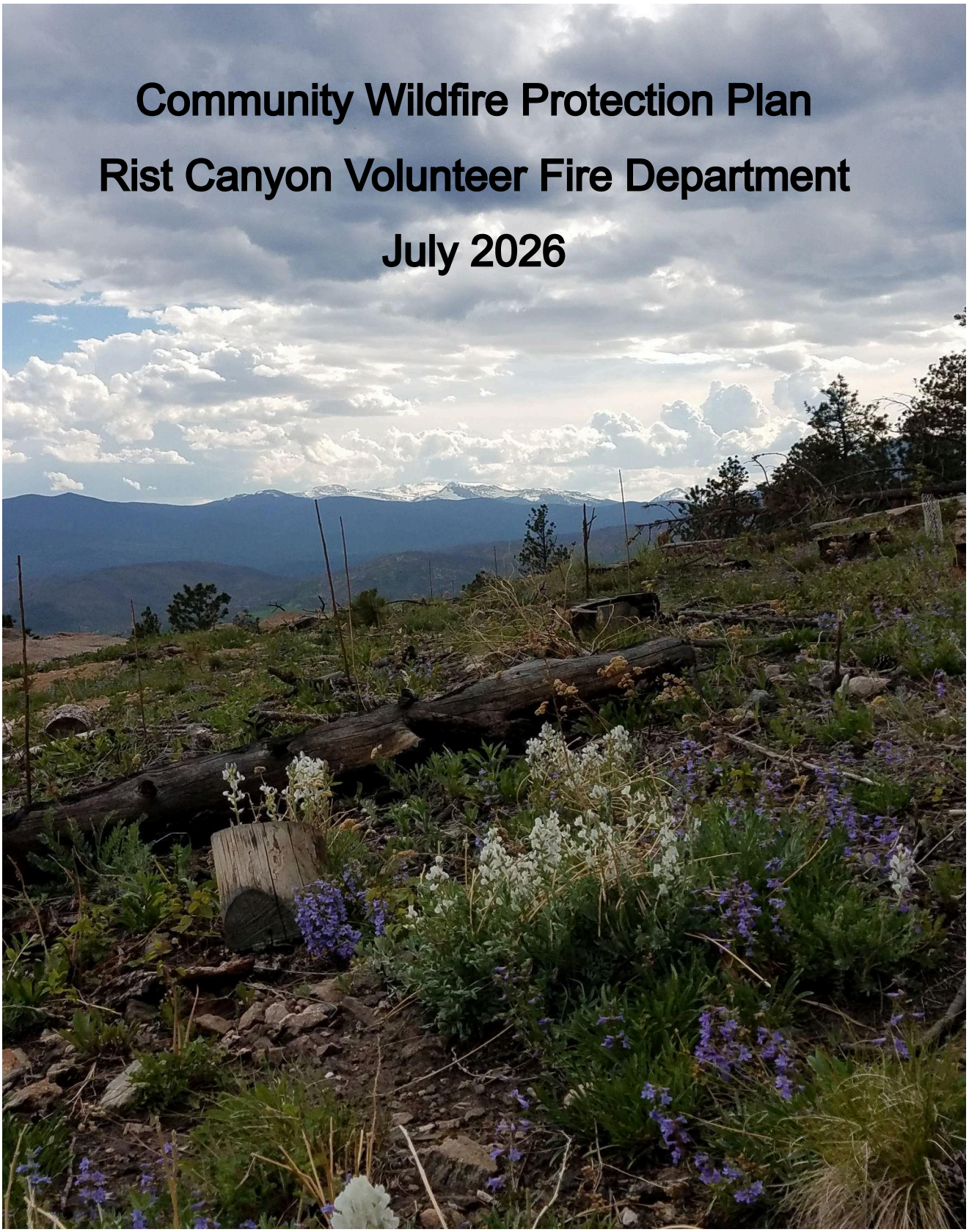
Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department

July 2026



This Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) was developed in response to the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 and complies with the CWPP standards set forth by the Colorado State Forest Service in 2022. The CWPP is a collaborative effort to guide our wildfire protection. Where possible, we intend to apply the recommended practices to improve our community and improve public safety.

This CWPP is a voluntary, recommended plan and imposes no obligation on the signatories. Executing this document in no way obligates Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department to take any action requiring the commitment of funds to accomplish the recommendations presented herein.

The following individuals and organizations were engaged in developing this CWPP and approve the 2026 update:

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Contents

Introduction

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is intended to help our community assess local hazards and identify strategic investments to mitigate wildfire risk and promote preparedness. Assessments and discussions during the planning process that are documented here can assist emergency responders with fire operations in the event of a wildfire event and help property owners prioritize mitigation actions. These plans also help identify funding gaps for fuel mitigation projects since many grants require a current CWPP.

This document is designed for everyone that lives, works, and manages land within and around the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (RCVFD) response area. Different sections will be most helpful to different people - use the list below to direct you to the resources most relevant to you.

- **I am a resident/homeowner interested in learning more to protect my family, home and property from wildfire**. Living in the RCVFD response area means that you are living in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). As a WUI resident, it is imperative that you understand how wildfires can affect you and your community and how you can better prepare yourself and your property in the event of a wildfire. The "Resources for Homeowners" section (page 49) contains information on specific actions you can take to reduce wildfire risk. It also contains resources for homeowners to become better prepared.
- **I want to learn more about community level wildfire mitigation efforts.** The "Community Hazards Reduction" section (page 22) contains a list of proposed projects and actions (including potential funding opportunities). Figure 4 shows a detailed map of wildfire fire hazard potential.
- **I am an emergency responder and want to understand risks in this community.** Figure 4 shows wildfire hazard potential. The "Access/Evacuation Issues" section (page 20) contains a discussion of access and evacuation issues related to the roads in the RCVFD response area.
- **I am a governmental or cross boundary agency and want to learn more about large scale mitigation efforts.** The "Community Hazards Reduction" section (page 22) contains a list of proposed projects and actions (including potential funding opportunities).

This CWPP is an update to a plan written in 2010. Because conditions, demographics and even climate are dynamic these reports must be updated periodically to remain relevant. It is the intent of the community to update this plan at least every five years.

The RCVFD response territory is the boundary used in this report. It includes roughly 110 square miles, over 1,400 homes/structures and approximately 3,000 residents.

This plan was developed over several months by a Core Team with input from the community and key stakeholders (see list in Appendix). Beginning in November 2025, the Core team began drafting the document and collecting data. Details of the Community Outreach related to this plan are included in the Appendix.

Why is the CWPP relevant to me?

Becoming a fire adapted community that can safely coexist with wildland fire takes a concerted, ongoing effort by everyone who lives, owns property, protects, or manages land in and around our community. Conditions in the RCVFD response area share some risk factors common to past catastrophic wildfires across the country and in the recent past, our community has experienced catastrophic wildfire. This CWPP provides recommendations for how to prepare your family to safely evacuate during a wildfire, how to mitigate your home ignition zone to give your house a fighting chance at surviving wildfires and help protect the lives of firefighters engaged in protecting your community.

Even if you do not have a permanent home on your property, you can take steps to protect your camper and other assets, including the value of your property; areas that are heavily burned have less aesthetic and monetary value. More importantly, work you do to reduce fire risk on your property can amplify the work that your neighbors do on theirs, resulting in greater protection for everyone. Removing trees from along roadways can increase the visibility of your property to firefighters, increase the accessibility of your property for fire engines, and reduce the chance that non-survivable conditions can develop and entrap residents and first responders during wildfires.

This 2026 CWPP is a call to action to do your part to continue making the RCVFD response area a beautiful and safe community. This plan provides an assessment of wildfire risk in the RCVFD response area and includes suggestions for residents, community leaders, and emergency responders to mitigate those risks and enhance community safety.

RCVFD Response Area Community Description

Community & Boundaries

The RCVFD response area is a rural, mountainous community located west of Fort Collins in Larimer County, Colorado, extending along the Rist Canyon and Buckhorn Canyon corridors and adjacent drainages within the foothills zone of the northern Colorado Front Range. The community is characterized by steep, forested terrain, limited ingress and egress routes, and a dispersed residential pattern dominated by single-family homes on large parcels. Community boundaries align with topographic features, road networks, and jurisdictional fire protection boundaries rather than municipal limits. Elevation gradients, narrow roadways, and variable road conditions—particularly during winter months—contribute to access and evacuation challenges. The area interfaces directly with large tracts of public and private wildland, resulting in extensive wildland–urban interface (WUI) exposure.

Community Profile

The community within the RCVFD response area is predominantly residential, with limited commercial activity and no centralized business district. Land use is largely rural residential, characterized by low housing density across approximately 110 square miles of mountainous foothill terrain. Residential parcels are interspersed with extensive undeveloped private lands and adjacent public lands, resulting in a predominantly intermix wildland–urban interface, with some interface conditions near road corridors and clustered development. The community includes approximately 1,400 homes and structures supporting an estimated 3,000 to 3,500 year-round and seasonal residents.

Structures within the community vary widely in age, construction type, and defensible space condition. A substantial portion of homes were constructed prior to the adoption of modern wildland fire–resistant building standards, and mitigation implementation varies by parcel, access, and terrain. Steep slopes, continuous forest fuels, and limited setbacks frequently constrain defensible space opportunities, increasing structure exposure during wildfire events.

Many residents are year-round occupants, while a notable portion of properties are seasonally occupied, intermittently vacant, or used as secondary residences. This variability in occupancy presents challenges for emergency notification, evacuation compliance, and sustained mitigation participation. The community relies on volunteer emergency services and is served by a combination of county-maintained and privately maintained roads, many of which are narrow, steep, and include limited turn-around or passing opportunities. These access constraints directly affect evacuation timing, apparatus access, and suppression strategy.

Water supply for firefighting is limited and primarily dependent on static water sources, private cisterns, and water shuttle operations, with no hydrant-based infrastructure within the RCVFD response area. Electrical power, telecommunications, and road access represent critical infrastructure vulnerabilities, as wildfire, wind events, or downed trees can rapidly disrupt service and limit emergency response.

Despite these challenges, community cohesion is strong, with a demonstrated history of engagement in wildfire mitigation, evacuation planning, and emergency preparedness initiatives. However, the dispersed settlement pattern, mixed occupancy, and infrastructure limitations continue to complicate consistent risk communication, mitigation implementation, and large-scale evacuation coordination.

Demographic Changes Since the Last Plan

Since the adoption of the previous CWPP, the community within the RCVFD response area has experienced incremental demographic and infrastructure changes. Population levels have increased from approximately 1,000 properties in 2010 to an estimated 1,400 properties in 2025. There has been a combination of infill development, home rebuilds, and property improvements. New residential construction and renovations have increased the number and value of structures exposed to wildfire risk.

Infrastructure changes include road improvements in select areas, increased reliance on private driveways and bridges, and evolving utility and communications systems. At the same time, regional wildfire activity, climate-driven fuel conditions, and longer fire seasons have increased overall wildfire exposure and operational complexity.

The biggest change to our community since the previous CWPP has been several large catastrophic wildfires. (see “Fire History” section). These fires burned hundreds of homes within the RCVFD response area and dramatically changed the fuel loading in much of the area.

These changes underscore the need to update wildfire risk assessments, evacuation planning, and mitigation priorities to reflect current conditions rather than relying on assumptions from earlier planning cycles.

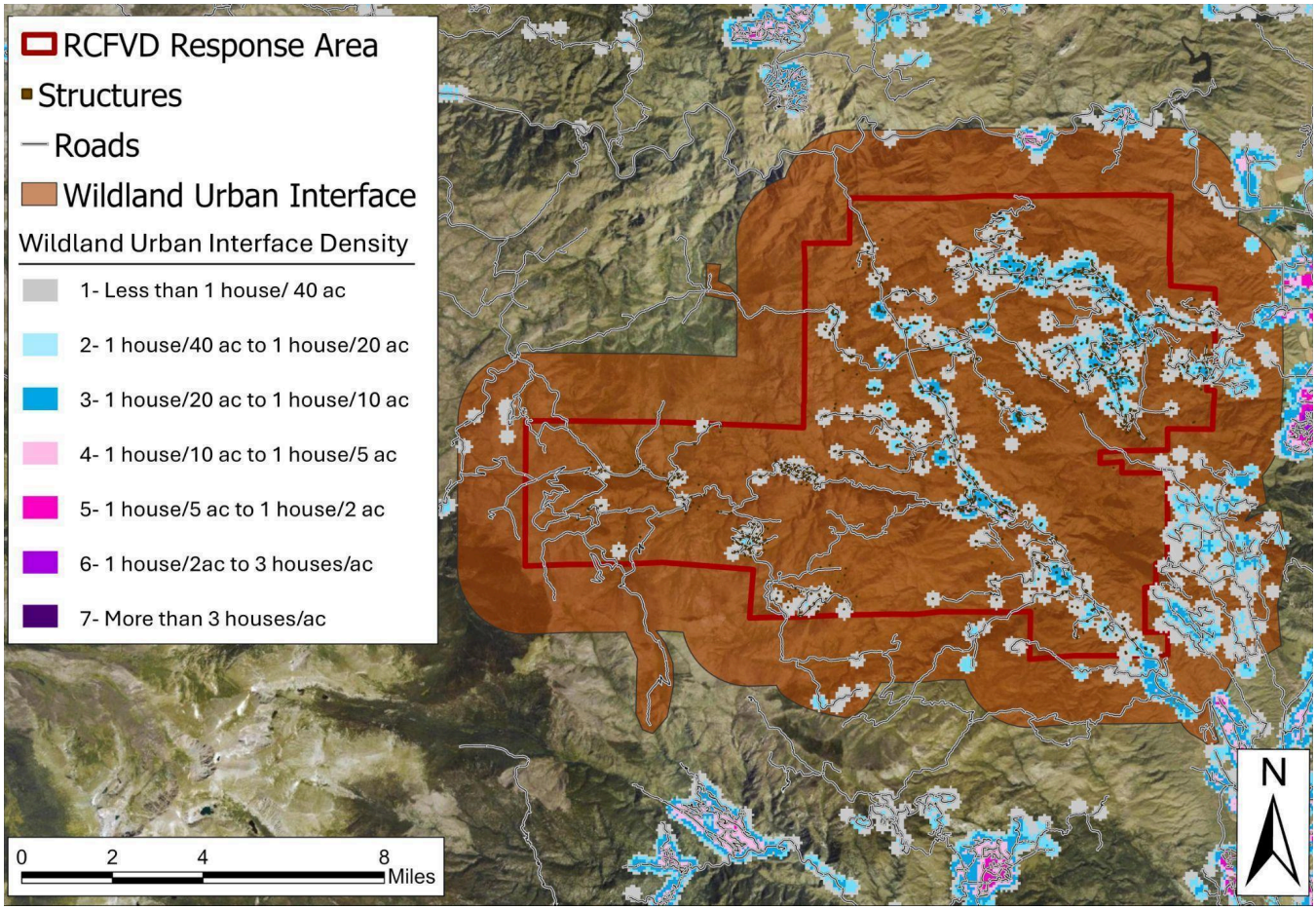


Figure 1. Wildland–urban interface (WUI) surrounding the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (RCVFD) response area, showing housing density classes from the Colorado State Forest Service Forest Atlas. The mapped WUI extent represents a composite delineation derived from neighborhood-level geometries and a buffer applied to the RCVFD response boundary. Structures and road networks are overlaid to provide spatial context for development patterns and access.

Adjacent Landowners

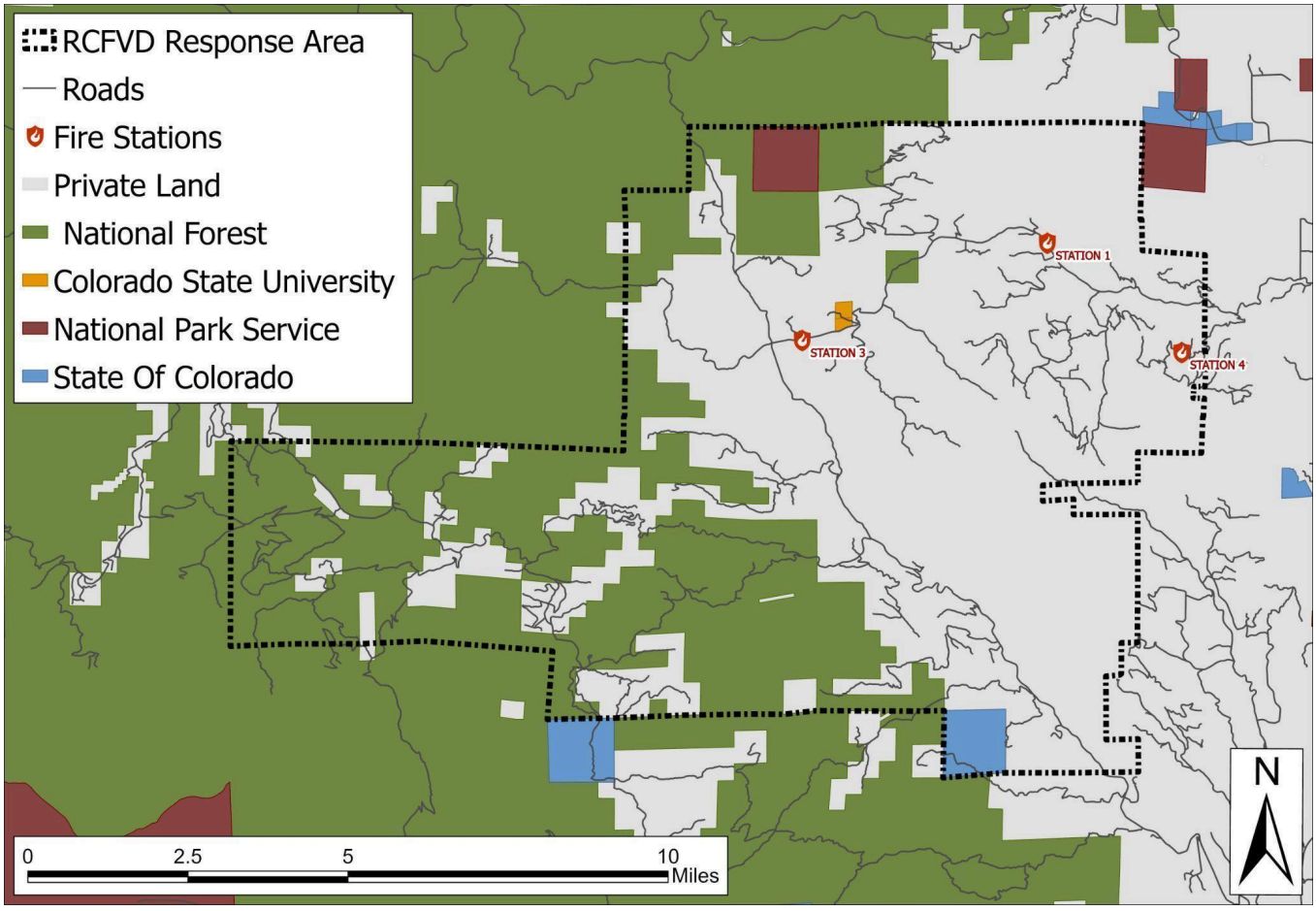


Figure 2. Land ownership and management within and surrounding the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (RCVFD) response area. The dashed boundary delineates the response area, with major ownership classes including private lands, U.S. Forest Service, Colorado State University, National Park Service, and State of Colorado holdings. Fire station locations and the road network are overlaid to provide operational context for access and response across a mixed-ownership landscape.

The majority of RCVFD response area is privately owned land. However, there are significant public lands (USFS) on the western border of our territory. See Figure 2 for land ownership details.

Risk Analysis

Fuel Hazards

Hazardous fuels are a defining driver of wildfire risk within the RCVFD response area. Fuels across the district are shaped by a combination of forest type, topography, climate variability,

and fire history. Stands of ponderosa and lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir, and mixed conifer dominate much of the landscape, with many areas exhibiting elevated surface fuel loads, abundant ladder fuels, and canopy continuity that can support high-intensity fire behavior under extreme conditions.

At the landscape scale, hazardous fuels have increased across much of Colorado's Front Range foothills over the past century due to prolonged fire exclusion. This has resulted in greater tree density, increased surface and ladder fuels, and a higher likelihood of crown fire, particularly during periods of drought, low relative humidity, and strong winds. Landscape-scale fuel patterns strongly influence fire spread potential, the size and intensity of wildfires, and the ability of suppression resources to engage safely and effectively. Large, contiguous areas of untreated fuels can allow fires to gain momentum rapidly, overwhelming response and increasing exposure to homes and critical infrastructure. The influence of these fuel conditions has been demonstrated repeatedly during large wildfire events in Larimer County.

For example, the importance of landscape-scale fuel reduction was demonstrated during the 2012 High Park Fire, which burned over 87,000 acres in Larimer County. While the fire caused significant damage, extensive fuel reduction associated with the fire footprint altered fuel structure across large portions of the landscape in our community. Subsequent wildfire events benefited from these changes. Notably, during the 2020 Cameron Peak Fire, areas previously burned during the High Park Fire experienced reduced fire intensity and slowed rates of spread, contributing to containment opportunities and limiting impacts in some locations. This relationship highlights how fuel treatments and prior fire effects can influence future wildfire behavior across time scales.

At the same time, hazardous fuels at the individual land parcel scale play a critical role in determining structure survivability and firefighter safety. Vegetation density within the home ignition zone, unmanaged surface fuels, and the presence of ladder fuels adjacent to structures can create conditions where homes ignite from embers or direct flame contact. Individual parcel-level mitigation, such as defensible space treatments, tree thinning, and removal of flammable materials, directly reduces ignition risk and can amplify the effectiveness of landscape-scale fuel treatments by breaking fuel continuity and improving access for suppression resources.

These two scales, landscape and parcel, are tightly interconnected. Landscape-scale fuel reduction can moderate fire behavior, increasing the likelihood that parcel-level mitigation is effective, while widespread parcel-level treatments can collectively reduce community exposure and create safer conditions for firefighting operations. Conversely, untreated parcels within otherwise treated areas can undermine mitigation investments in adjacent areas by serving as ignition points or sources of extreme fire behavior.

In the RCVFD response area, steep terrain, limited road access, and the absence of a centralized water distribution system further elevate the importance of proactive fuel management. Fuel conditions directly affect firefighter safety and access, water delivery options, and the feasibility of structure protection and fireline construction. As wildfire risk continues to increase with longer fire seasons and more frequent extreme fire weather, addressing hazardous fuels through coordinated landscape-scale projects and sustained parcel-level mitigation remains one of the most effective strategies for reducing risk to residents, responders, and natural resources.

Structures are a significant wildfire risk in the WUI. Creating defensible space and home hardening are critical to reducing the risk of wildfires igniting your home. However, it is also critical that you practice fire safety within your home to prevent structure fires that can ignite wildfires. Critical elements of home fire safety are: having and maintaining home fire extinguishers, smoke alarms, and maintaining your woodstove and chimney safely. For more info visit the “Education & Research” tab on the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) website. NFPA | The National Fire Protection Association

Fire History

The community within the RCVFD response area is located within a fire-adapted landscape of the Colorado Front Range foothills, where wildfire has long been an integral ecological process. Prior to modern fire suppression, the area experienced frequent low- to mixed-severity fires that helped regulate forest density and surface fuel accumulation. Over the past century, however, widespread fire exclusion, combined with residential development in forested terrain, has altered forest structure and increased wildfire hazard across the RCVFD response area.

The RCVFD response area exemplifies a classic wildland–urban interface (WUI), characterized by homes interspersed within dense forest, steep and rugged terrain, limited road access, and the absence of a centralized water distribution system. Historically, these factors have complicated wildfire suppression and continue to influence fire behavior and response effectiveness. Recent wildfire events in Larimer County have reinforced the operational challenges associated with this setting, particularly during periods of extreme fire weather when rapid rates of spread and long-duration incidents have occurred.

Fire History in Larimer County and the RCVFD Response Area

Wildfire records from Larimer County indicate a long history of both frequent ignitions and episodic large fires. Over the past several decades, Larimer County has averaged more than 150 wildfires per year, burning thousands of acres annually, with significant interannual variability depending on weather and drought conditions. Since 2010, this variability has included several extreme fire years that produced some of the largest and most damaging wildfires in county and state history.

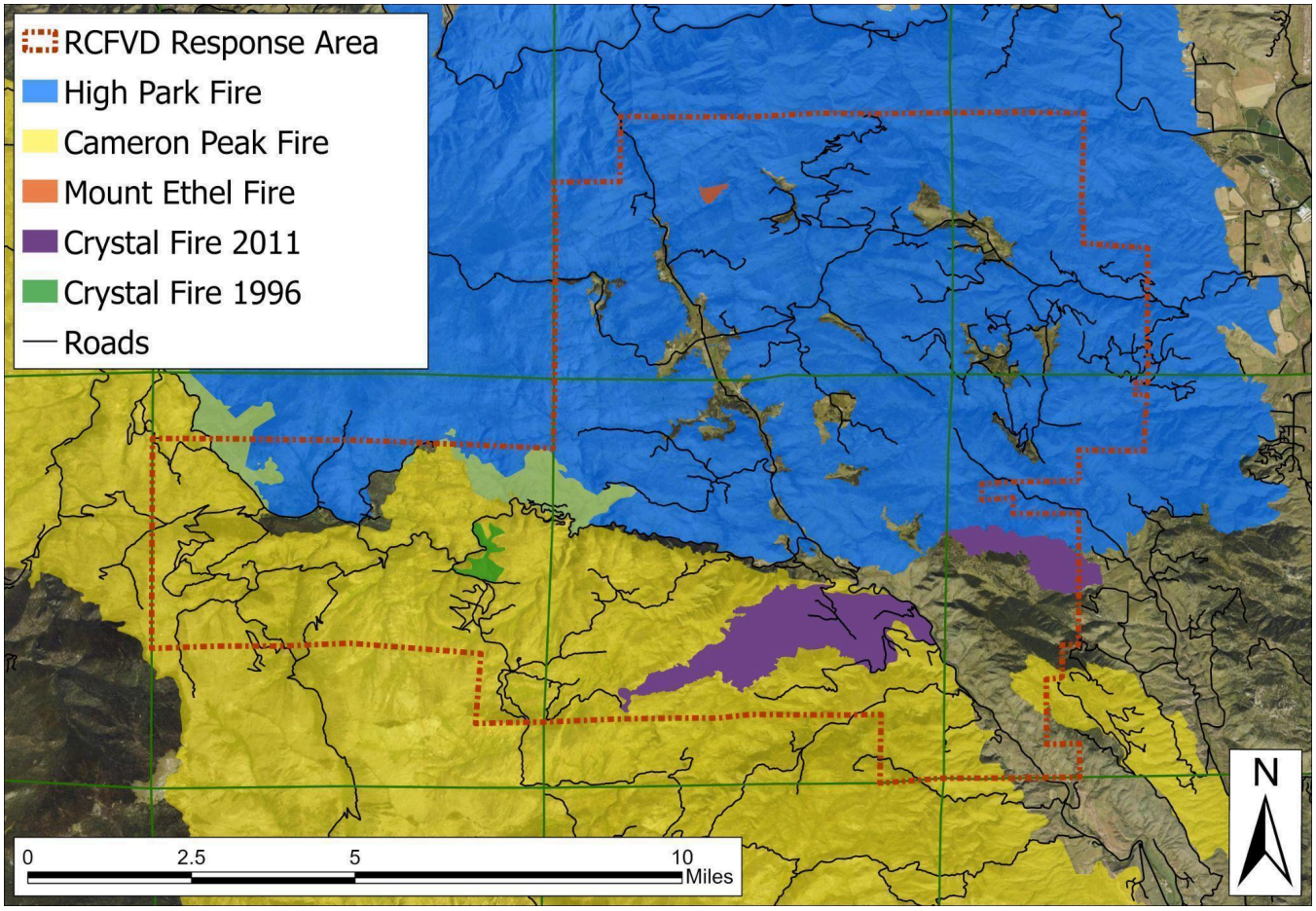


Figure 3: Major wildland fire history of the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department response area.

Fire activity affecting or threatening the RCVFD response area has ranged from small, rapidly contained incidents to large, high-impact fires requiring extended multi-agency response. While not all were in the RCVFD response area they offer important context for understanding wildfire behavior, fuels, and risk in similar Front Range foothill communities. Notable historical events include:

- **Hourglass Fire** (1994): Burned in the Poudre Canyon near Pingree Park, destroying 13 structures and threatening additional homes. While the fire never reached RCVFD response area boundaries, RCVFD played a key role in evacuation, structure protection, and incident staging under the county's nearest-available-resource response model.
- **Snowtop Fire** (1993): Threatened homes in Cedar Park.
- **Bonner Peak Fire** (1995): Threatened residences west of Highway 287.
- **Crystal Fire** (1996): Small wildland fire at the intersection of Crystal Mountain Rd and Buckhorn Rd.

- **Bobcat Fire** (2000): Burned over 10,500 acres and destroyed 18 homes; the fire bordered the southern edge of the RCVFD response area and required evacuations along the Buckhorn Road.
- **Buckhorn–Davis Ranch Fire** (2000): Burned approximately 100 acres within the core of the RCVFD response area.
- **Big Elk Fire** (2002): Burned more than 4,400 acres in the Estes Park area and resulted in three fatalities in Larimer County.
- **Picnic Rock Fire** (2004): Human-caused ignition that burned nearly 9,000 acres and destroyed one structure.
- **Cloudy Pass Fire** (2003): Resulted in the loss of one abandoned structure and occurred on a day when RCVFD responded to four simultaneous fire incidents.
- **Grey Rock** (2011): A 17-acre fire started just north of Poudre Park.
- **Crystal Fire** (2011): The April 2011 fire burned approximately 4,500 acres in the Redstone Canyon and Stringtown Gulch areas of Larimer County, destroying ~15 homes and forcing widespread evacuations. The fire remains a significant reminder for local residents of how rapidly wind-driven wildfires can threaten foothills communities, access routes, and homes in the wildland–urban interface.
- **Hewlett Fire** (2012): Human-caused wildfire in the Poudre Canyon area, burned 7,673 acres.
- **High Park Fire** (2012): Started on June 9th by lightning strike, the fire burned for more than three weeks, burned more than 87,000 acres, destroyed more than 250 structures and tragically caused one fatality. This fire impacted approximately 65% of the RCVFD response area.
- **Stratton Park Fire** (2020): A lightning-caused wildland fire burning approximately 4 acres about three miles north of Stratton Park, nearer to Poudre Canyon, resulting in extensive scouting and multi-agency response support from Poudre Canyon Fire and Larimer County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services with no structures threatened.
- **Cameron Peak Fire** (2020): A lightning-caused wildfire that burned 208,663 acres, destroyed more than 469 structures, and required widespread (and multiple) evacuations, becoming the largest wildfire in Colorado history. This fire impacted almost all the RCVFD response area that was spared by the High Park fire.
- **Lewstone Fire** (2020): A human-caused wildfire that burned approximately 150 acres and prompted evacuations during the Cameron Peak Fire.
- **Alexander Mountain Fire** (2024): A lightning caused fire in the Big Thompson canyon, approximately 4 miles south of RCVFD response area. The fire burned 9,668 acres.

These events demonstrate both the frequency of wildfire occurrence in the region and the potential for fires to impact RCVFD response area directly or indirectly through evacuations, smoke, road closures, and suppression resource commitments.

Fire Regime Change and Fuel Conditions

Historical fire activity in the RCVFD response area has been strongly influenced by climate variability, particularly periods of extended drought. Large and damaging fires have consistently coincided with extreme drought conditions, high temperatures, low relative humidity, and wind-driven fire behavior. While such conditions are not new to the region, recent decades have seen an increase in the length of fire season and the frequency of extreme fire weather events.

Compounding these climatic factors are changes in forest structure resulting from long-term fire suppression and insect disturbance. Mountain pine beetle impacts have led to increased numbers of standing dead and declining trees in portions of the RCVFD response area. These conditions contribute to heavier surface fuels, increased ladder fuels, and greater potential for crown fire, particularly under wind-aligned fire runs.

Implications for Current and Future Wildfire Risk

Fire history clearly demonstrates that wildfire is an expected and recurring hazard for the community within the RCVFD response area. Past incidents provide critical insight into likely fire spread patterns, ignition sources, response challenges, and areas of heightened vulnerability. Limited access routes, steep terrain, dispersed development, and limited water availability remain persistent constraints on suppression operations.

The lessons learned from historical fires underscore the importance of proactive mitigation, defensible space, coordinated evacuation planning, and sustained community engagement. Incorporating this historical perspective into current planning efforts strengthens the foundation for risk reduction strategies and enhances the community’s ability to coexist with wildfire.

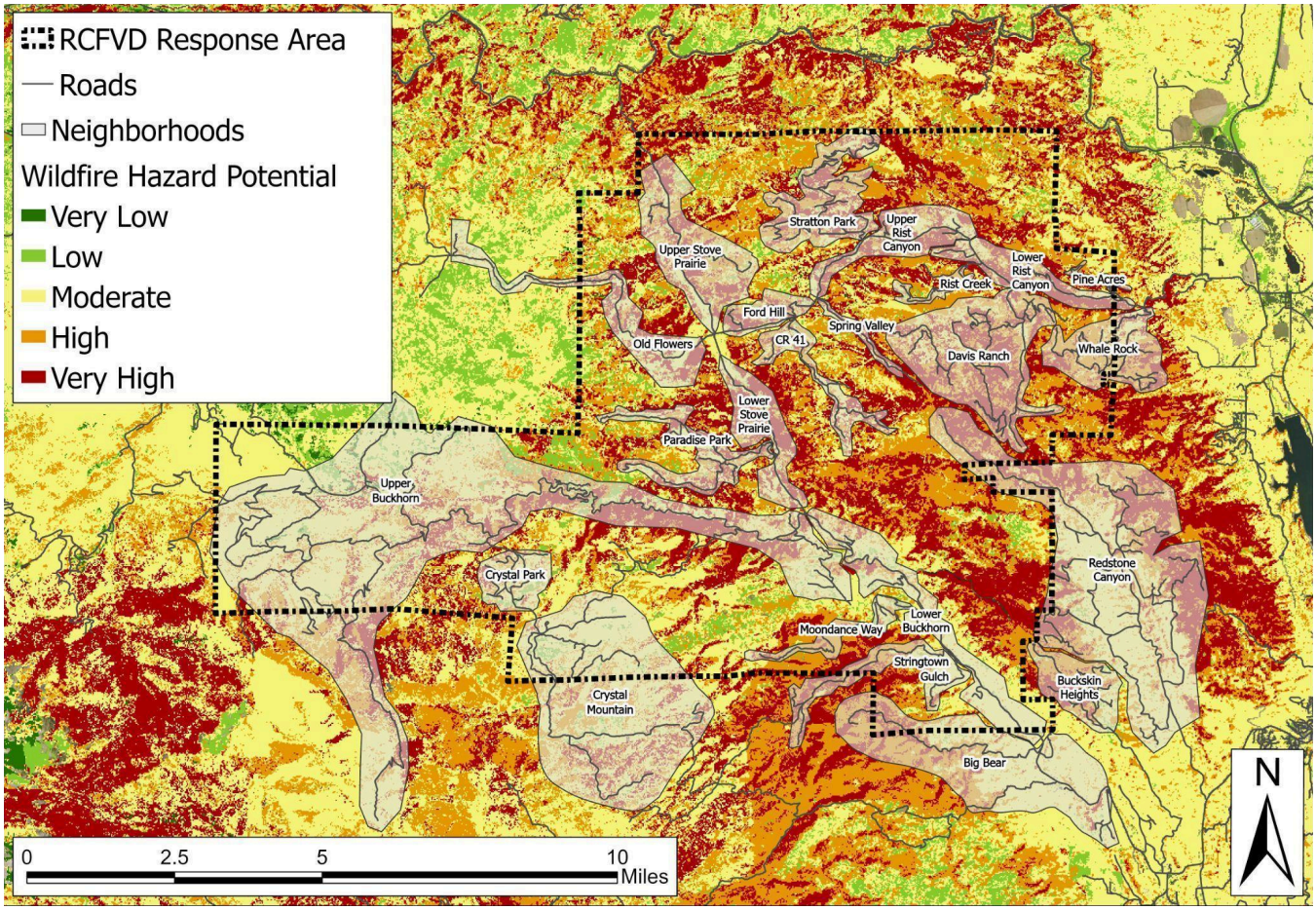


Figure 4. Wildfire Risk to Communities - wildfire hazard potential within the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department response area, showing risk categories. Data source: U.S. Forest Service.

Common Structure Vulnerability Characteristics

While hazardous fuels and extreme fire weather strongly influence wildfire intensity and spread (see “Fuel Hazards” section), wildfire outcomes in the wildland–urban interface are also shaped by the vulnerability of structures, development patterns, and the ability of residents to implement and maintain risk-reduction measures over time. In the RCVFD response area, structure loss risk is not uniform; it varies considerably based on construction materials, surrounding fuels, access conditions, and ongoing maintenance.

Lower-risk structures tend to incorporate ignition-resistant construction and well-maintained defensible space, including non-combustible roofing and siding, enclosed eaves and vents, limited combustible attachments, and adequate separation between vegetation and structures. These homes are typically surrounded by reduced surface fuels and minimal ladder fuels within the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ), which lowers the likelihood of ignition from embers and radiant heat.

In contrast, higher-risk structures often include more combustible building materials (such as wood siding, exposed decks, and older or degraded roofing), combined with dense vegetation immediately adjacent to the structure. Accumulated receptive fuels—such as pine needles in gutters and on roofs, leaf litter, stacked firewood, and combustible landscaping—further increase vulnerability. When these conditions occur on steep slopes or in wind-exposed locations, the probability of home ignition from ember showers or short-range spotting increases substantially, even when the main fire front is not directly adjacent.

Maintenance and residents' capacity are also important drivers of wildfire vulnerability. Many parcel-level risk-reduction actions require recurring physical effort, technical knowledge, and financial resources. Seasonal residents, older homeowners, and residents with limited physical ability may face challenges in maintaining defensible space, particularly on steep terrain or larger parcels. These constraints contribute to uneven implementation of mitigation across the community and underscore the importance of outreach, assistance programs, and neighborhood-scale coordination to support sustained risk reduction.

Development patterns and housing density further influence both exposure and operational risk. Areas with higher housing density, shared driveways, narrow private roads, and limited turnaround space can increase the likelihood of structure-to-structure ignition and complicate evacuation and suppression operations. Conversely, lower-density areas may reduce structure-to-structure spread but can still present elevated risk where fuels are continuous, access is limited, and water availability is constrained. Across both settings, limited access and the absence of a centralized water distribution system heighten the importance of pre-incident mitigation, as suppression options may be restricted during periods of extreme fire behavior.

Community Values to be Protected

In addition to residential structures, wildfire risk in the RCVFD response area includes critical community values and infrastructure that influence both the consequences of wildfire and response priorities during an incident. These assets represent essential services, safety functions, historic value, and lifelines for the community and therefore warrant focused consideration in mitigation planning.

Stove Prairie School: Educational and community facilities are among the highest priority values at risk. Stove Prairie School, a three room, K-5 elementary school serving ~50 students is located in the heart of the RCVFD response area. This school represents a vulnerable population and a location where evacuation complexity and timing are critical considerations. It is also a valuable historic and community asset (built by homesteaders in 1896). The school has good defensible space, and it is well situated to serve as an evacuation and/or command center. During both the High Park and Cameron Peak fires it served both these roles. It has both an emergency generator and high-speed internet. RCVFD has emergency access to

Stove Prairie School. During the development of this plan, RCVFD met with Poudre School District and discussed evacuation and mitigation issues related to the school. RCVFD will continue to work with PSD to assist in coordination and emergency planning and to help them maximize the effectiveness of their mitigation efforts related to the school.

Fire Stations: Emergency response infrastructure is also a key value to be protected. RCVFD's three fire stations support medical, structural, and wildland response across the district and must remain functional and accessible during wildfire events. Loss of access to or damage of these facilities would directly reduce emergency response capacity during an incident when demand is highest. These are described in the "RCVFD Capabilities - Stations" section. Station 1 has an emergency generator and satellite internet access and served as a command center during both the High Park and Cameron Peak fires.

Buckhorn Towers: Communications and utility infrastructure, including a significant number of communication towers on Buckhorn Mountain and associated facilities, play a role in emergency communications and coordination for both responders and residents. Damage to these sites could disrupt emergency notification, dispatch, and interagency coordination, compounding the impacts of a wildfire.

Electrical Infrastructure: Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association (PVREA) is the power provider for the vast majority of the RCVFD response area. The power poles in the area also carry much of the communication infrastructure. Note the Buckhorn Canyon above MM22 has no grid power and homes in this area are powered by a combination of wind, solar and generators. PVREA was contacted during this planning effort, and they shared their Wildfire Mitigation and Power Safety Initiative with us. That document is included in the Appendix.

Additional community values include primary evacuation routes, key road corridors, and other lifeline infrastructure that support safe egress and emergency access. Protecting these assets requires coordinated fuel reduction, access maintenance, and planning efforts that extend beyond individual parcels and incorporate neighborhood and landscape scale strategies.

Local Preparedness & Firefighting Capabilities

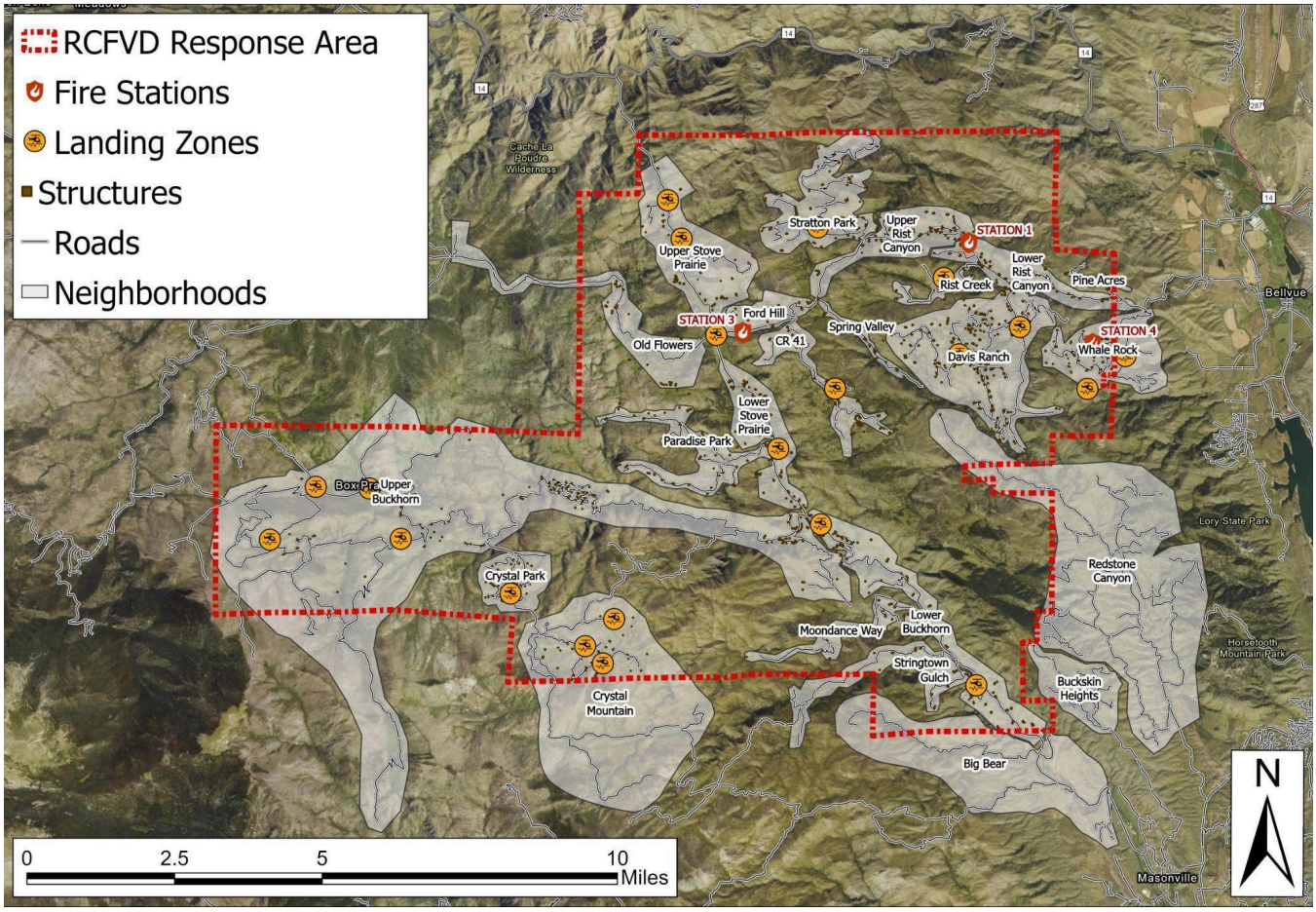


Figure 5. Map of the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department response area in Larimer County, Colorado, showing the department boundary, roads, structures, fire stations, Larimer County neighborhood polygons, and landing zones over aerial imagery.

RCVFD Capabilities - Stations

Station 1 – 11835 Rist Canyon Road – Station 1 is RCVFD's main station serving the entire response area with five large truck bays, a 2,000-gallon cistern and a training room. This station is equipped with an emergency generator and satellite internet and serves well as a command center.

Station 3 – 17457 Rist Canyon Road – Station 3 has three truck bays and a 2,000-gallon cistern. This station was built to improve response time on the west side of Ford Hill (one of the steepest paved county roads in Colorado).

Station 4 – 109 Ridge Row Drive – Station 4 has two truck bays and a 1,800-gallon cistern. This station was built to serve the Whale Rock area because of the steepness of this road.

RCVFD Capabilities - Vehicles

Engine	Location	Description
E611	Station 1	E611 is our primary response engine/rescue. It rolls first on all fires except wildland fires. It is equipped with CAFS (compressed air foam system) and carries 350 gallons of water. Other equipment on the truck includes: SCBA, extrication, 15kW generator, CO/Combustible gas detector, structure fire ladders, medical gear, and a thermal imaging camera.
E613	Station 1	E613 is a Type 6x wildland engine. It carries 250 gallons of water with a diesel pump. The “x” means 4x4.
E313	Station 1	E313 is a Type 3x engine. It carries 700 gallons of water and has a larger pump than a Type 4x.
E414	Station 1	E414 is a Type 4x engine. It carries 1,250 gallons of water. This truck is typically second out on structure calls and as needed on wildland fires.
M1	Station 1	M1 is our ambulance and primary medical response vehicle.
E631	Station 3	E631 is a Type 6x engine and mirrors E613 from Station 1.
E632	Station 3	E632 is a Type 6x engine/rescue and mirrors E611 from Station 1.
E433	Station 3	E433 is a Type 6x engine. It carries 900 gallons of water.
E641	Station 4	E641 is a Type 6x and mirrors E613 from Station 1.
E642	Station 4	E642 is a Type 6x engine/rescue. Like E611 and E632 it carries SCBA, ladders, medical gear, gas detectors and a thermal imaging camera. It is not CAFS equipped.
M14	Staged	M14 is our QRT medical response vehicle. It is staged in Stove Prairie to improve response times on the west side of Ford Hill.
E15	Staged	E15 is a crew transport vehicle. It is staged in Davis Ranch to improve response times in that area.
R8	Staged	R8 is a light rescue truck modified to carry 200 gallons of water seasonally during wildland season. It is staged in Paradise Park to improve response times on the west side of the RCVFD response area

In addition to these resources owned and operated by RCVFD, the department has excellent working relationships with adjacent fire agencies including:

- Poudre Fire Authority (PFA)
- Loveland Fire and Rescue Authority (LFRA)
- Poudre Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (PCVFD)
- Larimer County Sheriff’s Office Emergency Services (LCSOES)

There are standing mutual aid agreements with these agencies so whenever events happen near our common boundaries, multiple agencies respond to help control events quickly. In addition, during large scale events, multiple agencies in the region respond in a mutual aid

capacity. While developing this plan, we reached out to these agencies to understand how our efforts support each other in the event of a wildfire event. These mutual response agreements multiply our combined firefighting capabilities.

Designated Landing Zones

Designated Landing Zones (LZs) are shown in Figure 5, a table listing these LZs and their coordinates is in the Appendix.

Water Sources

RCVFD relies on several water sources throughout the response area. There are cisterns at all three fire stations, numerous ponds, and when flow is sufficient the creeks in the area can be a water source. In addition, during extended events, there are water sources available from both PFA, LFRA and Larimer County.

Safety Zones

Safety zones are defined as an area where people can safely ride out a fire without the use of fire shelters. There is no set size or specific definition because it depends on the type and intensity of the fire. As a result, there are no designated safety zones in the RCVFD response area.

Access/Evacuation Issues

The RCVFD response area is bisected by two main paved roads – Rist Canyon Road and Stove Prairie/CR 44H. While these roads are paved, well maintained county roads, they are steep and windy mountain roads with speed limits of 30 to 40 mph. Rist Canyon Road is the steepest, continuously open, paved county road in Colorado.

The other county roads are CR41 serving the Buckhorn Mountain towers facility, Old Flowers Road (west of Stove Prairie School), and Buckhorn Road west of the intersection of Stove Prairie Road and CR44H. All three of these roads are unpaved but well maintained. Once off these county roads, nearly all other roads in the area are privately maintained dirt roads or driveways. These dirt roads range from well-maintained neighborhood roads with road associations to near “two track” conditions. The major side roads in the area include:

Road	Road Assoc.	Access/Egress Issues
Buckhorn Road (west of Stove Prairie/CR44H intersection)	CR	Well maintained county road, but narrow and windy in places.
County Road 41	CR	Well maintained county road, steep in areas but fully two lanes wide.
Crystal Mountain Road	Y	Steep, narrow road. Multiple gates can create access issues.
Davis Ranch Road	Y	The most densely populated neighborhood in the area. Narrow and steep in areas
Old Flowers Road	CR	Well maintained county road fully two lanes wide.
Paradise Park	Y	Steep, narrow road. Limited capability for significant two-way traffic. Multiple gates can create access issues.
Pine Acres Way	N	Steep, narrow road. Limited capability for significant two-way traffic. Gate can create access issues.
Spring Valley Lane	N	Narrow road - limited capability for significant two-way traffic. Gate can create access issues.
Stratton Park	Y	Second most densely populated neighborhood in the area. Ranges from well maintained and fully two lanes wide in the lower sections, to narrower & steeper in the farthest reaches of the road.
Whale Rock Road	Y	Steep, narrow road. Limited capability for significant two-way traffic.

RCVFD has tailored their fleet of vehicles for this wide variety of road conditions (all our vehicles are 4WD), yet there are still access issues in some locations. Our biggest concerns are roads and driveways with limited turnaround areas for our larger trucks, roads too narrow or steep for simultaneous egress of residents and incoming fire vehicles, poorly maintained roads, and roads that are impassable to larger trucks.

Initiatives that are already complete include defining evacuation polygons and implementing reverse 911. RCVFD and Larimer County have worked together to define and designate evacuation polygons in the Larimer County Dispatch software system to speed evacuation notices to certain neighborhoods. In addition, when Larimer County implemented reverse 911, RCVFD went door-to-door to verify that the software was providing the correct address when an emergency call was made. Since that time landline phones are becoming a thing of the past – being replaced by cell phones. Note that cell phone service is virtually non-existent in most parts of the RCVFD response area. However, many residents use satellite internet and VOIP

phone services. As a result, RCVFD is constantly reminding residents to register their cell phones through LETA911 to get evacuation notices (details in Appendix).

Considerations for Socially Vulnerable Populations

The vast majority of the RCVFD response area is single-family residential homes. However, there are concerns for certain populations at some locations. These include:

Stove Prairie School – While the school is in a very defensible space (in a large meadow with few trees), the large population of young children is a concern. Also, in the event of an evacuation while the school is in session, parents responding to evacuate their children could complicate traffic issues in the area. Evacuation of the school would require coordination with Poudre School District officials.

Buckhorn Church Camp – this facility is often utilized by groups of special needs children and adults. In the event of an evacuation, this facility may need additional time and resources.

In addition to these locations, there is concern for a generally older population in the RCVFD response area. While residents in the area are in general “tough, mountain folk”, there are many retirees and older residents that may need additional time and resources in the event of an evacuation. RCVFD works to educate the community about the resources available through LETA911 to register if they have special needs regarding evacuations.

Community Hazards Reduction Plan

Updates to Previous Plan

The 2010 CWPP did not list specific hazard reduction projects but there were several general strategies discussed. Below is a summary of progress made in those areas and new programs added to help reduce wildfire risks in our community.

Addressing – Being able to quickly find an address is a critical component of response time. Over the past 15 years, RCVFD has offered residents in the canyon reflective address signs. The Department used to charge a small fee to cover the cost of materials but now offers those signs for free to anyone who requests them. This program has greatly increased the number of residents with clear address signs. We promote this program through our neighborhood newsletter – the Ristwatch - and at our annual community festival. We plan to continue this program. The 2010 CWPP discusses the fire route numbering system. That system was abandoned more

than a decade ago when the County underwent a readdressing/renaming program for the roads in our area. That project gave every road a name and addresses were assigned based on distance. For example, 591 Ford Hill Road designates that location is 0.59 miles from the intersection of Ford Hill Road and Rist Canyon Road. This new addressing system cleared up multiple inconsistencies and confusing numbering in area addresses.

Mapping – RCVFD has excellent mapping. We have topographical maps showing every address, road, lookout and landing zone (LZ) in our community. Note that RCVFD maps contain private information and therefore cannot be provided to non-emergency personnel and cannot be used for anything but emergency response and planning. For that reason, detailed RCVFD maps are not included in this CWPP. In addition, when RCVFD is paged to an incident, Larimer County Dispatch software texts GPS coordinates to responders' phones so they can pin the location before leaving their homes. Larimer County has also developed polygons in their Dispatch software to define neighborhoods to expedite evacuation notification.

Landing Zones (LZ) – RCVFD continues to identify, name and map landing zones in the community. The GPS locations of these LZs are shared with Larimer County Dispatch and Lifeline who program them into their onboard GPS systems. The 2010 plan identified three LZs. As of January 2026, there are 21 LZs in the RCVFD response area. A map of LZs is shown in Figure 5 and a detailed list is in the Appendix.

WPP Ambassadors – A team of RCVFD responders have been trained as ambassadors for the Wildfire Partner Program (WPP). These ambassadors provide free assessments of a residence to help homeowners prioritize mitigation projects around their home. More information: rcvfd.org/emergency-preparedness/home-assessments. Additional details about the WPP program is in the "Resources for Homeowners" section.

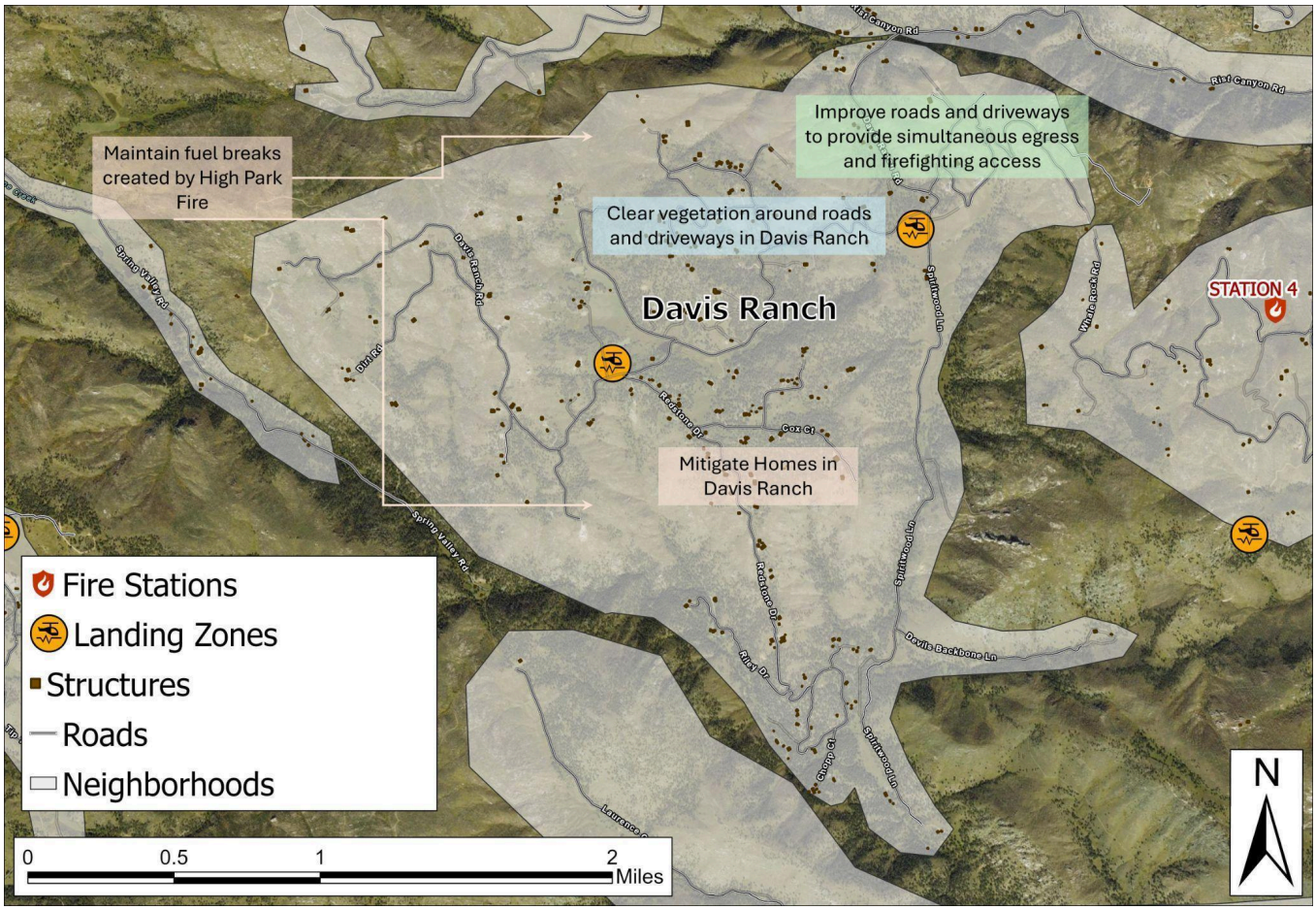
Evacuation Pre Planning – As mentioned previously, RCVFD has worked with Larimer County Dispatch to develop evacuation polygons in the Dispatch software. These named polygons can speed evacuation notification by allowing on-scene resources to quickly identify and designate the areas that need to be notified.

Wildfire Risk Reduction Projects/Activities

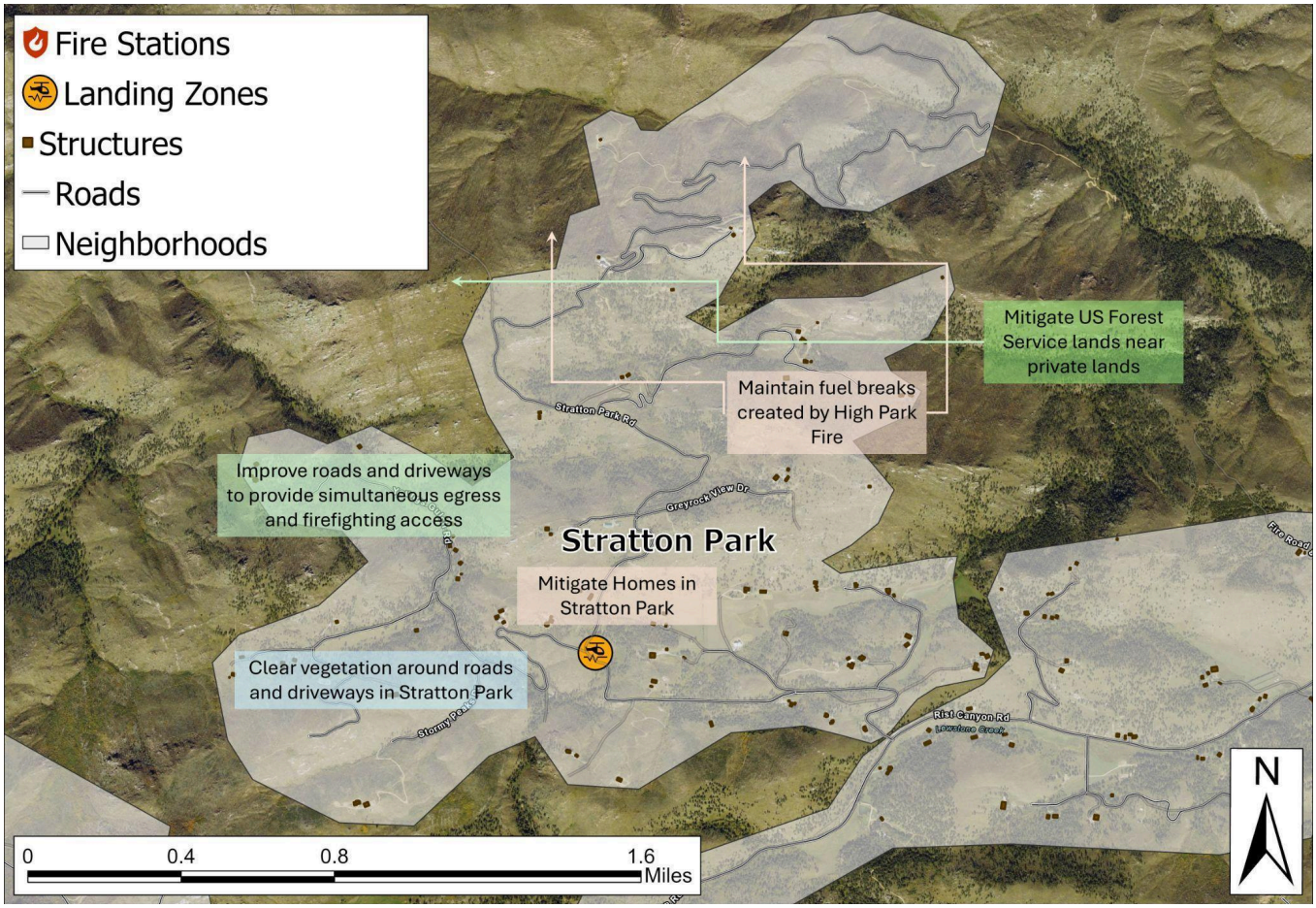
Community Level Projects/Activities

Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Community-Wide			
Wildfire Education	High	RCVFD WPP Ambassadors	Use the Ristwatch, website, Community Alerts and community events to improve education & awareness on wildfire, wildfire mitigation, WPP Ambassador Program, evacuations & emergency preparedness
Address Signs	High	Individual Property Owners RCVFD	Continue to promote the reflective address signs. Note they are free to property owners.
Pre - Planning	High	RCVFD	Review/develop pre-planning for evacuation & fire suppression by neighborhood
Community Demonstration Site	Medium		Identify a home with good mitigation and home hardening and arrange opportunities for community members to view
Slash Removal	Medium		Facilitate neighborhood coordination of community slash piles for chipping or burning (curtain burner).
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			

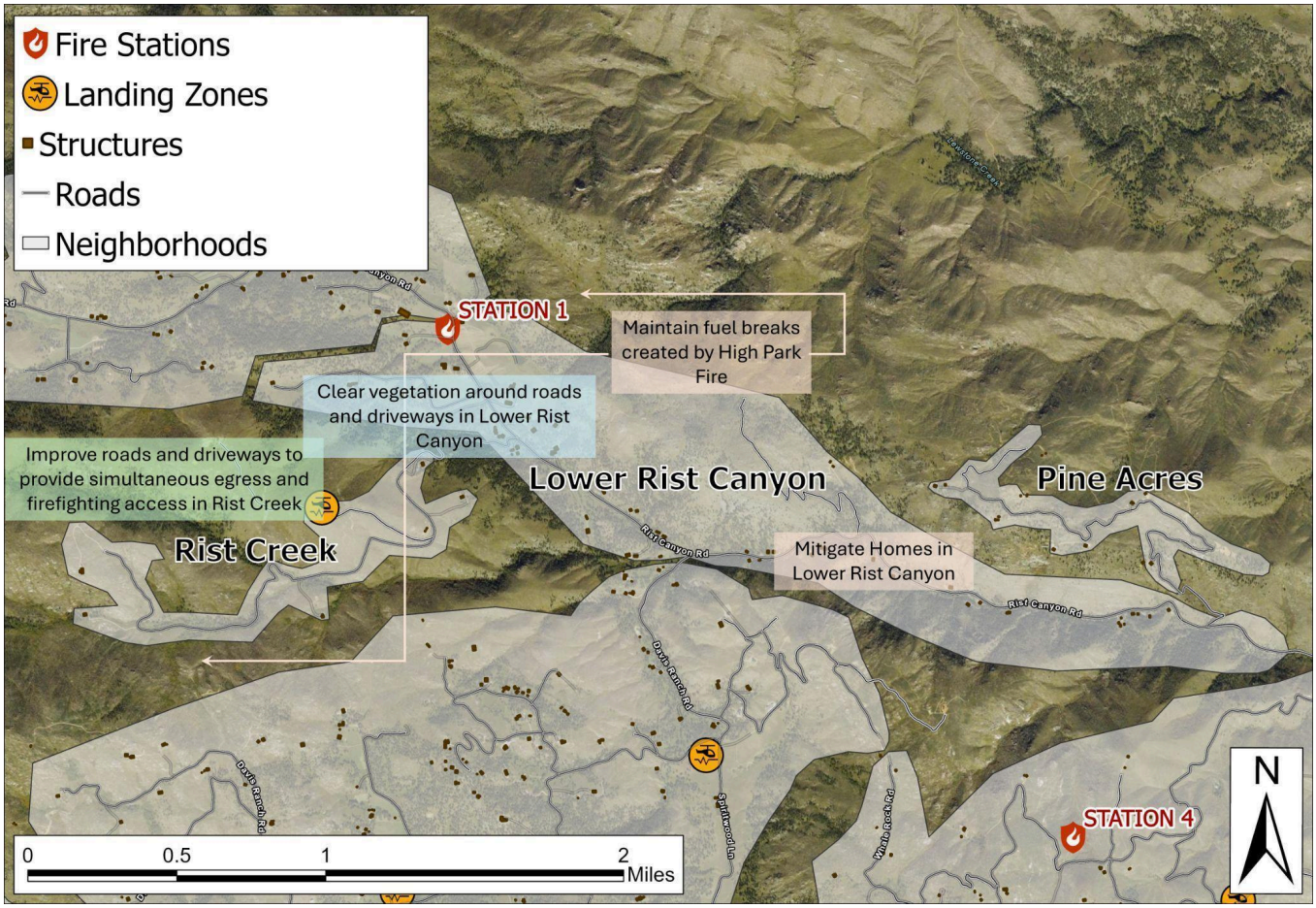
Neighborhood Level Projects/Activities



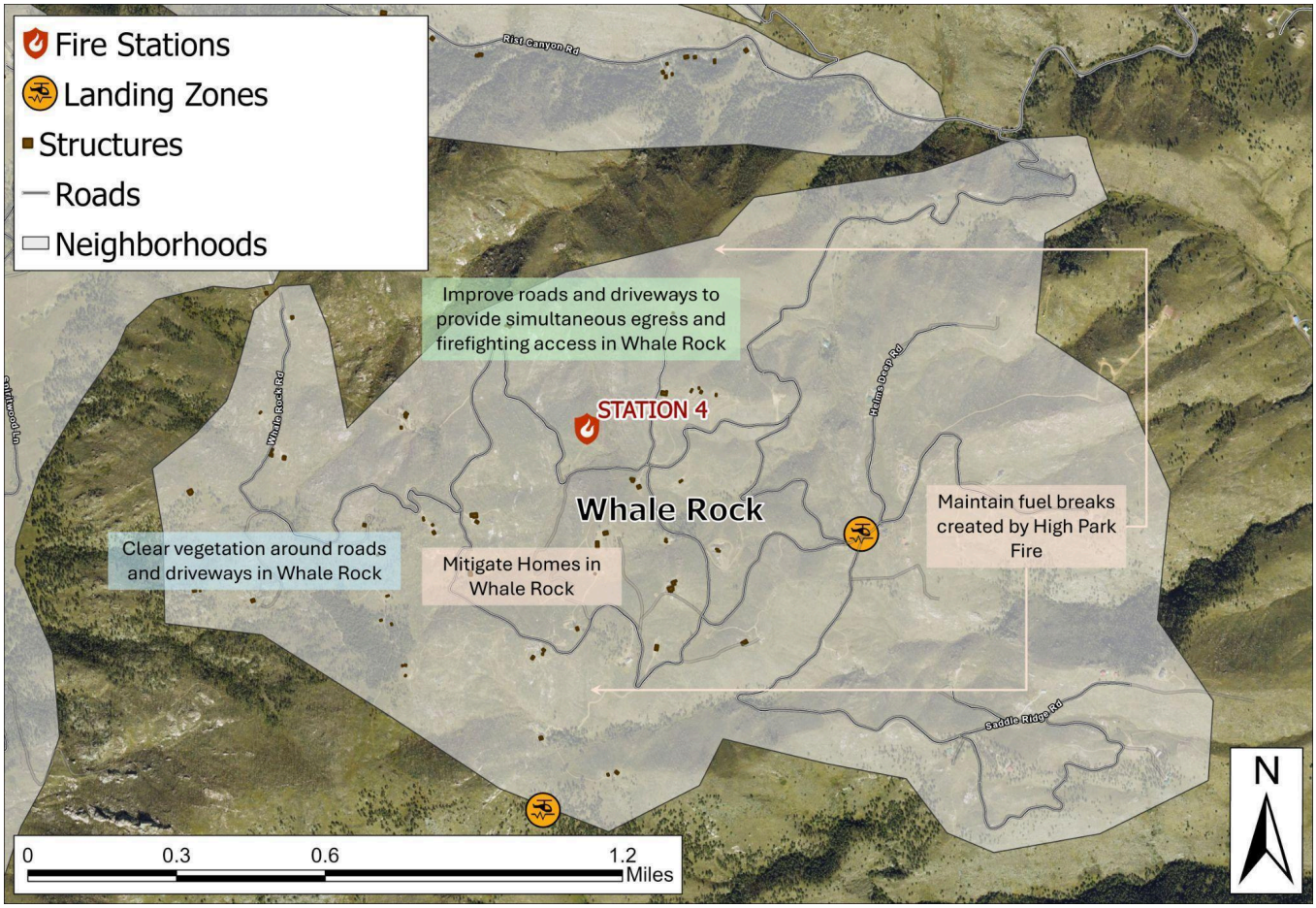
Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Davis Ranch			
Description: This neighborhood includes the entire Davis Ranch Road and all side roads and has approximately 160 properties. This area was dramatically impacted by the High Park fire with more than 85% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in Davis Ranch	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in Davis Ranch	High	Individual Property Owners Road Associations	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Road Associations Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the High Park fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands
Maintain fuel breaks created by High Park Fire
Stratton Park Rd
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access
Greyrock View Dr
Stratton Park
Mitigate Homes in Stratton Park
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Stratton Park
Stormy Peaks
First Canyon Rd
Lonestone Creek
0
0.4
0.8
1.6
Miles
N

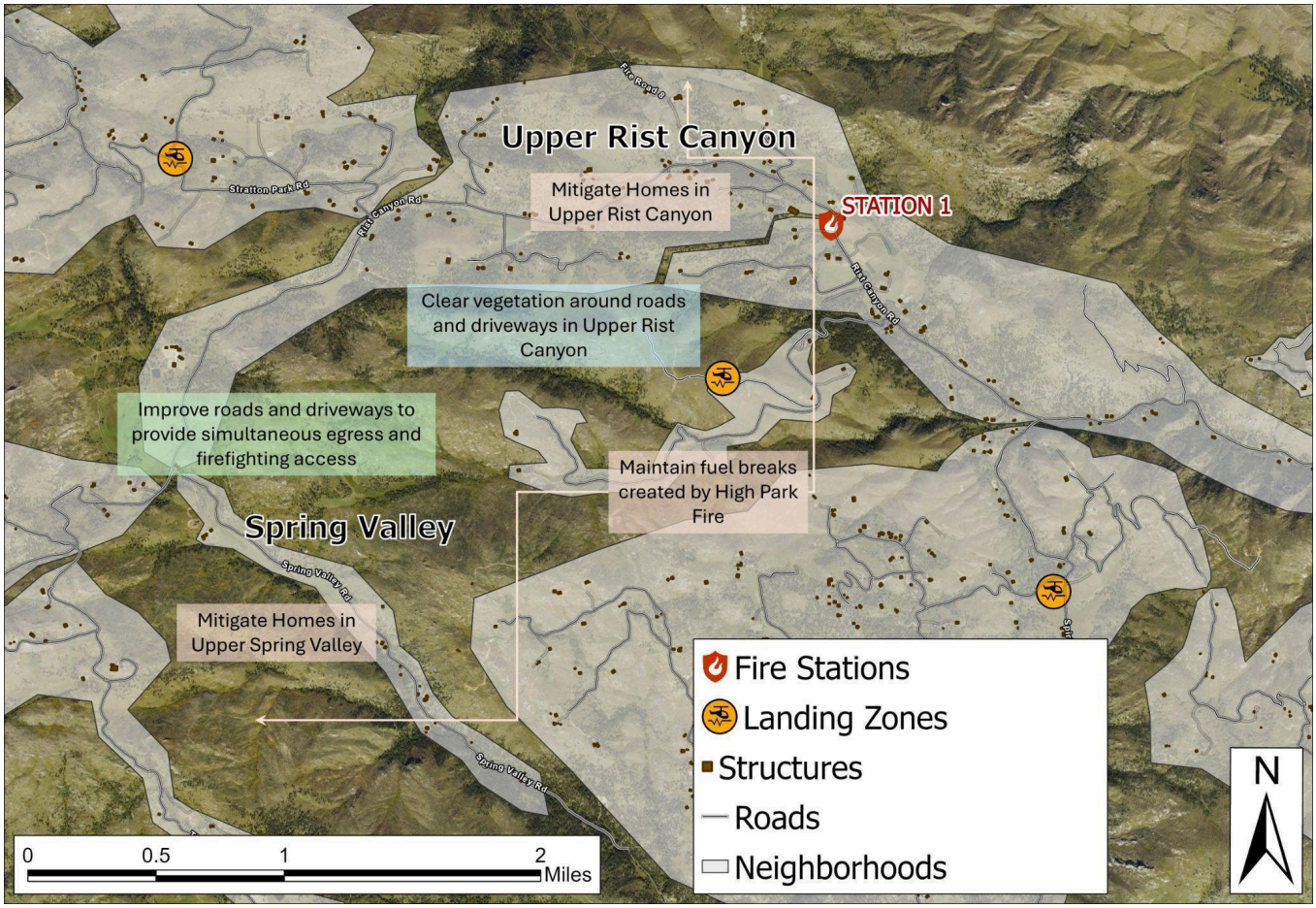
Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Stratton Park			
Description: This neighborhood includes the entire Stratton Park Road and all side roads and has approximately 54 properties. This area was dramatically impacted by the High Park fire with more than 95% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in Stratton Park	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in Stratton	High	Individual Property Owners Road Association	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Individual Property Owners	Widen driveways and provide turnaround points for fire trucks
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the High Park fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands	High	USFS	Create fire breaks along borders with private land to break up continuous fuels. Method: hand crews, slash burning
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
STATION 1
Maintain fuel breaks created by High Park Fire
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Lower Rist Canyon
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access in Rist Creek
Lower Rist Canyon
Pine Acres
Rist Creek
Mitigate Homes in Lower Rist Canyon
Rist Canyon Rd
Davis Ranch Rd
Squirrelwood Ln
Windy Rock Rd
STATION 4
N
0
0.5
1
2
Miles

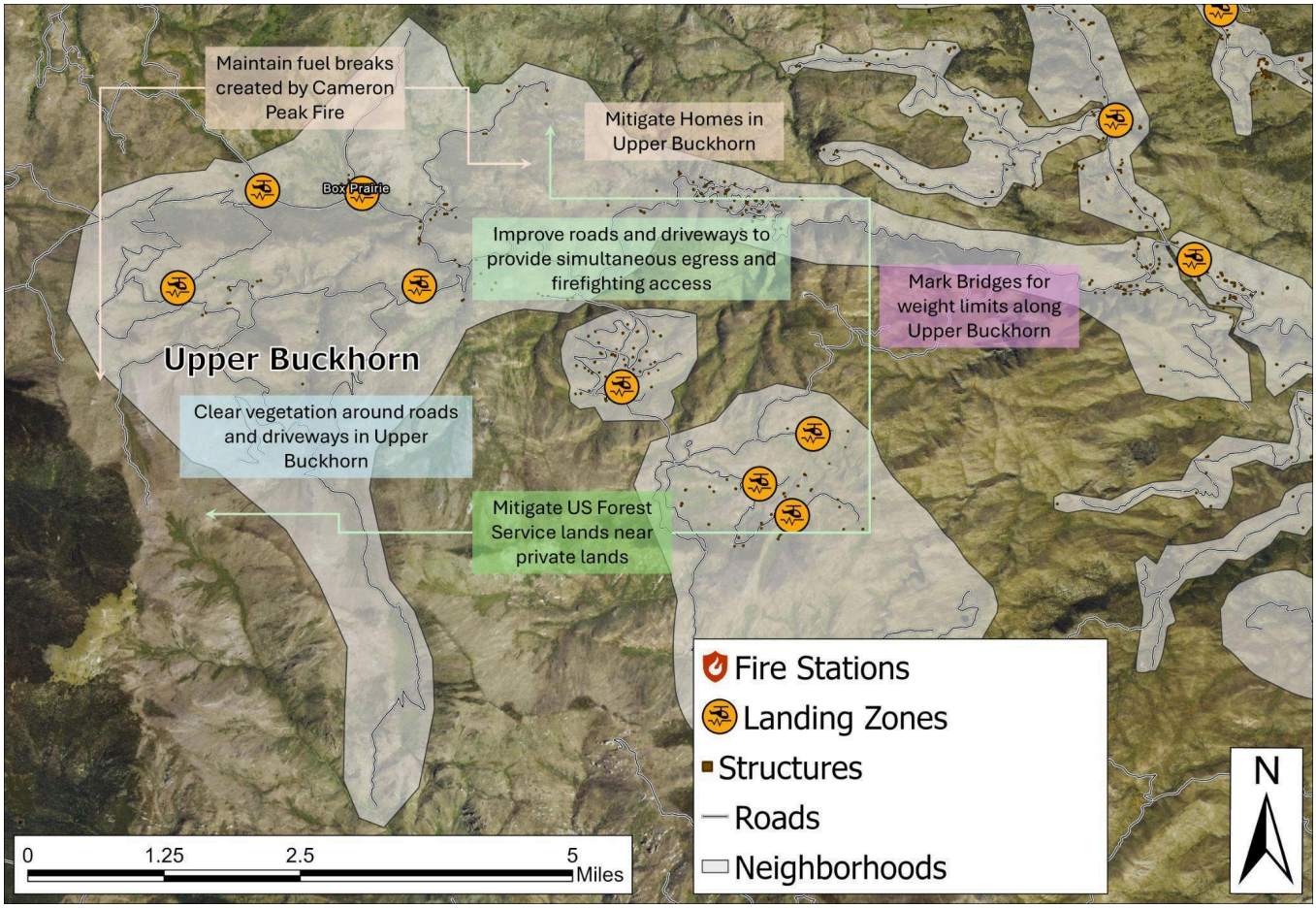
Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Lower Rist Canyon, Pine Acres, Rist Creek			
Description: This neighborhood includes Rist Canyon Road from MM7 to MM12 and all side roads except Davis Ranch and Whale Rock Roads and has approximately 40 properties. This area was dramatically impacted by the High Park fire with more than 80% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in Lower Rist Canyon	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in lower Rist Canyon	High	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads and driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve driveways to allow simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the High Park fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
Rist Canyon Rd
Whale Rock Rd
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access in Whale Rock
STATION 4
Whale Rock
Maintain fuel breaks created by High Park Fire
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Whale Rock
Mitigate Homes in Whale Rock
Saddle Ridge Rd
N
0
0.3
0.6
1.2
Miles

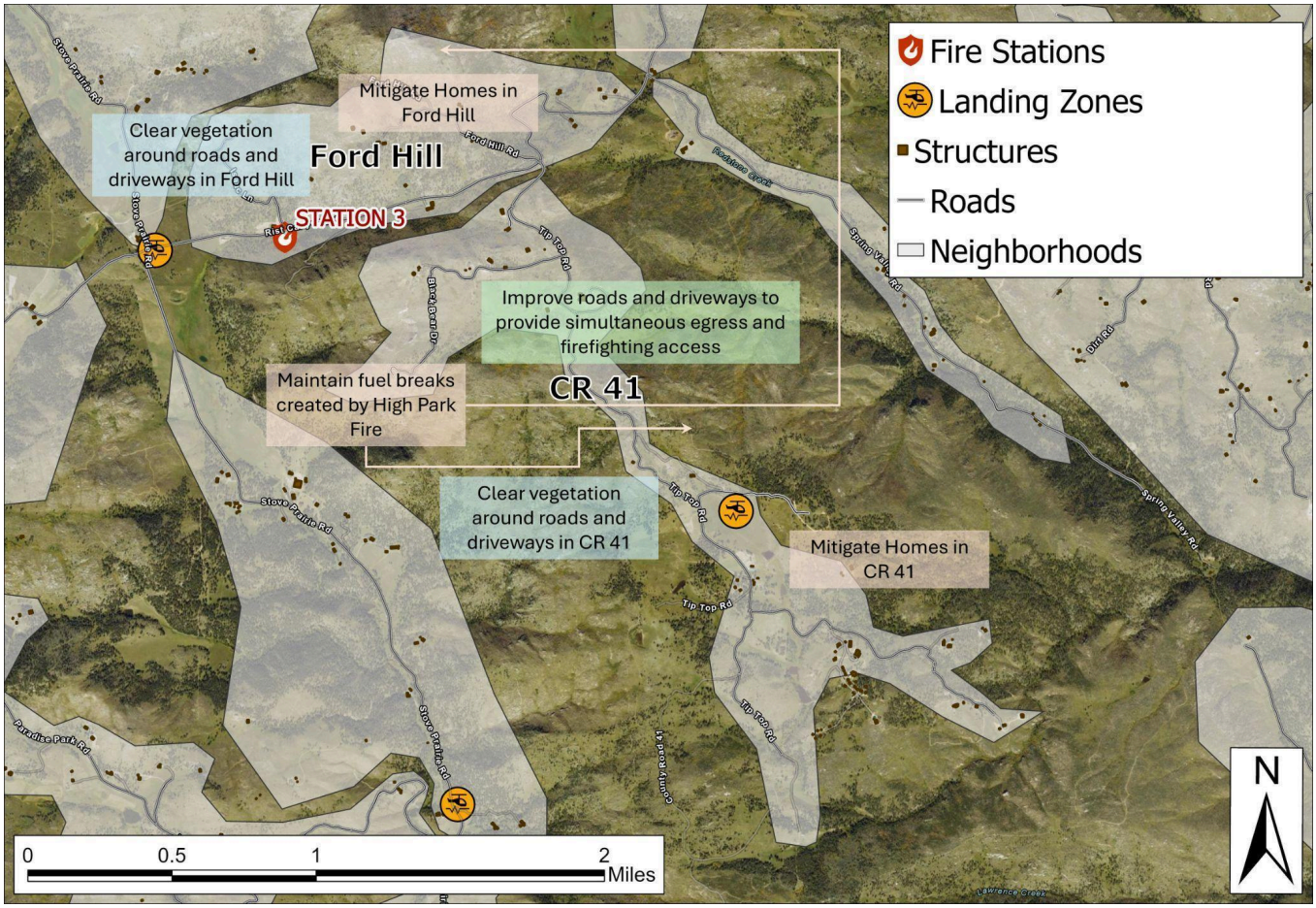
Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Whale Rock			
Description: This neighborhood includes the entire Whale Rock Road and all side roads and has approximately 35 properties. This area was dramatically impacted by the High Park fire - 100% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in Whale Rock	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in Whale Rock	High	Individual Property Owners Road Association	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve roads and driveways to allow simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Road Association Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the High Park fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Upper Rist Canyon
Mitigate Homes in Upper Rist Canyon
STATION 1
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Upper Rist Canyon
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access
Maintain fuel breaks created by High Park Fire
Spring Valley
Mitigate Homes in Upper Spring Valley
Stratton Park Rd
Rist Canyon Rd
Spring Valley Rd
Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
N
0
0.5
1
2
Miles

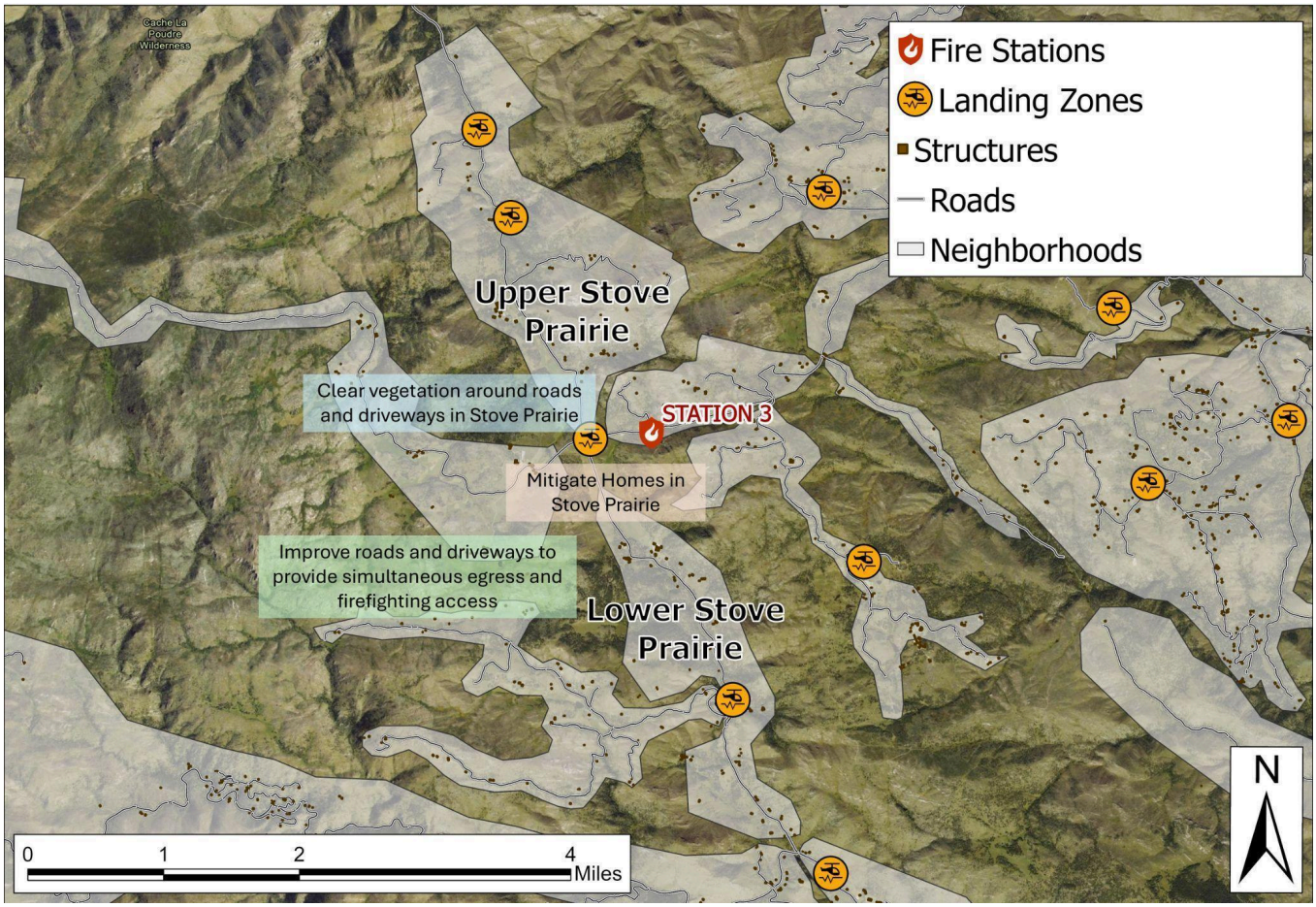
Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Upper Rist Canyon, Spring Valley			
Description: This neighborhood includes Rist Canyon Road from MM12 to CR41 and all side roads except Stratton Park Road and has approximately 46 properties. This area was significantly impacted by the High Park fire with more than 75% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in Upper Rist Canyon	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in Upper Rist Canyon	High	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve driveways to allow simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the High Park fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning.
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Maintain fuel breaks created by Cameron Peak Fire
Mitigate Homes in Upper Buckhorn
Box Prairie
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access
Mark Bridges for weight limits along Upper Buckhorn
Upper Buckhorn
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Upper Buckhorn
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands
Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
N
0
1.25
2.5
5
Miles

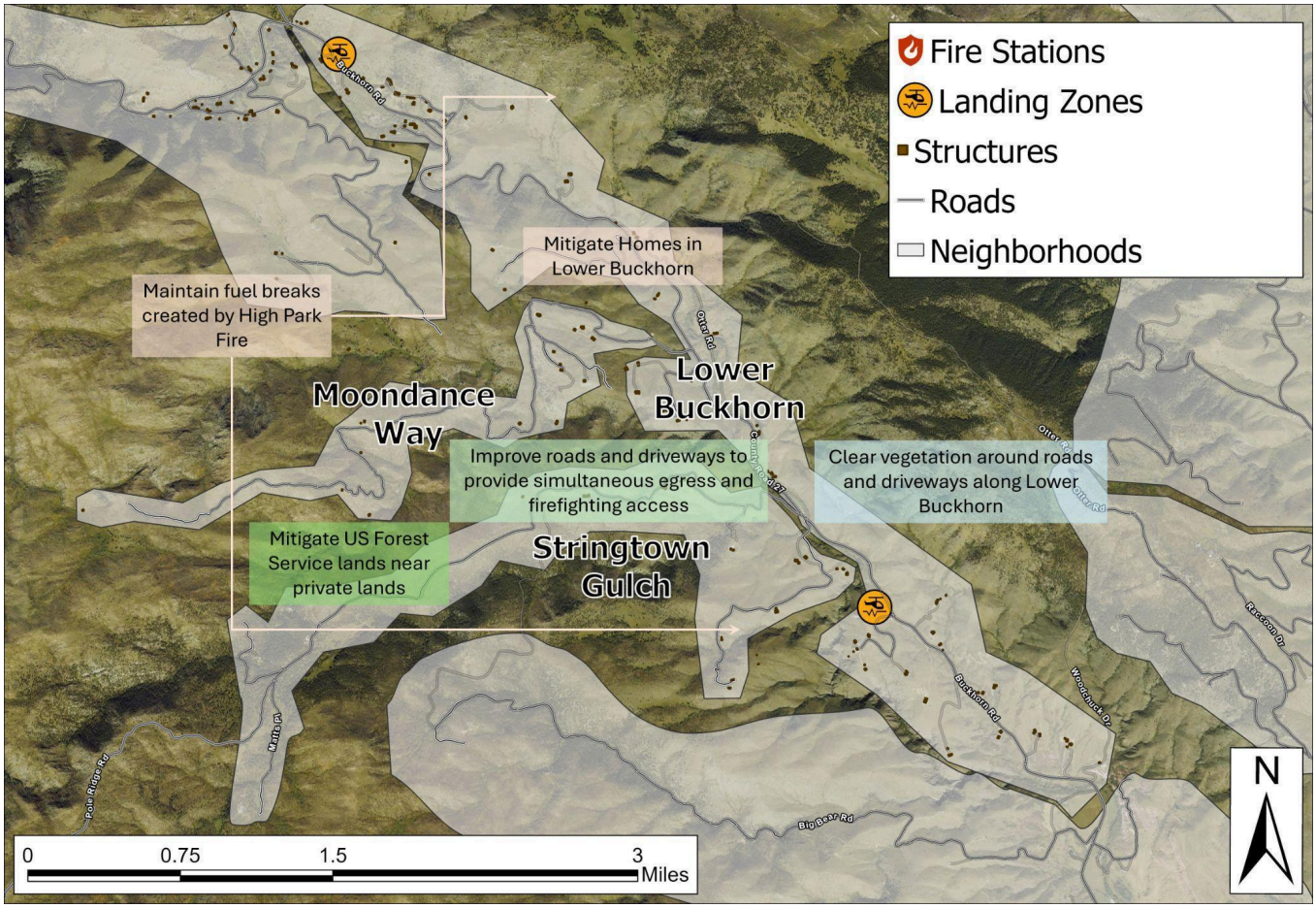
Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Upper Buckhorn			
Description: This neighborhood includes CR44H from the intersection with Stove Prairie Road to MM30 and all side roads except Crystal Mountain Road and has approximately 113 properties. This area was dramatically affected by the Cameron Peak fire with nearly 80% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter. It was also impacted by the High Park fire with more than 15% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in the Upper Buckhorn	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in the Upper Buckhorn	High	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve driveways to allow simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the Cameron Peak fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands	High	USFS	Create fire breaks along borders with private land to break up continuous fuels. Method: hand crews, slash burning
Mark Bridges for Weight Limit	Medium	Individual Property Owners	Many private bridges are not marked for weight limit, potentially hindering firefighting access.
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
Mitigate Homes in Ford Hill
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Ford Hill
Ford Hill
STATION 3
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access
CR 41
Maintain fuel breaks created by High Park Fire
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in CR 41
Mitigate Homes in CR 41
Stove Prairie Rd
Ford Hill Rd
Tip Top Rd
Spring Valley Rd
Old Rd
Paradise Peak Rd
County Road 54
0
0.5
1
2
Miles
N

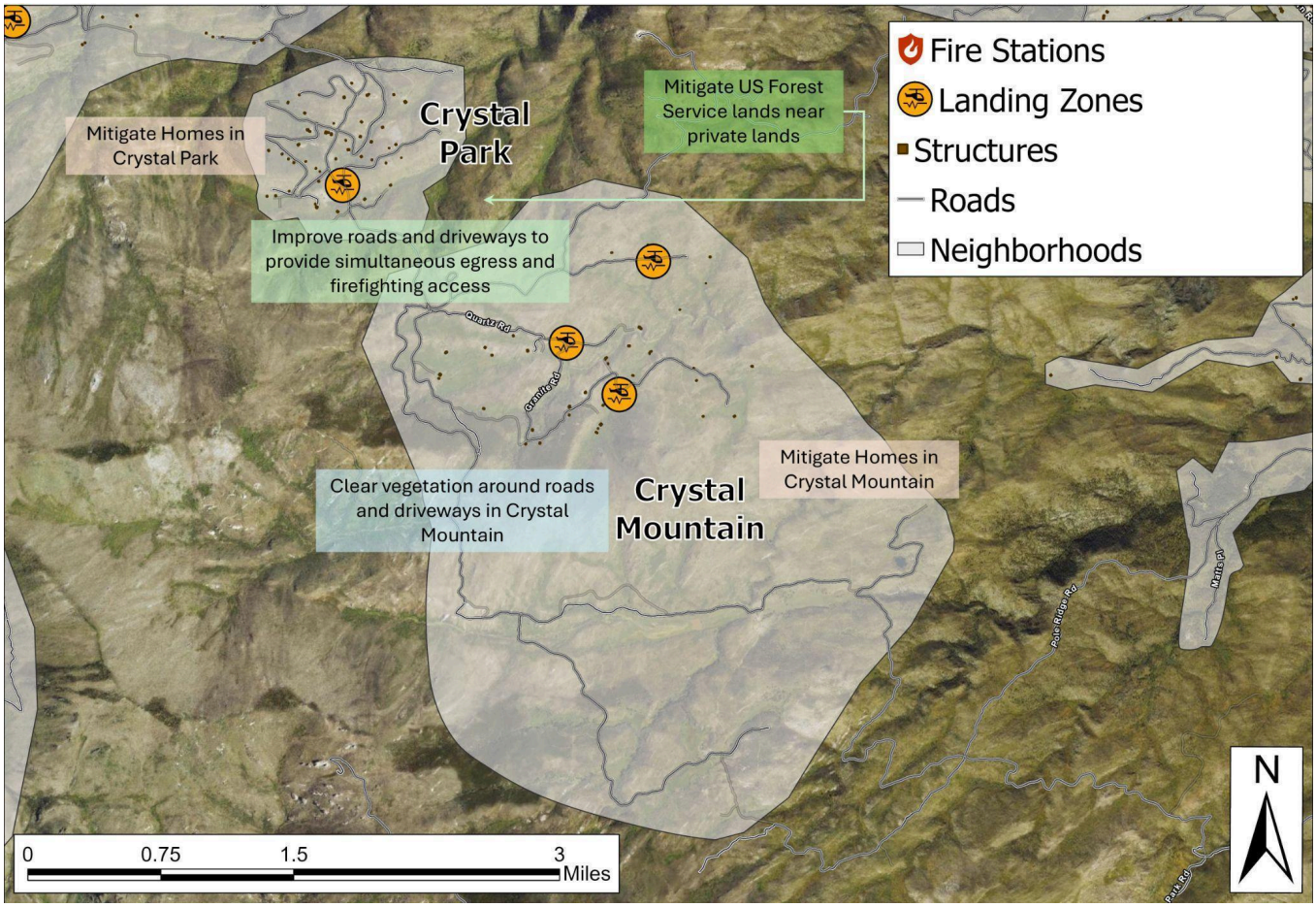
Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Ford Hill and CR41			
Description: This neighborhood includes Rist Canyon Road from CR41 to Stove Prairie Road and CR41 including all side roads and has approximately 27 properties. This area was dramatically impacted by the High Park fire with more than 85% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes along Ford Hill & CR41	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways along Ford Hill and CR41	High	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve driveways to allow simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the High Park fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Cache La Poudre Wilderness
Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
Upper Stove Prairie
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Stove Prairie
STATION 3
Mitigate Homes in Stove Prairie
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access
Lower Stove Prairie
N
0
1
2
4
Miles

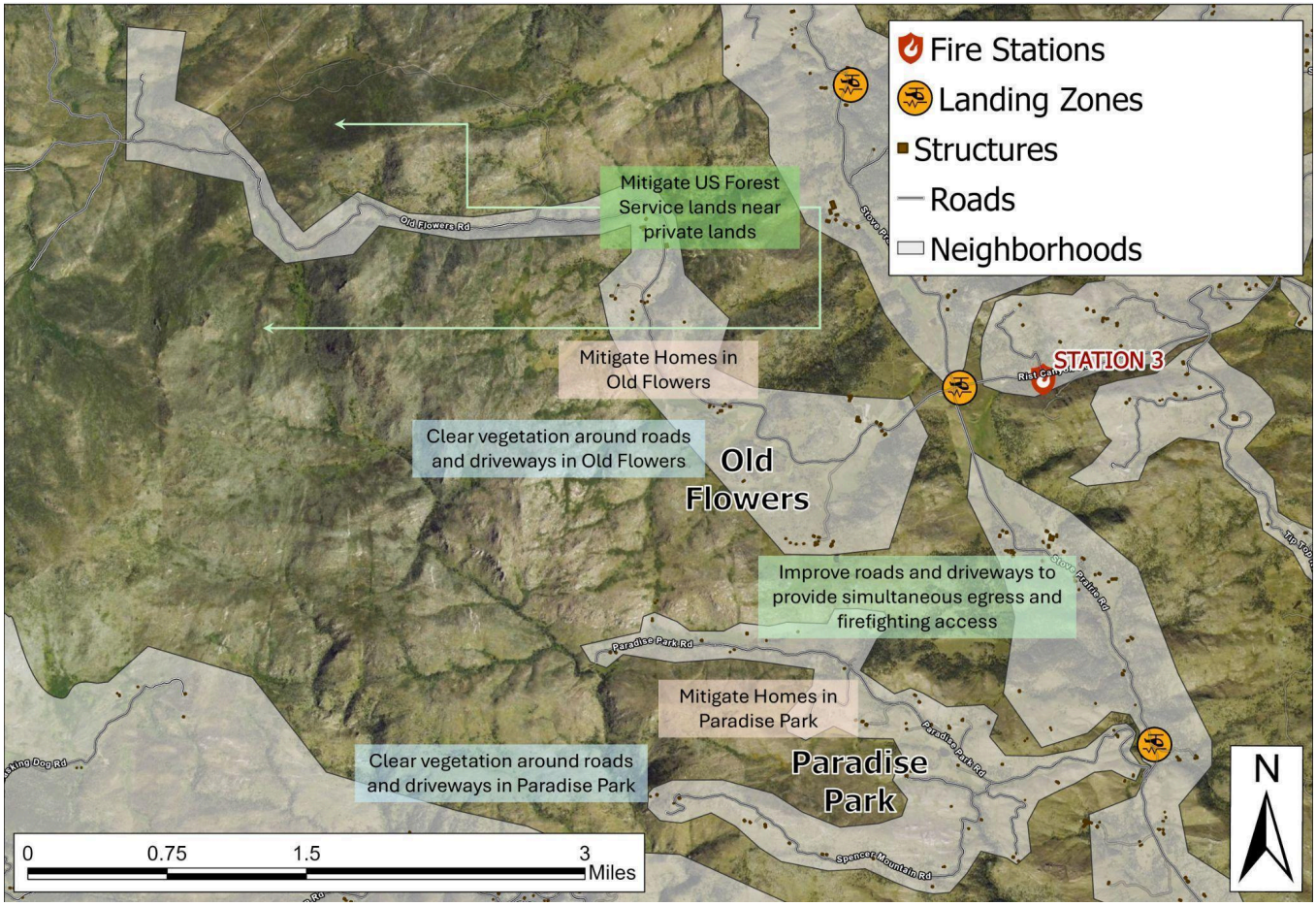
Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Stove Prairie (Upper & Lower)			
Description: This neighborhood includes Stove Prairie Road from 1 mile north of Poudre Canyon Rd (CO Highway 14) to CR44H and all side roads except Old Flowers Road and Paradise Park Road and has approximately 60 properties. This area was substantially impacted by the High Park fire with more than 65% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in Stove Prairie	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in Stove Prairie	High	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve driveways to allow simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the High Park fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
Mitigate Homes in Lower Buckhorn
Maintain fuel breaks created by High Park Fire
Moondance Way
Lower Buckhorn
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways along Lower Buckhorn
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands
Stringtown Gulch
Big Bear Rd
0
0.75
1.5
3
Miles
N

Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Lower Buckhorn, Moondance, Stringtown			
Description: This neighborhood includes CR44H from MM17 to the intersection of CR44H and Stove Prairie Road and has approximately 70 properties. The Cameron Peak fire dramatically impacted these neighborhoods with nearly 100% of Moondance Way & Stringtown Gulch within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in the Lower Buckhorn	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in the Lower Buckhorn	High	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve driveways to allow simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the Cameron Peak fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands	High	USFS	Create fire breaks along borders with private land to break up continuous fuels. Method: hand crews, slash burning
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
Crystal Park
Mitigate Homes in Crystal Park
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access
Crystal Mountain
Mitigate Homes in Crystal Mountain
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Crystal Mountain
Quartz Rd
Granite Rd
Pole Ridge Rd
Matts Pl
Pete Rd
0
0.75
1.5
3
Miles
N

Project	Priority	Implementation** Responsibility	Description
Crystal Mountain & Crystal Park			
Description: This neighborhood includes Crystal Mountain and Crystal Park from CR44H to the Forest Service Boundary including all side roads and has approximately 111 properties. This area was dramatically impacted by the Cameron Peak fire – 100% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in Crystal Mountain	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in Crystal Mountain	High	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve driveways to allow simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the Cameron Peak fire. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands	High	USFS	Create fire breaks along borders with private land to break up continuous fuels. Method: hand crews, slash burning
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			


Fire Stations
Landing Zones
Structures
Roads
Neighborhoods
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands
Old Flowers Rd
Mitigate Homes in Old Flowers
STATION 3
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Old Flowers
Old Flowers
Improve roads and driveways to provide simultaneous egress and firefighting access
Paradise Park Rd
Mitigate Homes in Paradise Park
Clear vegetation around roads and driveways in Paradise Park
Paradise Park
Spencer Mountain Rd
0
0.75
1.5
3
Miles
N

Project	Priority	Implementation Responsibility **	Description
Old Flowers, Paradise Park			
Description: This neighborhood includes Old Flowers Road from Stove Prairie Road to the Forest Service Boundary and all side roads and the Paradise Park Road from Stove Prairie Road to the end of the road including all side roads and has approximately 34 properties. This area was dramatically impacted by the High Park fire with more than 85% of this neighborhood within the fire perimeter.			
Mitigating Homes in Paradise park and Old Flowers	High	WPP Ambassadors Individual Property Owners	Mitigation in the HIZ, home hardening. Prioritize opportunities to create linked defensible space. Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Roads and Driveways in Paradise park and Old Flowers	High	Larimer County Individual Property Owners	Clear vegetation and heavy fuel loading along roads & driveways Method: hand crews, chipping, slash burning
Improve driveways to allow simultaneous egress and firefighting access	Medium	Individual Property Owners	Widen roads and driveways or provide turnouts and turn arounds for fire trucks Provide secondary escape routes where possible
Maintain Fuel Breaks	High	Individual Property Owners	Maintain fuel breaks created by the High Park and Cameron Peak fires. Method: Hand crews, slash burning
Mitigate US Forest Service lands near private lands	High	USFS	Create fire breaks along borders with private land to break up continuous fuels. Method: hand crews, slash burning
** Note that the “Potential Resources to Fund Projects” section following these tables provides information on grants, partner agencies, and other resources to help accomplish these proposed projects.			

Potential Resources to Fund Projects

Local and State Agencies in Colorado

The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM) is a competitive grant program designed to assist with funding community-level actions across the entire state to: reduce the risk to people, property and infrastructure from wildfire in the wildland-urban interface; promote forest health and the utilization of woody material including for traditional forest products and biomass energy; and encourage forest restoration projects. Eligible applicants include local community groups, local government entities such as fire protection districts, public and private utilities, state agencies, and non-profit groups.

CSFS administers programs for landowner and community assistance, including the Colorado Forest Ag Program and Colorado Tree Farm Program.

CSFS regularly updates their Natural Resources Grants and Assistance Database to help residents, agencies, and other partners find funding for natural resource projects.

The Colorado Department of Revenue provides a Wildfire Mitigation Measures Subtraction whereby individuals, estates, and trusts may claim a subtraction on their Colorado income tax return for certain costs incurred in performing wildfire mitigation measures on property in the WUI.

The Larimer County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) offers community mitigation grants to increase a community's long-term resilience to natural hazards.

Federal Government

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program supports states, local communities, Tribes, and territories as they undertake large-scale projects to reduce or eliminate risk and damage from future natural hazards. Homeowners, business operators, and non-profit organizations cannot apply directly to FEMA, but they can be included in sub-applications submitted by an eligible sub-applicant (local governments, Tribal governments, and state agencies).

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants Program (HMGP) provides funding to state, local, Tribal, and territorial governments so they can rebuild in a way that reduces, or mitigates, future disaster losses in their communities. This grant funding is available after a presidentially declared disaster.

Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) help firefighters and other first responders obtain critical resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.

Fire Prevention & Safety (FP&S) Grants support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards.

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants directly fund fire departments and volunteer firefighter organizations to help increase their capacity.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service(NRCS) offers the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) which provides cost-share opportunities for landowners or managers, typically on private land. Eligible applicants can work through their local NRCS Field Office to create a Conservation Plan and apply for the program. Though EQIP does not require matching contributions, it typically covers only 50-75% of associated costs for a forestry project. This program is aimed at addressing resource concerns on working lands, not limited to forestry. The Larimer Conservation District (LCD) partners with NRCS to administer this program locally on forested land. Eligible and interested landowners within Larimer County can leverage EQIP funding to apply for grants to cover any additional costs. For more information on EQIP, visit: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/eqip-environmental-quality-incentives. To contact LCD: www.larimercd.org

Non-Governmental Organizations

Coalitions and Collaboratives, Inc. manages the Action, Implementation, and Mitigation Program (AIM) to increase local capacity and support wildfire risk reduction activities in high-risk communities. AIM provides direct support to place-based wildfire mitigation organizations with pass-through grant funding, on-site engagement, technical expertise, mentoring, and training on mitigation practices to help high-risk communities achieve their wildfire adaptation goals.

Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed (CPRW) can aid with small-acreage wildfire mitigation projects on private property. Reach out to the CPRW for more information.

Fire Adapted Colorado (FACO) manages the FACO Opportunity Fund, which is a matching mini-grant program to support projects, build capacity, and address local needs with funding from the National Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network.

Resources for Homeowners

Local Emergency Notification Resources

Larimer County, through the Larimer Emergency Telephone Authority (LETA-911), uses a system called NOCO Alert to notify residents of emergencies in their area. This system is used for emergencies of all types, including wildfire-related evacuations. By participating in NOCO Alert, residents in the RCVFD response area can be notified immediately if they are in a voluntary or mandatory evacuation zone. This is considered an official and primary notification mechanism.

For residents with a landline, registration is automatic and notifications are via recorded messages. Residents with mobile phones need to opt-in to receive text messages from LETA-911 on the NOCO Alert service. This can be done on the NOCO Alert website at nocoalert.org by creating a user and selecting the desired subscriptions, or it can be done by texting “NOCOALERT” to 88877.

Evacuation Preparedness

Residents in the RCVFD response area have been evacuated many times in recent memory, primarily due to wildfires such as High Park (2012) and Cameron Peak (2020), but also due to flooding (2013, 2021). As a result, this section may be a refresher for residents that have been in the area for a while. However, those residents that are newer to the area can find helpful resources.

The Colorado State Forest Service provides recommendations for annual activities to mitigate risks and increase your wildfire and evacuation preparedness. This list is below on page 52.

Evacuation of Livestock

When disaster strikes, preparation and early action can make all the difference for your animals. Here are ten key tips every livestock and horse owner should know:

1. Have an Evacuation Plan Before You Need One
Identify at least 2–3 locations where your animals can be relocated, such as fairgrounds, boarding facilities, friends' properties, or designated evacuation centers. Do not wait until

smoke is visible to start planning. Remember that the Larimer County Sheriff's Office will provide a Large Animal Evacuation Center for animals that have been evacuated from a natural disaster.

2. Know Multiple Escape Routes
Roads can become congested or blocked during emergencies. Have a paper map with multiple routes highlighted and store that map in your vehicle.

3. Train Animals to Load Calmly
An emergency is not the time to teach trailer loading. Practice loading animals in different trailers, at different times of day, and under varying weather conditions.

4. Keep Halters, Leads, and Identification Ready
Store halters and lead ropes in an easily accessible location. Maintain identification for all animals in one location – or digitally to access with your phone.

5. Prioritize Which Animals Leave First
If you cannot evacuate all animals at once, create a loading order and transportation hierarchy in advance. Knowing who goes first saves valuable time during an emergency.

6. Keep Your Trailer and Tow Vehicle Ready
Maintain fuel levels, inspect tires and hitch equipment, check floorboards and conduct regular safety checks.

7. Remove Shavings and Bedding from Your Trailer
If evacuating near a wildfire, remove all shavings and bedding from your trailer before loading animals. Dry bedding can become a fire hazard from embers or excessive heat. Keep trailer windows closed when traveling through smoky or fire-affected areas to reduce the risk of embers and excessive smoke entering the trailer.

8. Establish a Clear Communications Plan
Make sure family members, neighbors, and helpers know their roles and can quickly share updates. Coordinate with neighbors, friends, veterinarians, haulers, and family members. Identify people who can assist if you are away from home and share your evacuation plan with them. Remember that the Larimer County Sheriff's Office also offers resources to help evacuate your large animals.

9. Leave Early—Don't Wait for a Mandatory Evacuation

Voluntary evacuation notices provide valuable time to move large animals safely. Large animal owners should strongly consider evacuating during voluntary advisories rather than waiting for mandatory orders.

10. If You Can't Evacuate, Protect Yourself First
Never risk your life to save livestock. If time runs out:

- Move animals to large open areas.
- Provide access to water if possible.
- Remove halters.
- Open gates so animals can move freely.
- Close barn access.
- Notify the Larimer County Sheriff's Office that animals have been released. Provide identifying information about the released animals.

Bonus Tip: Use Official Information Sources
Monitor emergency alerts and official communications from the Larimer County Sheriff's Office and emergency management agencies. Avoid relying on unofficial social media requests for animal evacuation assistance.

Remember: Preparation prevents chaos. The best large animal evacuation is the one that begins before the emergency becomes critical.

For more information: Contact Deputy Andrea Maxwell with the Larimer County Sheriff's Posse at maxwelac@larimer.gov.

Evacuation Go-Bag Checklist

Having a go-bag prepared ahead of time can save valuable time and reduce the stress when evacuating. While every family's go-bag will look a little different, and it is vital that you include the things that you and your family need to take with you. Larimer County has some general guidelines; these are included in the table on page 53.

Annual Activities to Mitigate Risk

- Check fire extinguishers to ensure they have not expired and are in good working condition.
- Review your family's evacuation plan and practice family fire and evacuation drills.
- Verify that your home telephone number, cell phone, and/or email are properly registered through the NoCo Alert website. [Homepage NOCO Alert]
- Review the contents of your "go-bag" and make sure it is packed and ready to go. Visit the Larimer County Emergency Preparedness page to learn about go-bags and evacuation planning, including tips for preparing your pets and livestock for evacuation. Your go-bag should include supplies to last at least three days, including cash, water, clothing, food, first aid, and prescription medicines for your family and pets. Keep important documents and possessions in a known and easily accessible location so you can quickly grab them during an evacuation.
- Pay attention to red flag-day warnings from the National Weather Service and stay vigilant. Ensure your family is ready to go in case of an emergency.
- Walk your property to identify new hazards and ways to maintain and improve current defensible space. Take pictures of your defensible space to help you monitor regrowth and determine when additional vegetation treatments are necessary.
- Clear roofs, decks, and gutters of pine needles and other debris. Remove all pine needles and flammable debris from around the foundation of your home and deck. Remove trash and debris accumulation within 30 feet of your home. Repeat throughout the year as necessary.
- Properly thin and prune trees and shrubs that have regrown in your defensible space Zones 1 and 2 (0-5 feet and 5-30 feet from your home). Remove branches that overhang the roof and chimney. Prune trees and shrubs that are encroaching on the horizontal and vertical clearance of your driveway.
- Mow grass and weeds to a height of four inches or less within 30 feet of your home. If possible, keep your lawn irrigated, particularly within 30 feet of your home. Repeat throughout the year as necessary.
- Check the visibility of your address sign and remove vegetation that obscures it.
- Check screens over chimneys, eaves, and vents to make sure they are in place and in good condition.
- Ensure that an outdoor water supply is available for responding firefighters. Put a hose and nozzle in a visible location. The hose should be long enough to reach all parts of your home.

Evacuation Go-Bag Checklist

- Water
- Food
- Flashlight, extra batteries
- Battery powered or hand-crank radio
- First Aid kit
- Medications and medical items
- Sanitation/personal hygiene items
- Cell phone, charger
- Multipurpose tool
- Copies of personal documents
- birth certificates
- social security cards
- homeowner policies
- deeds, titles
- health insurance cards
- Driver’s license
- Family contact information
- Extra cash
- Credit cards
- Blanket
- Maps of the area, or evacuation routes
- Back-up computer documents or computer
- Pet items:
    - Leash
    - Carrier
    - Food, pet treats
    - Pet Meds
    - Vaccination records

Becoming a Fire Adapted Community

It is recommended that that the residents of the RCVFD response area embrace the concept of Fire Adapted Communities (FAC), which is defined by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group as “a human community consisting of informed and prepared citizens collaboratively planning and taking action to safely coexist with wildland fire”. This concept can guide residents, firefighters, and communities through a holistic approach to become more resilient to fire.

This section of the CWPP includes recommendations and resources for mitigating wildfire risk and enhancing emergency preparedness. Individual homeowners, and neighborhoods have a vital role to play in addressing shared wildfire risk. Action and community-building centered around mitigation have reduced wildfire risk and increased community resilience across the mountain west. Mitigation work by residents can spur mitigation by their neighbors (Brenkert-Smith et al., 2013). The cumulative impact of linked defensible space across private properties can improve the likelihood of home survival and protect firefighters during wildfire events (Jolley, 2018; Knapp et al., 2021).

Mitigate the Home Ignition Zone

Homeowners can increase the likelihood that their home will survive a wildfire and help protect the safety of firefighters by creating defensible space, replacing, or altering building materials to make the home less susceptible to ignition, and taking steps to improve firefighter access along the driveway.

During catastrophic wildfires, property loss happens mostly due to conditions in the home ignition zone (HIZ). The home ignition zone includes the home and other structures (e.g., sheds and garages) and the area within 100 feet of each structure. Firefighter intervention, adequate defensible space, and home hardening measures were common factors for homes that survive major wildfires (IIHBS 2019; Maranghides et al. 2022). Research following the 2018 Camp Fire showed that homes were more likely to burn when they were close to other structures that had also burned, when they had vegetation within about 330 feet of the home, and when they had combustible materials (firewood or propane tanks) near the home (Knapp et al. 2021).

Defensible space is the area around a building where vegetation, debris, and other types of combustible fuels have been treated, cleared, or reduced to slow the spread of fire and reduce exposure to radiant heat and direct flame. It is encouraged that residents develop defensible space so that during a wildfire their home can stand alone without relying upon limited firefighter resources.

Home hardening is the practice of making a home less likely to ignite from the heat or direct contact with flames or embers. It is important to remember that embers can ignite homes even when the flaming front of a wildfire is far away. Home hardening involves reducing this risk by changing building materials, installation techniques, and structural characteristics of a home. Home hardening measures are particularly important for WUI homes; 50 to 90% of homes ignite due to embers rather than radiant heat during wildfires (Babrauskas 2018; Gropp 2019).

Defensible Space

Residents can create defensible space by reducing the amount of vegetation and flammable materials (i.e., pine needles, stacked firewood, patio furniture) within the HIZ. This includes trees and shrubs that could ignite during a wildland fire. Defensible space can slow the spread of wildfire, prevent direct flame contact, and reduce the chance that embers will ignite material on or near your home (Hakes et al. 2017). Substantially reducing vegetation within the HIZ and removing vegetation that overhangs decks and roofs can reduce structure loss, especially for homes on slopes (Syphard et al. 2014).

Defensible space is divided into multiple zones around a home, and recommended practices vary among zones. The CSFS defines Zone 1 as 0 to 5 feet from the home, Zone 2 as 5 to 30 feet from the home, and Zone 3 as 30 to about 100 feet from the home. Some organizations call Zone 1 the “noncombustible zone” and Zone 2 the “lean, clean, and green zone” . Residents should establish defensible space around each building on their property, including detached garages, storage buildings, barns, and other structures.

Make sure you are informed about best practices for protecting your home. See the CSFS publication Home Ignition Zone for more information.

Firewise Links

Firewise USA is an excellent resource for homeowners in the WUI. It includes recommendations for many concepts related to wildfire preparedness. Much of its content is generalized to the continental United States, but related sites such as the Colorado State University Extension have additional information related more specifically to the RCVFD response area.

Home Ignition Zone includes more information on mitigation and defensible space.

Landscaping guidelines and recommendations for low-ignition plant materials.

Information related to becoming a certified “Firewise USA Site” and other community engagement and education resources.

Wildfire Partner Program (WPP)

Professional objective assessments of residential properties should be made to help residents prepare their homes for wildfire. Larimer County facilitates this process through its Wildfire Partner Program, which RCVFD participates in with several certified assessors. In the WPP program, residents can request free home assessments on a standardized form to help them identify areas in the Home Ignition Zone that could be improved to lessen their risk from wildfire. Requests for home assessments can be routed through Larimer County's site or directly on the RCVFD website.

Appendix

Abbreviations

- CAFS – Compressed air foam system
- CSFS – Colorado State Forest Service
- CWPP – Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- HIZ – Home Ignition Zone
- LCSOES – Larimer County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services
- LFRA – Loveland Fire and Rescue Association
- LZ – landing zone (for helicopters)
- MM – Mile marker
- PCVFD – Poudre Canyon Volunteer Fire Department
- PFA – Poudre Fire Authority
- PSD – Poudre School District
- PVREA – Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association
- RCVFD – Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department
- USFS – United States Forest Service
- VOIP – Voice over internet protocol
- WUI – Wildland Urban Interface

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Key Constituents

Community Agencies

- Poudre School District (Stove Prairie School)
- Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association

Adjacent fire agencies

- Poudre Fire Authority
- Loveland Fire and Rescue Authority
- Poudre Canyon VFD
- Larimer County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services

PVREA Wildfire Mitigation and Power Safety Initiatives

Organizational Overview: Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association (PVREA) is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperative providing electric service to more than 58,000 residential, agricultural, and commercial members across Larimer, Weld, and Boulder counties.

As the primary electric utility serving the Rist Canyon community, PVREA is responsible for delivering safe, reliable, and affordable electric service in a high wildfire-risk environment characterized by steep terrain, dense vegetation, and extreme weather conditions.

PVREA maintains a strong operational focus on wildfire risk reduction, infrastructure resilience, and coordinated emergency response to protect both the electric system and the communities it serves.

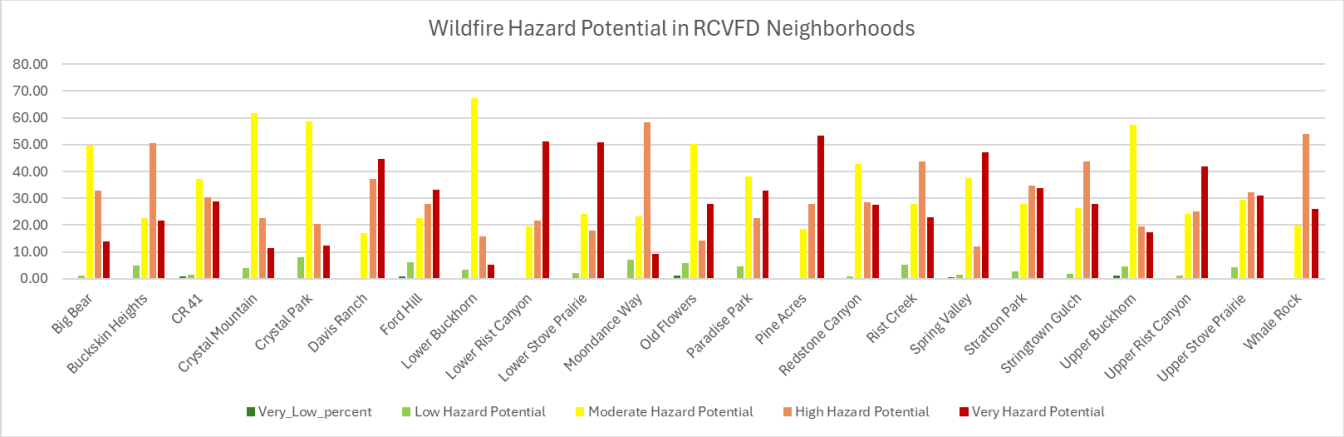
Wildfire Risk Mitigation and Prevention Measures: PVREA employs a multi-layered wildfire mitigation strategy that utilizes proactive inspection, vegetation management, and system hardening.

High Wind Event and Elevated Fire Risk Protocols: PVREA has established operational protocols designed to reduce wildfire ignition risk during periods of extreme weather and heightened wildfire danger.

RCVFD Designated Landing Zones

Name	Longitude	Latitude
Arndt Meadow	-105.2784	40.6146
Buckhorn Ranger Station	-105.468	40.5811
Calcite	-105.3984	40.5427
Crystal Mountain	-105.4225	40.5555
Davis Ranch Rd	-105.2587	40.6213
Elk Bugle	-105.3891	40.5494
Fletcher	-105.2724	40.5335
Fork	-105.3227	40.5728
Granite	-105.3927	40.5385
Mud Bog	-105.4579	40.5688
Pamige Ranch	-105.3724	40.6521
Pennock Pass	-105.4854	40.5814
Rist Canyon Station #1	-105.2833	40.6333
Saddle Ridge	-105.2247	40.6143
Stephens	-105.3365	40.5913
Stove Prairie School	-105.3566	40.6191
Stratton Park	-105.324	40.6456
Texas Cut	-105.5001	40.5684
Tip Top Ranch	-105.3182	40.6061
Whale Rock	-105.2369	40.6062
Young Gulch	-105.3679	40.6427

Summary of RCVFD Wildfire Hazard Potential



Wildfire Hazard potential summarized by neighborhoods in the RCVFD response area.

Population Distribution by Neighborhood

Neighborhood	Address Count
Davis Ranch	160
Upper Buckhorn	113
Crystal Park	62
Stratton Park	54
Crystal Mountain	49
Upper Rist Canyon	44
Lower Buckhorn	40
Whale Rock	35
Upper Stove Prairie	33
Lower Rist Canyon	29
Paradise Park	28
Lower Stove Prairie	27
Moondance Way	17
Ford Hill	16
Stringtown Gulch	13
CR 41	11
Rist Creek	7
Old Flowers	6
Redstone Canyon	5
Pine Acres	4
Spring Valley	2

Community Outreach

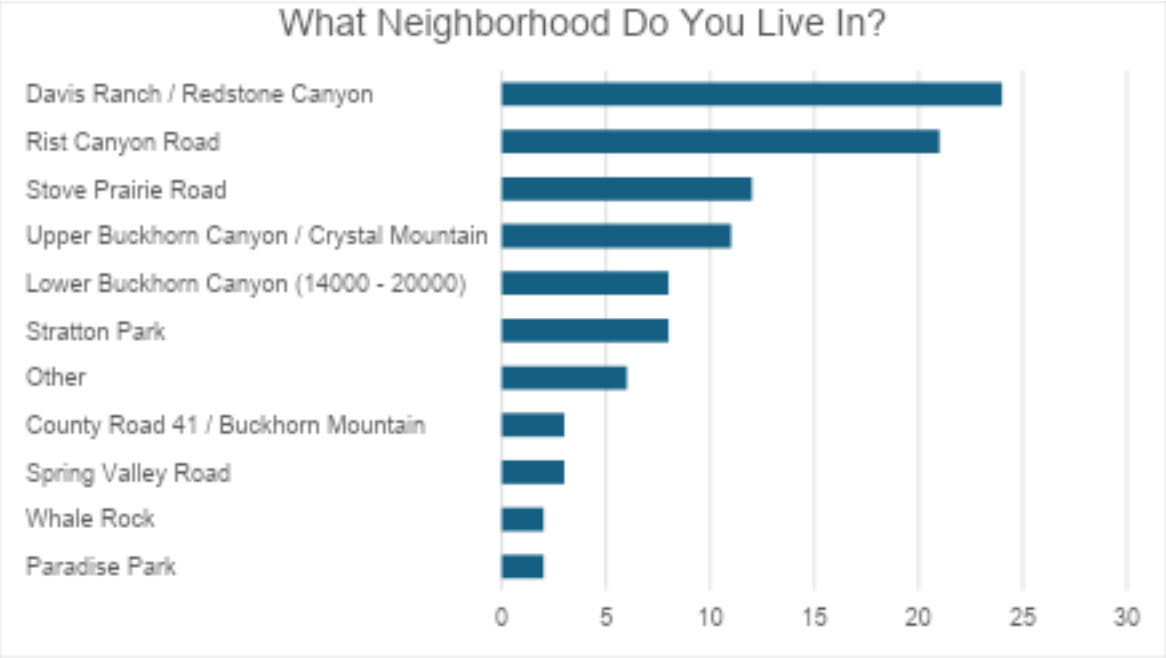
- Introduced plan to community -RCVFD Annual Meeting November 2025
- Created CWPP email to track correspondence
- Updated RCVFD website
- Community Survey – February 2026
- Wildfire Community Preparedness Day Open House – May 2, 2026
- Presentation to RCVFD Operations Team – May 6, 2026
- Presentation to RCVFD Board of Directors - May 20, 2026

A summary of the Community Survey is included below:

Community Survey Results

In February/March 2026, the CWPP team conducted a community survey regarding the RCVFD CWPP. We received 100 responses. While we cannot state categorically that these results are representative of our community overall, they do provide valuable insight. Generally, this is what we heard.

1. **Demographics**
   - 1.1. Nearly all respondents are homeowners. Three quarters live in the area full-time.
   - 1.2. The responses are split relatively evenly among the neighborhoods in the RCVFD response area.



1.3. Two thirds of the responders are over 60 years old, reflecting what RCVFD has seen as a generally older population in the area.

1.4. Many are long-term residents of the area, about a third living here more than 30 years.

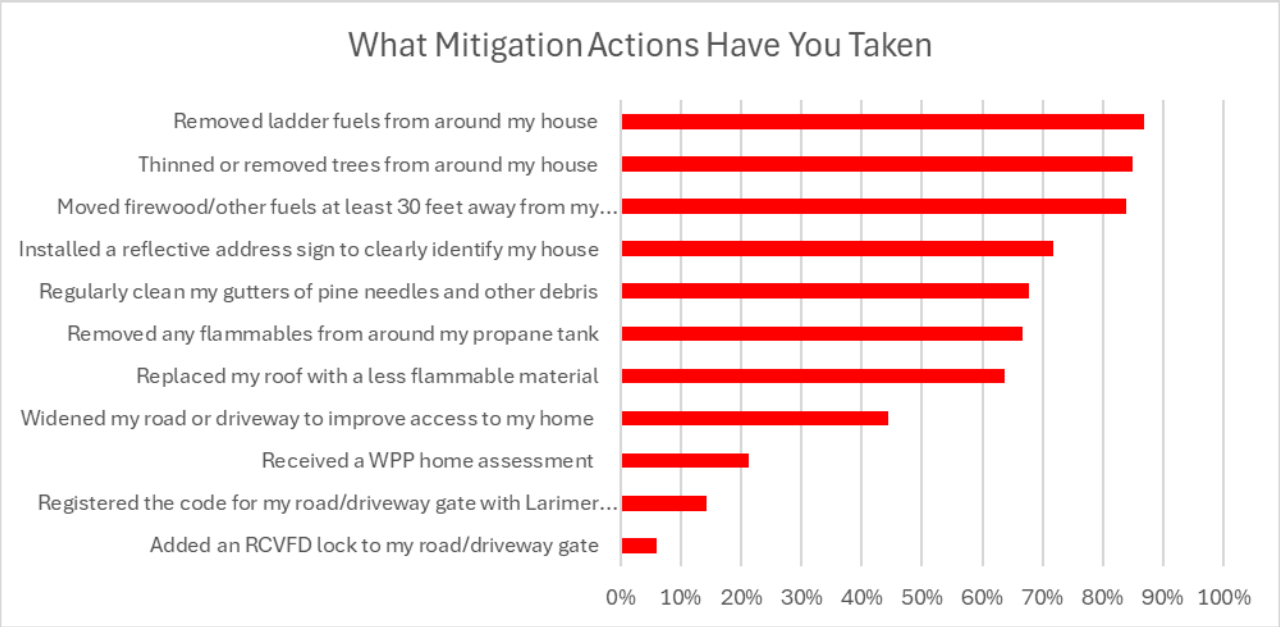
1.5. The age of primary structures is generally older (almost half >30 years old), but there was a “spike” of homes ~ 10 years old representing structures rebuilt after the High Park fire that destroyed more than 200 homes in our community.

1.6. When asked if there are special needs in their household regarding evacuations, ninety-five percent said no, but there were a handful of exceptions. We have added a standing addition to the neighborhood newsletter (Ristwatch) to instruct people on how to register special needs with Larimer County through LETA911.

2. Wildfire Risk Mitigation

2.1. Our respondents are generally well-educated regarding wildfire risk and mitigation in the WUI (87% answered 4 or 5, with 1 representing “clueless” and 5 representing “very familiar”).

2.2. The following graph shows what mitigation steps have already been taken, again showing a high level of sophistication regarding steps necessary to reduce wildfire risks.



2.3. The previous graph shows that many respondents have already completed mitigation projects, thus it is not a surprise that most said there are few barriers

to completing mitigation projects. Although cost of projects and unwillingness to cut trees were the most common barriers reported.

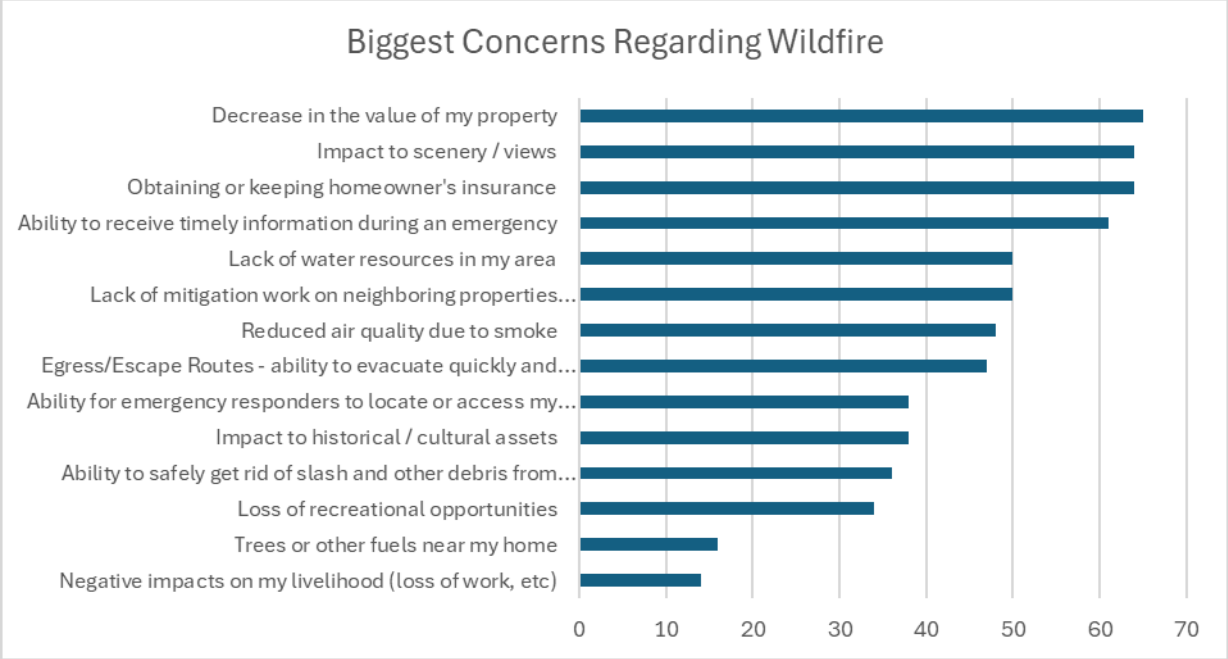
3. Emergency Preparedness

3.1. As would be expected in a community that has experienced catastrophic wildfire, respondents are well prepared for evacuations. Over ninety percent are registered to receive NOCO/LETA 911 alerts and more than 3 out of 4 have made an evacuation list and completed a walk through of their home.

4. Your Thoughts

4.1. When asked why they chose to live in the RCVFD response area, respondents said "Peace & Tranquility", "Rural Setting", and "Scenery & Wildlife" are the most important. This sentiment is also reflected in the following question regarding concerns about wildfire with "Impact on scenery/views" as the second biggest concern.

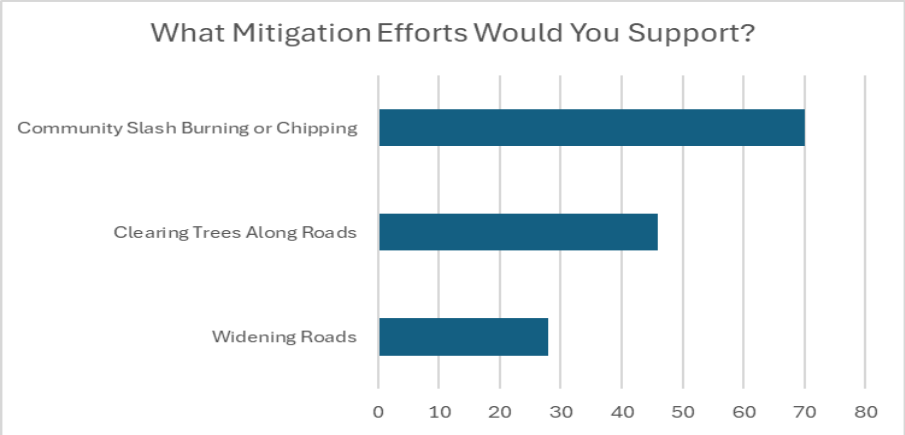
4.2. The two of the three biggest concerns regarding wildfire were financial in nature with respondents being concerned about their property value and the ability to get homeowners insurance.



4.3. While egress and escape routes did not show up as a top concern, many of the open-ended comments at the end of this section noted egress concerns.

4.4. When asked what measures respondents would support in their neighborhood, community slash disposal was by far the favorite. While egress and escape

routes are problematic in many areas, there was less support for widening roads or clearing trees along roads.



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