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3.6 INTEGRATED PLANNING

GOAL: MAXIMIZE INTEGRATION OF PLANNING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY AND ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE TO WILDFIRE.

OBJECTIVE 6

THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL AND ITS COLLABORATORS WILL COOPERATE TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY AND ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE TO WILDFIRE BY COORDINATING PLANNING EFFORTS AMONG LOCAL, STATE, REGIONAL, TRIBAL, AND FEDERAL STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING THOSE IDENTIFIED IN THIS CWPP.

The following metrics and priority actions have been identified by the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council towards meeting the goal of maximizing integration of planning efforts to improve community and ecosystem resilience to wildfire. Background information regarding the need for integrated planning related to wildfire preparedness is found throughout the *Risk Assessment* chapters in *Part 5* of this CWPP. Information regarding local planning issues can be found in the various *Planning Unit Action Plans* in *Part 4* of this CWPP.

It is the intention of the collaborators of this CWPP that everything recommended in this Action Plan be implemented expeditiously over the next five years. That said, implementation is subject to the availability of funds and other resources, and the willingness and ability of community members and CWPP collaborators to take action.

3.6.1 METRIC: LOCAL WILDFIRE-PREPAREDNESS CAPACITY

THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL AND ITS PARTNERS WILL IDENTIFY AT LEAST ONE COMMUNITY LEADER OR ORGANIZATION IN EACH PLANNING UNIT TO FACILITATE A WORKING FAMILIARITY WITH THEIR PLANNING UNIT ACTION PLAN, PRIORITIZING AREAS WITHOUT A COMMUNITY-LEVEL CWPP OR FIREWISE® COMMUNITY DESIGNATION.

PRIORITY ACTION 1	
OUTREACH TO COMMUNITIES TO GUIDE RESIDENTS REGARDING THEIR EXISTING PLANNING UNIT ACTION PLAN AND HOW TO USE IT TO IMPROVE WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS IN THEIR COMMUNITY.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>The <i>Planning Unit Action Plans</i> in Part 4 can function as the equivalent of a local CWPP for each of the 14 planning units of this countywide CWPP and their included communities. Residents can use the <i>Planning Unit Action Plans</i> as a source of direction and inspiration for taking action at the neighborhood and community levels.</p> <p>This action will reach out to interested individuals and organizations in each planning unit to identify those who are good candidates to move projects forward (spark plugs) and begin implementing them.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	Humboldt County Fire Safe Council (HCFSC) Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	Fire Safe Councils (FSCs) and Firewise® Communities, County of Humboldt, CAL FIRE, Six Rivers National Forest (SRNF), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), watershed councils, other conservation organizations, California Conservation Corps (CCC), Humboldt County Resource Conservation District (HCRCD), and other interested organizations.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify target communities, especially those without an existing local CWPP or Firewise® Community designation. Use wildfire events as organizing opportunities for communities. ➤ Identify community leaders/spark plugs in each community, including those who attended the 2017 CWPP workshops.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Direct communities to their <i>Planning Unit Action Plan</i> in Part 4 of this CWPP. Make copies available to community leaders. ➤ Provide guidance to communities regarding how to use their <i>Planning Unit Action Plan</i> to identify priority projects for implementation. ➤ Support community groups in identifying one project to implement, including those identified in <i>Metric 3.2.6</i>. ➤ Work with communities to identify needed resources and action steps to implement their priority project. ➤ Connect communities with appropriate agencies or other community organizations that can help walk them through implementation steps. ➤ Connect community organizers with potential FSC/Firewise® mentors. ➤ Be available as an ongoing resource through project development and implementation. ➤ Help communities to celebrate their accomplishments when projects are completed or underway. ➤ Publicize project completion. ➤ Share results and lessons learned with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Help communities write up a project summary for the next CWPP update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	A COMMUNITY LEADER OR COORDINATION POINT IDENTIFIED IN EACH PLANNING UNIT WITH A PROJECT IDENTIFIED IN THEIR PLANNING UNIT ACTION PLAN UNDERWAY.

The following lists of Potential Projects are those supported by this CWPP as having a positive benefit towards meeting this Metric, Objective, and Goal. The Humboldt County Fire Safe Council and its collaborators support and encourage implementation of the potential projects listed throughout this Action Plan.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

- Facilitate supportive language in the County General Plan and local CWPPs to aid local project implementation fundraising. Identify how to share this information with local practitioners to help their funding competitiveness.
- Support local FSCs, Firewise® Communities, and other community leaders in assuming and developing their role as mentors to support new communities coming into the FSC and/or Firewise processes.

3.6.2 METRIC: LOCAL WILDFIRE-PREPAREDNESS PLANNING

THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL AND ITS PARTNERS WILL SUPPORT LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AT LEAST THREE FIREWISE® ASSESSMENTS, CWPPs, OR OTHER LOCAL PLANS.

(For formation of new Fire Safe Councils or Firewise® Communities, see Metric 3.2.4.)

PRIORITY ACTION 1 FACILITATE FIREWISE® COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS THROUGHOUT HUMBOLDT COUNTY.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Firewise® Communities/USA Recognition Program teaches people living within the wildland-urban interface (WUI) how to adapt to living with wildfire by preparing for a fire before it occurs. This program empowers communities with tools and resources for reducing their wildfire risk and encourages neighbors to work together to take action to minimize losses from wildfire. Some preparedness actions include creating and maintaining defensible space around structures by reducing vegetation and removing debris, and hardening homes with fire-resistant construction materials and landscaping techniques.</p> <p>This action will encourage communities to use the <i>Planning Unit Action Plans</i> of this CWPP as the basis for the development of a <i>Firewise Community Wildfire Risk Assessment</i> and direct them to any technical support that may be available through the HCFSC and its members.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)/Firewise® USA, CAL FIRE, Local Firewise® Communities, fire departments, tribes, community organizations, watershed groups, neighborhood associations, road associations.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify <i>Firewise® Communities</i> without an existing <i>Community Wildfire Risk Assessment</i>. ➤ Work with CAL FIRE to guide communities in conducting a <i>Community Wildfire Risk Assessment</i>.¹ ➤ Create a <i>Community Wildfire Risk Assessment</i> with assistance from CAL FIRE and/or local fire department (County staff can also be a resource to help with this). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Form a board or committee and create an Action Plan based on the <i>Community Wildfire Risk Assessment</i>. This can be a duty added to an already existing board or committee. ○ Conduct one wildfire risk-reduction educational outreach event. ○ At a minimum, invest the equivalent of one volunteer hour valued at \$24.14 per dwelling unit in wildfire risk-reduction actions. ○ Submit an electronic application. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	THREE FIREWISE® COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS WILL BE COMPLETED.

¹ <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Wildfire/Firewise-USA/Become-a-Firewise-USA-site>

3.6.3 METRIC: CWPP CONSIDERATION BY LOCAL AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL WILL ADVOCATE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THIS CWPP IN ALL RELEVANT LOCAL COMMUNITY, TRIBAL, OR GOVERNMENT FIRE AND EMERGENCY PLANNING EFFORTS.

PRIORITY ACTION 1	
PROVIDE A COPY OF THIS CWPP TO ALL LOCAL AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS WITHIN THE COUNTY.	
DESCRIPTION	Local and tribal governments can benefit from the planning, background information, and identification of priority action items outlined in this CWPP. This action will inform them of the existence and goals of this CWPP and can include an offer to provide presentations to them about the CWPP. This CWPP can be used as a resource for any related planning efforts within the county.
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	Local cities, tribal governments, relevant County departments, fire departments, Coastal Commission, Humboldt County Association of Governments.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Obtain a list of all local and tribal governments in the county, with contact information for their planning departments and disaster-response planning functions. ➤ Identify other government entities, such as County departments, and the Coastal Commission that might benefit from learning about the CWPP. ➤ Write a cover letter from the HCFSC explaining the CWPP, inviting them to the next quarterly HCFSC meeting, and offering to make a presentation to them about the CWPP. Include this with the copy of the CWPP. ➤ Make available an electronic or hard copy of the CWPP to each jurisdiction. ➤ Follow up with a phone call and offer to make a presentation. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	ALL LOCAL AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS CWPP, WITH GUIDANCE ON HOW TO USE IT TO INFORM COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS.

3.6.4 METRIC: FIRE-PLANNING DATA MANAGEMENT

THE MAJORITY OF THE DATA COLLECTED THROUGH THIS CWPP AND OTHER RELATED PLANNING PROCESSES WILL BE SHARED AND COOPERATIVELY MANAGED AMONG ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.

PRIORITY ACTION 1	
SET UP A SYSTEM TO MANAGE THE DATA GENERATED THROUGH THIS PLANNING PROCESS AND OTHER RELEVANT PARTNER DATA. ENSURE THE CONTINUED SHARING OF DATA SETS AS PROGRESS IS MADE ON PROJECTS AND NEW PRIORITIES ARE IDENTIFIED.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>Using the community mapping exercise for this planning process (<i>see Appendix B.5 for a description of the exercise</i>), beginning with the 24 meetings in 2004-2005, then the reviews and updates at the 16 meetings in 2012, and again in 2017 with 14 workshops around the county, the County has collected a significant amount of data on community-identified values, risks, hazards, resources, evacuation, and projects. The data are currently housed on the County WebGIS Portal (https://webqis.co.humboldt.ca.us/HCEGIS2.6_CWPP) where this information is made available to the public. In addition, the County provides GIS data sets for download and use, including some data relevant to fire planning: https://humboldtqov.org/276/GIS-Data-Download.</p> <p>CAL FIRE and other agencies and organizations also develop and maintain data layers for fuel reduction and other projects they implement. The goal of this action is to share data sets, keep data layers updated, and integrate the community-identified information with</p>

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	<p>completed projects and other ground-truthed information, with a constant feedback loop. Finally, data sets from other relevant planning efforts would be integrated or referenced, such as state data sets on habitable structures.</p> <p>Eventually, data-sharing partners should explore the best place to house all this data, whether that be with the County, CAL FIRE, or another entity.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	County Planning and Building, CAL FIRE, County OES, Cal OES, SRNF/Redwood National Park (RNP), BLM, FEMA, FSCs, Firewise® Communities, HCRCD, watershed councils and other community organizations, fire departments, emergency medical service (EMS).
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify current issues regarding data sharing and updating. ➤ Confirm if County Web GIS and data download site are the appropriate data hosts, and if so, how the sites will be managed and updated. ➤ Alternatively, identify if someone other than the County would be the current and/or future keeper of the data, ensuring there is one place to go to find the current information about a project or place in Humboldt County. ➤ Identify a budget and a funding source to support data management. ➤ Identify a process to share data and what the process should be for sensitive data (determine if access needs to be controlled for some data sets). ➤ Develop a mechanism to update and/or ground-truth data by land managers, FSCs, and other practitioners. ➤ Upload new data from 2017 workshops. ➤ Get data from local FSCs and other community projects and upload. ➤ County OES review community-identified evacuation information. ➤ Identify road ingress and egress issues that increase emergency response times. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	A SYSTEM IN PLACE TO MANAGE, SHARE, AND REGULARLY UPDATE FIRE-PLANNING DATA.

PRIORITY ACTION 2	
ENSURE THAT THE EXISTENCE OF THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY WEB GIS PORTAL IS WELL KNOWN, AND THAT RESIDENTS AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS UNDERSTAND THE BENEFITS OF THE COMMUNITY FIRE MAPPING PROJECT LAYERS.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>As described above, the Humboldt County Web GIS Portal contains the community-identified fire-planning data associated with this and previous planning processes. It's a valuable resource for anyone wanting to implement projects and/or understand local concerns. This action will share relevant GIS data with existing and emerging FSCs and other local entities to aid in their wildfire-mitigation planning efforts. It can also be a valuable information source for fire departments. Finally, this information can be used to outreach to residents to help them understand their vulnerability to wildfire.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group with County Planning and Building
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	Fire departments, Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association (HCFCA), FSCs and Firewise® Communities, other local organizational partners.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brainstorm issues and outreach opportunities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Set up a training with County GIS staff for FSC and Firewise representatives to learn how to navigate the portal and provide project progress updates. ➤ Develop simple outreach materials about the availability of the portal and how it can be used. ➤ Share materials with target groups. ➤ Share availability of portal on social media, local media outlets, and with local partners, County departments, and any other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Present portal to County Board of Supervisors to secure continued funding, showing interest and use by public and local FSCs, Firewise Communities, and fire departments. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	INCREASED AWARENESS AND USE OF THE WEBGIS PORTAL BY LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS, FIRE SAFE COUNCILS, FIREWISE® COMMUNITIES, OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS WORKING ON WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS, AND INTERESTED RESIDENTS.

3.6.5 METRIC: INTEGRATION WITH COUNTY GENERAL PLAN

THIS CWPP WILL SUPPORT AND COMPLEMENT THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY GENERAL PLAN.

PRIORITY ACTION 1	
COLLABORATE WITH COUNTY PLANNERS TO REALIZE ADOPTED GENERAL PLAN POLICIES, STANDARDS, AND IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES AND DEVELOP IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS RELATING TO THIS CWPP.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>The <i>Humboldt County General Plan (GP)</i> and this CWPP are inexorably linked. Active integration will lead to successful implementation of both plans, which will benefit the entire county. The CWPP is cited and referenced multiple times in the <i>General Plan</i>. The <i>GP Safety Element (S-IM6)</i> directs the County to actively support and pursue the implementation recommendations in, and to periodically update, this CWPP.</p> <p>This Work Group and representatives from the Humboldt County Planning and Building Department will work together, with the support of the additional partners mentioned below, to ensure the deliberate integration of the <i>GP</i> and this CWPP.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group and County Planning and Building
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	County of Humboldt, FSCs, fire departments, CAL FIRE Pre-Fire Planning Battalion.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review the GP and identify <i>Policies, Standards, and Implementation Measures</i> relevant to the <i>Goals</i> and <i>Objectives</i> of this CWPP. The scope of the review will include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fire-protection service capacity and delivery items in the <i>Land Use, Community Infrastructure and Services, and Safety Elements</i>. ○ Wildfire hazards, fuel management, and prescribed-burning items in the <i>Land Use, Conservation and Open Space, and Safety Elements</i>. ○ Development standards to improve life safety and reduce risks and hazards in the wildlands contained in the <i>Land Use and Safety Elements</i>. ○ Smoke-management items contained in the <i>Air Quality Element</i>. ○ Items throughout the <i>GP</i>, if any, that inform regulators and the public of

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the implications of climate change on future wildfire risk. ○ Items in the <i>Conservation and Open Space Elements</i> that may promote forest health and inhibit fuel-hazard reduction. ○ Characterization of wildfire hazard in the <i>General Plan Update</i> environmental review and background reports.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review the <i>GP Implementation Action Plan, Appendix A</i>, to compare the priorities of this CWPP with the County’s priorities for implementing the <i>GP</i>. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify <i>GP</i> items relevant to this CWPP that are already being implemented on an ongoing basis by Planning and Building as a part of project review and determine if HCFSC involvement would be beneficial. ○ Identify the items that are Priority Actions in both plans and initiate collaborative implementation as appropriate. ○ Determine where CWPP priority actions are not identified as priorities in the <i>GP Action Plan</i> and secure and apply additional resources (funding and staffing) to support coordinated implementation. ➤ Establish a process to inform and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors related to the integrated implementation of the <i>GP</i> and this CWPP. ➤ Encourage the County to update the <i>GP</i> as necessary, to reflect changes in this CWPP. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For example, use the 2019 update of the <i>GP Housing Element</i> to make changes to the <i>GP</i> to reflect recommendations from this CWPP. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	COUNTY GENERAL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND ASSOCIATED ORDINANCES WILL REFLECT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THIS CWPP.

3.6.6 METRIC: INTEGRATION WITH COUNTYWIDE REGULATORY UPDATES AND PLANNING EFFORTS

THIS CWPP WILL SUPPORT AND COMPLEMENT THE DEVELOPMENT AND UPDATE OF RELEVANT COUNTYWIDE REGULATIONS, POLICIES, AND PLANS. THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL WILL INFORM AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN THESE MATTERS.

PRIORITY ACTION 1	
HCFSC WILL SUPPORT COUNTY PLANNERS TO UPDATE THE COUNTY “SRA FIRE SAFE REGULATIONS” AND OTHER REGULATIONS AS APPROPRIATE TO INCORPORATE CURRENT WILDFIRE-MITIGATION SCIENCE AND BEST PRACTICES.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>The County <i>SRA Fire Safe Regulations</i>² constitute the basic wildland fire-protection standards for new building, construction, and development in State Responsibility Areas (SRA). The <i>County SRA Regulations</i> must meet the intent of or exceed state standards. The County <i>General Plan</i> directs the update of the <i>SRA Fire Safe Regulations</i> to ensure that fire mitigation is proportional to risk as identified in <i>State Fire Hazard Severity Maps</i>. This CWPP further specifies updating the <i>SRA Fire Safe Regulations</i> to identify specific local hazard areas based on past fire history, weather, location on the slope, and other local characteristics that influence fire behavior. The requirement for specific fire-safe measures for those identified areas should be evaluated to address structural ignitability, road conditions and evacuation considerations, vegetation setbacks, ongoing fuel management, and improved enforcement.</p>

² <https://humboldtqov.org/documentcenter/view/278>

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	<p>It is anticipated that the State will soon revise regulations to reflect recent catastrophic fires, and the County will have a specific period of time in which to bring the local regulations into compliance. This will be an important time to ensure that the most current fire-safe techniques are incorporated into county regulations, and that the enforcement of these regulations is well coordinated in local jurisdictions throughout the county. This work must be completed to ensure that existing and new development has the best possible chance of surviving wildfire, to allow for effective and safe fire response and community evacuation, and be designed to minimize contribution to wildfire ignition risk and intensity.</p> <p>This Work Group will participate on an advisory basis. The effort would be led by County Planning and Building.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	County Planning and Building with HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	HCFC, CAL FIRE, FSCs, conservation organizations, watershed councils.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify the steps necessary and the process required for updating the <i>SRA Fire Safe Regulations</i> and establish a clear role for the HCFSC. ➤ Identify and develop tools (e.g. maps, criteria, data, models) for County Planners to guide fire-safe development, based on current wildfire-mitigation science and best practices. ➤ Incorporate the findings of local climate-change planning into regulatory updates. For example, reference the climate-change components of the soon-to-be-updated <i>County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan</i>. ➤ Integrate performance measures and development guidance that do not fit within the <i>SRA Regulations</i> into other existing regulations, or create new regulations as needed. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	UPDATED COUNTY SRA FIRE SAFE REGULATIONS AND OTHER REGULATIONS AS APPROPRIATE, INTEGRATING BEST AVAILABLE WILDFIRE-MITIGATION SCIENCE AND PRACTICES, AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THIS CWPP.

PRIORITY ACTION 2	
HCFSC WILL SUPPORT COUNTY PLANNERS TO INCORPORATE ECOLOGICALLY BASED FUEL-REDUCTION OPTIONS IN THE UPDATE OF THE STREAMSIDE MANAGEMENT AREA ORDINANCE AND APPLICABLE ZONING REGULATIONS.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>Within two years of the adoption of the County <i>General Plan</i> (adopted on October 23, 2017), the <i>Streamside Management Ordinance of Humboldt County (SMAO)</i> must be updated to ensure consistency with the <i>General Plan</i>. The SMAO provides:</p> <p>“...minimum standards pertaining to the use and development of land located within Streamside Management Areas (SMAs) and other wet areas such as: natural ponds, springs, vernal pools, marshes, and wet meadows (exhibiting standing water year-long or riparian vegetation).”³</p> <p>The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will also likely require a permit (1600 permit) under these conditions. In addition, the clearing of vegetation around a home beyond thirty feet to comply with the California state standard of one-hundred feet for fire safety could trigger the need for a special permit from the county in <i>Residential Zones</i>, including the <i>Rural Residential Agriculture Zone</i>. Under these current county and</p>

³ <https://humboldt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/198>

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	<p>state laws, vegetation management to reduce wildfire hazards within SMAs and certain zoning districts could trigger a potentially cost-prohibitive site evaluation and special permit. These regulations could be a disincentive for active wildfire hazard reduction, potentially resulting in unnecessary losses and unintended damage to sensitive riparian ecosystems.</p> <p>The <i>Work Group</i> will collaborate with the partners listed below to encourage the incorporation of wildfire-hazard reduction considerations into the updated SMAO and applicable zoning regulations, seeking solutions to avoid this disincentive.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	County Planning and Building, CDFW, CAL FIRE, University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), FSCs, Salmonid Restoration Federation, watershed councils, conservation organizations.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Participate in the scheduled update of the SMAO. ➤ Review the existing SMAO to understand how it has impacted or could impact hazardous fuel-reduction efforts. ➤ Consult with partners to deepen understanding of and identify options for improvements to the regulation. ➤ Work with <i>County Planners</i> to develop and provide recommendations to the SMAO update that will allow fuel treatments in SMAs that are consistent with streamside protections and will support reducing wildfire hazards. ➤ Review county zoning regulations impacting fuel-reduction activities beyond thirty feet from homes and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evaluate options for reducing the impact of this regulation on fuel-reduction activities. ○ Make recommendations to the county for performance standards that, if met, would replace the need for a permit. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	UPDATED SMAO INCORPORATING BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE AND PRACTICES, AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THIS CWPP, FOR ECOLOGICALLY BASED FUEL REDUCTION.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

- Integrate wildfire preparedness into new cannabis regulations (*see Metric 3.1.2*).
- Make sure there is reference to this CWPP and associated action items in the *Humboldt Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan* and any future updates.
- Continue to improve notifications to local fire departments about property ownership transactions and new building permits.
- Sudden Oak Death (SOD):
 - Support policy development and permit streamlining to facilitate rapid and effective response to protect resources at risk from SOD.
 - Advocate for restrictions on selling SOD-infected plants and soil within the county.

3.6.7 METRIC: INTEGRATION WITH STATE WILDFIRE-PLANNING EFFORTS

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THIS CWPP WILL SUPPORT COMPLIANCE WITH RELEVANT AIR AND WATER QUALITY STANDARDS AND OTHER STATEWIDE REGULATIONS, POLICIES, AND PLANNING EFFORTS.

PRIORITY ACTION 1 ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT RESIDENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONDUCTING PRESCRIBED BURNS TO DO DUE DILIGENCE REGARDING PERMITTING, SMOKE MANAGEMENT PLANS, AND COMPLIANCE ISSUES TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH FROM SMOKE IMPACTS.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>This action will provide, promote, and explore new technologies, information, and methods to track, treat, and aid in protecting public health from smoke (i.e., modeling, Personal Protective Equipment, personal air sensors, etc.). It will include sharing links on weather conditions, such as the <i>Area Forecast Discussion</i> and <i>Fire Weather Planning Discussion</i>.⁴</p> <p>Outreach to support and implement due diligence is detailed in <i>Metric 3.5.1</i>.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group and North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD)
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	CAL FIRE, UCCE, Humboldt County Prescribed Burn Association, Mid-Klamath Watershed Council, FSCs, fire departments.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brainstorm to identify issues and opportunities. ➤ Provide online examples of completed and accepted Smoke Management Plans for prescribed burns of different sizes as a reference for practitioners. ➤ Support smoke-modeling trainings as they become available for practitioners seeking to acquire these skills. ➤ Provide online resources for accurately filling out CAL FIRE and Air Quality permits. ➤ Share materials created in <i>Metric 3.5.4</i>. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	ALL PRESCRIBED FIRE PROJECTS WILL BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL AIR QUALITY REGULATORY AND PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS.

PRIORITY ACTION 2 SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE THE DISSEMINATION OF NCUAQMD INFORMATION DURING WILDFIRES.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>Public health effects from wildfire smoke are a vital concern among affected communities during wildfires. This action would 1) provide schools with the tools to respond to smoke impacts during wildfire events and 2) establish coordinated communication between the County Public Health Officer, County OES, and the NCUAQMD before and during wildfires.</p> <p>The NCUAQMD recently began to distribute a chart titled <i>Recommendations for Schools and Others Responsible for Children during a Wildfire Smoke Event</i>.⁵ This chart provides information regarding actions to be taken during certain air quality conditions. These actions are based on Air Quality Index values provided by the NCUAQMD and type of activity. This chart will be updated each year as needed, with distribution to schools occurring prior to the end of the school year and before the wildfire season.</p>

⁴ <https://www.weather.gov/fire>

⁵ <http://www.ncuaqmd.org/files/Wildfire/EPA%20Wildfire%20air%20quality%20guide%20for%20schools,%20NCUAQMD%20rev%204-18.pdf>

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RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group and NCUAQMD
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	County OES, County Public Health, County Office of Education, schools, tribes, FSCs, Firewise® Communities, fire departments, CAL FIRE, HCFCA, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs).
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify HCFSC role. ➤ Meet with NCUAQMD, County OES, and County Public Health to discuss issues and opportunities and timing of actions. ➤ Meet with NCUAQMD and County Office of Education to discuss issues and opportunities. ➤ Brainstorm outreach avenues and opportunities for disseminating Air Quality information before and during wildfires. ➤ Update NCUAQMD chart and distribute. ➤ Continue to improve the quality of and accessibility to air quality information during wildfires and prescribed fires. ➤ Provide links on HCFSC and HCFCA websites. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	TIMELY DISSEMINATION OF LOCAL AIR QUALITY INFORMATION DURING WILDFIRES.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

- Participation in the *Smoke Spotter Program*. The NCUAQMD continues to implement its ongoing *Spotter Program*. During smoke and wildfire events, interested individuals—known as smoke spotters—report visual information for their respective locations in various remote areas within the county throughout the day. This information is incorporated into the NCUAQMD notifications.
- Coordinate with *State Parks* to include HCFSC, local FSCs, and local fire departments in their planning and project development efforts.
- Explore the possible use of personal air sensors and other new technology.

3.6.8 METRIC: INTEGRATION WITH CAL FIRE HUMBOLDT–DEL NORTE UNIT FIRE PLAN

THIS CWPP WILL SUPPORT AND COMPLEMENT CAL FIRE’S HUMBOLDT–DEL NORTE UNIT FIRE PLAN.

PRIORITY ACTION 1	
CAL FIRE ANNUALLY REVIEW THIS CWPP FOR GUIDANCE AND COMMUNITY INPUT ON PRIORITY PROJECTS AND VALUES AND ASSETS AT RISK.	
DESCRIPTION	CAL FIRE Humboldt–Del Norte Unit (HUU) updates its strategic <i>Unit Plan</i> ⁶ every year, submitting it to Sacramento annually in the late spring. This action would systematize integration of the planning efforts. CAL FIRE will annually review this CWPP for inclusion in the <i>HUU Unit Plan</i> . They will follow this review by presenting the draft <i>Unit Plan</i> at the HCFSC quarterly winter or spring meeting for input, including reviewing proposed priority projects for the next year in the HUU plan update process.
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	CAL FIRE, HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group

⁶ http://cdfdata.fire.ca.gov/fire_er/fpp_planning_plans_details?plan_id=270

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ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	FSCs, Firewise® Communities, others implementing fuel hazard reduction and community wildfire-preparedness projects.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Schedule CAL FIRE presentation at the winter or spring HCFSC meeting for the annual update. ➤ Work Group review CAL FIRE proposed priority projects and the <i>Planning Unit Action Plans</i> in Part 4 of this CWPP to ensure integration. ➤ CAL FIRE present <i>HUU Unit Plan</i> update to HCFSC spring meeting. ➤ Monitor integration and recommendations. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	PROJECT INTEGRATION BETWEEN THIS CWPP AND THE CAL FIRE HUMBOLDT–DEL NORTE UNIT FIRE PLAN.

3.6.9 METRIC: INTEGRATION WITH FEDERAL WILDFIRE EFFORTS

THIS CWPP WILL SUPPORT COORDINATION WITH ALL RELEVANT FEDERAL REGULATIONS, POLICIES, AND PLANNING EFFORTS, INCLUDING THE IDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITIES AT RISK AND THE WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE.

PRIORITY ACTION 1	
FACILITATE HCFSC PARTICIPATION IN THE CREATION OF ANY FEDERAL FIRE OR LAND-MANAGEMENT PUBLIC PLANNING PROCESSES TO FACILITATE COORDINATION WITH THIS CWPP.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>Most activities that occur on public lands, especially in terms of ground-disturbing activities, have their basis in a federal planning document or process. These can include a <i>Fire Management Plan, Land and Resource Management Plan, and Forest Management Plan</i> for the US Forest Service, and an <i>Integrated Area Management Plan</i> for the BLM. It is most effective to plan with federal partners up front to include community priorities such as fuel reduction and prescribed fire in locally relevant planning documents. HCFSC participation in related federal fire or land-management processes can facilitate this at the county scale.</p> <p>Additionally, HCFSC and its partners can work closely with federal partners to understand and help disseminate information about regulations and policies relevant to community wildfire preparedness and protection.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	US Forest Service, National Park Service, BLM, Bureau of Indian Affairs, tribes, US Fish and Wildlife Service.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Meet with federal land managers in Humboldt County. ➤ Review existing federal planning efforts in Humboldt County. ➤ Identify possible participatory roles for the HCFSC and/or its representatives in current and future federal planning efforts. ➤ HCFSC actively participate in current and future federal planning efforts. ➤ HCFSC help disseminate relevant wildfire-related information to its networks. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL WILL PARTICIPATE IN AN ADVISORY ROLE IN RELEVANT FEDERAL PUBLIC PLANNING PROCESSES TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THIS CWPP.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

- Accept those areas of the county already designated as WUI in local CWPPs and previous versions of this CWPP.
- Evaluate adding Redwood Valley and Titlow Hill to the federal Communities at Risk list.

3.6.10 METRIC: CWPP UPDATE

THIS CWPP WILL BE UPDATED AND MAINTAINED BY THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL, WITH ITS NEXT UPDATE PLANNED FOR 2024, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL RELEVANT GUIDELINES.

PRIORITY ACTION 1 REGULARLY TRACK AND CELEBRATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL AND ITS PARTNERS.	
DESCRIPTION	This CWPP is updated every five years. This current version is the second update or third iteration of the Humboldt County fire plan. This CWPP has been written as a strategic plan for the HCFSC. Therefore, it is the intention of the HCFSC to actively use and update information in this plan over the next five years. Each priority action identified in these <i>Action Plans</i> has a final implementation step of writing a summary of the action to be included in the next CWPP Update. Additionally, <i>Work Groups</i> will report on their activities and accomplishments at every quarterly meeting, rotating between groups. As part of this updating process, HCFSC and partners will regularly celebrate and publicize accomplishments.
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	All CWPP collaborators.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collect summaries at HCFSC quarterly meetings of completed projects in this action plan to include in the next CWPP Update. ➤ Celebrate and share accomplishments. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>.
DESIRED OUTCOME	THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE HCFSC AND ITS PARTNERS WILL BE TRACKED OVER THE COURSE OF THIS CWPP IMPLEMENTATION, TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2024 SCHEDULED UPDATE.

PRIORITY ACTION 2 SET UP A PROCESS TO REVIEW NEW AND EXISTING LOCAL CWPPs AND IDENTIFY WHERE INTEGRATION IS NECESSARY.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>The intention of this action is to increase HCFSC awareness of relevant, local fire-planning efforts and completed plans to ensure their effective integration into countywide planning efforts. There are currently four local CWPPs in Humboldt County: Hoopa, Mattole, Orleans, and Willow Creek. The <i>Planning Unit Action Plans</i> in <i>Part 4</i> of this CWPP are integrally tied to these more formalized plans, referring readers to these localized CWPPs for more detail on local issues and priority actions.</p> <p>Any new information from newly developed CWPPs will be incorporated into future updates of this countywide CWPP and the <i>Planning Unit Action Plans</i>.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	Local CWPP authors, CAL FIRE, FSCs.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brainstorm to identify any potential integration issues, e.g different planning areas.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Stay informed about local fire-planning processes happening around the county. ➤ Invite anyone working on local fire-planning issues to attend HCFSC quarterly meetings and make a presentation about their planning effort. ➤ Regularly review new fire-planning efforts in the county to ensure integration and consistency with this CWPP, and to amplify impact through cooperation and mutual assistance. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories and lessons learned on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Monitor integration. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	ALL LOCAL CWPPS IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY WILL BE REVIEWED FOR INTEGRATION INTO THE PLANNING UNIT ACTION PLANS AND THE NEXT UPDATE OF THIS CWPP.

3.6.11 METRIC: CWPP IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING

SECURE FUNDING FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PRIORITY ACTIONS IDENTIFIED IN THIS CWPP OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

PRIORITY ACTION 1	
REACH OUT TO FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY PARTNERS AND FOUNDATIONS TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PLAN.	
DESCRIPTION	<p>As stated throughout these <i>Action Plans</i>, the priority actions will be implemented as resources are available. Successfully achieving the goals of this entire CWPP would require a significant level of money and humanpower. To implement this plan funds are needed for both the HCFSC and its partners, especially local <i>Fire Safe Councils</i>, <i>Firewise® Communities</i>, and <i>fire departments</i>. There is also a clear need for support for local <i>FSC</i> administration, coordination, and active participation in the HCFSC.</p> <p>This action includes reaching out to all possible funding sources for CWPP implementation. <i>Metric 3.4.2</i> details specific actions for fire department funding.</p>
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	SRNF, BLM, CAL FIRE, state legislators, County Board of Supervisors, local foundations, FSCs and Firewise® Communities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brainstorm possible funding sources available to support CWPP implementation. ➤ Develop a local database for the <i>Work Group</i>, or a funding committee, to track information regarding all possible funding sources, application requirements, how to apply, deadlines, and other relevant information. ➤ Discuss priority annual funding needs at HCFSC quarterly meeting; review and update these priorities annually. ➤ Explore possibility of state legislative funding sources that may offer funding for community wildfire preparedness, fuel reduction, etc. ➤ Meet with <i>Humboldt Area Foundation</i> to research new foundation-based funding options. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, potentially including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	ADEQUATE FUNDING TO IMPLEMENT THE PRIORITY ACTIONS IDENTIFIED IN THIS CWPP.

PRIORITY ACTION 2	
SET UP A REGIONAL FUND AT THE HUMBOLDT AREA FOUNDATION TO COLLECT DONATIONS LOCALLY TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS CWPP.	
DESCRIPTION	The Eureka-based Humboldt Area Foundation (HAF) ⁷ can host funds for specific purposes or local organizations. HCFSC will work with HAF to set up a fund to receive donations to support the HCFSC in a variety of ways, including providing matching funds for grants. This fund could also facilitate local fundraising drives, as there would be a credible, tax-deductible entity to receive and disburse any funds raised.
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group and Humboldt Area Foundation
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	Local partners: FSCs, Firewise® Communities, fire departments, watershed organizations, media outlets, elected officials.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Look for other foundations to set up similar funds. ➤ Meet with HAF to discuss starting the fund.⁸ ➤ Draft goals and priorities of new fund and share with HCFSC for review and approval. ➤ Set up a committee to oversee the fund management. ➤ Draft a short funding “pitch” with photos. ➤ Find initial donors to start the fund. ➤ Publicize the fund. ➤ Receive donations. ➤ Report regularly to HCFSC at quarterly meetings. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	A HUMBOLDT COUNTY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE FUND ESTABLISHED WITH FUNDING AT THE HUMBOLDT AREA FOUNDATION.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

- Support local community fundraising efforts for Firewise®.
- Identify an online workspace or other process for the HCFSC Work Groups to collaborate to implement this CWPP.

⁷ <http://www.hafoundation.org>

⁸ <http://www.hafoundation.org/Giving/Start-a-Fund>

3.6.12 METRIC: HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL FUNDING

SECURE \$100,000 ANNUALLY AS AN ONGOING AND SUSTAINABLE FUNDING SOURCE FOR HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL COORDINATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

PRIORITY ACTION 1	
CREATE ONGOING FUNDING FOR BASIC HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND COORDINATION.	
DESCRIPTION	Securing funding for community wildfire-preparedness planning, implementation, and organizing is an ongoing challenge, often overwhelming local organizations. The HCFSC is no exception. Regular and stable funding is needed to facilitate and oversee project implementation, administration, and steady community outreach. Funded tasks could include organizing the HCFSC and its quarterly meetings, grant writing, lobbying to seek funds or comment on relevant legislation, and participating in national, state, and regional efforts, such as the <i>Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network</i> . Funding is also needed to support maintenance of the community fire-planning data in the <i>Web GIS</i> portal, as discussed in <i>Metric 3.6.4</i> above. Finally, discretionary funding is needed for materials, supplies, community outreach, emergency funding, equipment maintenance and/or replacement, and matching funds.
RESPONSIBLE PARTY	HCFSC Integrated Planning Work Group
ADDITIONAL PARTNERS	SRNF, BLM, CAL FIRE, County Board of Supervisors, foundations, FSCs, and Firewise® Communities.
ACTION STEPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Draft a budget for annual HCFSC operations and other needs as identified above. ➤ Brainstorm potential funding sources, both public and private. ➤ Write supportive text to document funding needs. ➤ Prepare presentations for various funders. ➤ Take necessary steps to request general fund allocation from County Board of Supervisors. ➤ Share results with HCFSC and project partners. ➤ Share success stories on HCFSC website, social media, local media outlets, and other avenues, including those detailed in <i>Metric 3.4.1</i>. ➤ Continually monitor results. ➤ Write up a summary for next CWPP Update.
DESIRED OUTCOME	A STABLE SOURCE OF FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL.