COMMUNITY WILDFIRE

RESILIENCY PLAN



[Community Name]

[Date]

[Partner logo]

[Community logo]

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| [Name]  [Title]  [Organisation] |  | [Date] | |
|  |  |  | |
| [Name]  [Title]  [Organisation] |  | [Date] | |
| [Name]  [Title]  [Organisation] |  | [Date] | |
|  |  |  | |
| [Name]  [Title]  [Organisation] |  | [Date] | |

Table of Contents

[1. Tables and Figures 3](#_Toc152163301)

[2. Acknowledgments 4](#_Toc152163302)

[3. Frequently Used Acronyms 1](#_Toc152163303)

[4. Executive Summary 2](#_Toc152163304)

[5. Introduction 3](#_Toc152163305)

[5.1 Overview 3](#_Toc152163306)

[5.2 Plan Goals 3](#_Toc152163307)

[5.3 Plan Development Summary 3](#_Toc152163308)

[6. Relationship to Other Plans 4](#_Toc152163309)

[7. Community Description 6](#_Toc152163310)

[7.1 Area of Interest 6](#_Toc152163311)

[7.2 Wildland-Urban Interface 6](#_Toc152163312)

[7.3 Community Information 6](#_Toc152163313)

[7.4 Values at Risk 7](#_Toc152163314)

[8. Wildfire Risk Assessment 8](#_Toc152163315)

[8.1 Local Wildfire Environment and Fire History Summary 8](#_Toc152163316)

[8.2 Risk Framework and Risk Class Maps 9](#_Toc152163317)

[8.3 Local Wildfire Threat Assessment 9](#_Toc152163318)

[8.4 Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Assessment 9](#_Toc152163319)

[9. FireSmart Disciplines 10](#_Toc152163320)

[9.1 Education 11](#_Toc152163321)

[9.2 Legislation and Planning 13](#_Toc152163322)

[9.3 Development Considerations 14](#_Toc152163323)

[9.4 Interagency Cooperation 15](#_Toc152163324)

[9.5 Cross-Training 17](#_Toc152163325)

[9.6 Emergency Planning 19](#_Toc152163326)

[9.7 Vegetation Management 23](#_Toc152163327)

[10. Firesmart Roadmap and CWRP Action Plan 25](#_Toc152163328)

[11. Appendices 28](#_Toc152163329)

[Appendix A: Glossary of Terms 28](#_Toc152163330)

[Appendix B: Public Engagement 30](#_Toc152163331)

[Appendix C: Plan Development Supporting Documentation 30](#_Toc152163332)

[Appendix D: Home Ignition Zone 30](#_Toc152163333)

[Appendix E: WTA Plots and Photos 30](#_Toc152163334)

[Appendix F: Maps 30](#_Toc152163335)

[Appendix G: key provincial and federal acts and regulations: 30](#_Toc152163336)

# 1. Tables and Figures

# 2. Acknowledgments

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 2: CWRP Template (Front Matter).

# 3. Frequently Used Acronyms

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| AOI | Area of Interest |
| AOP | Annual Operating Plan |
| BCBC | British Columbia Building Code |
| BC | British Columbia |
| BCWS | British Columbia Wildfire Service |
| BEC | Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification |
| CFFDRS | Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System |
| CFRC | Community FireSmart Resiliency Committee |
| CFS | Community Funding and Support |
| CI | Critical infrastructure |
| CLWRR | Crown Land Wildfire Risk Reduction |
| CIFFC | Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre |
| CRI | Community Resiliency Investment |
| CWRP | Community Wildfire Resiliency Plans |
| DP | Development Permit |
| DPA | Development Permit Area |
| EMCR | Emergency Management and Climate Readiness |
| EMP | Emergency Management Plan |
| EPA | Emergency Program Act |
| FBP | Fire Behaviour Prediction System |
| FCI | Forest Carbon Initiative |
| FCFS | FireSmart Community Funding and Supports |
| FESBC | Forest Enhancement Society of British Columbia |
| FESIMS | Forest Enhancement Society Information Management System |
| FMP | Fire Management Plan |
| FNESS | First Nations Emergency Services Society |
| FRPA | Forest & Range Practices Act |
| GIS | Geographic Information Systems |
| FSCCRP | FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program |
| HIZ | Home Ignition Zone |
| HVRA | Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Analysis |
| HVRA | High Value Resources and Assets |
| LRMP | Land and Resource Management Plan |
| MOF | Ministry of Forests |
| MOTI | Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure |
| PSOE | Provincial State of Emergency |
| PSTA | Provincial Strategic Threat Assessment |
| OCP | Official Community Plan |
| OFC | Office of the Fire Commissioner |
| RSWAP | Resource Sharing Wildfire Allocation Protocol |
| SARA | Species at Risk Act |
| SOLE | State of Local Emergency |
| SPU | Structure Protection Units |
| UBCM | Union of British Columbia Municipalities |
| VAR | Values at Risk |
| WRR | Wildfire Risk Reduction |
| WUI | Wildland-Urban Interface |

# 4. Executive Summary

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3: CWRP Template (Executive Summary).

[Insert text]

# 5. Introduction

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 2 CWRP Development Process (Develop a Project Charter), and Part 3 CWRP Template (Introduction). Example headers are provided below.

## 5.1 Overview

[Insert text]

## 5.2 Plan Goals

[Insert text]

## 5.3 Plan Development Summary

[Insert text]

# 6. Relationship to Other Plans

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Overview (Relationship to Existing CWPPs and Relationship to Other CWRPs), and Part 3 CWRP Template (Relationship to Other Plans). An example table is provided below to help you determine the relationship of the CWRP to other local plans. Insert additional text as needed.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TABLE 1. KEY AND RELATIONSHIPS TO CWRP PLANS | | | |
| **Plan Type** | Description | Relationship to CWRP | Additional Information |
| **Official Community Plan / Comprehensive Community Plan** |  |  |  |
| **First Nations Comprehensive Community Plan** |  |  |  |
| **Emergency Management Plan** |  |  |  |
| **Housing Needs Report** |  |  |  |
| **Neighbourhood / Area Plan** |  |  |  |
| **Strategic Plan** |  |  |  |
| **Regional Land Use Plans & Legal Direction** |  |  |  |
| TABLE 1. KEY AND RELATIONSHIPS TO CWRP PLANS | | | |
| **Plan Type** | Description | Relationship to CWRP | Additional Information |
| **Climate Action and Sustainability Plan** |  |  |  |
| Urban Forestry Plan |  |  |  |
| **Community Forest Plan** |  |  |  |
| **Parks, Recreation, and Trail Plans** |  |  |  |
| **Wildfire Risk Management Plan** |  |  |  |
| **Landscape Tactic Fuel Management Plan** |  |  |  |

# 7. Community Description

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Overview (Relationship to Existing CWPPs and Relationship to Other CWRPs), and Part 3: CWRP Template (Relationship to Other Plans). An example table is provided below to help you determine the relationship of the CWRP to other local plans. Insert additional text as needed.

## 7.1 Area of Interest

[Insert text]

## 7.2 Wildland-Urban Interface

[Insert text]

## 7.3 Community Information

[Insert text]

Consider the following table for providing community information statistics (format additional columns as rows as needed) as a suggestion but ensure there is sufficient information to meet the needs to the communities and is localized to the planning area.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TABLE 2. COMMUNITY INFORMATION | | | | |
| Total Population (year) |  |  |  |  |
| Population Density (people per sq. km) |  |  |  |  |
| Median Age (years) |  |  |  |  |
| Housing Units |  |  |  |  |
| Median Home Value |  |  |  |  |
| Median Household Income |  |  |  |  |
| Poverty Rate |  |  |  |  |
| Unemployment Rate |  |  |  |  |
| Data Sources: |  |  |  |  |

## 7.4 Values at Risk

[Insert text]

**MAP(s) Area of Interest (AOI) WUI and Values at Risk.**

# 8. Wildfire Risk Assessment

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3: CWRP Template (Wildfire Risk Assessment). As noted in the guide, consider addressing the following topics in this section to describe the characteristics of the wildfire environment and determine wildfire risk:

**Wildfire risk:**

* Likelihood of a fire occurring.
* Associated fire behaviour.
* Impacts of the fire (consequence).

**Wildfire threat:** The ability of a wildfire to ignite, spread, and consume organic material (trees, shrubs, and other organic materials) in the forest. The major components used to define wildfire threat are fuel, weather, and topography, which break down further to:

* Fuel – loading, size and shape, arrangement (horizontal and vertical), compactness, chemical properties, and fuel moisture.
* Weather – temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, direction, and rainfall Topography - slope (increase/decrease rate of spread), and aspect (fuel dryness).

***\_\_\_***

## 8.1 Local Wildfire Environment and Fire History Summary

[Insert text]

* Wildfire Environment.
  + Topography. Fuel (vegetation).
  + Weather.

[Insert text]

* Fire History

## 8.2 Risk Framework and Risk Class Maps

Provide a detailed summary of amount of risk and threat identified in the PSTA specific to the CWRP planning area.

[Insert text]

## 8.3 Local Wildfire Threat Assessment

The goal of the [mandatory 2020 Wildfire Threat Assessment](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/wildfire-status/prevention/fire-fuel-management/fuels-management/2020-wildfire-threat-assesment-guide-final.pdf)(WTA) Process is to link the PSTA to updated fuel assessment so the PSTA will reflect a local wildfire threat. Consistency in the approach to updating the PSTA for a local wildfire threat is a fundamental outcome. The entire area of interest would have to be assessed and confirmed during the process.

[Insert text]

## 8.4 Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Assessment

Provide details about critical infrastructure from the HRVA.

[Insert text]

**MAP(s) PSTA WUI RC and Local Fire Threat**

# 9. FireSmart Disciplines

## 9.1 Education

Public education and outreach efforts help community members learn about wildfire and its potential impacts to their communities. In addition, these efforts should be designed to help individuals understand their role in taking action to reduce risk. Education and outreach activities are designed for all groups to benefit, including elected officials, community planners, residents, visitors, businesses, land managers, first responders, and more.

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3: CWRP Template Section 9 FireSmart Disciplines – 9.1 Education). As noted in the guide, consider addressing the following topics in this section to help develop local education strategies:

* Informational materials, including brochures, newsletters, videos, posters, social media and websites.
* Community events, such as field tours, workshops, trainings, public meetings or Wildfire Community Preparedness Day.
* Engaging neighbourhoods within the community through the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program.
* Individual communications, such as door-to-door site visits.
* Media releases and public service announcements.
* Technical reports and research papers.
* Information hotlines and emergency alert systems.
* Feedback mechanisms, such as public surveys.
* Community signage

[Insert text]

### Description

### Analysis

### Action Planning

### Resources

## 9.2 Legislation and Planning

Legislation and Regulation can be a very effective tool for reducing wildfire risk on provincial crown lands and within the administrative boundaries of a local government or First Nation communities. Provincial acts and regulations provide the means for local governments and First Nation communities to implement wildfire risk reduction actions through bylaws.

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3: CWRP Template (Section 9 FireSmart Disciplines – 9.2 Legislation and Planning). As noted in the guide, consider addressing the following topics in this section to help develop legislative strategies that are unique to the planning area with specifics:

* Municipal bylaws.
* Provincial acts and regulations.
* Federal acts and regulations.

[Insert text]

### Description

### Analysis

### Action Planning

### Resources

## 9.3 Development Considerations

Development decisions, such as land use types, structure density, road patterns, and other considerations, shape the built and natural environments. These decisions can bring lasting impacts to the WUI and wildfire risk by affecting public and first responder safety and survivability of homes, critical infrastructure, and other community features. Considering these factors early in the development process can reduce wildfire risk to life safety and property.

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3: CWRP Template (Section 9 FireSmart Disciplines – 9.3 Development Considerations). As noted in the guide, consider addressing the following topics in this section to help develop applicable strategies:

* Official Community Plan.
* Subdivision Standards.
* Development Permit Areas.

[Insert text]

### Description

### Analysis

### Action Planning

### Resources

## 9.4 Interagency Cooperation

It takes the collaborative efforts of multiple stakeholders working together to achieve a fire resilient community. These people include the local fire departments, local government staff, elected officials, First Nations representatives, industry representatives and provincial government residents in your area. Individually they are responsible to their own organizations, but all of the stakeholder organizations are dependent upon each other to develop an effective Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan and undertake a successful wildfire response.

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 2: CWRP Template (Section 9 FireSmart Disciplines –9.4 Interagency Cooperation). As noted in the guide, consider addressing the following topics in this section to help develop interagency cooperation strategies:

* BC Wildfire Service Fire Zone Representatives.
* Neighbouring local governments and First Nations.
* Local fire departments.
* Internal local government departments.
* Local land managers.
* Industry representative.

[Insert text]

### Description

### Analysis

### Action Planning

### Resources

# 9.5 Cross-Training

Wildland-Urban Interface resiliency planning and incident response draw on many different professions who do not typically work in wildfire environment. Cross-training of fire fighters, public works staff, utility workers, local government and First Nations administration, planning and logistics staff, and other key positions will help support the development of comprehensive and effective wildfire risk reduction planning and activities, as well as a safe and effective response.

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3: CWRP Template (Section 9 FireSmart Disciplines –9.5 Cross-Training). As noted in the guide, consider addressing the following topics in this section to help develop cross-training strategies:

* Basics wildland fire training
* Structure protection training
* Incident Command System training
* Local FireSmart Representative training
* FireSmart Home Partners Mitigation Specialist training
* FireSmart Community Champion training
* Training exercises

[Insert text]

### Description

### Analysis

### Action Planning

### Resources

## 9.6 Emergency Planning

Community preparations for a wildfire emergency requires a multi-pronged approach. Individuals and agencies need to be ready to react by developing plans, mutual-aid agreements, resource inventories, training and emergency communication systems. All of these make it possible for a community to respond effectively to the threat of wildfires as a whole.

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3: CWRP Template (Section 9 FireSmart Disciplines – 9.6 Emergency Planning). As noted in the guide, consider addressing the following topics in this section to help develop emergency planning strategies:

### 9.6.1 Review existing community emergency plans and provide a summary of key emergency planning linking key points between emergency plans and CWRPs.

[Insert text]

### Description

### Analysis

### Action Planning

### Resources

### 9.6.2 Wildfire Preparedness Condition Level.

Consider the following preparedness condition level table as an example when developing local daily action guidelines based on expected wildfire conditions.

[Insert text]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Table 3. WILDFIRE RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS CONDITION GUIDE** | |
| Prep-Con LEVEL | ACTION GUIDELINES |
| I LOW | All Community staff on normal shifts.  Staff will update fire danger signs. |
| II MODERATE | All Community staff on normal shifts. |
| III HIGH | All Community staff on normal shifts.  Daily detection patrols by staff.  Regional fire situation evaluated.  Daily fire behaviour advisory issued.  Wildland fire-trained Community staff and EOC staff notified of Prep- Con level.  Establish weekly communications with local wildland fire agency contacts  Hourly rain profile for all weather stations after lightning storms. update fire danger signs. |
| **IV EXTREME** | Rain profile (see III).  Daily detection patrols by Staff.  Daily fire behaviour advisory issued.  Regional fire situation evaluated.  EOC staff considered for stand-by.  Wildfire Incident Command Team members considered for stand-by/extended shifts.  Designated Community staff: water tender and heavy machinery operators, arborists may be considered for stand-by/extended shifts.  Consider initiating Natural Area closures to align with regional situation.  Provide regular updates to media Services members/Community staff on fire situation.  Update public website as new information changes. |
| II MODERATE | All CommuAll conditions apply as for Level IV (regardless of actual fire danger rating).  Provide regular updates to media/structural fire departments/park staff on fire situation.  Mobilize EOC support if evacuation is possible, or fire event requires additional support.  Mobilize Wildfire Incident Command Team under the direction of the Fire Chief.  Implement Evacuation Alerts and Orders based on fire behaviour prediction and under the direction of the Fire Chief. |

### 9.6.3 Recovery Planning

[Insert text]

## 9.7 Vegetation Management

The general goal of vegetation management is to reduce the potential wildfire intensity and ember exposure to people, infrastructure, structures and other values through manipulation of both the natural and cultivated vegetation that is within or adjacent to a community. A well-planned vegetation management strategy that is coordinated with development, planning, legislation and emergency response wildfire risk reduction objectives can greatly increase fire suppression effectiveness and reduce damage and losses to structure and infrastructure.

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3: CWRP Template (Section 9 FireSmart Disciplines – 9.7 Vegetation Management). As noted in the guide, consider addressing the following topics in this section to help develop local vegetation management strategies:

* Home Ignition Zone.
* Community Zone.
* Landscape Zone.

### 9.7.1 Firesmart Landscaping (residential and Critical Infrastructure)

Provide a detailed summary of the current status of FireSmart activities in the planning area and develop detailed strategies for each zone moving forward. Consider this on a 5-year timeline.

[Insert text]

### 9.7.2 Fuel Management Treatment

Provide WTA Plots and photos for each TU in the Appendices and a summary here.

[Insert Fuel Treatment Summary table]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FTU #**  **and Stratum** | **Total Area (ha)** | **Treatment Unit Type / Objective** | **Local Fuel Threat (Hectares)** | | | | **Overlapping Values / Treatment Constraints** | **Treatment Rationale** |
| **Extreme / High** | **Mod** |  | **Low** |

**MAP(s): Proposed Fuel Treatment Units.**

Provide WTA Plots and photos for each TU in the Appendices and a summary here.

# 10. Firesmart Roadmap and CWRP Action Plan

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3: CWRP Template (Section 10 Action Plan & Implementation). Consider the following table when developing the specific roadmap and action plan for the CWRP and implementing CWRP actions. This will be a summary of the issues and actions discussed in detail in each section tied to local factors and guidance form the community. Modify rows and columns as required. Also consider tracking and reporting and plan monitoring and updates.

### 10.1 Firesmart RoadMap

[Insert text]

### 10.2 CWRP Action Plan

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Table 4. COMMUNITY WILDFIRE RESILIENCE PLAN ACTION TABLE  Action Lead(s) Priority Timeframe Resources Metric for Notes  Required Success | | | | | | |
| Engagement Phase | | | | | | |
| Objective: | In this phase the primary objective is awareness. The focus is on building understanding of the risk of wildfire and the benefits of developing and growing a local FireSmart program. | | | | | |
| 1. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Initiative Phase | | | | | | |
| Objective: | In this phase the primary objective is taking action and implementing local FireSmart activities. The focus is on building capacity both in people and your community’s capacity to withstand wildfire events. | | | | | |
| 4. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Expansion Phase | | | | | | |
| Objective: | In this phase the primary objective is FireSmart activities within the eligible WUI. The focus is on broader community planning. | | | | | |
| 7. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Integration Phase | | | | | | |
| Objective: | In this phase the primary objective is long-term and permanent changes to support community wildfire resiliency. The focus is on development considerations and collaboration with partners. | | | | | |
| 10. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. Action |  |  |  |  |  |  |

### 10.3 Tracking and reporting

[Insert text]

### 10.4 Plan Monitoring and Updates

# 11. Appendices

For guidance on this section, see the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Instruction Guide Part 3 CWRP Template (Appendices).

## Appendix A: Glossary of Terms

The following terms are summarized from the CWRP Instruction Guide.

Amend the list to include terms used in the development of the CWRP. This may include culturally significant terms or terms from other plans. Terms should crosswalk with other plans to ensure that they are consistently defined across different plans.

**Area of Interest:** The AOI for a CWRP includes the area that lies within the municipal boundary, regional district boundary, or First Nations land, including First Nation reserve land, land owned by a Treaty First Nation (as defined by the Interpretation Act) within treaty settlement lands, or land under the authority of an Indigenous National Government boundary. The AOI should reflect how the community is organized and how it approaches other similar planning projects within its jurisdictional boundaries. When communities are located close together and are geographically aligned, a “regional” approach may be most effective.

For regional districts this could be the boundary of an electoral area that encompasses multiple unincorporated communities.

**Critical Infrastructure (CI):** are assets owned by the Provincial government, local government, public institution (such as health authority or school district), First Nation or Treaty First Nation that are essential to the health, safety, security or economic wellbeing of the community and the effective functioning of government, or assets identified in a Local Authority Emergency Plan Hazard, Risk & Vulnerability, and Critical Infrastructure assessment.

**FireSmart Landscaping:** is the removal, reduction, or conversion of flammable plants (such as landscaping for residential properties, parks, open spaces, and critical infrastructure) in order to create more fire-resistant areas in FireSmart Non-combustible Zone and Priority Zones 1 and 2 (refer to the FireSmart Guide to Landscaping).

**Fuel Management Treatment:** Fuel management treatment is the manipulation or reduction of living or dead forest and grassland fuels to reduce the rate of spread and fire intensity, and enhance the likelihood of successful suppression, generally outside of FireSmart Non-combustible Zone and Priority Zones.

**Values at Risk (VAR):** are the human or natural resources that may be impacted by wildfire. This includes human life, property, critical infrastructure, high environmental and cultural values, and resource values.

**Wildfire Risk:**

* Likelihood of a fire occurring
* Associated fire behaviour
* Impacts of the fire (consequence)

**Wildfire Threat:** The ability of a wildfire to ignite, spread, and consume organic material (trees, shrubs, and other organic materials) in the forest. The major components used to define wildfire threat are fuel, weather, and topography.

**Wildland Urban Interface (WUI):** The WUI is defined in the FireSmart manual as any area where combustible forest fuel is found adjacent to homes, farm structures, or other outbuildings. This may occur at the interface, where development and forest fuel (vegetation) meet at a well-defined boundary, or in the intermix, where development and forest fuel intermingle with no clearly defined boundary.

## Appendix B: Public Engagement

[insert text]

## Appendix C: Plan Development Supporting Documentation

[insert text]

## Appendix D: Home Ignition Zone

[insert text]

## Appendix E: WTA Plots and Photos

[insert text]

## Appendix F: Maps

## Appendix G: key provincial and federal acts and regulations: