roads that dead ends
- Percent of the road length with a slope of 6% or more
- Density of sharp curves
- Percent of the households that speak English less than "Well"
- Percent of the population under 18 or over 64 years old
- Percent of households with no vehicle
- Percent of civilians with a disability
- Total land and building values divided by area

Appendix D – Mitigation Recommendations

- **Anchorage Bowl** - the central and most densely populated residential, commercial, and civic core of the municipality.
- **Northern Communities** - areas of development north of the Anchorage bowl; includes Eagle River, Chugiak, Eklutna, and surrounding neighborhoods.
- **Southern Communities** - areas of development south of the Anchorage Bowl; includes Turnagain Arm communities, Girdwood, and Portage.



Appendix D – Mitigation Recommendations



Appendix D – Mitigation Recommendations

Name	Description	Method	Maintenance	Landowners & Managers
JBER Mastication	300-foot Shaded Fuel Break & Fire Road Construction	300-foot-wide mechanical removal of standing dead and downed trees, along with low-level fuels up to 8 feet from the ground, will be conducted. In mixed white spruce and hardwood areas, spruce trees under 18 inches DBH will be removed, ladder fuels will be limbed to 8 feet, and hardwoods thinned to achieve approximately 10 feet of crown spacing, forming a shaded fuel break. In black spruce stands, 25-foot clumps will be maintained with 30-50 feet of spacing in a mosaic pattern. The treatment area will also be cleared sufficiently to allow for the construction and maintenance of a standard gravel fire road, ensuring reliable access for suppression resources and equipment.	4-7 years	Alaska Missionary Conference of the United Methodist Church Birchwood Camp, Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation, Great Land Trust
Lower Hiland	200-foot Shaded Fuel Break	Mechanical removal of standing dead and downed trees, along with low-level fuels up to 8 ft from the ground. In mixed white spruce and hardwood areas, remove spruce trees under 18 in DBH, limb ladder fuels to 8 ft, and thin hardwoods to a 10 ft crown spacing to form a shaded fuel break. In black spruce stands, 25 ft clumps are maintained with 30-50 ft of spacing in a mosaic pattern.	4-7 years	Eklutna, Inc., State of Alaska
West Chugiak	200-foot Shaded Fuel Break	Mechanical removal of standing dead and downed trees, along with low-level fuels up to 8 ft from the ground. In mixed white spruce and hardwood areas, remove spruce trees under 18 in DBH, limb ladder fuels to 8 ft, and thin hardwoods to a 10 ft crown spacing to form a shaded fuel break. In black spruce stands, 25 ft clumps are maintained with 30-50 ft of spacing in a mosaic pattern.	4-7 years	Eklutna, Inc.

- Each of the Treatment Regions was evaluated for:
- Regional Recommendations, Proposed Fuels Treatments, Proposed Roadside Treatments, Retreatments, and Action Items

Appendix E – Community Engagement

- Methods employed by Municipality of Anchorage to support public awareness and engagement throughout the CWPP Process:
 - Online and mail campaigns
 - Social media outreach
 - Community meetings
 - Targeted events
 - Community survey
- Suggested Mitigation Projects and Actions were developed based on the community survey results.





AVAILABLE NOW

**PUBLIC
COMMENT PERIOD**

**Your Voice.
Your Plan.
Our Safety.**

Municipality of Anchorage Community Wildfire Protection Plan



OPEN NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 30

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is our shared roadmap for living safely with wildfire—and the public comment period is **now open**! This is your chance to weigh in on how we prepare for, prevent, and respond to wildfire as a community. Share your input and help guide the projects that will make the greatest impact.

Learn More

wildfire.muni.org/cwpp



Thank you!

Devin Wagner

Broomfield, Colorado

858.531.9410

devin.wagner@bintel.io

www.bintel.io

Community Q&A