

2020 Otero County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update – Public Survey

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a way for communities to address their wildfire risk by evaluating wildfire risks and coming up with options for mitigating those risks. Otero County is in the process of updating the 2015 CWPP and is seeking input from residents about your concerns and ideas for how we can improve the plan and make our community more resilient to wildfire.

We appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey (it should take less than 10 minutes). Your input is extremely valuable in helping us to create an effective Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

1. What neighborhood and/or community do you live in?

- Alamogordo
- Tularosa
- HAFB
- High Rolls/Mountain Park
- Cloudcroft
- Timberon
- Mescalero
- Weed/Mayhill
- Greater Otero County
- Other (please specify) _____

2. What type of resident are you? (Please check all that apply)

- Full-time Resident
- Seasonal Resident
- Homeowner
- Renter
- Owner of Undeveloped Lot(s)
- Owner of a Home Rental Property
- Owner of a Ranch or Farm Property
- Business Owner

3. How concerned are you about wildfire in your area?

- Not at all concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Moderately Concerned
- Extremely Concerned

4. How much control do you feel you have over your risk from wildfire?

- No control
- A little control
- A great deal of control
- Complete control

5. How would you rate your home in terms of risk from Wildfire?

- Low
- Medium
- High

6. My home is vulnerable to wildfire because of:

- Surrounding fuels on your property – trees, grass, shrubs, etc.
- Surrounding fuels on neighboring properties
- The type of building materials used in my home
- Lack of water supplies
- I live in an inaccessible area
- I do not feel my home is vulnerable to wildfire

7. My biggest challenge to making my home fire safe is: (check the option that applies the most)

- Time
- Money
- Not knowing what to do
- Neighboring properties that I have no control over
- I think my home is already safe

8. Under which of the following conditions would you be willing to do mitigation work on your property?

- I would do mitigation work regardless of what anyone else does.
- Only if the work would be cost shared with government or private agencies.
- Only if the work would be fully funded by government or private agencies.
- Only if I can be convinced that work will improve the ability of my home to survive wildfire.
- Under no circumstances
- Other (please specify) _____

9. Which of the following mitigation actions do you do each year to prepare for fire season? (Please check all that apply)

- Move firewood away from my home to a spot up slope and downwind.
- Cut grass and weeds around my house.
- Remove (or rake away) pine needles on the ground, roof and in the gutters.
- Repair or install screens to block sparks from blowing in and under my home, eave vents and outbuildings
- Remove flammable objects, including firewood, brush and other materials from under my wooden deck.

10. Since 2015 have you taken any of the following steps to reduce the risk of wildfire to your home?

(Please check all that apply)

- Defensible space thinning
- Structural improvements (removed wooden deck, installed fire resistant building materials, etc.)
- Improvements to driveway
- Other (please specify) _____

11. How prepared is your community and Otero County for a large Wildfire?

- Poorly Prepared
- Moderately Prepared
- Prepared
- Well Prepared

12. How acceptable do you find each of the following practices?

Practice	Unacceptable	Somewhat Unacceptable	Neither Acceptable or Unacceptable	Somewhat Acceptable	Very Acceptable
Programs to assist with disposal of removed vegetation (chipping, etc)					
Structural FireWise ordinances for new buildings					
Structural FireWise ordinances to retrofit existing buildings					
One on one consultations on how to make my property/home FireWise					
Cost-share programs for reducing vegetation on private property					
Vegetation management ordinances					

13. Rate the importance of the following activities in making Otero County better prepared for wildfires:

Practice	Not Important At All	Somewhat Important	Important	Very Important	Not Sure
Clean-up by individual property owners					
Better fire-fighting equipment					
Improved Water Supply					
Fire mitigating fuel treatments on public lands					
Fire mitigating fuel treatments on private property					
Community Education					

14. Rate your comfort level with the following activities.

Practice	Very Uncomfortable	Somewhat Uncomfortable	Neither Uncomfortable or Comfortable	Comfortable	Very Comfortable
Cutting and chipping hazardous fuels (trees, limbs, brush and tall grasses) within 100 feet of my home.					
Using prescribed burns to reduce fuels on the Lincoln National Forest and other forested areas.					
Working collaboratively with other property owners to create shaded fuel breaks to stop or slow large wildfires before they reach my home.					
Cutting and chipping hazardous fuels and open space areas within local communities.					

15. How would you prioritize the following elements of community wildfire preparedness?

Practice	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Hazardous fuels reduction open space and adjacent lands					
Defensible space around homes					
Emergency notification during a wildfire					
Homeowner education and outreach					
Evacuation notices and procedures					
Post-fire Recovery					

Other (please specify) _____

16. Which of the following best describes your household's current disaster/emergency plan in case of wildfire?

- My household does not have a disaster plan
- My household has a plan, but it is not written
- My household has a written plan

17. Do you have a prearranged meeting place for family members in the event of an evacuation?

- Yes
- No

18. How would you prefer to receive information regarding wildfire prevention? Please check all that apply.

- Local Newspaper Radio Television Family/Friends/Neighbors Internet Twitter
- Facebook Brochures Conversations with Local Government Representatives (county, city, etc)
- Local Fire Department Insurance Company Homeowners Association

19. How would you prefer to receive information during a wildfire emergency? Please check all that apply.

- Local Newspaper Radio Television Family/Friends/Neighbors Internet Twitter
- Facebook Brochures Local Government Representatives Local Fire Department

20. What additional priority actions should Lincoln County include in the 2019 CWPP update?

If you prefer you may complete this survey online at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M7JMTHE>

Please return all surveys to: SCM RC&D Council, 201 Oak Grove Place, Ruidoso, NM 88345
You may also email completed surveys to laura@scmrkd.org. Questions? Call 575-446-3973