

## HUMBOLDT COUNTY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN, 2019

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## APPENDIX A: CWPP REQUIREMENTS

### Healthy Forest Restoration Act,

### Criteria for Certification as a Community Wildfire Protection Plan

The National Fire Plan<sup>1</sup> directed federal agencies to "work directly with communities to ensure adequate protection from wildfires, and to develop a collaborative effort to attain the desired future condition of the land."<sup>2</sup> A CWPP, as defined by the HFRA, is a plan for a community at risk that fulfills the following criteria:

- 6 The plan was developed within the context of the collaborative agreements and the guidance established by the Wildland Fire Leadership Council and agreed to by the applicable local government, local fire department, and State agency responsible for forest management, in consultation with interested parties and the Federal land management agencies managing land in the vicinity of the at-risk community. 9

### **Collaboration**

As documented in *Part 1* and *Appendix B*, this CWPP was collaboratively developed through various channels. Significant efforts were made throughout the planning process to collaborate with local, state, and federal land and fire management agencies. The Humboldt County Fire Safe Council (HCFSC) collaboratively guided the planning process; it is made up of members and advisors from local FSCs, the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association (Fire Chiefs), individual local fire departments and companies, the Humboldt County Office of Emergency Services, the Hoopa Valley Tribe, CAL FIRE, Six Rivers National Forest, North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District, and the insurance industry. In addition, community workshops and outreach efforts were designed and conducted to maximize community input into the process. *For more information on the planning process, see Chapter 1.2, Collaborative Planning Process.*

- 6 The plan identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel-reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment on Federal and non-Federal land that will protect one or more at-risk communities and essential infrastructure. 9

### **Prioritized Fuel Reduction**

This CWPP identifies priority areas for hazardous fuel-reduction treatments and recommends types and methods of treatment to reduce the risk of wildfire to communities and resources within the planning area. The process and policies to support prioritized treatments can be found in *Part 3, Countywide Action Plan*. Locally prioritized treatment areas are identified in the *Planning Unit Action Plans* in *Part 4*. Detailed community-identified fuel-reduction project data are stored and maintained in a Geographic Information System (GIS); the Humboldt County Web GIS is a web-based mapping tool that allows users to interact with this data and is available at: [https://webgis.co.humboldt.ca.us/HCEGIS2.6\\_CWPP](https://webgis.co.humboldt.ca.us/HCEGIS2.6_CWPP).

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<sup>1</sup>An informative summary of the National Fire Plan can be found at: Forests and Rangelands. (n.d.). Resources: Previous Wildland Fire Management Initiatives. Retrieved from <http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/resources/overview/index.shtml>

<sup>2</sup>California Fire Alliance. (2018). Organization and History. Retrieved from <http://www.preventwildfireca.org/Organization-History>

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### Treatment of Structural Ignitability

‘ The plan recommends measures to reduce structural ignitability throughout the at-risk community. ’

This CWPP recommends measures to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the planning area. These recommendations can be found in *Chapter 3.2 Wildfire Preparedness of Part 3, Countywide Action Plan; Part 4, Planning Unit Action Plans; and Appendix H, Living with Wildfire*. In addition, the community workshops conducted during the development of the Plan served as an important venue to educate the public about reducing fire risks to structures, both through presentations by CAL FIRE and the local fire service, and through the distribution of educational materials.

### National Cohesive Strategy

Although this Community Wildfire Protection Plan process originated with the directives of the 2001 National Fire Plan, new guidance has since been developed, policy titles have changed, and new priorities have been identified—all of which have also been incorporated in this CWPP.

The Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC)—an intergovernmental committee of federal, state, tribal, county, and municipal government officials that provides strategic oversight to ensure policy coordination, accountability, and effective implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy—directed the development of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy). The Cohesive Strategy is a collaborative process involving all levels of government, as well as non-governmental organizations and the public in pursuit of “all-lands” solutions to wildfire management issues. It is intended and envisioned “to safely and effectively extinguish fire, when needed; use fire where allowable; manage our natural resources; and as a Nation, live with wildland fire.”<sup>3</sup> From that vision, three primary goals emerged:

- Restoring and Maintaining Fire-Resilient Landscapes,
- Creating Fire-Adapted Communities, and
- Improving Response to Wildfires.

This CWPP shares the Cohesive Strategy’s goals and aims to promote the implementation of policies and actions to further these goals. *Chapter 5.2, Wildfire Environment* examines the factors that make landscapes more resilient or vulnerable to catastrophic wildfire events, acknowledges the crucial role that fire plays in shaping healthy landscapes, and examines current issues and potential scenarios related to climate change. *Chapter 3.5, Restoration of Beneficial Fire* identifies innovative actions to restore and maintain fire-resilient landscapes in Humboldt County.

Various sections of the *Countywide Action Plan* found in *Part 3*, as well as the *Planning Unit Action Plans* in *Part 4*, and *Appendix H, Living with Wildfire* identify actions to create, promote, and support fire-adapted communities.

*Chapter 5.3, Wildfire-Protection Capabilities*, and *Chapter 3.4, Fire Protection* of the *Countywide Action Plan* address the importance of lending administrative and community support to fire-protection entities and identify priority actions to improve wildfire response in Humboldt County.

The synergistic approach of the Cohesive Strategy coincides with the collaborative processes adopted within this CWPP; its development has been widely inclusive and recommendations for moving forward with its implementation advocate for the active involvement of all stakeholders and levels of government.

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<sup>3</sup> Forest and Rangelands. (2014). National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. [PDF]. Retrieved from [www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/documents/reports/1\\_CohesiveStrategy03172011.pdf](http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/documents/reports/1_CohesiveStrategy03172011.pdf)

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### 2018 Strategic Fire Plan for California

This County CWPP also aligns itself with the goals of the California Strategic Fire Plan. Adopted in August 2018, the California Strategic Fire Plan was a cooperative effort between State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and CAL FIRE, and is designed to act as a road map for reducing the risk of wildfire in California. The Strategic Fire Plan is guided by a vision of “a natural environment that is more fire resilient; buildings and infrastructure that are more fire resistant; and a society that is more aware of and responsive to the benefits and threats of wildland fire; all achieved through local, state, federal, tribal, and private partnerships”<sup>4</sup>. The Plan is built upon eight goals and their associated objectives; each goal is meant to build upon the previous one. The Strategic Fire Plan’s goals are intended to “enhance the protection of lives, property and natural resources from wildland fire, as well as improve environmental resilience to wildland fire”<sup>5</sup>. The goals of this County CWPP are consistent with those of the state; they provide an excellent summation of the overarching aspirations and wider purpose of community wildfire protection planning.

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<sup>4</sup> State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection & California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). (2018). 2018 Strategic Fire Plan for California. Retrieved from [http://cdfdata.fire.ca.gov/fire\\_er/fpp\\_planning\\_cafireplan](http://cdfdata.fire.ca.gov/fire_er/fpp_planning_cafireplan)

<sup>5</sup> State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection & CAL FIRE. (2018). 2018 Strategic Fire Plan for California.