

Jackson 105 Fire Protection District Community Meeting



**Jackson 105 Fire Station 142
435 N. Perry Park Road
Sedalia, CO**

**October 19, 2010
7:00 p.m.**

CWPP Core Team Members Present

Josh Keown, Douglas County Wildfire Mitigation
Jill Alexander, Douglas County Wildfire Mitigation
Kristin Garrison, Colorado State Forest Service
Thomas Welle, Douglas County Open Space and Natural Resources
Matt Schweich, US Forest Service Pike National Forest
Chris Phillips, Jackson 105 Fire Protection District

Community Attendance:

14 attendees signed in at the meeting. Attendees represented the communities of Perry Pines, Dakan Road, Jackson Creek Road, and Christy Ridge. Several attendees were also observed in the room who did not sign in, primarily consisting of volunteers from the Jackson 105 fire department. *We appreciate the fire department's attendance and support.*

Meeting Proceedings:

A presentation covering the following topics was given to the participants at the meeting: CWPP Background, Douglas County Process, Draft Hazard Map/Community Delineation, County Lands Assessment, Draft Fuel Treatments, and Next Steps.

After the presentation a general question and answer session was held and attendees reviewed maps. The meeting ended at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Questions and Comments: The following summarizes the questions and comments captured during the meeting proceedings.

- **Question:** Was the National Fire Incident Reporting System Data (NFIRS) used to determine areas of ignition risk?
Answer: The Douglas County CWPP Core Team looked into using the data, but found that the reporting was inconsistent across the county. Instead, to determine ignition risk potential ignition sources were used. These include campgrounds, lightning density, railroads, hiking trails, and roads. Power lines were also included, but lumped in the values category where they got a higher weighting. When determining hazard potential, ignition risk is not as important of a factor as potential fire behavior (based off of fuels and topography) and its proximity to values. This is because we never truly know where the next fire will occur.
- **Comment:** Acres burned in the WUI (wildland urban interface) in the past 5 years need to be added to the hazard map.
Response: Due to reporting methods it is difficult to capture all acreage that has been burned in the WUI in the past. However, large fires since 2002 are on the map, but probably do not stand out enough. We will try to adjust the map so they stand out more.
- **Question:** What happens to the maps and data available from the plan once it is finished?
Answer: The plan and data will remain on the website and be available for the public and local communities, especially for creating localized CWPPs. The plan and maps will also be updated periodically to reflect future changes.
- **Question:** Was any additional funding allocated for this project?
Answer: There was no additional funding line allocated to preparation of this plan.
- **Comment:** The plan should include objectives with benchmarks such as reducing a certain number of communities from high hazard to moderate hazard.
Response: As the draft plan is being written, based off of public and core team input, the DC CWPP Core Team is identifying realistic and useful goals and objectives for the plan.
- **Comment:** Douglas County should spend funds on private lands to reduce the highest hazards instead of treating their own lands.
Response: Presently there is no program in place to do this. It will be up to the Board of County Commissioners on how they move forward with the plan. We will capture this input for the Commissioners to consider.
- **Comment:** There should be a quantifiable goal to seek funding to mitigate acreage in the county on public or private land.
Response: The comment was noted as this may be beyond the scope of this process. The input provided from these meetings will be provided to the Commissioners.

- **Question:** What is the relationship between the Douglas County CWPP and the insurance industry?

Answer: The CSFS has looked into this and generally the insurance companies have their own hazard assessment methodologies and have been conducting those for a number of years. There are also many assessments on the web that have been available for some time now. To our knowledge CWPPs have not been used by the insurance industry to assess homes and policies. Additionally, the hazard assessment and community rankings look only at general landscape scale hazard potential and not the specific hazard to each individual home in identified communities. The Douglas County CWPP will clearly state that it is not appropriate to make inferences about the hazard level of individual homes from this assessment. More, fine scale variables such as defensible space, access, construction materials, and response aspects must also be factored in.
- **Comment:** The plan should provide a strong emphasis for seeking funding to make available for individual homeowners.

Response: We will capture this input for the Commissioners to consider.
- **Question:** What is a good estimation of the number of hours to complete a local level CWPP?

Answer: Each one is different; however, much of the background information will be available in the completed version of the Douglas County CWPP to make the process quicker and more streamlined. For instance, the Douglas County CWPP will provide a landscape scale hazard assessment and community hazard rankings to aid in the local level hazard assessment, county owned open space treatment recommendations, and a discussion of the fire protection district and suppression capabilities. With the majority of the background information provided through the Douglas County CWPP it is estimated that it would take at least 6 months to complete a local plan due to the time it takes to gain understanding and support from the community. We will provide an outline of the “next steps” communities need to take to complete a local plan when the Douglas County CWPP is completed.
- **Comment:** It should be clear in the plan that one of its purposes is to simplify the local CWPP planning process and reduce the time it takes complete a local level CWPP.

Response: We will make sure to incorporate that into the plan and will re-emphasize that at future meetings and on the website.
- **Comment:** A graphic of completed local level CWPPs should be added to the plan.

Response: This will be incorporated into the final plan along with a list of the communities with completed plans. The plans are currently available to view on the CSFS website.