Community Wildfire Protection Plan Otero County Fire

June 11, 2013







Plan Approval –

The County Community Wildfire Protection Plan dated June 11, 2013 is approved.

Keith Garden	6/17/13
Otero County Commissioners, Chairman	Date
Otero County Sheriff	6/18/13
Vacant	Date
Otero County Emergency Manager	Date
Cheraw Volunteer Fire Department	6-21-2013
The Department	
Cheraw Volunteer Fire Department	6-20-2013 Date
Cheraw Volunteer Fire Department	Date
Fowler Rural Fire Protection District	//-/4/-/3 Date
Fowler Rural Fire Protection District	Date
La Junta Rural Fire Protection District	10 /10 /13
La Junta Rural Fire Protection District	Date
Manzanola Rural Fire Protection District	12/9/13 Date
Wanzanola Rural Fire Protection District	Date
Rocky Ford Rural Fire Protection District	12/9/13
Rocky Ford Rural Fire Protection District	Date
Drug Davis-	6 18 13 Date
La Junta District, Colorado State Forest Service	Date

Participants in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan dated June 11, 2013.

Aluxa Roberts	6.20.13
Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, National Park Service	Date
Ed Skingama_	6-26-13
Bureau of Land Management	Date
La le Sust	8/5/13
Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control	Date
Mille Smith	20 JUNE 2013
Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife	Date
Vom Elic	9/1/13
U.S. Forest Service, Comanche Grassland	Date
Lana Toarson	7/31/13
Natural Resources Conservation Service	Date

Table of Contents

Overview	4
Background	4
Participants	4
Plan Components	5
A. Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)	5
B. Preparedness to Respond to Wildland Fire	6
C. Community Risk Analysis (Risk, Fuels, Values) and Wildfire Mitigation Assessment Map	ping 7
D. Fuels Treatment Priorities	8
E. Structural Ignitability Reduction Recommendations	9
Implementation Plan	9
Appendix A: Fire Protection Assessment	13
Appendix B: 2013-14 Annual Workplan	36
Appendix C: Otero County CWPP Maps	40
Appendix D: Town of Cheraw Fire Protection and Prevention 5-Year Plan 2011	4 7

Community Wildfire Protection Plan Otero County

June 11, 2013

Overview

Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) are authorized and defined in Title I of the *Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA)* passed by Congress on November 21, 2003 and signed into law by President Bush on December 3, 2003.

The Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) places renewed emphasis on community planning by extending a variety of benefits to communities with a wildfire protection plan in place. Critical among these benefits are - 1) The option to establish localized definitions and boundaries for areas having high Risk (potential), Hazards (fuels) and Values; and 2), The opportunity to help shape management priorities for federal and non-federal lands within the planning area.

The CWPP, as described in the Act, brings together diverse local interests to discuss their mutual concerns for public safety, community sustainability and natural resources. It offers a positive, solution-oriented environment in which to address challenges such as local firefighting capacity, the need for defensible space around homes (and areas of value), and where and how to prioritize land management. (Colorado State Forest Service, 2005. Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Guidelines for Implementation. 4 pages.)

The purpose of this document is to provide stakeholders and those living in Otero County with an overview of the wildland fire risks, hazards and values within the planning area; recommend possible courses of action to reduce the impacts of wildfire in the planned area; and to share a current action plan.

Background

Partners and stakeholders in Otero County have participated in Annual Wildfire Operating Plans since 1997, with a Regional AWOP (Baca, Bent, Cheyenne, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero and Prowers counties) in place since 2010. The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control is coordinating the 2013 Regional AWOP.

Participants

Participants since the onset through direct meeting participation and/or email notifications and updates include the Otero County Sheriff and Emergency Manager's Office, the Otero County Commissioners' Office, the Cheraw Volunteer Fire Department, and the four rural fire protection districts in the county - including Fowler, Manzanola, La Junta and Rocky Ford. These same individuals also represent their communities. Federal and state partners notified or that have participated over time include the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, the USFS Comanche National Grassland, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Division of Fire Prevention and Control, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and the Colorado State Forest Service. Additional participants are always welcome.

Meeting dates include – 1/15/13 Mapping assessment meeting (Rocky Ford); 2/19/13 Maps review and Firewise concepts (Rocky Ford); 4/16/13 Core Group CWPP Narrative and maps update; and, June 11, 2013 – CWPP draft review & 2013-14 Annual Plan.

(Participants included: Chris Johnson, Keith Goodwin, Aaron Eveatt, Daniel Santistevan, Tim Bates, David Howard, Jim Collins, Joe LoBiondo, Fran Pannebaker, Adam Herberlie, Tom Eikenberry, Ed Skerjanec, Lana Pearson, Donna Davis, and Tracy Nelson.)

Plan Components

A. Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

Otero County's highest concern areas are -

- 1) The communities and all development near the communities including but not limited to the La Junta Industrial Park, various feed lots, 109 Feeders, La Junta Livestock, Winters Livestock, North La Junta, North La Junta Water District, the KOA Campground, Muth Welding, John Deere Implement, the various business districts along Hwy 50 corridor, and local community cemeteries;
- 2) The recreational areas including but not limited to the National Park Service Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, the United States Forest Service Comanche Grassland sites, the various Bureau of Land Management parcels, the State Wildlife Areas under the Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and the local community high use areas like Rocky Ford's Crystal Lake, and Cheraw Lake;
- 3) The railroad/high-use travel corridors in the county; and
- 4) The Arkansas River watershed/tributaries and irrigation canals/ditches/laterals for water quality.

The communities are Cheraw (incorporated) population 252; Fowler (incorporated) population 1185; La Junta (incorporated & the county seat) population 7089; Manzanola (incorporated) population 436; Rocky Ford (incorporated) population 3964, and Swink (incorporated) population 617; Unincorporated locations include, Timpas and Higbee rural areas. Otero county population is 18,865 and 1270 square miles, (July 2011 U.S. Census Bureau).

General - The County is rural with population centers around the communities. Major state highways in the county from north to south include State Highway 167 (Fowler), State Highway 207 (Manzanola), State Highway 71, and State Highway 109. State highways generally from west to east include U.S. Highway 50, State Highway 202 (Rocky Ford), State Highway 266 (Rocky Ford), State Highway 194 (La Junta), State Highway 10, and State Highway 350. The Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad comes into the county at the west edge and runs parallel to Highway 50 to its exit point at the east end of the county. Another BNSF railroad follows Highway 350 at a diagonal. Two interstate high pressure gas lines run diagonally through the county. Phillips Pipe Line (petroleum products) runs through northeastern portions of the county. Shamrock Logistics Operations, L.P. and Colorado Interstate Gas run at a diagonal in the county from northwest to southeast.

The Arkansas River parallels Highway 50 through the county. Some Arkansas River tributaries in the county include the Apishapa River, Mustang Creek, Timpas Creek, the Purgatoire River, Jack Canyon Creek, Smith Canyon Creek, and Horse Creek. Major canals in the county include the Colorado Canal, the Rocky Ford Highline Canal, the Otero Canal, the Fort Lyon Storage Canal and the Reservoir Lateral.

A sampling of the major recreational areas are the USFS Comanche Grassland including sites like the Sierra Vista Overlook and Santa Fe Trail, the Timpas Picnic Area, Iron Springs, the Vogule Canyon and picnic area, the Picketwire Canyon and Corrals; the National Park Service Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site; and the

State Wildlife Areas managed under the Colorado Parks and Wildlife including Holbrook Reservoir, the Rocky Ford Bird Farm, Ryan's Pond, the Oxbow, the Kid's Pond, and the Horse Creek Reservoir. Other local high use recreational areas are the Rocky Ford Crystal Park and Cheraw Lake. A few BLM parcels are border to the USFS Comanche Grassland, as are several State Land parcels, and the Department of Defense Pinyon Canyon Maneuver site at the southern end of the county.

Vegetation is generally shortgrass prairie, irrigated cropland, riparian (native plains cottonwood/willow, along with the non-desirables tamarisk, Russian olive, Siberian elm), and the pinyon/juniper canyon lands. Additionally, Bureau of Land Management parcels and State School Land Board parcels are located in the county.

B. Preparedness to Respond to Wildland Fire -

Otero County has five city/town fire departments and four rural fire protection districts. The County Sheriff is the Fire Marshall for the unincorporated portions of the county. There are 18,865 residents and 1,270 square miles within the county.

Departments -

The Cheraw Volunteer Fire Department has 17 volunteers.

The La Junta City and La Junta Rural Fire Protection District has 7 career firefighters (staffed 24/7 at Station 1) and 31 volunteers. The Town of Swink is within the La Junta Rural Fire Protection District and has Station 3.

Rocky Ford City and Rocky Ford Rural Fire Protection District has 5 career firefighters (staffed 24/7) and 30 volunteers.

The Town of Manzanola and Rural Fire Protection District has 11 volunteer firefighters. The FPD includes some coverage in Crowley County.

The Town of Fowler and Rural Fire Protection District has 24 volunteer firefighters and covers 525 square miles. The FPD also includes area in Crowley County (Hwy 167 to Lane 3 and west to Pueblo County) and a large area in Pueblo County (west border is mile post 83 on Hwy 96, or Lane 61).

Dispatch -

The dispatch locations in the county include -

- 1) The Otero County Sheriff's Office (also dispatches for the Manzanola Marshalls);
- 2) The La Junta Police, Fire & EMS dispatch; and
- 3) The Rocky Ford Police, Fire & EMS dispatch, also dispatching for
 - a. Manzanola Fire & EMS,
 - b. Fowler Police Department/Fire/EMS,
 - c. Transcare (a private service based at Montrose), and
 - d. Medtrans (a private service based in Rocky Ford).

Each dispatch has Enhanced 911 services (E-911).

Otero County has reverse 911, Code Red.

Agreements –

Each Fire Department has a signed 2001 regional mutual aid agreement with all Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero and Prowers county fire departments and rural fire protection districts (*Southeast Colorado Regional*

Mutual Aide Agreement for Emergency Services Between Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero and Prowers counties).

Otero County has had a signed *Agreement for Cooperative Wildfire Protection with the Colorado State Forest Service*, (CSFS #109). As of July 1, 2012 this agreement is now between the county and the Division of Fire Prevention and Control.

Otero County has had signed *Annual Wildfire Operating Plans (AWOP)* with the United States Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Colorado State Forest Service, since 1997. The County signed a regional AWOP with Baca, Kiowa, Otero counties, in 2007; with Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero in 2009; and additionally with Cheyenne and Prowers counties in 2010, all along with the federal/state partners. The 2012 Regional AWOP expired April 30, 2013. The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control is coordinating the 2013 Regional AWOP, effective date May 1, 2013, and includes Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero and Prowers counties.

Otero County is a signature to the *Colorado Homeland Security and Office of Emergency Management Master Intergovernmental Mutual Aid Agreement* (64 counties).

Otero County Sheriff's Office and City of La Junta both have *Mutual Firefighting Assistance/Automatic Response Agreements Between the Department of Defense Fort Carson Garrison Commander*.

La Junta has an agreement for fire protection services with the Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, National Historic Site.

A Memorandum of Understanding Between the Colorado State Forest Service, the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and La Junta Airport: Concerning the Use of La Junta Airport for Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT) Operations in Support of Wildland Firefighting Efforts was signed into effect June 2010. As of July 1, 2013, the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control as assumed responsibility for the SEAT Program.

La Junta Rural Fire Protection District has an agreement with the Department of Transportation for pump hose at underpasses (flood control) efforts.

Ordinances -

Otero County has a Fire Ban Ordinance and can initiate fire bans as appropriate (Stages I, II) in the unincorporated areas of Otero County. The sheriff communicates with the rural fire protection districts and the United States Forest Service Comanche Grasslands office in this process.

La Junta and Rocky Ford have Fire Ban Ordinances. They are usually similar in implementation to county fire bans and rescissions.

Otero County currently has a County Director Office of Emergency Management vacancy. This position coordinates with other Area Emergency Management Offices and State Resources.

The City of La Junta has an Emergency Manager.

C. Community Risk Analysis (Risk, Fuels, Values) and Wildfire Mitigation Assessment Mapping

(See Appendix A for a complete discussion of the risk analysis and assessment mapping for Otero County)

Areas

- 1 Communities & Growth Areas (HHH)
- 2 Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site NPS, USFS Comanche Grassland sites, State Wildlife Areas (HHH)
- 3 Railroads/Travel Corridors (HHH)
- 4 River Drainages & Watersheds/Irrigation Canals, Ditches, Laterals (HHH)
- 5 Seasonal Lakes/Recreation (MHH)
- 6 Travel Corridors (various)
- 7 River Drainages, diversion dams on irrigation canals, irrigational ditches/laterals, less public access (MHH, LHH)
- 8 High Value Agricultural Areas (various), Feedlots (HMH), La Junta Industrial Park (HMH), Otero Landfill (HMM)
- 9 Rural Areas (various), BLM parcels (various), Pinyon/Juniper Canyonlands (various)

Note Abbreviations – High (H), Medium (M), Low (L)

Note Abbreviations – HHH means High Risk, High Fuel, High Value. LMH means Low Risk, Medium Fuel, High Value. Various means Risks, Fuels & Values vary depending on specific site.

Discussion – Areas rated HHH are of highest priority due to risk, fuels and values in Otero County. Areas with 2 HHs are also of high concern. For example, high fuels and high values can easily create a scenario taxing limited resources. Risk may be low or medium however a large wildfire would still create a potential economic burden to the taxpayer in the county. The same could apply to high risk and high values – although the fuel is not rated high, it does not preclude the event causing significant resource depletion.

Areas rated with two or three Ls are of concern and should be considered when funding or resource opportunities arise, however they are not the highest priority.

Therefore, Otero County's Mapped high concern 'Red Zones' might include Areas 1, 2, 3, 4 (three HHH's). Areas 5 through 9 with two HH's are of concern; Areas with only one H are not an immediate priority.

Due to typical county wind driven fire events and other fire behavior factors including high temperatures, low relative humidity, dry ignitable flashy fuels; along with distance and immediate access to many rural locations and the nature of volunteer fire organizations with manpower/response factors to consider — arbitrary lines have been drawn around the zones. For example, one mile either side of a travel corridor in a 'typical' fire scenario may be more than enough buffer. However in a wind driven event, during drought, or late in the season when vegetation is cured — a one-mile 'buffer' may not be sufficient. Six miles may not be sufficient. For planning purposes, we are allowing flexibility with our zone boundaries to allow the overall goal of fire prevention/mitigation needs to be addressed.

D. Fuels Definition and Treatment Methods Discussion

Hazard Fuel Definitions -

High Fuels are defined as Riparian (natives cottonwood/willow & non-desirables tamarisk, Russian olive, Siberian elm); Irrigation canals/ditches/laterals; Conservation Reserve Program grasses (CRP); stubble/crop residue; weeds/tumbleweeds; dwellings (greater than five/section); and/or man-made windbreaks (greater than five/section).

Medium fuels include short and medium grass prairie; prairie sand/sage; fencerow tumbleweeds; dwellings (1-5 per section) and/or man-made windbreaks (1-5 per section).

Low fuels are defined as non-irrigated cropland, fallow, zero dwellings; and/or zero man-made windbreaks.

General Fuels Treatment Methods -

Riparian Treatments (cottonwood and non-desirables tamarisk, Russian olive, Siberian elm) include combinations of mechanical removal, chemical treatment, exotic insect introductions (tamarisk), firewood (cottonwood), wood chipping, pile burning, and/or hauling away brush.

High and Medium fuel grasses; stubble/crop residue, sand sage, weeds/tumbleweeds treatments may include mechanical methods (mowing, various grazing strategies (cattle, goats, etc)), and/or prescribed burning.

Dwellings and/or man-made windbreaks/plantings treatments may include mowing around structures, breaking up continuous ground fuels and/or ladder fuels, thinning, deadwood removal (see structural ignitability for dwelling concepts).

In- use irrigation canals/ditches/laterals are similar in treatment to riparian areas treatments.

E. Structural Ignitability Reduction Discussion

Firewise Awareness -

Public awareness of Firewise concepts and self-implementation of applicable concepts may help landowners potentially reduce the risk of structural ignitability in the event of an encroaching wildfire.

Firewise Concepts include - Are You At Risk!, Access, Water Supply, Defensible Space, Trees and Shrubs, Construction Design and Materials, Interior Safety, and What to do When....

Target Audiences and Outreach -

Targets are homeowners, rural businesses, and as appropriate, community, county, state, and federal entities in Otero County.

Long-Term Implementation Plan (5-Year)

(See Appendix B for specific Annual Workplan.)

General Discussion -

Broad, long-term mitigation strategies discussed at our various meetings included:

- Initiating public awareness in Firewise Concepts (i.e., Are You At Risk!, Access, Water Supply, Defensible Space, Trees and Shrubs, Construction Design and Materials, Interior Safety, and 'What to do When...'). Target audiences could include community and rural homeowners, rural businesses, and government entities, as appropriate.
- Providing 'General Outdoor Fire Safety' brochures/information to various publics (smoking, outdoor camping fires, trash burning, agricultural burning and other controlled burns, spark arresters, etc). Target audiences could include community and rural homeowners, rural businesses, recreational users, tourists, highway corridor travelers, and railroad personnel.

• Provide overall information/awareness about Fire Bans, Red Flag Warnings.

Tactics for the accomplishing the above included –

- Initiating countywide information outreach (Examples Firewise, Fire Bans, Controlled Burns) through local Cable TV coverage, Otero County web-site alerts, newspaper articles (examples the La Junta Democrat, the Ag Journal and the Pueblo Chieftain), highway signages, county fair booth participation, local event opportunities, (Fire Prevention Week, annual volunteer displays, Senior Citizen events, community events, etc.).
- Providing educational material including Firewise 3-ring binder availability for check out to homeowners (library/fire department); brochures and/or handouts for local events; CDs/PDFs for distribution; Firewise educational handouts for schools. See Firewise.org for free materials.
- Providing Firewise presentations or trainings and/or Homeowner Homestead Assessments (example *Living with Fire A Guide for the Homeowner*) to interested volunteer groups/clubs to support public awareness and public inquiry.

Annual workplans could include components of the above and/or additional updated ideas and suggestions as appropriate for the mitigation effort that year.

Long-Term Mitigation Strategies Discussed By Area -

Long-term mitigation strategies (ideas) for the different areas identified in the Otero County Mitigation Assessment Map were discussed at our various meeting, and are listed below. Mitigation includes utilizing a potential mix of tools and resources, generally categorized as - A) Education and Outreach; B) Rules/Restrictions/Ordinances, and Enforcement; C) Prevention Planning; D) Fuel Mitigation; E) Grants and Administration.

1 – Communities & Growth Areas (HHH)

Concern – High Risk, High Fuels, High Values Mitigation -

Education and Outreach – Present Firewise Concept to various Public/Groups/Organizations (examples – Civic/Ag Clubs, fire departments); Inform publics on Fire Bans, Red Flag Warning definitions; Inform publics on safe recreational fire use; Inform publics on safe controlled burn use.

County Ordinance – The County has a fire ban process in place

Prevention Planning – Signage in the county (Low/Medium/High fire danger, example)

Fuel Mitigation – Consider example like fuel breaks in high fuel areas or breaking up fuel continuity.

Consider Grants - Potential Colorado Community Forest Restoration Grants; Wildland Urban Interface/State Fire Assistance (WUI/SFA) grants; other grant opportunities.

Administration - Partnerships with other entities and their programs (i.e. Storm Ready).

2 – Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site NPS, USFS Comanche Grassland sites, State Wildlife Areas (HHH)

Concern – High Risk, High Fuels, High Values Mitigation -

Education – Signage

Rules/Restrictions, Ordinances & Enforcement – Work with DOW/USFS/County

Prevention Planning – Internal & in partnership

Fuel Mitigation – Site by site basis (examples - fuel breaks, breakup lateral and vertical fuel continuity). Revegetation when needed. Partnerships.

Grants – - Potential Colorado Community Forest Restoration Grants; Wildland Urban Interface/State Fire Assistance (WUI/SFA) grants; other grant opportunities.

Administration - Partnerships with other entities and their programs.

3 – Railroads/Travel Corridors (HHH)

Concern – High Risk, High Fuels, High Values Mitigation -

Education – Signage for public corridors

Ordinances & Enforce – Colorado Department of Transportation/V&S Railroad/County Fuel Mitigation -

CDOT – Hwy 71, 167, 207 & 96 – mowing

V & S Railroad -

County – Spraying &/or mowing

Adjoining private properties

Grants – Potential Colorado Community Forest Restoration Grants; Wildland Urban Interface/State Fire Assistance (WUI/SFA) grants; other grant opportunities.

Administration - Partnerships with other entities and their programs.

4 – River Drainages & Watersheds/Irrigation Canals/Ditches/Laterals (HHH)

Concern – High Risk, High Fuels, High Values

Mitigation -

Education – Watershed Protection/Water Quality, reduce threat of Large High-Intensity Fires, Wildlife Habitat, preserve ecological function where applicable, restoration, maintenance, utilization of small diameter woody material (firewood, etc)

Ordinances – County Fire Ban

Fuel Mitigation - Site by site basis (examples - fuel breaks, breakup lateral and vertical fuel continuity). Revegetation when needed.

Grants - Potential Colorado Community Forest Restoration Grants; Wildland Urban Interface/State Fire Assistance (WUI/SFA) grants; other grant opportunities.

Administration - Partnerships with other entities and their programs.

5 – Seasonal Lakes/Recreation (MHH)

Concern – Medium Risk, High Fuels, High Values

Mitigation -

(Same as Area 2 Above)

6 – Travel Corridors (various)

Concern – Varied Risks, Fuels, Values

Mitigation -

(Same as Area 3 above)

7 – River Drainages, diversion dams on irrigation canals, irrigational ditches/laterals - less public access (MHH, LHH)

Concern – Low or Medium Risk, High Fuels, High Values

Mitigation -

(Same as Area 4 above)

8 – High Value Agricultural Areas (various), Feedlots (HMH), La Junta Industrial Park (HMH), Otero Landfill (HMM)

Concern – Varied Risks, Fuels, Values

Mitigation – Areas with two H's are of concern and should be considered when funding or resource opportunities arise.

Mitigation - Areas rated with two or three Ls are of concern and should be considered when funding or resource opportunities arise, however they are not the highest priority

9 – Rural Areas (various), BLM Parcels (various), Pinyon/Juniper Canyonlands (various)

Concern – Low Risk; May be High Medium or Low Fuels; High Values

Mitigation – Areas with two H's are of concern and should be considered when funding or resource opportunities arise.

Mitigation - Areas rated with two or three Ls are of concern and should be considered when funding or resource opportunities arise, however they are not the highest priority

Appendix A:

Otero County Community Wildfire Protection Planning Fire Protection Assessment

Otero County Community Wildfire Protection Planning Fire Protection Assessment*

Rocky Ford, Colorado

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Team: Crowley County Partners

<u>Objectives</u>: Complete a fire protection assessment of Otero County, assigning High, Medium, or Low ratings on these components:

- 1. Risk (potential for ignition): human activity and lightening
- 2. <u>Hazard (potential to burn)</u>: fuels and topography
- 3. <u>Values (potential for loss)</u>: natural or developed areas where loss or destruction by wildfire would be unacceptable.
- 4. <u>Fire occurrence history</u>.

Process: Using Otero County map as the base:

- 1. **Risk layer (RED)**: make a clear overlay outlining areas of high risk in red, medium risk in blue, everything else will be low risk. Areas of high risk are those containing the most potential for a **fire to start due to human activity or lightning**; medium risk areas are those containing substantial potential for fire starts, but less than the high risk areas.
- 2. <u>Hazard layer (GREEN)</u>: make a second clear overlay marking areas of high hazard in green, medium hazard in blue, and all else is low hazard.

The following definitions of high, medium, and low <u>hazard ratings</u> were determined:

Fuels &	Ý
---------	---

Topography	Low	Medium	High Drainage Ditabas/Letarals
Fuels	Non-Irrigated Cropland Fallow	Short grass prairie Medium grass Prairie Prairie Sand/Sage	Drainage Ditches/Laterals Riparian (cottonwood, tamarisk, R. Olive, S. Elm) CRP grass
		Fence Row Tweeds Stubble	Weeds/tumbleweeds(former farm ground) Canyons/Cliffs/Creeks
Dwellings (as fuel)	0 per section	1-5 per section	Greater than 5 per section
Windbreaks, Living Snow Fences	1 per section	1-5 per section	Greater than 5 per section

- 3. <u>Value layer (YELLOW)</u>: make a third clear overlay showing high value areas in yellow, medium value areas in blue, and all else is considered low value. High value areas are those containing the most values whose loss to wildfire would be unacceptable. Medium areas contain substantial values to be protected from wildfire, but fewer than the high value areas.
- 4. Place the 3 clear overlays showing risk, hazard, and values on top of each other and put a fourth clear overlay on top of them. Draw adjusted boundaries on the top overlay. Mark the resulting compartments with **H**, **M**, or **L** (**High**, **Medium or Low**) **for Risk**, **Hazard**, **or Value**. Finally, number these compartments.
- 5. Copy final compartment boundaries, compartment numbers, and 3-letter ratings with black marker onto county map.
- 6. Complete Fire Protection Assessment forms for each compartment, documenting the compartment number, its ratings, and what risks and values are present.
- 7. This document, along with the fire Protection Assessment forms, and the final map is the Fire Protection Assessment package. The map may be digitized to produce a GIS map.

<u>Uses & Examples</u>: The areas marked on map as H H (high risk, high hazard, high value) become the priority areas for prevention work, pre-attack planning, suppression resource placement, funding requests, mitigation, and other resource work planning.

Further fire protection assessments within the compartments may be mapped, in finer detail, to support on-the-ground work, such as prescribed fire, training, prevention events (schools, county fair, festivals, parades, booths, etc.), public education, homestead wildfire mitigation, fuel breaks, signing, and other projects.

^{*} The Wildfire Mitigation Assessment exercise outlines the first five steps in the eight-step Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) process initiated under the National Fire Plan.

^{*} Additionally the Society of American Foresters outline for CWPP process.

rea number	Rating:	Risk	Hazard	Value
(RED)R	RISK COMPONENTS(F	POTENTIAL	FOR IGN	ITION) PRESENT IN THIS AREA:
	Debris burning (Trash/Pit Fravel corridors	burning)		Children with matches Electronic sites
	riaver corridors			(Substations, Radio Cell Phone Towers)
I	Railroads		(Oil/gas/mining/propane
I	Lightning			Construction sites
I	Electric fences]	MaintenanceProjects/ Canal Projects
I	Powerlines]	Landfills
	Community/rural intermix	ζ.		Agricultural burning
	Off-highway vehicles			Scenic Areas
	Recreation]	Fireworks
	Campgrounds]	Party areas
	Water Recreation &/or fis	hing]	Firewood cutting
I	Hunting (Seasonal Fall/W	inter)	(Other High Population Centers
	Γrails		W	/heat Harvest
				(June-July)
1	National/State Historic Si	tes	W	Vind Generators
S	unflower Harvest (Octob	er)	Po	ower Generation Coal
(Grain Elevators		M	Ianufacturing/Industrial
	Willow Creek Corridor Feedlot			areas/parks

(GREEN) HAZARD COMPONENT (POTENTIAL TO BURN):

Fuels &

I dello ee			
Topography	Low	<u>Medium</u>	<u>High</u>
			Drainage Ditches
Fuels	Non-Irrigated	Short grass prairie	Riparian (cottonwood,
	Cropland	Medium grass Prairie	tamarisk, R. Olive, S. Elm)
		Prairie Sand/Sage	CRP grass/NPS
		Fence Row Tweeds	Weeds/tumbleweeds(former farm ground)
		Stubble	Canyons/Cliffs/Creeks
Dwellings	0 per	1-5per	Greater than 5 per
(as fuel)	section	section	section
Windbreaks,			
Living Snow	1 per	1-5 per	Greater than 5 per
Fences	section	section	section

*Prairie Wildlife – All High Value – Assess with DOW, as applying mitigation strategies National Threatened and Endangered List – Least Tern, Piping Plover. National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox, Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish). Colorado State Threatened – Burrowing Owl, Lesser Prairie Chicken.	People/Life Residential/commercial development Wildlife habitat Wilderness (designated) Wild & Scenic rivers Visual resources Political values/Historical Range/grazing Scenic byways Hog Farms Federal/State Public Lands		Rare and endangered wildlife Rare and endangered plants Water/riparian areas Watershed Soils Minerals Cultural resources Timber Developed recreation Dispersed recreation Windbreaks, living snow fences				
National Threatened and Endangered List – Least Tern, Piping Plover. National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox, Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).	*Prairie Wildlife – All High Value –						
National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox, Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).		gies					
Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).	National Threatened and Endangered List – Leas	, 11 , 6 6					
	National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox,						
<u>Colorado State Threatened</u> – Burrowing Owl, Lesser Prairie Chicken.	Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).						

Communities & Growth Areas

Area number1	Ratin	g: RiskH l	HazardH V	alueH
RISK CO	MPONENTS (PO	TENTIAL FOR IGN	NITION) PRESENT	IN THIS AREA:
	ebris burning (Trashavel corridors	n/Pit burning)	Children with Electronic site (Substations	s , Radio
Lig Po Of Re	uilroads ghtning ectric fences werlines ommunity/rural inte f-highway vehicles ccreation		Cell Phone of Oil/gas/mining Construction s Maintenance Point Canal Project X Landfills Agricultural by Scenic Areas Fireworks	g/propane sites rojects/ ets
Wa Hu	ampgrounds ater Recreation &/c anting (Seasonal Fa ails		Party areas Firewood cutti X Other High Po Wheat Harvest (June-July)	pulation Centers
Sur Gr Wi	ntional/State Histori oflower Harvest (Ocain Elevators of Corridors of Corridors	ctober)	Wind Generator Power Generati Manufacturing/ areas/parks	on Coal
	O COMPONENT (POTENTIAL TO BU	URN):	
Fuels & <u>Topograp</u>	hy Low	Medium	High Drainage Ditches	
Fuels	Non-Irrigated Cropland	Short grass prairie Medium grass Prairie Prairie Sand/Sage Fence Row Tweeds Stubble	Riparian (cottonwood tamarisk, R. Olive CRP grass/NPS	, S. Elm) s(former farm ground)
Dwellings (as fuel) Windbreal	section	1-5per section	Greater than 5 per section	
Living Sno Fences		1-5 per section	Greater than 5 per section	

X People/Life	Rare and endangered wildlife				
X Residential/commercial development	Rare and endangered plants				
Wildlife habitat	Water/riparian areas				
Wilderness (designated)	Watershed				
Wild & Scenic rivers	Soils				
Visual resources	Minerals				
Visual resources Political values/Historical Range/grazing Scenic byways	Cultural resources				
Range/grazing	Timber				
Scenic byways	Developed recreation				
Hog Farms	Dispersed recreation				
Federal/State Public Lands	Windbreaks, living snow fences				
*Prairie Wildlife – All High Value –					
Assess with DOW, as applying mitigation strategies					
National Threatened and Endangered List – Least Tern, Piping Plover.					
National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox,					
Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).					
<u>Colorado State Threatened</u> – Burrowing Owl, Lesser Prairie Chicken.					

Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site NPS, USFS Comanche Grassland sites, State Wildlife Areas

		,		ITION) PRESENT IN THIS AREA:
		burning (Trash corridors	n/Pit burning)	Children with matches Electronic sites
	Havei	corridors		(Substations, Radio Cell Phone Towers)
	Railro	ads		Oil/gas/mining/propane
	Lightn			Construction sites
		c fences		MaintenanceProjects/
				Canal Projects
	Power	lines		Landfills
	Comm	unity/rural inte	rmix	Agricultural burning
		ghway vehicles		Scenic Areas
\overline{X}	Recrea			— Fireworks
\bar{X}	Camps	grounds		Party areas
\bar{X}	Water	Recreation &/o	or fishing	Firewood cutting
\bar{X}	Hunti	ng (Seasonal Fa	_	Other High Population Centers
X_ _X_ _X_ _X_ _X_ _X_	Trails		,	Wheat Harvest
				(June-July)
	Nation	al/State Histori	c Sites	Wind Generators
	Sunflo	wer Harvest (O	ctober)	Power Generation Coal
	Grain	Elevators	,	Manufacturing/Industrial
	Willov	v Creek Corrido	or	areas/parks
X	Feedlo	ot		-
HAZ	ZARD CO	OMPONENT (POTENTIAL TO BU	JRN):
Fuel	s &			
Topo	ography	Low	<u>Medium</u>	<u>High</u>
<u> </u>				Drainage Ditches
Fuels	5	Non-Irrigated	Short grass prairie	Riparian (cottonwood,
		Cropland	Medium grass Prairie	
			Prairie Sand/Sage	CRP grass/NPS
			Fence Row Tweeds	Weeds/tumbleweeds(former farm ground)

Canyons/Cliffs/Creeks Greater than 5 per

Greater than 5 per

section

section

Stubble

1-5per

section

1-5 per

section

Dwellings

Windbreaks,

Living Snow

(as fuel)

Fences

0 per

1 per

section

section

	People/Life		Rare and endangered wildlife			
	Residential/commercial development		Rare and endangered plants			
$\overline{\mathbf{X}}$	Wildlife habitat	$X_{}$	Water/riparian areas			
	Wilderness (designated)	X_{-}	Watershed			
	Wild & Scenic rivers		Soils			
	Visual resources		Minerals			
	Political values/Historical		Cultural resources			
	Range/grazing		Timber			
	Scenic byways		Developed recreation			
	Hog Farms	_X_	Dispersed recreation			
X	Federal/State Public Lands		Windbreaks, living snow fences			
*Prair	*Prairie Wildlife – All High Value –					
Asses	s with DOW, as applying mitigation strategies	S				
National Threatened and Endangered List – Least Tern, Piping Plover.						
National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox,						
Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).						
<u>Colorado State Threatened</u> – Burrowing Owl, Lesser Prairie Chicken.						

Railroads/Travel Corridors

Area number	_3	_ Ratin	g: RiskH H	azardH ValueH
RISK (COMPO	NENTS (PO	TENTIAL FOR IGN	NITION) PRESENT IN THIS AREA:
	Debris bu Travel co		n/Pit burning)	Children with matches Electronic sites (Substations, Radio
 	Railroads Lightning Electric f); 5		Cell Phone Towers) Oil/gas/mining/propane Construction sites MaintenanceProjects/ Canal Projects
	Off-high Recreatic Campgro Water Re	ity/rural inter way vehicles on	r fishing	Landfills Agricultural burning Scenic Areas Fireworks Party areas Firewood cutting Other High Population Centers Wheat Harvest (June-July)
	Sunflower Grain Ele	State Histori r Harvest (Odevators Creek Corrido	etober)	Wind GeneratorsPower Generation CoalManufacturing/Industrialareas/parks
HAZA	RD COM	IPONENT (POTENTIAL TO B	URN):
Fuels & <u>Topogr</u>	aphy <u>L</u>	<u>ow</u>	Medium	High Drainage Ditches
Fuels		on-Irrigated ropland	Short grass prairie Medium grass Prairie Prairie Sand/Sage Fence Row Tweeds Stubble	Riparian (cottonwood,
Dwellir (as fuel Windbr) s€	per ection	1-5per section	Greater than 5 per section
Living S Fences		per ection	1-5 per section	Greater than 5 per section

X	People/Life		Rare and endangered wildlife			
X	Residential/commercial development		Rare and endangered plants			
	Wildlife habitat		Water/riparian areas			
	Wilderness (designated)		Watershed			
	Wild & Scenic rivers		Soils			
	Visual resources		Minerals			
	Political values/Historical		Cultural resources			
	Range/grazing		Timber			
	Scenic byways		Developed recreation			
	Hog Farms		Dispersed recreation			
X	Federal/State Public Lands		Windbreaks, living snow fences			
*Prai	rie Wildlife – All High Value –					
Asses	ss with DOW, as applying mitigation strategies					
Natio	nal Threatened and Endangered List - Least To	ern, P	iping Plover.			
National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox,						
Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).						
Color	rado State Threatened - Burrowing Owl, Lesse	r Prai	rie Chicken.			

River Drainages & Watersheds/Irrigation Canals Ditches/Laterals

Area number _	4	Ratin	g: RiskH Ha	azardH ValueH		
RIS	к сомр	PONENTS (PO	TENTIAL FOR IGN	IITION) PRESENT IN THIS AREA:		
X _X_		burning (Tras corridors	h/Pit burning)	Children with matches Electronic sites (Substations, Radio Cell Phone Towers)		
X 	Lightn			Oil/gas/mining/propane Construction sites MaintenanceProjects/ Canal Projects		
X 	Off-hig Recrea	unity/rural inte ghway vehicles		Landfills Agricultural burning Scenic Areas Fireworks Party areas		
	Water Huntin Trails	Recreation &/ong (Seasonal Fa	II/Winter)	Firewood cutting Other High Population Centers Wheat Harvest (June-July)		
	Sunflow Grain	nal/State Histori wer Harvest (Oo Elevators w Creek Corrido ot	ctober)	Wind GeneratorsPower Generation CoalManufacturing/Industrialareas/parks		
HAZ	ZARD CO	OMPONENT (POTENTIAL TO BU	JRN):		
Fuel <u>Top</u>	s & ography	Low	Medium	High Drainage Ditches		
Fuel	S	Non-Irrigated Cropland	Short grass prairie Medium grass Prairie Prairie Sand/Sage Fence Row Tweeds Stubble	Riparian (cottonwood, tamarisk, R. Olive, S. Elm) CRP grass/NPS Weeds/tumbleweeds(former farm ground) Canyons/Cliffs/Creeks		
(as f	ellings uel) dbreaks,	0 per section	1-5per section	Greater than 5 per section		
Livi	ng Snow	1 per	1-5 per	Greater than 5 per		

section

section

Fences

section

X People/Life		Rare and endangered wildlife			
X Residential/commercial development		Rare and endangered plants			
X Wildlife habitat	\overline{X}	Water/riparian areas			
Wilderness (designated)	_X_	Watershed			
Wild & Scenic rivers		Soils			
Visual resources		Minerals			
Political values/Historical		Cultural resources			
Range/grazing		Timber			
Scenic byways		Developed recreation			
Hog Farms		Dispersed recreation			
Federal/State Public Lands		Windbreaks, living snow fences			
*Prairie Wildlife – All High Value –					
Assess with DOW, as applying mitigation strategies	es				
National Threatened and Endangered List – Least	Tern, P	iping Plover.			
National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox,					
Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).					
Colorado State Threatened - Burrowing Owl, Less	er Praii	rie Chicken.			

Seasonal Lakes/Recreation

Area numbe	er5	Ratin	g: RiskM H	azardH ValueH
	RISK COMP	PONENTS (PO	TENTIAL FOR IGN	IITION) PRESENT IN THIS AREA:
		burning (Trash corridors	n/Pit burning)	Children with matches Electronic sites (Substations, Radio
	Railroa Lightn Electri			Cell Phone Towers) Oil/gas/mining/propane Construction sites MaintenanceProjects/
	Off-hig _X_ Recrea _X_ Campg _X_ Water	unity/rural inte ghway vehicles	or fishing	Canal Projects Landfills Agricultural burning Scenic Areas Fireworks Party areas Firewood cutting Other High Population Centers Wheat Harvest
	Sunflow Grain	nal/State Histori wer Harvest (Oo Elevators v Creek Corrido t	ctober)	(June-July) Wind Generators Power Generation Coal Manufacturing/Industrial areas/parks
	HAZARD CO	OMPONENT (POTENTIAL TO BU	JRN):
	Fuels & Topography	Low	Medium	High Drainage Ditches
	Fuels	Non-Irrigated Cropland	Short grass prairie Medium grass Prairie Prairie Sand/Sage Fence Row Tweeds Stubble	Riparian (cottonwood,
	Dwellings (as fuel) Windbreaks,	0 per section	1-5per section	Greater than 5 per section
	Living Snow Fences	1 per section	1-5 per section	Greater than 5 per section

X People/Life Rare and endangered wi	ldlife						
X Residential/commercial development Rare and endangered pla _X_ Wildlife habitat X_ Water/riparian areas	ants						
X Wildlife habitat _X_ Water/riparian areas							

Wild & Scenic rivers Soils							
Wilderness (designated) Wild & Scenic rivers Visual resources Political values/Historical Range/grazing Scenic byways Z Watershed Soils Cultural resources Timber Developed recreation							
Political values/Historical Cultural resources							
Range/grazing Timber							
Scenic byways Developed recreation							
Hog Farms _X_ Dispersed recreation							
X Federal/State Public Lands Windbreaks, living snow	fences						
*Prairie Wildlife – All High Value –							
Assess with DOW, as applying mitigation strategies							
<u>National Threatened and Endangered List</u> – Least Tern, Piping Plover.							
National Species of Concern - Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift For	Χ,						
Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).							
<u>Colorado State Threatened</u> – Burrowing Owl, Lesser Prairie Chicken.							

Travel Corridors

Area number6	Rating:	Risk	H/M/L	Hazard $_$	_H/M/L_	_ Value _	H/M/L
RISK COM	PONENTS (PC)TENTIA	L FOR IG	SNITION)	PRESENT	Γ IN THIS	AREA:
	Debris burning (Trash/Pit burning) Travel corridors				Children with matches Electronic sites (Substations, Radio		
X Railro Lights Electr				Oi Co M	Cell Phone il/gas/minimonstruction aintenancel	ng/propane sites Projects/	
X Powerlines _X_ Community/rural is Off-highway vehice Recreation Campgrounds Water Recreation Hunting (Seasonal Trails National/State His Sunflower Harvest Grain Elevators Willow Creek Cor		or fishing fall/Winter) ric Sites October)		Canal Projects Landfills X Agricultural burning Scenic Areas Fireworks Party areas Firewood cutting Other High Population Centers Wheat Harvest (June-July) Wind Generators Power Generation Coal Manufacturing/Industrial areas/parks			
X Feedle			ΓΙΑΙ. ΤΟ Ι		1		
Fuels &		(I OILIV		JCINI).			
Topography	Low	Medium		<u>High</u> Drainag	e Ditches		
Fuels	Non-Irrigated Cropland	Medium Prairie S	ass prairie grass Prair and/Sage ow Tweeds	Riparian ie tamari CRP gra Weeds/t	n (cottonwo sk, R. Oliv ass/NPS	e, S. Elm) ds(former fa	arm ground)
Dwellings (as fuel) Windbreaks,	0 per section	1-5per section		-	than 5 per	JCR5	
Living Snow Fences	1 per section	1-5 per section		Greater section	than 5 per		

X	People/Life		Rare and endangered wildlife		
X	Residential/commercial development		Rare and endangered plants		
	Wildlife habitat		Water/riparian areas		
	Wilderness (designated)		Watershed		
	Wild & Scenic rivers		Soils		
	Visual resources		Minerals		
	Political values/Historical		Cultural resources		
	Range/grazing		Timber		
	Scenic byways		Developed recreation		
	Hog Farms		Dispersed recreation		
X	Federal/State Public Lands		Windbreaks, living snow fences		
*Prai	rie Wildlife – All High Value –				
Asses	ss with DOW, as applying mitigation strategies				
Natio	nal Threatened and Endangered List - Least To	ern, P	iping Plover.		
National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox,					
Ferru	ginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkans	sas D	arter (fish).		
Color	rado State Threatened - Burrowing Owl, Lesse	r Prai	rie Chicken.		

River Drainages (diversion dams on irrigation canals, irrigational ditches/laterals, less public access)

Area number _	7	Ratin	g: RiskM/L	HazardH ValueH
RIS	SK COMP	PONENTS (PO	TENTIAL FOR IGN	IITION) PRESENT IN THIS AREA:
_X _X		burning (Trass corridors	h/Pit burning)	Children with matches Electronic sites (Substations, Radio Cell Phone Towers)
X	Lightn			Oil/gas/mining/propaneConstruction sitesMaintenanceProjects/
_X	Off-high Recreation Campa Water	nunity/rural inte ghway vehicles	or fishing	Canal Projects Landfills X Agricultural burning Scenic Areas Fireworks Party areas Firewood cutting Other High Population Centers Wheat Harvest
	Sunflow Grain	nal/State Histori wer Harvest (Oo Elevators w Creek Corrido ot	ctober)	(June-July) — Wind Generators — Power Generation Coal — Manufacturing/Industrial areas/parks
НА	ZARD CO	OMPONENT (POTENTIAL TO BU	JRN):
	els & pography	Low	<u>Medium</u>	High Drainage Ditches
Fue	els	Non-Irrigated Cropland	Short grass prairie Medium grass Prairie Prairie Sand/Sage Fence Row Tweeds Stubble	Riparian (cottonwood,
(as	vellings fuel) ndbreaks,	0 per section	1-5per section	Greater than 5 per section
Liv	ring Snow	1 per section	1-5 per section	Greater than 5 per section

X People/Life		Rare and endangered wildlife			
X Residential/commercial development		Rare and endangered plants			
X Wildlife habitat	\overline{X}	Water/riparian areas			
Wilderness (designated)		Watershed			
Wild & Scenic rivers		Soils			
Visual resources		Minerals			
Political values/Historical		Cultural resources			
Range/grazing Scenic byways Hog Farms		Timber			
Scenic byways		Developed recreation			
Hog Farms		Dispersed recreation			
Federal/State Public Lands		Windbreaks, living snow fences			
*Prairie Wildlife – All High Value –					
Assess with DOW, as applying mitigation strategie					
National Threatened and Endangered List – Least 7	Гern, Р	iping Plover.			
National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox,					
Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkar	nsas Da	arter (fish).			
<u>Colorado State Threatened</u> – Burrowing Owl, Lesse	er Prai	rie Chicken.			

8 - High Value Agricultural Areas (Various), Feedlots (HMH), La Junta Industrial Park (HMH), Otero Landfill (HMM)

Area number _	8	_ Rating:	RiskH/M/L_ H	HazardH/M/L_ ValueH/M/L_
RIS	K COMP	ONENTS (PO	TENTIAL FOR IGN	NITION) PRESENT IN THIS AREA:
_X _X_	Debris Travel	burning (Trasl corridors	n/Pit burning)	Children with matches Electronic sites (Substations, Radio Cell Phone Towers)
	Railroa Lightn Electri Power	ing c fences		Oil/gas/mining/propane Construction sites MaintenanceProjects/ Canal Projects Landfills
	Comm Off-hig Recrea Campg	unity/rural inte ghway vehicles	r fishing	Landmis X_ Agricultural burning Scenic Areas Fireworks Party areas Firewood cutting Other High Population Centers Wheat Harvest (June-July)
——————————————————————————————————————	Sunfloy Grain I Willoy Feedlo		etober)	Wind GeneratorsPower Generation CoalManufacturing/Industrialareas/parks
Fue		JMPONENI (POIENTIAL TO DO	URIN):
	ography	Low	Medium	High Drainage Ditches
Fue	ls	Non-Irrigated Cropland	Short grass prairie Medium grass Prairie Prairie Sand/Sage Fence Row Tweeds Stubble	Riparian (cottonwood,
Dwe	ellings	0 per	1-5per	Greater than 5 per

(as fuel)	section	section	section
Windbreaks,			
Living Snow	1 per	1-5 per	Greater than 5 per
Fences	section	section	section

People/Life		Rare and endangered wildlife
Residential/commercial development		Rare and endangered plants
Wildlife habitat		Water/riparian areas
Wilderness (designated)		Watershed
Wild & Scenic rivers	_X_	Soils
Visual resources		Minerals
Political values/Historical		Cultural resources
Range/grazing		Timber
Scenic byways		Developed recreation
Hog Farms		Dispersed recreation
Federal/State Public Lands	_X_	Windbreaks, living snow fences
rie Wildlife – All High Value –		
	Wildlife habitat Wilderness (designated) Wild & Scenic rivers Visual resources Political values/Historical Range/grazing Scenic byways Hog Farms Federal/State Public Lands	Residential/commercial development Wildlife habitat Wilderness (designated) Wild & Scenic rivers Visual resources Political values/Historical Range/grazing Scenic byways Hog Farms Federal/State Public Lands

Assess with DOW, as applying mitigation strategies

National Threatened and Endangered List – Least Tern, Piping Plover.

National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox,

Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).

<u>Colorado State Threatened</u> – Burrowing Owl, Lesser Prairie Chicken.

9 - Rural Areas (various), BLM Parcels (various) & Pinyon/Juniper Canyonlands (various)

rea number _	_8 & 9	Rating:	RiskH/M/L_ I	HazardH/M/L_ \	ValueH/M/L_		
RISI	K COMP	PONENTS (PO	TENTIAL FOR IGN	NITION) PRESENT I	IN THIS AREA:		
X _X_	Travel	burning (Tras corridors	h/Pit burning)	Children with m Electronic sites (Substations, Cell Phone T	Radio owers)		
	Railro			Oil/gas/mining/			
Ligi				Construction sites			
	Electric fences Powerlines			MaintenanceProjects/ Canal Projects Landfills			
	Comm	nunity/rural inte	rmix	X Agricultural burning			
<u>X</u>	X Off-highway vehicles			Scenic Areas			
	Recrea	ation		Fireworks			
	Campgrounds			Party areas			
<u>_X</u> _	Water	Recreation &/c	or fishing	Firewood cuttin			
X	Hunti	ng (Seasonal Fa	all/Winter)	Other High Pop	oulation Centers		
	Trails			Wheat Harvest			
				(June-July)			
	National/State Historic SitesSunflower Harvest (October)Grain Elevators		c Sites	Wind GeneratorsPower Generation CoalManufacturing/Industrial			
			ctober)				
_	Willov Feedlo	w Creek Corrido ot	or	areas/parks			
HAZ	ZARD CO	OMPONENT (POTENTIAL TO BU	URN):			
Fuel							
<u>Topo</u>	<u>ography</u>	Low	<u>Medium</u>	<u>High</u>			
			~.	Drainage Ditches	_		
Fuels	5		Short grass prairie	Riparian (cottonwood			
		Cropland	Medium grass Prairie		S. Elm)		
			Prairie Sand/Sage	CRP grass/NPS	(0 0 0		
			Fence Row Tweeds	Weeds/tumbleweeds(•		
_			Stubble	Canyons/Cliffs/Creek	KS		
	llings	0 per	1-5per	Greater than 5 per			
(as fi Wind	uel) ibreaks,	section	section	section			

Living Snow 1 per 1-5 per Greater than 5 per Fences section section

Colorado State Threatened – Burrowing Owl, Lesser Prairie Chicken.

X I	People/Life		Rare and endangered wildlife				
X I	Residential/commercial development		Rare and endangered plants				
X = X	Wildlife habitat		Water/riparian areas				
	Wilderness (designated)		Watershed				
	Wild & Scenic rivers	_X_	Soils				
	Visual resources		Minerals				
I	Political values/Historical		Cultural resources				
<u>X</u>	Range/grazing		Timber				
	Scenic byways		Developed recreation				
I	Hog Farms		Dispersed recreation				
I	Federal/State Public Lands	_X_	Windbreaks, living snow fences				
*Prairi	e Wildlife – All High Value –						
Assess	with DOW, as applying mitigation strategies	;					
National Threatened and Endangered List – Least Tern, Piping Plover.							
National Species of Concern – Mountain plover, Blacktailed Prairie Dog, Swift Fox,							
Ferruginous Hawk, Massasauga Rattlesnake, Arkansas Darter (fish).							

Appendix B:

2013-14 Annual Workplan

Otero County Community Wildfire Protection Plan 2013-14 Annual Work plan

The purpose of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan is to provide stakeholders and those living in Otero County with an overview of the wildland fire risks, hazards and values within the planning area; recommend possible courses of action to reduce the impacts of wildfire in the planned area; and to share a current action plan.

The main goals for 2013-14 are to: 1) share the CWPP and Mitigation Assessment Map with the community at large (city/town councils, fire departments, local conservation district, and other boards); 2) Note mitigation efforts already done in the county, for future partnering and grant potentials; review the Firewise message and possibly do a mitigation assessment exercise with the fire departments; 3) Partner with the six-county region Homeland Security Board; and 4) As available, share the CWPP and Mitigation Assessment Maps at local clubs/events (via club presentations, media, local events, and the County Fair).

There is no funding for this plan at this time. Potential grant applications may be considerations (For example, an IMR National Fire Plan Community Assistance Grant from the Department of Interior, National Park Service may become available for application or the Wildland Urban Interface/State Fire Assistance grants (WUI/SFA).

To this end, the CWPP group has identified action items and completion dates for 2013-14. Action items are generally categorized under - A) Education and Outreach; B) Rules/Restrictions/Ordinances, and Enforcement; C) Prevention Planning; D) Fuels Mitigation; E) Grants and Administration.

A. Education and Outreach

1. Share the CWPP and Mitigation Assessment Maps & 2013/14 Annual Workplans, Firewise U.S.A. criteria with the community-at-large.

Who - Donna Davis, Chris Johnson, Fire Chiefs and Team

What - Attend meetings to share

Where - Fowler, Manzanola, Rocky Ford, Swink, La Junta, Cheraw, fire departments,

conservation districts

When - 4th Ouarter 2013 & 1st Ouarter 2014

Costs - TBD

2. Arkansas Valley Fair (August 12-17, 2013 & August 2014) information booth with pamphlets/handouts, as available. Consider local city events - Fowler Missouri Days (July), Early Settlers Day (September), Manzanola (?).

Consider Firewise.org bookmarks – library, county courthouse, etc.

Who - Team (possibly with other entities)

What - Work with existing clubs at fairs to display CWPP/Firewise

Where - Arkansas Valley Fair, each community event

When - 2013/14 Costs - TBD

3. Media Releases

Who - Donna Davis & Team

What - CWPP - Otero County Mitigation Assessment Map and Annual Plan;

Firewise messages, as needed

Where - La Junta Tribune Democrat

When - 2013-14 Costs - TBD

4. Fire Prevention Education - Firewise.org educational material

Who - Fire Departments

What - Fire Prevention Education

Where - Local Schools (Elementary, High School)

When - Education Week

Costs - TBD

5. Fire Ecology Educational Box Firewise.org educational material; Firewise Program – Engaging Youth in Reducing Wildfire Risk

Who - Donna Davis & Team/Teachers (Science Clubs, etc)

What - Teacher Educational Material

Where - At Lamar Division of Wildlife Office

When - As available Costs - No Cost

B. Rules/Restrictions/Ordinances, and Enforcement

1. News releases during high fire danger (review Planning and Zoning ordinances)

Who - Chris Johnson, Keith Goodwin & Team

What - News Release(s)
Where - Local media

When - As conditions change

C. Prevention Planning

D. Fuels Mitigation and Re-vegetation

1. Identify and compile list of mitigation projects already done – consider application of future partnerships and grants (city/town councils, local governmental agencies, etc).

Who - Keith Goodwin, Chris Johnson, Emergency Manager, Donna Davis & Team

What - Identify completed projects for future partnering and grants

Where - Countywide When - 2013-14 Costs - TBD

2. Firewise review and mitigation assessment exercise on property with each interested fire department.

Who - Donna Davis & Team

What - Review Firewise and do an on ground mitigation assessment on a property.

Where - Fire Departments

When - 2013-14 Costs - TBD

.

E. Grants and Administration

1. Current partnership and grant application.

Who - Keith Goodwin, Chris Johnson, Emergency Manager & TeamWhat - Partnering with six-county region Homeland Security Board.

Where - Countywide When - 2013-14 Costs - TBD

2. Meetings/CWPP maintenance

Who - Keith Goodwin, Chris Johnson, Donna Davis, Emergency Manager, Fire Chiefs

What - updates/developments

Where - TBD When - Annually Costs - TBD

3. Grants

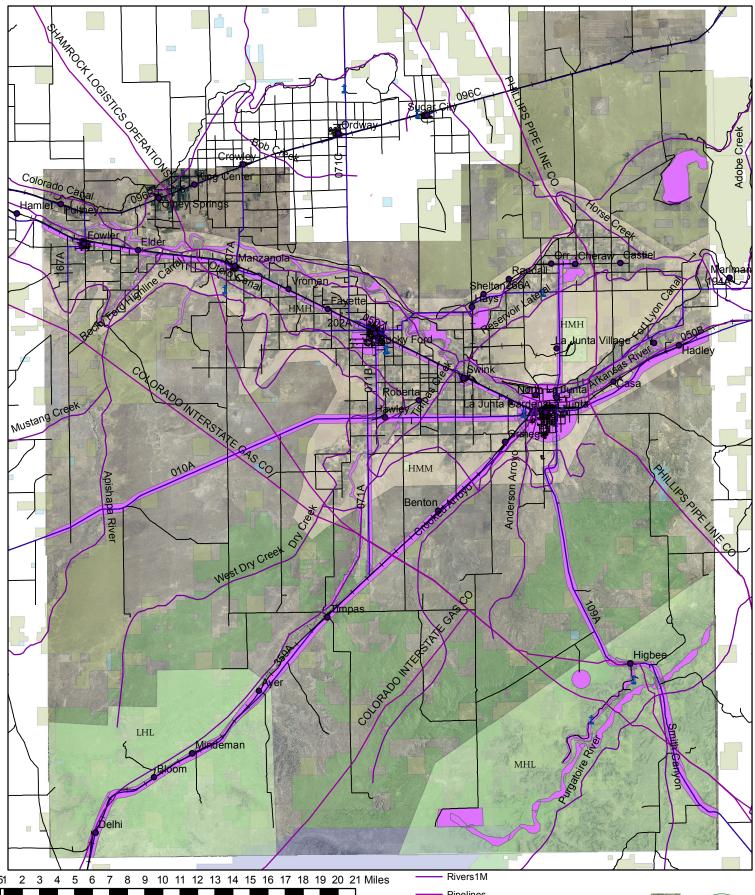
Who - Team

What - Apply for grant(s) as partners and educational &/or mitigation as opportunities arise.

Appendix C:

CWPP Otero County Maps

Otero County - 2013 Mitigation Assessment Map Exercise



Prepared By: Colorado State Forest Service, La Junta District, Based on Wildfire Mitigation Assessment Mapping Exercise (Risk, Hazard, Values) Otero County CWPP 1/15/13. See Otero County CWPP for specific discussions by area. Polygons not to scale. Aerial imagery

displayed is 2011 NAIP orthoimagery.

This map is not a legal land survey. These data are acquired from various state, federal and county sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and may be updated or revised at any time. Errors and inaccuracies in the spatial data may be present. These data are a provided as is, without warranty of any kind. Fuel types can change quickly. Risk of use is with the user.

PipelinesHighways

HHH Otero_RHV_High_Intersect_May_2013

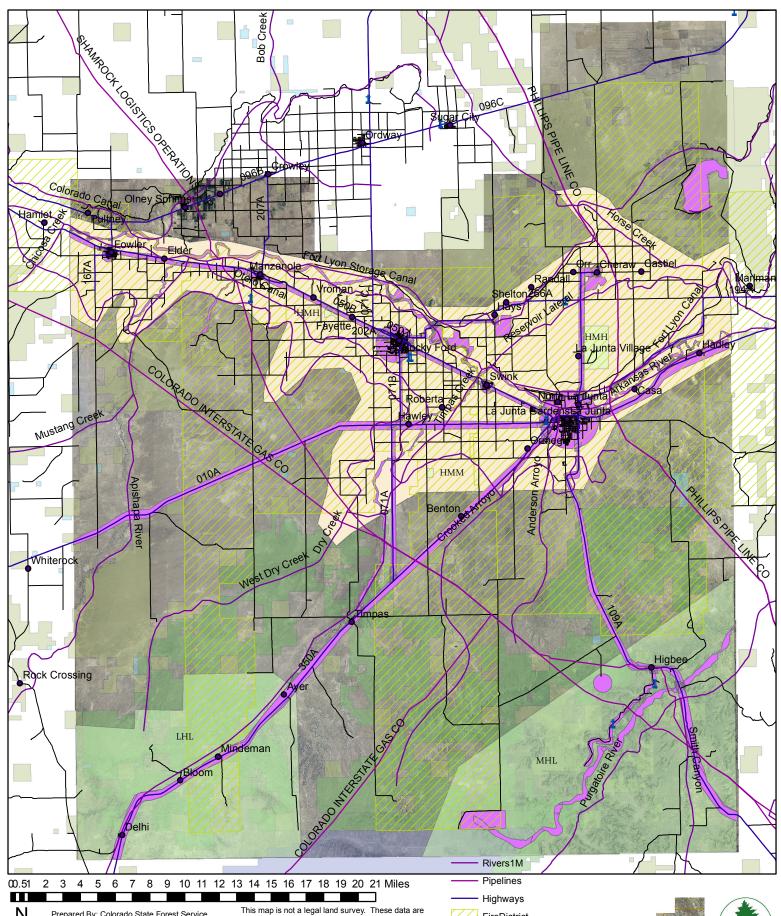
Otero_Various_RHV_Shape

MMM Otero_RHV_Med_Intersect_May_2013





Otero County - 2013 Mitigation Assessment Map Exercise



Prepared By: Colorado State Forest Service, La Junta District, Based on Wildfire Mitigation Assessment Mapping Exercise (Risk, Hazard, Values) Otero County CWPP 1/15/13. See Otero County CWPP for specific discussions by area. Polygons not to scale. Aerial imagery

displayed is 2011 NAIP orthoimagery.

I his map is not a legal land survey. These data are acquired from various state, federal and county sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and may be updated or revised at any time. Errors and inaccuracies in the spatial data may be present. These data are a provided as is, without warranty of any kind. Fuel types can change quickly. Risk of use is with the user.

FireDistric

Otero_RHV_High_Intersect_May_2013

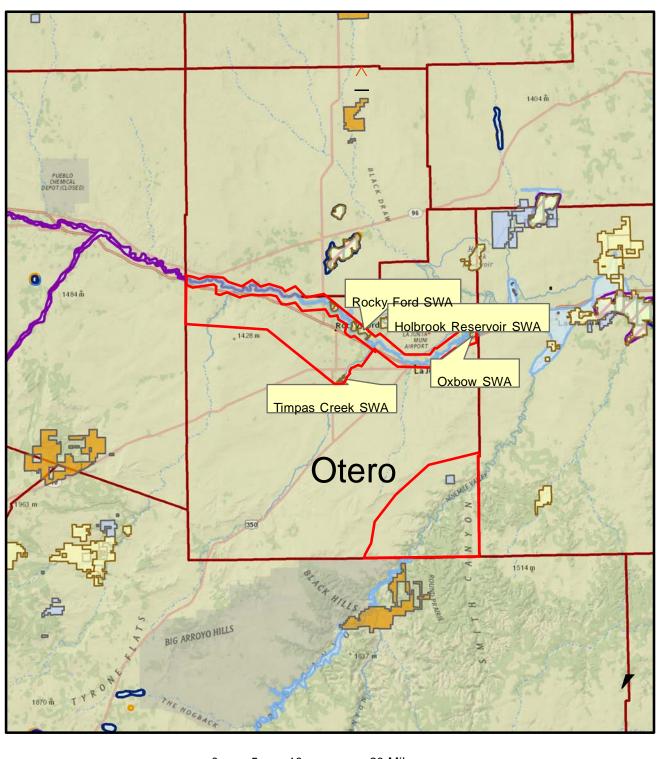
Otero_Various_RHV_Shape

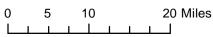
MMM Otero_RHV_Med_Intersect_May_2013





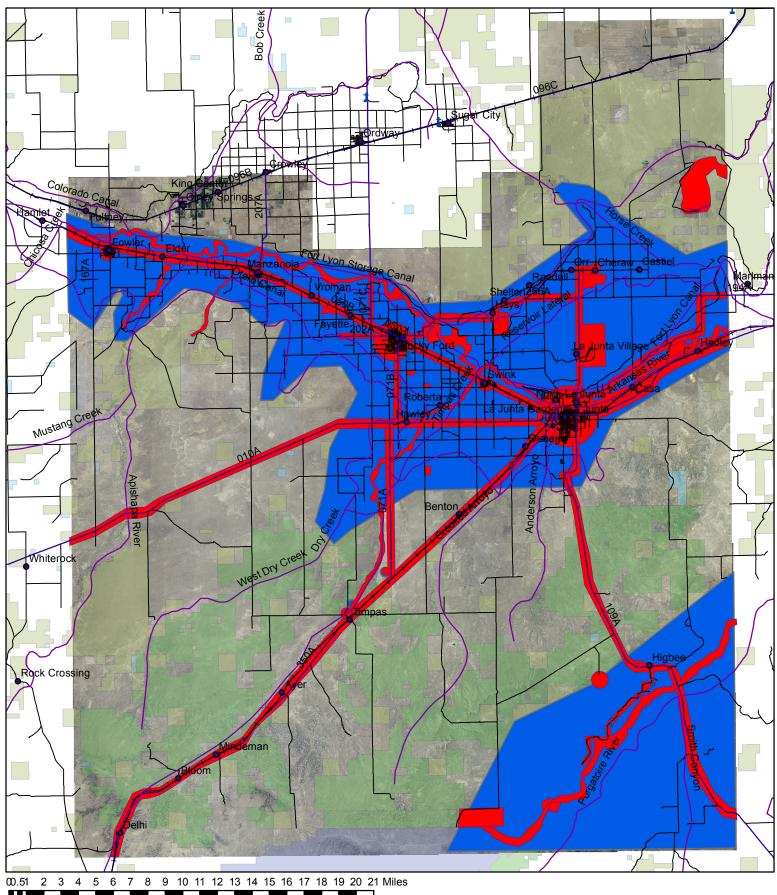
Otero County - High Value Wildlife Areas







Otero County - Risk Component (Potential for Ignition)



Prepared By: Colorado State Forest Service. rrepared By: Colorado State Forest Service,
La Junta District, Based on Wildfire Mitigation
sessment Mapping Exercise (Risk, Hazard, Values)
Otero County CWPP 1/15/13.
See Otero County CWPP for specific discussions
by area. Polygons not to scale. Aerial imagery

displayed is 2011 NAIP orthoimagery.

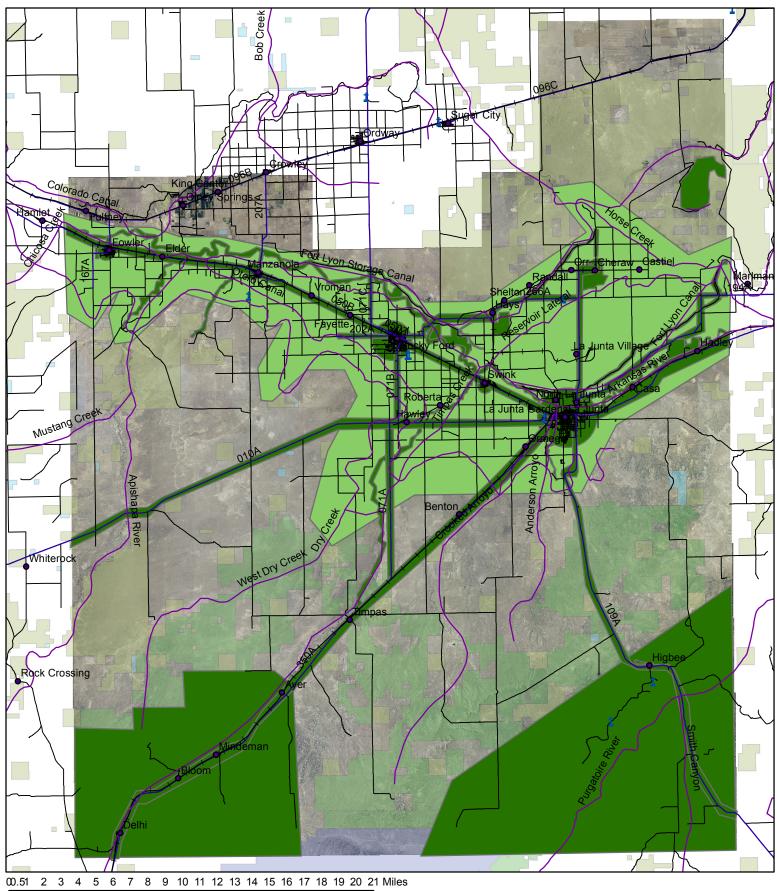
This map is not a legal land survey. These data are acquired from various state, federal and county sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and may be updated or revised at any time. Errors and inaccuracies in the spatial data may be present. These data are a provided as is, without warranty of any kind. Fuel types can change quickly. Risk of use is with the user.







Otero County - Hazard Component (Potential for Burn)



Prepared By: Colorado State Forest Service. La Junta District, Based on Wildfire Mitigation

Sessment Mapping Exercise (Risk, Hazard, Values)
Otero County CWPP 1/15/13.
See Otero County CWPP for specific discussions
by area. Polygons not to scale. Aerial imagery displayed is 2011 NAIP orthoimagery.

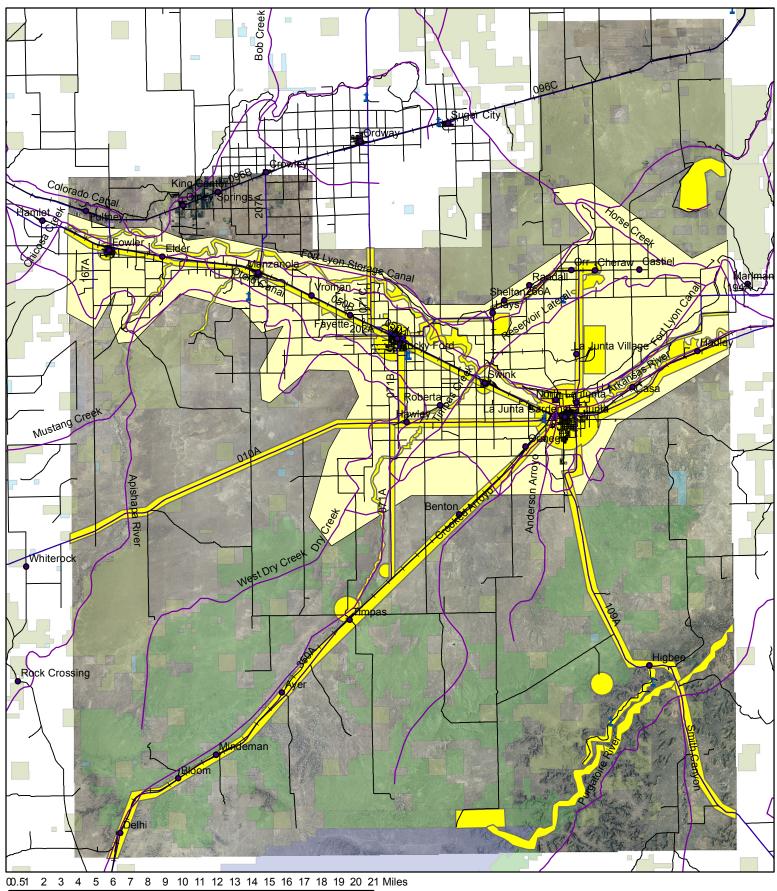
This map is not a legal land survey. These data are acquired from various state, federal and county sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and may be updated or revised at any time. Errors and inaccuracies in the spatial data may be present. These data are a provided as is, without warranty of any kind. Fuel types can change quickly. Risk of use is with the user.







Otero County - Value Component (Potential for Loss)



Prepared By: Colorado State Forest Service, La Junta District, Based on Wildfire Mitigation Assessment Mapping Exercise (Risk, Hazard, Values) Otero County CWPP 1/15/13. See Otero County CWPP for specific discussions by area. Polygons not to scale. Aerial imagery

displayed is 2011 NAIP orthoimagery.

This map is not a legal land survey. These data are acquired from various state, federal and county sources, with varying levels of accuracy, and may be updated or revised at any time. Errors and inaccuracies in the spatial data may be present. These data are a provided as is, without warranty of any kind. Fuel types can change quickly. Risk of use is with the user.

Rivers1M
Highways
Otero_High_Values

Otero_Med_Values_Shape





Appendix D:

Town of Cheraw Fire Protection and Prevention 5-Year Plan 2011

Town of Cheraw

Five (5) Year Plan

for

Fire Protection & Prevention

1 January 2011

Charles G. Phillips

Fire Chief

David Howard

Mayor

Background. To better provide prompt professional fire protection to our community, the Cheraw Volunteer Fire Department has analyzed the fire potential in and immediately around the perimeter of the Town of Cheraw.

<u>Goal</u>. To provide the best possible overall fire protection service available to the Cheraw community in a constantly changing environment.

Analysis. The Cheraw Volunteer Fire Department has determined the need to: reduce the fire fuel source around the perimeter of the Town of Cheraw; provide fire control access roads and permanent fire breaks, at designated locations, on the south and west side of the Town of Cheraw; install a dry hydrant which would provide a continuous flow of at least 5,000 gallon per minute at the south end of Main Street; install a high pressure PVC pipeline from the proposed dry hydrant to Grand Avenue; and develop an Operation and Maintenance Plan to ensure all the planned works of improvement are maintained as installed.

The Plan. Priorities have been identified and implementation of this Five (5) Year Plan is based on the following project priorities:

- Priority 1 Remove and reduce the fire fuel source along the south and west side of the Town of Cheraw.
- Priority 2 Installation of fire control access roads and permanent fire breaks at predetermined locations on the south and west side of the Town of Cheraw.
- Priority 3 Install a dry hydrant at the south end of Main Street.
- Priority 4 Install high pressure PVC pipeline from the dry hydrant to Grand Avenue.
- Note An Operation and Maintenance Plan will be developed after each project is completed.

<u>Time Tables</u>. Installation of the planned works of improvement is contingent on the availability of resources and opportunities to accomplish. If and when funding, manpower and opportunities present themselves the listed priorities may be altered or combined to optimize the opportunity.

- 2011 Priority 1 activities.
- 2012 Priority 2 activities.
- 2013 Priority 3 activities.

2014 - Priority 4 activities.

2015 – Evaluate effectiveness of the installed works of improvement and ensure all Operation and Maintenance Plans are in place and functioning as intended.

Completion Documentation. This Five (5) Year Plan is a living document. As each project is completed a section will be added to this plan to detail its installation and its Operation and Maintenance Plan.