

Jefferson County Community Wildfire Protection Plan

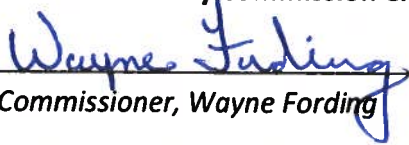
April 2022




Photo courtesy of Volunteer Firefighter Pete Renggli. Grandview Fire June 2021

As required by the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, the undersigned representatives, Jefferson County Commission Chair and Fire Chief, and the Oregon Department of Forestry acknowledge that they have reviewed and approve the contents of this plan.

Jefferson County Commission Chair

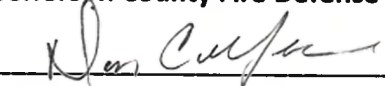


Commissioner, Wayne Fording



Date

Jefferson County Fire Defense Board Chief



Lake Chinook Fire Chief, Don Colfels

5/16/2022

Date

Oregon Department of Forestry Central Oregon District Forester

Gordon R Foster
Digitally signed by Gordon R Foster
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Prineville-Sisters Unit Forester, Gordon Foster

Date

This Community Wildfire Protection Plan represents the efforts and cooperation of a number of organizations and agencies working together to improve preparedness for wildfire events while reducing factors of risk.

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Grant Funding Opportunities

For more information on grants for community prevention and mitigation activities in your area, please reach out to your local fire agency (*see the contact information below*). Please note that funding and grant availability varies year-to-year.

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Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue

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Sisters Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Jefferson County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) was originally written in 2005 and updated in 2011, 2016, and 2022. The current CWPP contains 18 communities and covers a total of 1,146,665 acres.

The Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) was determined using the general guidelines outlined in Senate Bill 762, which adopts the International WUI Code definition: That geographical area where structures and other human development meets or intermingles with wildland vegetative fuels. The International WUI Code provides a framework for regulations to safeguard life and property from the intrusion of wildland fire and to prevent structure fires from spreading to wildland fuels and for defensible space and ignition resistant construction requirements. It is founded on data from tests and fire incidents, technical reports and mitigation strategies from around the world.

Using the State of Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act, “risk” was determined to be high for all of Jefferson County with some communities rated as extreme or high density extreme.

An action plan with performance measures is assessed annually by the Steering Committee with a complete review and re-write occurring every five years.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The Jefferson County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a county-wide, strategic assessment of the risks, hazards, mitigation and prevention opportunities associated with wildfire in our communities. This plan was initially developed in 2005 and updated in 2010-11, 2015-16, and 2021-22. Funding for the update was provided by the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners from the Secure Rural Schools Title III Program. The CWPP is reviewed annually to: identify changes or updates; evaluate effectiveness of coordination between cooperating agencies and community groups and neighborhoods; evaluate progress in meeting specific performance measures; and adjust any monitoring protocols as needed. Coordination and communication will be the critical operative requirements. The CWPP Steering Committee will conduct a thorough review and risk assessment analysis every 5 years; an annual review will be conducted to review the action plan and performance metrics.

The Steering Committee will be composed of the following (at minimum):

- Jefferson County Fire Chiefs
 1. Jefferson County Fire District #1
 2. Crooked River Rural Fire Protection District
 3. Lake Chinook Fire & Rescue
 4. Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District
- Jefferson County Planner
- Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Management Director
- Oregon Department of Forestry, Unit Forester
- Oregon State Fire Marshall
- Representatives from the Rangeland Fire Protection Associations

Recommended additional representation includes Central Oregon Fire Management Service (combined Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management fire organization), Department of State Lands, Portland General Electric, Oregon State Parks, and The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

2.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the CWPP is to identify communities at risk, identify what constitutes the risk, and develop an action plan to mitigate the risk thereby providing for a community that is more resilient to the effects of wildland fire.

For thousands of years wildland fires have moved across Oregon's landscape. In the early 1900's, European settlers began to suppress these fires resulting in unnatural fuels buildup. As a result, wildfires have increasingly impacted communities, especially those developing in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI), an area where wildland fuels and residences are intermixed. The result has been an increase in the number of homes lost each decade to wildfire.

In response to a growing population living in and near the WUI, and often away from structural and wildland response, two significant pieces of legislation were passed. First was the Healthy Forest Initiative (HFI) of 2002, which reduces the amount of administrative delays for federal land management agencies to accomplish hazardous fuels reduction projects. Second, was the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) of 2003, which improves the statutory processes for hazardous fuel reduction projects on federal and private land, especially where communities are "at risk" from the effects of wildland fire. The HFRA invites communities to develop Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) in collaboration with local governments, local fire departments and state foresters in consultation with their federal partners.

The Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 prompted the development of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. The Cohesive Strategy is a national fire policy that calls for stakeholders to work collaboratively on achieving three goals: resilient landscapes, fire adapted communities, and safe and effective wildfire response. In 2011, the Western Regional Strategy Committee was established to implement the goals of the Cohesive Strategy at a regional scale and in April 2014 a final phase in the development of the Strategy as written with defined goals, principles and core values. The Committee identified CWPP's as a primary tool for implementing broad-based stakeholder collaboration and locally appropriate strategies for achieving the Cohesive Strategy goals. Consistent with the national and regional strategies, the Jefferson County CWPP follows a collaborative approach to achieving the goals of the Cohesive Strategy.

In 2021, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 762, a comprehensive bill that provides more than \$220 million to help Oregon modernize and improve wildfire preparedness through three key strategies: creating fire-adapted communities, developing safe and effective response, and increasing the resiliency of Oregon's landscapes. The bill is the product of years of hard work by the Governor's Wildfire Council, the Legislature, and state agencies. The legislation provides direction and investment to many state agencies. For the Board of Forestry and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) the bill, among other things, provides legislative direction regarding the wildland-urban interface; statewide fire risk mapping; prescribed fire; directed ODF to review and clarify the enforcement of rules pertaining to forestland; baseline standards for unprotected and under-protected lands in Oregon; and establishes grant programs to improve forest restoration and resiliency. For more information on SB 762, visit ODF's website (<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/Pages/sb762.aspx>).

2.2 HISTORY OF THE CWPP'S RISK ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITIES

Since the creation and implementation of CWPPs in Oregon in 2005, the methodology for identifying community risk to wildfire and hazard reduction priorities has evolved. The tools used for determining the areas of high risk and prioritizing mitigation activities and defensible space work are frequently based on science, available data, GIS mapping, and other tools. This section serves as a record of past and present risk assessment and prioritization methodologies, to showcase how our understanding and evaluation of risk, and how we develop priorities for mitigation, has evolved over time.

2005 AND 2010 RISK ASSESSMENT

In 2005 and 2010, the CWPP Steering Committee used the 2004 Oregon Department of Forestry model entitled, *Identifying an Assessment of Communities at Risk in Oregon* to determine risk. The use of this assessment was compatible with the *Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act of 1997* (SB 360). The assessment process involved developing existing natural resource data that would then be judged using the assessments. The steps to develop this inventory involved multiple participating agencies and included:

- 1) Reviewing and identifying appropriate data layers from land management agencies, and producing respective GIS county based maps;
- 2) Identifying communities “at-risk” from the threat of wildfire;
- 3) Overlooking all lands using Google Earth to get a view of the topography, slope, fuel loading and fuel density;
- 4) Developing wildland-urban interface (WUI) boundaries;
- 5) Incorporating input from community meetings;
- 6) Identifying mitigation priorities and recommendations for each community using the ODF Risk Assessment Model; and
- 7) Establishing priority recommendations, an action plan and further assessment needs.

Numerical values were attached to the associated risks, which were totaled and matched to the classifications of Low, Moderate, High, Extreme and High Density Extreme. The values needed to be attained by a group of qualified individuals and also by observing the area, fire history, community, sub-division or wildland urban interface area using data and maps.

An adjective rating for each community was used for relative comparison purposes *only* as the Oregon Risk Assessment Model does not provide information for overall adjective ratings. The CWPP team developed point breaks in 2005. These were updated in 2010 with a fourth adjective rating of Extreme added to the list.

2005 Assessment		2010 Assessment	
< 130	Low	< 130	Low
130-169	Moderate	130-169	Moderate
169 +	High	170-195	High
		195 >	Extreme

2016 RISK ASSESSMENT

In 2015-16, the Steering Committee decided to use a new risk assessment method. This assessment is based upon the *Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act*, commonly referred to as Senate Bill 360, or SB 360¹. Forestland-urban interface areas are identified in each county by a classification committee composed of five members: three appointed by the county, one by the state fire marshal and one by the state forester. The process of identifying forestland-urban interface areas follows steps and definitions described in Oregon Administrative and include:

- Lands within the county that are also inside an ODF protection district
- Lands that meet the state’s definition of “forestland”
- Lands that meet the definition of “suburban” or “urban”; in some cases, “rural” lands may be included within a forestland-urban interface area for the purpose of maintaining meaningful, contiguous boundaries
- Lots that are grouped with other lots with similar characteristics in a minimum density of four structures per 40 acres

Once these areas are identified, a committee applies fire-risk classifications to the areas. The classifications range from “low” to “extreme,” and are used by property owners to determine the size of a fuel break that needs to be established around a structure.

After a committee completes its draft identification and classification maps, a public hearing is held to formally exhibit the committee’s findings and hear testimony. The maps are finalized by the committee after the hearing and the findings are filed. At that point, ODF assumes administrative responsibility and notifies the owners of properties within the county's forestland-urban interface areas. Property owners have two years after receiving their letter of notification to comply with the fuel-reduction standards described in the Oregon Revised Statute. These standards have been adopted by the county and the regional Fire Chiefs, all other lands have voluntary standards. Enforcement of the Protection Act is through the County Board of Commissioners and/or the Fire Chief of the organized Fire District, with administration and compliance being monitored by the local fire district. In unprotected lands, enforcement defaults to the County’s Sheriff. The rating system appraises land based on the following:

¹ This Act is fully described in Oregon Revised Statute 477.015 through 477.061 and Oregon Administrative Rules 629-044-1000 through 629-044-1110. For specific information on this process, refer to the state of Oregon website: www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/Pages/UrbanInterface.aspx

- Values Protected: housing density
- Hazard: fuel loading, topography and egress
- Structure Vulnerability: escape routes and density
- Protection Capability: type of firefighting resources in the area
- Risk: fire history

The Committee decided that all of Jefferson County is classified as High Risk, and when looking at individual communities, many of them are rated as Extreme or High Density Extreme.

Refer to Appendix F for a map of Jefferson County SB 360 Risk Classification.

2010 HAZARD REDUCTION PRIORITIES

In 2010, the process for selecting hazard reduction priorities was determined through the following process: 1) overall risks were identified by ODF Risk Assessment that considers risk, hazard, protection capability, values protected and structural ignitability. Although the Risk Assessment was comprehensive, the Steering Committee gave special consideration to those communities that were ranked over 66 total points (see Appendix C). These communities were considered to be at greater risk from a wildfire from federal lands. The total point value was considered when determining the priority rankings; 2) adjective ratings were determined based on the Risk Assessment values; and 3) subjective ratings were determined based on the aforementioned ratings and by using the personal knowledge of agency members that work with the communities and in the field.

2016 HAZARD REDUCTION PRIORITIES

In 2016, the process for selecting priorities was determined by the following:

- 1) Overall risks were identified by the Jefferson County SB-360 Classification committee. The classification process considers topography, fuel load, weather, fire history and structural ignitability. The Steering Committee gave special consideration to those communities that were identified as Extreme or High Density Extreme. These communities were considered to be at greater risk from a wildfire. The Steering Committee took into consideration the recommendations of the SB-360 Classification Committee.
- 2) Subjective priorities were determined based upon personal knowledge of agency members that work with communities and in the field.

2022 RISK ASSESSMENT & HAZARD REDUCTION PRIORITIES

In 2022, the Steering Committee conducted an extensive review of the new statewide wildfire risk mapping tool, The Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer (OWRE), a tool developed through SB 762 in 2021. The OWRE is meant to replace the hazard classifications of the Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act, commonly referred to as Senate Bill 360, or SB 360, utilized in the 2016 CWPP. However, after extensive review, the Committee agreed to continue utilizing SB 360 hazard classifications from 2016 for communities in Jefferson County, given the limitations of the current OWRE. For example, some communities like Ashwood-Antelope, which the Committee agreed is a community at high risk to wildfire, is listed as low risk within the OWRE Advanced Report for Jefferson County. Oregon State University is currently working with Oregon Department of Forestry to revise the tool to include parcel-level data and to improve overall accuracy. The new version of the tool is anticipated to be complete by July 2022. The Steering Committee agreed to evaluate the new version of the tool again at the next annual meeting (2023), and incorporate it into the CWPP if there is agreement that it more accurately captures risk for all communities within the county. The Committee decided that all of Jefferson County is classified as High Risk, and when looking at individual communities, many of them are rated as Extreme or High Density Extreme. See section 4 of this plan for the community risk assessment.

2022 hazard reduction priorities were developed using the same process as in 2016, which is outlined above. See section 5 of this plan for hazard reduction priorities for each community, and the county at large.

2.3 REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

The Jefferson County CWPP plan covers the entirety of Jefferson County, except for the northwest portion which belongs to The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation (CTWS), which partially lies within Jefferson County. CTWS has developed a separate CWPP.

In an effort to address the goals of the Cohesive Strategy (to work collaboratively on achieving three goals: resilient landscapes, fire adapted communities, and safe and effective wildfire response), this plan was developed in collaboration with representatives from the following and includes collaboration with adjacent counties:

- Bureau of Land Management
- Crooked River Ranch Rural Fire Protection District
- Crooked River National Grassland
- Jefferson County
- Jefferson County Fire District #1
- Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
- Lake Chinook Fire & Rescue

- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon State Fire Marshal
- Oregon State University – Deschutes County Extension Office
- Oregon Water Resources Department
- Representatives from the communities of Ashwood-Antelope and Gateway
- Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Crooked River National Grassland and Sisters Ranger District

2.4 HISTORY OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2005, the CWPP team held five community meetings in order to obtain Jefferson County citizen input to the planning process. These meetings were held prior to development of the draft plan.

In March of 2011 the CWPP team held a community meeting for the public to provide information about the plan in general and to solicit comments and feedback. This meeting is documented in Appendix C.

In 2016, a public meeting was held at the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners meeting in December with public input. This meeting is documented in Appendix D.

In 2022, a public meeting was held at the Jefferson County Fire District #1 station in March. This meeting is documented in Appendix E.

2.5 THE CWPP METHODOLOGY

After the establishment of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act, a variety of planning framework models were developed throughout the country. At the same time, many agencies were also developing or completing Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans (NHMP), which include a wildland fire component, where wildfire is a threat to meeting Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines.

Of the two predominant CWPP models being used in Oregon, one provides a mechanism to also address the wildland fire component of the NHMP process as well as the CWPP requirements. The other model is entitled “Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan-A Handbook for Wildland-Urban Interface Communities”. This framework was developed by the National Association of State Foresters (NASF), National Association of Counties, Society of American Foresters and others. These frameworks were used to develop the CWPP methodology and include the following steps:

Step 1: Convene CWPP Steering Committee

- Step 2: Utilize existing community-based maps
- Step 3: Review the existing CWPP
- Step 4: Utilize the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer Advanced Report to develop a community risk assessment
- Step 5: Establish Community Priorities and Recommendations
- Step 6: Assess the Action Plan and Assessment Strategy
- Step 7: Finalize Community Wildfire Protection Plan

2.6 THE GOALS OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY CWPP

The goals of the Jefferson County CWPP are:

- Goal 1** Protect against losses of life, property and natural resources from wildfire.
- Goal 2** Continue to strengthen partnerships to build and maintain active participation in mitigation and suppression of wildfire from each fire protection agency, unprotected area and land stewards.
- Goal 3** Build local capacity through education for preventative actions regarding wildfire. Increase the ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from wildfires within the County through public outreach.
- Goal 4** Engage the public to increase public understanding of living in a fire prone ecosystem. Increase the number of Firewise communities and continue engagement and support of current Firewise communities.
- Goal 5** Reduce hazardous fuels through a combination of vegetation treatments (such as mowing, limbing and thinning) and prescribed fire on public and private lands.
- Goal 6** Promote and integrate Fire Adapted Community concepts into County code to enhance structural survivability in fire-prone areas.

It is intended that the Jefferson County CWPP be viewed as a county-wide, strategic assessment of the risks, hazards, and mitigation and prevention opportunities associated with wildfire in our communities. This plan is intended to be a living document, which will be reviewed, updated, amended and distributed as needed on an annual basis. The Steering Committee will convene every five years to re-evaluate the risks and overall analysis.

3.0 JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMUNITY PROFILE

3.1 POPULATION AND URBAN GROWTH

Central Oregon has experienced rapid population increases over the last few decades. Jefferson County in particular increased 10% from 2015 (pop. 22,445) to 2019 (pop. 24,658) with corresponding growth of residential development in the urban growth boundary, rural areas, and portions of the county traditionally occupied by natural vegetation.



This trend is expanding Jefferson County's wildland-urban interface (WUI), exposing more residents to the potential impact of wildland fire. Total population in Jefferson County as a whole as well as within its sub-areas will likely grow at a faster pace in the near-term (2018 to 2043) compared to the long-term². The tapering of growth rates is largely driven by the county's transition to a natural decrease that will cut into population growth from net immigration. Even so, Jefferson County's total population is forecast to increase by more than 5,000 over the next 18 years (2018-2043) and by more than 8,700 over the entire 50-year period (2018-2068).³

3.2 GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENT

Jefferson County's topography is varied with its highest point being the top of Mt. Jefferson at 10,497 feet and the lowest elevation being 1,300 feet where the Deschutes River crosses into Wasco County. The northwest corner of the county belongs to the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation. The southwest corner is mainly public land managed by the Deschutes National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management. From the coniferous forests in the west to the Deschutes River in the east, the elevation decreases. The city of Madras is located on the Deschutes-Umatilla plateau with an elevation of approximately 2,000 feet. From Madras eastward, the elevation gradually increases again and the terrain becomes hilly and broken.

² Portland State University Population Research Center. Coordinated Population Forecast 2018-2068. Jefferson County. June 2018. https://ondeck.pdx.edu/population-research/sites/g/files/znlldhr3261/files/2020-07/Jefferson_Report_Final.pdf

³ IBID

Vegetation in the county is varied. Higher elevations are mostly covered with coniferous forests and shifts to juniper/grass/sagebrush at the lower elevations. The central portion of the county is occupied by sagebrush, but a significant portion of this land has been converted to agricultural lands that support a variety of crops such as mint, potatoes, alfalfa, grass, barley, and oats. Most of the wildland-urban interface areas of the county occur in areas dominated by juniper/grass/sagebrush.

Precipitation amounts for Jefferson County are varied with the western (mountainous) portion receiving 28 to 60 inches annually, primarily in the form of snow. The rest of the region is classified as high desert and generally receives 8-12 inches of precipitation per year. Figure 3-1 illustrates Jefferson County precipitation patterns and the rain shadow effect from the Cascades.

Figure 3-1 Jefferson County Annual Average Precipitation Map (1971-2000)

Oregon State University, Spatial Climate Analysis Service



3.3 RECREATION, HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL VALUES

Recreation is a main attraction for people currently living in, moving to, and visiting Central Oregon. This CWPP recognizes the need to plan for and address the wildfire hazard around key recreation areas (Lake Billy Chinook, Metolius River, and the Middle and Lower Deschutes River) and key camping areas (Rimrock Springs, Skull Hollow, Cyrus Horse Camp, Trout Creek Recreation Area, Haystack Reservoir, the greater Suttle Lake area and Alder

Springs). Concerns in these areas not only include potential evacuation needs in the event of an emergency, but also the potential for recreationists to inadvertently start wildfires through improper campfires, smoking, or ATV use.

Many people choose to live in Central Oregon for the cultural interest and historical values, therefore, there is a strong need to protect key homesteads and Native American and historical sites such as the Grassland Headquarters, McCoy Orchards, Cyrus Orchards, Eddelman's Plots and the Gray Butte Cemetery. The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Cultural Resources Office "works for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of cultural resources for current and future generations. Part of the Tribes' Natural Resources Branch, the department works on cultural inventories on and off the reservation". Cultural resources within Jefferson County include sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value. The Committee would like to acknowledge the indigenous land of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and recognize the people that came before us and honor their traditions and stewardship of the land. Acknowledgement is a simple, powerful way of showing respect for Indigenous People's history and culture. To learn more about the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, visit: <https://warmsprings-nsn.gov/>.

3.4 LAND OWNERSHIP

Located in the north central part of Oregon, Jefferson County covers approximately 1,780 square miles of land. Private lands comprise the majority of the county land ownership, accounting for approximately 870 square miles, while federal lands and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation are second and third with 500 and 396 square miles respectively. The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation occupies the northwest portion of Jefferson County.

The largest blocks of federal lands are primarily located in the western half of the county. These lands are split between the Deschutes National Forest and the Crooked River National Grassland (CRNG). The National Forest is a relatively contiguous block of forested lands while the CRNG has more of a checkerboard ownership. Many private residences can be found on scattered parcels throughout the CRNG with rural properties relying on county roads for access. The area located between the National Forest and Grasslands is primarily private forest lands with limited public access. The community of Camp Sherman, which includes a seasonal populated area of Suttle Lake, is included in this western area of Jefferson County.

The central part of the county contains the cities of Madras, Metolius and Culver. Agriculture is the main economic driver for these cities; all three are surrounded by large

tracts of irrigated farms. North Unit Irrigation supplies water through a series of canals and storage reservoirs to farmers. The majority of the county's population resides in this area.

The eastern portion of the county is mostly private lands with small scattered parcels of BLM land located throughout the region. The northern-eastern portion is comprised mostly of native rangeland used for livestock operations, while the south eastern portion is higher elevation and contains merchantable timber as well as livestock forage. This portion of the county is served primarily by county roads, public access is limited.

4.0 THE RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE (WUI)

The Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) designation was determined using the official definition under Oregon Senate Bill 762, which adopted the International WUI Code definition: **That geographical area where structures and other human development meets or intermingles with wildland vegetative fuels.**

The International WUI Code corresponds to natural or man-made features and are based on housing units. The Code provides a framework for regulations to safeguard life and property from the intrusion of wildland fire and to prevent structure fires from spreading to wildland fuels, for defensible space and ignition resistant construction requirements, and is fully compatible with all of ICC's International Codes. It is founded on data from tests and fire incidents, technical reports and mitigation strategies from around the world.

For the 2022 update, both the reproduced 2016 WUI map and the Fire Hazard Rating WUI map from Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer (OWRE) tool were included (Appendix F) due to different limitations found in either map. An update to the OWRE hazard rating map is anticipated in 2022 that might account for the WUI areas (e.g., Grizzly Saddle, etc.) currently missing from the hazard rating map. It should also be noted the definition of WUI is a set of condition as opposed to a specific location on a map. Any map used now or in the future might lead to a misunderstanding of the factors that increase fire risk around a home. Whether or not a community or home is within the "WUI" designated on these maps, the surrounding fuel conditions could translate to elevated risk, especially given the fire-prone environment in all of Jefferson county.

4.2 THE RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

For a history of risk assessment methodology, see section 2.2 of this plan.

In 2022, the Steering Committee conducted an extensive review of the new statewide wildfire risk mapping tool, The Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer (OWRE), a tool developed through SB 762 in 2021. The OWRE is meant to replace the hazard classifications of the Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act, commonly referred to as Senate Bill 360, or SB 360, utilized in the 2016 CWPP. However, after extensive review, the Committee agreed to continue utilizing SB 360 hazard classifications from 2016 for communities in

Jefferson County, given the limitations of the current OWRE. For example, some communities like Ashwood-Antelope, which the Committee agreed is a community at high risk to wildfire, is listed as low risk within the OWRE Advanced Report for Jefferson County. Oregon State University is currently working with ODF to revise the tool to include parcel-level data and to improve overall accuracy. The new version of the tool is anticipated to be complete by July 2022.

The Steering Committee agreed to evaluate the new version of the tool again at the next annual meeting (2023), and incorporate it into the CWPP if there is agreement that it more accurately captures risk for all communities within the county.

4.3 FIRE PROTECTION

Table 4-1 Jefferson County Fire Protection

Ownership	Total Acres	% of Jeff. Co.	# of Taxlots
<i>Jefferson County</i>	1,146,665	100%	13,003
Ashwood-Antelope RFPA	223,331	19.5%	444
Bureau of Indian Affairs/Warm Springs	257,675	22.5%	150
Central Oregon Fire Management Services	406,744	35.5%	399
Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue	9,036	0.8%	2,492
Gateway RFPA	8,173	0.7%	129
Jefferson County Fire District #1	101,296	8.8%	7,443
Lake Chinook Fire & Rescue	21,465	1.9%	1,016
Redmond RFPD	878	.01%	9
Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD	8,988	.08%	396
Oregon Department of Forestry	86,194	7.5%	353
Unprotected land	109,003	9.5%	526

Note: some areas in the County receive protection from multiple agencies.

Portions of Jefferson County receive fire protection (Table 4-1) from one or more of the following:

Bureau of Land Management-Prineville District (see COFMS)

Central Oregon Fire Management Service (COFMS). The fire management functions of the Ochoco National Forest and Prineville BLM have been merged with that of the Deschutes National Forest under Central Oregon Fire Management Service (COFMS). COFMS provides wildland fire response for fires burning on, or threatening, all U.S. Forest Service, Crooked River National Grasslands and Bureau of Land Management managed lands within the county.

Crooked River Ranch Rural Fire Protection District (CRR) is a 16.4 square mile community located between the Deschutes and Crooked Rivers in south central Jefferson County. Crooked River Ranch (CRR) is isolated on a peninsula between two river canyons which are over 500 feet deep and one-half mile wide. CRR is the largest unincorporated subdivision in the state, and the community has approximately 4,900 residents and 2,900 structures. These structures include rural residential, recreational, and commercial properties. Only 20% of the area is served by fire hydrants. There are two paved two-lane roads into and out of the community.

Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue is a combination (career and volunteer) fire department that provides structural fire suppression, wildland fire suppression, emergency medical services, and high angle rope rescue services. The District career staff includes a full-time Fire Chief, a full-time Assistant Chief, three Captains/Paramedics, and an Administrative Assistant. There are approximately 25 volunteer firefighters. The fire district operates one fire station which is equipped with two structure engines, two ambulances, two water tenders, one heavy brush engine, one light brush engine, and three command/utility vehicles.

In addition, there are federal lands, managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service, intermixed within the fire district's response area, which the District protects by mutual aid agreement.

Jefferson County Fire District #1 serves the communities of Culver, Madras, Metolius, and the surrounding rural areas. It is bordered by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation to the north, Crooked River gorge to the south, Cove Palisades State Park to the west, and Crooked River National Grasslands to the east.

There are two major transportation routes within the District. Highways 97 and 26 are major routes that serve Central Oregon. This puts Madras as the "Gateway to Central Oregon" for those who are traveling from the north. Other transportation includes a BNSF rail line, city airport, and recreational waterways.

According to *Population Research Center College of Urban and Public Affairs, Portland State University*, as of July 1, 2021 the population of Jefferson County is 24,889 and has increased 1.37% from the year before. The population in the fire district response area is Madras 7,717, Metolius 981 and Culver 1,636. The demographics within the district includes a mix of mostly Latino (20%), Native American (18%), and White (60%). The response area includes an urban/city setting, industrial area, agricultural farmland, and rural wildland which spans a mix of open grasslands and urban interface with residential homes.

Jefferson County Fire District #1 protects 200 square miles with approximately 600 hydrants and approximately 23,000 residents (10,000 of which reside within the cities of Madras, Culver and Metolius). These residents are served by two fire stations in Madras and Culver. These stations are equipped with one 55' aerial ladder truck, four type-one engines, two type-two tenders, one type-four engine, three type-six engines and a light rescue. The firefighting force is made up of approximately 40 volunteers, 6 students, 5 operational staff and one Administrative Assistant. The District is comprised of 3 small cities, neighborhoods, farms, ranches, schools, an airport, businesses, and an industrial park. Burlington Northern Railroad, Bonneville Power Administration and Cascade Natural Gas have systems within the district, and Highways 26 and 97 traverse the district. Extreme weather conditions are common through the year. The District is rife with urban wildland interface settings. The District responds to an average of 900 calls annually, mostly fires, auto accidents and other rescues, along with medical assistance. Jefferson County EMS is separate from fire and takes most of the medical responses.

Lake Chinook Fire & Rescue is located on Lake Billy Chinook on the high desert plateau. It covers nearly 105 square miles of territory, 25 miles from the nearest town or mutual aid. Roadways are two lane county roads with 50% unpaved, some non-graded. The fire district serves a retirement / vacation, recreational resort community of 573 full-time residents. The area hosts an additional 36,000 visitors during the summer months. Over the past three decades, many retired residents have moved to the area with 87% of the population aged 60 years or older. This growth is expected to continue.

The District is comprised of four subdivisions, consisting of clusters of homes, small businesses, surrounding ranch lots, scattered private timberland and is surrounding by federal lands managed by Deschutes National Forest, Crooked River National Grassland and BLM. Three of the four subdivisions are Firewise USA communities. The largest subdivision, Three Rivers, is comprised of approximately 650 home sites on 4,000 acres and is completely off-the-grid, relying 100% on alternative energy sources (primarily solar with generator backups). The greatest percentage of home sites store multiple types of fuels including propane, gasoline and diesel, and most residences have large solar battery banks of 16 – 24 solar batteries. Efforts are being made to improve access and egress, defensible space and create Temporary Refuge Areas for Three Rivers.

Lake Billy Chinook is a hydro-electric reservoir and has 72 miles of shoreline mostly accessible only by water. Portland General Electric operates the Round Butte Hydroelectric Project jointly with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Pelton Round Butte is the only hydroelectric project in the U.S. jointly owned by a Native American tribe and a utility. The

project generates approximately 800,000 megawatts electricity per year for residents in the Portland metropolitan area. Recreation and tourism activities supported by the project include boating, sport fishing, white water rafting, wildlife observation, photography and streamside hiking and camping. On Lake Billy Chinook, Cove Palisades State Park estimates its economic impact at \$15.3 million, based on a 2002 survey.

The fire district also protects infrastructure including Pine Telephone Network, a fiber optics / Wi-Fi telecommunications system and its infrastructure, two airports, and three commercial marinas, including a boatyard for rental and maintenance of houseboats.

Sisters – Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District is a combination career and volunteer department providing structural and wildland fire services to over 55 square miles. The District also provides advanced life support ambulance transport service to more than 800 square miles in mountainous and high desert terrain. Special services provided include vehicle extrication, water rescue, and hazardous materials response. A broad range of community risk and fire safety services are provided to area residents utilizing a combination of career and volunteer staffing. The District currently employs a Fire Chief, a Deputy Chief of Operations, an Executive Assistant, four part-time positions including the Community Risk and Fire Safety Manager, Financial Manager, Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Coordinator and Mechanic. The District also employs three Shift Commander/Paramedics and Six Firefighter/Paramedics. Volunteer Firefighters are an integral part of the organization and provide both fire suppression and emergency medical services. The Fire Corps program utilizes volunteers to provide fire prevention and public education programs to residents of the District.

The District headquarters station is located in the City of Sisters in Deschutes County. In addition to the headquarters station, the District utilizes two other volunteer stations, which are located in the Squaw Creek Canyon Estates Subdivision (Deschutes) and the community of Camp Sherman. The District utilizes a fleet of firefighting and EMS apparatus including four structural and interface engines, three water tenders, one heavy brush engines, three light brush engines, three ambulances, one command vehicle, and three staff vehicles. The District is a party to the Central Oregon Mutual Aid Agreement. In the event of a major structural fire, the District may request assistance from all other fire departments that are a signatory to the agreement. In addition, all Central Oregon fire departments and the wildland fire agencies including the US Forest Service, Oregon Department of Forestry, and the Bureau of Land Management are a party to the Central Oregon Cooperative Wildland Fire Agreement. These cooperative agreements allow for interactive coordination in the event of a wildfire that threatens communities in Central Oregon.

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF-Central Oregon District) provides direct wildland fire protection from fires burning on or threatening non-federal public forest land and private forestlands paying a Forest Patrol Assessment within the ODF-Central Oregon District Boundary. This includes nearly 86,000 acres of timberland and over 42,700 acres of grazing land on 353 tax lots in Jefferson County. The Prineville-Sisters Unit of ODF provides the following firefighting resources: 10 fire engines, one 5-person hand crew, and 1 dozer.

Rangeland Fire Protection Associations (RFPA) are volunteer fire service organizations that provide direct wildland fire protection services to landowners within their Association boundaries and to neighboring cooperators. At present, Ashwood-Antelope, Twickenham and Gateway RFPA's are within Jefferson County. As part of a coordinated effort to further wildland fire protection to non-classified forest and rangelands within the state of Oregon, Oregon Department of Forestry provides organizational assistance and support services to these rangeland associations.

United States Forest Service-Crooked River National Grassland and Deschutes National Forest (see COFMS)

4.4 OVERALL RISK ASSESSMENT VALUES FOR COMMUNITIES

Below are the risk assessment values for each community, organized by fire protection. Risk classifications were determined by Senate Bill 360. Local knowledge of treatments, fire history, and specific areas of risk are also included. Priorities were determined by the local steering committee.

4.4.1 JEFFERSON COUNTY RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT # 1

Madras Communities

Dizney

SB 360 Risk Classification: Extreme

Dizney is 280 acres and is located on the Deschutes River 11 miles north of the Jefferson County Fire District #1's Madras Fire Station, and five miles from Warm Springs Fire & Safety Station. Many of the dwellings are considered high value homes. The Riffle Ranch property has a 2,500 gal above ground tank soon to have a 2 ½" fire department connection installed.

The area has a history of frequent fires. A large amount of human activity makes the community of Dizney vulnerable. In general, strong winds flow up river every day around 2:00pm. This weather pattern has caused fires to jump the river during the windy time of day. Poor radio communication in the deep canyon could be cause for long response times if Warm Springs Fire & Safety is on a simultaneous emergency. Tender and drafting

operations from the river can create slow water supply operations. Access and escape routes need to be addressed and monitored.

Juniper Crest

SB 360 Risk Classification: Extreme

Juniper Crest is in an urban wildland setting. It is located one mile from JCFD #1's Madras Fire Station. Houses are in a woodland grove type setting. Four hydrants are spaced throughout the development. Access and egress in some areas could cause bottlenecks with evacuees and fire apparatus. City, County and State Police could assist with traffic control and evacuation.

Madras Ranchos/Canyon View

SB 360 Risk Classification: Extreme

Madras Ranchos / Canyon View are about two miles south of the JCFD #1's Madras Fire Station. The homes are in a flash fuel setting intermixed with many juniper trees, narrow roads and long driveways. With typical summer conditions fire could quickly run up the hills and move through this area endangering multiple homes simultaneously, in a very short period of time. Residences would have very short notice of an approaching fire. Evacuation and fire suppression in the Madras Ranchos area would be problematic due to bottlenecks. With 911 calls notifying the location of infirmed civilians within the threatened area, it would be critical for police assistance with evacuation. Under dry, windy conditions an advanced house fire could extend within the area or a rapidly approaching wildland fire could have the potential to overwhelm JCFD #1 forces, before outside assistance could arrive.

North Madras Heights

SB 360 Risk Classification: Extreme

North Madras Heights is located about three miles north of JCFD #1's Madras Fire station. The homes are located on the side slopes and tops of the hills. Many of the homes are in flashy fuels and juniper trees with sporadic fuel treatments. Long driveways and dead end roads are prevalent. Typical summer conditions could prove to be problematic due to a fire moving uphill from a structure fire on the lower slope, or from a wildland fire pushing upslope through the trees on a windy day. Access and egress could be cumbersome with evacuees and fire forces operating in the area at the same time.

Metolius Communities

Round Butte

SB 360 Risk Classification: Extreme

Round Butte is located about eight miles from JCFD #1's Culver and Madras Fire Stations. The development rests on the south slope of the 3,272' peak. The development is surrounded by National Grassland. A massive fuel treatment project has been completed on the west side of the development. Below the development, to the east, is a large, thick juniper forest with a history of lightning strikes and popular 4x4 country. Most of the homes are well-spaced and fuel mitigation steps have been taken. In other areas some homes are more vulnerable.

Culver Communities

High Chaparral

SB 360 Risk Classification: High

The High Chaparral is located 3.5 miles Northwest of JCFD #1's Culver Fire Station. It is located near the canyon rim and is the gateway to Cove Palisades State Park. Farm land and fields are to the east, while the area to the west is mostly comprised of thick 6' to 8' tall sage brush with scattered juniper trees right up to the residence property lines. Houses are on varying sized lots with garages, out-buildings and many types and sizes of unprotected boats, watercraft, decks and wooden stairways. The area is highly vulnerable to a wind-driven fire coming out of the canyon. If one structure or boat becomes involved, it is likely that multiple structures would be lost. The area has adequate escape routes if they are used early. Evacuation could become problematic when compounded by smoke and fire apparatus attempting to get in at the same time civilians are attempting escape. Under circumstances described above life safety could become a major factor with wind and the close proximity of wildland fuels to this development and the fuels within. Multiple public areas such as campgrounds, parks, boat launches and viewing areas are located a short distance directly below this development. A human-caused fire is likely.

Juniper Butte

SB 360 Risk Classification: Extreme

Juniper Butte is located about three miles south of Jefferson County Fire District #1's Culver Fire Station. It has an elevation of 3,925' and has about 65 homes on the northwest side of the Butte intermixed with juniper trees. There are five hydrants in a relatively small geographical area. An irrigation canal runs around the base of the north and west sides of the Butte with few access points for drafting or crossing access for fire attack. Numerous

long steep driveways serving individual homes would place an unusual demand on fire resources.

In 2010-11, a massive CWPP fuel treatment project vastly improved escape routes for civilians and access for fire departments. The home survivability for the area has increased many times over because of the fuel treatment. Collaborative effort through the CWPP brought together funds, home owners, private business, contractors, and State, Federal and local fire agencies to dramatically improve the life and property survivability for a fire related event. We need to continue to maintain these areas and improve areas that haven't been treated.

Shamrock Estates

SB 360 Risk Classification: High

Shamrock Estates is located about five miles from the JCFD #1's Culver Fire Station. The Estates are surrounded by mostly farm land. Fire coming out of the canyon could create a problem. Access/ egress and notification are still important in this area.

Priorities for JCFD # 1 Response Areas

1. Fuels reduction and mitigation- These areas above have been identified as high risk for fires to spread through fuels within the boundaries of subdivision and adjacent lands that are owned by Home Owners, Cities, USFS, PGE, BLM, ODF, and State Parks. Fuels need to be treated and maintained in all of areas around residents, canyons, valleys, hills and buttes. Fuel reduction work has been accomplished in some areas; however, maintenance and extension of these areas from previous treatment in 2010-2011, should be completed.
 - i. Work with neighboring agencies and land owners to secure funding for future projects
 - ii. Work with State and Federal agencies for Grant opportunities
2. Access and Egress- Identify and treat access routes, add additional egress routes when possible. Treat fuels along roadways to allow for evacuations and fire apparatus access. Identify driveways that are too narrow to maneuver large fire apparatus. Identify areas for safety zones and evacuation routes, reduce fuels in those areas, provide a buffer zone for those safety areas
 - i. Work with City, County to develop and maintain these areas.
3. Increase public education and awareness of the following:
 - i. Grants for Fuels reduction and mitigation opportunities

- ii. Ready Set Go
 - iii. Firewise
 - iv. Pre-Evacuation Preparation and Safety areas
4. Educate property owners on ignition zones and steps to reduce hazards, removing ground and ladder fuels, clean gutters, seal open spaces around homes, driveways/road access and egress etc.
5. Pre-Plan areas
- i. Identify hydrants and other water sources
 - ii. Access/egress roads
 - iii. Safety zones
 - iv. Evacuation areas
 - v. Identify properties that need treatment and develop treatment plans along with maps of the triaged areas.

4.4.2 RANGELAND FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATIONS (RFPA)

Ashwood Antelope

SB 360 Risk Classification: Extreme

Ashwood-Antelope is a northeastern rural community supported largely by ranching activities scattered throughout the community. There is a grade school, grange hall, church and numerous residences. In the surrounding area there are scattered ranches. There is one single lane paved road that accesses the area from the west and three other access routes; one is graded gravel and the other two are native surfaced, and at times, are not accessible because of muddy conditions.

Wildfires have been documented from both human and natural causes. During the fall hunting season Ashwood-Antelope is an access point to hunting activities on public land, which can lead to wildfires ignited from abandoned warming fires. Summer lightning is one of the major causes of fire in this community. Large fires in excess of 1,000 acres are frequent in this area. The largest was the Ashwood-Antelope Donnybrook fire in 1996 that reached 112,000 acres.

In 2009 the Board of Forestry approved the formation of the Ash Butte Rangeland Fire Protection Association, now the Ashwood-Antelope RFPA to protect the rangeland in the vicinity of Ashwood; they have eleven fire trucks, two dozers and numerous slip-on fire tanks.

In 2016, 12 miles of road/fire line were built with 4,300 acres burned and 1,800 acres cleared.

Priorities for Ashwood-Antelope:

1. Provide survivable space around community and private improvements
2. Provide hazardous fuels reduction in and around the community
3. Develop additional water sources for fighting fire
4. Support additional equipment and fire training
5. Provide fire safety presentations to the Ashwood-Antelope Elementary School
6. Provide ranch fire safety information to area residents

Gateway

SB 360 Risk Classification: High

Gateway is located in a canyon 11 miles north of Madras with less than one hundred residents. Most of the homes are centrally located in the township on $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre lots and are surrounded by farmland, open rangeland and BLM land. In 2010, the community created a RFPA. In 2016, the RFPA constructed a fire hall located on private property in the central portion of the RFPA boundaries.

The fire hall enables the RFPA to house their four fire vehicles thereby prolonging the life of the fleet. Equipment storage and a general muster site are additional benefits provided by the modest building.

The railroad runs through the middle of the township and has caused fires over the years. Moreover, recreational boaters and the fishing public travel through Gateway to get to Trout Creek Campground, a BLM-managed property. The road to Trout Creek is very narrow and a large portion of it is unpaved and rutty, making it difficult to evacuate in the event of a wildfire.

Cellular phone service in the area is spotty or non-existent.

Priorities for Gateway:

1. Increase public education and outreach to homeowners and the recreating public to understand that they are living and playing in a fire-prone environment. The public needs clear direction on where to go and what to do when a fire occurs in the vicinity.
2. Continue efforts at fuel reduction on the landscape surrounding the community. Work with home and landowners to widen space between themselves and combustible fuels.
3. Work with BLM to establish an education station at Trout Creek Campground concerning fire prevention and evacuation egress.
4. Work with state and private providers to fund and enable reliable cellular service in the canyon.
5. Arrange for and provide continued training for volunteers in rangeland firefighting. Enhance training to include First Aid and CPR.

6. Continue efforts in earnest to recruit volunteers as the current roster is dwindling and aging.

4.4.3 CROOKED RIVER RANCH RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Crooked River Ranch

SB 360 Risk Classifications:

- Crooked River Ranch: High
- Rim Around the Ranch: Extreme

Crooked River Ranch is a 16.4 square mile subdivision located between the Deschutes and Crooked River Canyons in southern Jefferson County. The population is approximately 4,900 people. The natural vegetation is juniper, sagebrush, cheatgrass and bunchgrass. Crooked River Ranch is an unincorporated community with some light industry, recreational, and commercial development. The fire protection is provided by Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue (CRR F&R) which is a tax supported agency governed by a publicly elected board of directors.

Priorities for Crooked River Ranch:

1. Fuels mitigation on public lands surrounding Crooked River Ranch (BLM and Crooked River National Grassland)
2. Homeowners need to continue to work on defensible space, widening the space between structures and combustible fuels. CRR F&R is actively promoting the Ready, Set, Go program within the community which includes defensible space initiatives. Title III grant funds from Jefferson County are available to help defray the cost of cleanup around structures.

CRR HOA continues to perform fuels reduction/mitigation on private community property. CRR is at risk from fuels on adjacent lands managed by Crooked River National Grassland and BLM, and by privately owned lands, some of which are owned by the Ranch HOA. Between 2016 and 2021 there has been approximately 160 acres of HOA owned property treated to reduce hazardous fuels.

Large Fire History

August 7, 1983: 174 acres burned in the Sandridge/Canary area. This fire was started by improper disposal of coals from a backyard barbeque. Mutual aid was requested from the tri-county fire departments.

July 18, 1984: a 400-acre wildfire started along the Deschutes River and came up the canyon. An engine from Redmond was destroyed by the fire. Oregon Conflagration Act invoked to allow state wide fire department mobilization.

July 22, 1985: 200+acres in Horny Hollow. Oregon Conflagration Act invoked to allow state wide fire department mobilization.

May 31, 2007: 350 acres along Rainbow Road. Started by open burn left unattended. Mutual aid requested from the tri-county fire departments.

4.4.4 LAKE CHINOOK FIRE & RESCUE

Grandview Communities

SB 360 Risk Classifications:

- Forest Park: High Density Extreme
- Rim Park: Extreme
- Air Park: Extreme

The Grandview Community is made up of remote communities that have been impacted by wildfire in the last decade. These communities are located on the palisade above the Deschutes arm of Lake Billy Chinook. The fuels are grasses, sagebrush and juniper. The community's only paved access is Jordan Rd. This narrow two-lane road, which winds 20 miles through the deep canyons around the lake and across a one lane bridge, makes simultaneous evacuation and incoming resources nearly impossible. Since the community is within a high fire occurrence area, residents should expect additional wildfire events in the future and prepare accordingly. Fuels work has been done to buffer LBC Airport, a designated Temporary Refuge Areas for the area. Forest Park and Rim Park have recently attained Firewise USA recognition.

Priorities for Grandview Communities:

1. **Public Education:** Homeowners and the recreating public need to understand that they are living and playing in a fire-prone environment. They need to know where to go and what to do when a fire occurs in their vicinity. The safety areas need to be identified and public education need to be done to inform residents and tourists of their locations and to market *Plan, Prep, and Go*.
2. **Home Hardening:** Build or update with fire resistant materials, particularly roofs, to reduce threat that embers pose to the home.
3. **Defensible Space:** Remove flammable materials within 30 ft. of structures foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds. Limb and prune juniper trees so the lowest branches are 6-10ft. from the ground. Remove all dead plants, grass and weeds. Remove dead or dry leaves and pine needles from yards, roof and rain gutters.
4. **Community Fuels Reduction:** Identify common areas, vacant lots, and roadside areas and fuel breaks that need fuels reduction work to ensure the safety of homes and firefighters in the event of a catastrophic fire.

5. Road side work on State Park Land adjacent to sub-divisions.

Three Rivers

SB 360 Risk Classification: High Density Extreme

Three Rivers is a remote community located on the rims and canyons above Lake Billy Chinook. The subdivision has a population of approximately 250 year-round residents. Homes range from mobile trailers to multi-million-dollar, 6000 sq. ft. homes. A popular year-round destination for hunting, fishing, camping and water sports, this area swells to over 5,000 visitors on any given weekend in the summer during fire season. The homes are situated atop canyons with steep slopes with very little setbacks. The fuels are grasses, sagebrush and juniper, and has been impacted by wildfire several times in recent years. The community's only paved access is a narrow two-lane road, which winds 20 miles through the deep canyons around the lake and across a one lane bridge, makes evacuation with incoming resources nearly impossible. Additional hazardous fuels work is needed throughout the community.

Priorities for Three Rivers:

1. Fuels Reduction. Three Rivers is at risk from fire spreading through fuels within the boundaries of the subdivision and from adjacent lands that are owned by USFS, PGE, Crooked River National Grassland, BLM, CTWS and privately-owned parcels. Fuels need to be reduced in all these areas, especially in the canyon areas near residences and around safety zones. Some fuels reduction work has been done in the Big Canyon area along Lake View Dr., which is the only access route in and out of the subdivision. Failure to implement fuels reduction in these areas could result in loss of life or property. Primary areas of fuels reduction include:
 - i. PGE, USFS, Crooked River National Grasslands and BLM lands along and adjacent to Graham and Jordan Roads, the main county road leading to the subdivisions.
 - ii. Road side work. All the roadsides within the subdivision need fuels work. All the roads are extremely narrow and are encroached by vegetation. Approximately 14 acres of work has been completed on the Southwest corner of the subdivision, the area of highest threat. An additional 20 plus miles of roadside work needs to be completed to ensure the safety of firefighters in the event of a catastrophic fire.
2. Access. Evacuation and fire apparatus response are hindered by a lack of access routes and long driveways that are too narrow to maneuver larger pieces of fire equipment. There are currently no evacuation routes within Three Rivers subdivision. Evacuation routes are needed from the Airfield Lane - Black Butte Lane

area, Lake View dr. along Old County Rd 577 and a route leading east out of Big Canyon.

3. Defensible Space. Residents need to continue to widen and maintain the space between wildland fuels and adjacent homes & structures. The HOA needs to widen all road right-away areas to buffer the very narrow roads. Additional defensible space needs to be done in the day use area.
4. Temporary Refuge Areas. The fire district has identified two Temporary Refuge Areas within the subdivision and one outside the subdivision. Fuel reduction needs to take place to provide a buffer zone around these safety areas. The safety areas need to be identified and public education need to be done to inform residents and tourists of their locations and to market *Plan, Prep & Go*.

4.4.5 SISTERS-CAMP-SHERMAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Camp Sherman

SB 360 Risk Classification: Extreme, with some areas of High Density Extreme

The Community of Camp Sherman is located on the eastern slope of the Cascade Mountain Range in the Metolius River Basin. The community is an unincorporated area with approximately 300 year-round residents and 2500 residents in the summer months. The Metolius River has been classified as a wild and scenic river and is a destination for fishermen and people who enjoy the national forests. Housing within the community consists of private homes, cabins on leased US Forest Service property and numerous campgrounds and dispersed camping areas.

Fire protection within Camp Sherman is a collaborative effort with the Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District providing structural fire protection. The Black Butte Ranch Rural Fire Protection District provides automatic aid response assistance to the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire Protection District in the community. The US Forest Service protects federal timber lands and the Oregon Department of Forestry protects private timberlands. The four organizations work closely together when fires occur within Camp Sherman.

Access and egress in Camp Sherman is a challenge for residents and visitors in the summer season. There is one paved road leading into the community and two additional gravel roads that could be utilized for emergency evacuations if necessary. The graveled roads travel through heavily forested areas and steep terrain which would be hazardous during a wildfire event.

Priorities for Camp Sherman:

1. Maintain fuel treatments adjacent to access and egress routes
2. Enhance access to cellular and broadband services
3. Support defensible space and fuel reduction initiatives

Wildfire history:

The community of Camp Sherman and the Metolius Basin have a long and significant fire history. Summer thunderstorms frequently occur in the area igniting flammable vegetation. Historic fires in the area include: Eyerly Fire, B&B Fire, Bridge 99 Fire, Sheep Springs Fire,

multiple fires on Green Ridge and the Lions Head Fire. Several fires have required partial or full evacuation of the community.

4.4.6 UNPROTECTED COMMUNITIES

Grizzly Saddle

SB 360 Risk Classification: High

Grizzly Saddle is in the SE corner of the Crooked River National Grassland where Highway 26 crosses the shoulder of Grizzly Mountain. A fire starting on the west side of the saddle could quickly move uphill thru heavy brush and a closed juniper stand, pushed by the prevailing NW wind. Features at risk are local and interstate powerlines, homesites, private and public timber, and millions of dollars of electronic communication equipment. Action should be taken to open the juniper stand and reduce the brush with mechanical thinning, mowing, hand piling and burning.

Priorities for Grizzly Saddle:

1. Reduce the spread of Medusahead grass, a noxious weed that is increasing the flammability of the area.
2. Defensible Space: Establish and maintain defensible space around structures in compliance with SB 360 standards. (Highest Focus)
3. Hazardous Fuels Reduction: Hazardous fuels reduction is needed to modify fuels arrangement and continuity beyond defensible space on private and adjoining federal lands. Projects associated with ladder fuels reduction, stand density thinning and vegetation modification practices are encouraged. (Highest Focus)
4. Access & Egress: Hazardous fuels reduction to critical evacuation (access & egress) routes servicing the community is necessary to ensure safe evacuation of the public during wildfire events. Improved access and egress of roads to the community to support fire suppression apparatus is highly encouraged.
5. Public Education: Promote Defensible Space principles and public education to community residents through education outreach activities.

Street Creek/Upper Metolius and Montgomery Shores

SB 360 Risk Classification: High Density Extreme

Street Creek/ Upper Metolius/ Montgomery Shores is a remote community that has been impacted by wildfire in the last decade. These summer homes and cabins are nestled in the

riparian area along the Metolius River as it enters Lake Billy Chinook. The area is accessible by a single six mile winding graveled road. Residents should expect additional wildfire events in the future and prepare accordingly. These homes are 100% surrounded by federal lands and were classified as High-Density Extreme in the Jefferson County SB 360 Classification.

Priorities for Upper Metolius/Montgomery Shores:

1. **Fuels Reduction:** Private, USFS and BIA land managers need to act to reduce fuels on their lands adjacent to Street Creek/Upper Metolius and Montgomery Shores areas. The fuels need to be reduced so that firefighters can fight the fires on the ground. Fuel loads need to be altered and maintained so that no more than a four-foot flame length is produced on the average worst day in fire season.
2. **Access and Egress:** Roads need to be improved to provide a safe evacuation route for local residents to escape an on-coming wildfire while firefighting vehicles are trying to make their way into the area. Additionally, driveways need to be improved so as to permit the passage of structural protection vehicles.
3. **Defensible Space:** Residents need to continue to widen and maintain the space between wildland fuels and adjacent homes & structures. Remove combustible fuels within a 100' perimeter of all structures.
4. **Public Education:** Home owners need to be educated on the home ignition zone and the steps to take to reduce hazards within the home ignition zone. i.e.; removing ground and ladder fuels, remove pine needles from roofs and gutters etc.

5.0 COUNTY HAZARD REDUCTION PRIORITIES

Every CWPP must identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommend the types and methods of treatment that will protect one or more at-risk communities and essential infrastructure. Each of the aforementioned communities has listed specific measures to reduce the effects of wildland fire. The priorities listed for each community should be pursued to make that community more resilient to wildfires. These priorities are set for a five-year period.

As in 2016, the process for selecting priorities for 2021 was determined by the following:

- 1) Overall risks were identified by the Jefferson County SB-360 Classification committee. The classification process considers topography, fuel load, weather, fire history and structural ignitability. The Steering Committee gave special consideration to those communities that were identified as Extreme or High Density Extreme. These communities were considered to be at greater risk from a wildfire. The Steering Committee took into consideration the recommendations of the SB-360 Classification Committee.
- 2) Subjective priorities were determined based upon personal knowledge of agency members that work with communities and in the field (Table 5-1).

The overall Jefferson County priorities are below. All priorities are important and are listed below in no particular order:

- Fuels reduction for privately-owned defensible space (both vacant and occupied);
- Homeowner and community education;
- Reduce hazardous fuels on public lands (emphasize adjacent to communities/critical infrastructure);
- Increase the number of Firewise communities in Jefferson County;
- Identify areas for removal of juniper;
- Identify, improve, and protect critical evacuation routes;
- Reduce structural vulnerability.

Community specific priorities are included in table 5-1 below.

Table 5-1 Jefferson County Community Hazard Reduction Priorities

Fire Protection	Community	Objectives
<i>Ashwood-Antelope RFPA</i>	Ashwood-Antelope	Fuels mitigation/reduction, defensible space, provide survivable space around community and private improvements, develop additional water sources for fighting fire, support additional equipment and fire training, increase public education
<i>Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue</i>	Crooked River Ranch	Fuels mitigation/reduction on public and private lands in CRR
<i>Gateway RFPA</i>	Gateway	Fuels mitigation/reduction, defensible space, and volunteer training
<i>Lake Chinook Fire & Rescue</i>	Grandview Communities	Improve access/egress routes, signage, improve and increase fuels treatments and defensible space
<i>Jefferson County Fire District #1</i>	JCFD#1 Communities	Fuels reduction and mitigation; Access and egress; Increasing public education and awareness of grants, Ready Set Go, Firewise, and Pre-evacuation preparation and safety areas; Educate property owners on ignition zones and hazard reduction; Pre-plan areas.
<i>Lake Chinook Fire & Rescue</i>	Three Rivers	Fuels reduction within the subdivision on private road right-of-ways and adjacent public lands, and defensible space
<i>Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District</i>	Camp Sherman	Maintain fuel treatments adjacent to access and egress routes; Enhance access to cellular and broadband services; Support defensible space and fuel reduction initiatives
<i>Unprotected</i>	Unprotected Communities	Improve access/egress routes; Improve defensible space and increase and improve fuels treatment; resident education

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO REDUCE STRUCTURAL IGNITABILITY

Every CWPP must recommend measures that homeowners and communities can take to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan. The Steering Committee will continue to use the steps outlined in the 2016 CWPP as the guiding principles for reducing structural ignitability until Chapter 6 of the 2021 International WUI Code is formally adopted and incorporated into state law for use by local jurisdictions.

STEP 1

- If there is a home or other structure on the property, then a fuel break is required to be established around it. A structure is defined as a permanently sited building that is at least 500 square feet.
- If no home or other structure exists on the property then fuel reduction treatment is not required on the property.
- If the home has flame-resistant roofing (Class A, B, or C), then a 50 foot fuel break is required. If it is roofed with cedar shakes or other flammable material, the fuel break must be 100 feet in size.
- A fuel break begins at the outside edge of a home's furthest extension. This may be the edge of the roof eave, or the outside edge of a deck attached to the home. The shape of the fuel break mirrors the footprint shape of the home and anything that is attached to it.
- A fuel break's distances are measured along the slope, and does not need to extend beyond the property line.
- The fuel break may use natural firebreaks such as a rock out cropping or a body of water, or it can be completely man-made.
- The vegetation within the fuel break must meet the following guidelines:
 - Ground cover should be substantially non-flammable or fire resistant.
 - Dry grass should be cut to a height of less than four inches.
 - Cut grass, leaves, needles, twigs and similar small vegetative debris should be broken up so that a continuous fuel bed is not created.
 - Shrubs and trees should be maintained in a green condition, be substantially free of dead plant material, and have any potential "ladder fuels" removed.
 - Trees and shrubs should also be arranged so that fire cannot spread or jump from plant to plant.

STEP 2

- On a driveway that is at least 150 feet long, it is necessary to remove obstructions over the driving surface, and create a fuel break along the driveway's fringe. The clearance above the driving area must meet these specifications:
 - The horizontal clearance must be at least 12 feet
 - The vertical clearance must be at least 13 ½ feet
- The fuel break along a driveway fringe must extend 10 feet from each side of the driveway's center line, creating a total fuel break area that is at least 20 feet wide, including the driving surface.
- The vegetation must be modified to the same standards as a fuel break around a structure. The driveway fuel break distance is measured along the slope, and does not need to extend beyond the property line.

STEP 3

Sparks from a chimney connected to a fireplace or wood-burning stove could catch tree branches on fire. To reduce the chance of this happening, trim all branches 10 feet away from a chimney that vents a wood-burning fireplace or stove.

STEP 4

All dead branches overhanging any portion of the roof must be removed. Also remove accumulations of leaves, needles, twigs, bark and other potentially flammable debris that may be on the roofing surface, in the valleys or in the rain gutters.

STEP 5

Keeping the space under wooden decks and exterior stairways clean – and enclosed – is one of the best ways to keep a house safe during fire season. Firewood, lumber, dry needles, leaves, and other litter need to be cleaned out.

STEP 6

Firewood and lumber piles near a structure can become a source of intense, sustained heat if they should catch fire. This could ignite nearby vegetation, or cause windows to break, admitting fire into the structure. During the months of fire season, move firewood and lumber piles at least 20 feet from any structure. A better solution is to put firewood and lumber into an enclosed shed.

In addition to the above information, a Firewise tips for homeowners checklist can be found in Appendix B.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNTY

The Committee agrees that the County should:

1. Look more closely at evacuation routes in areas where the roads are steep and narrow and provide limited access making the road impassable for those evacuating or emergency vehicles getting to the site; or egress routes that are limited to only one or two roads in densely populated areas;
2. Maintain county public use roads in areas of high fire danger; allowing firefighting resources better and faster access to fires that encroach and threaten nearby subdivisions and homes;
3. Recognize the Cove Palisades State Park, Lake Simtustus, and the Metolius Basin is at higher risk during the summer season due to increased number of people recreating in the area.
4. Support and collaborate with local partners to increase the number of Firewise communities in Jefferson County through a county-wide Firewise Coordinator position.

2021/22 County Activities Update: The county has been trimming trees along the roadways and placing more gravel to improve the roadways in these areas: Montgomery Road to Perry South & Monty Campgrounds; Trout Creek Road to Ashwood near the Crook County line. The Board of County Commissioners adopted the Transportation System Plan in 2021 that also listed Geneva Road as a safety project. This includes a feasibility study needed to upgrade Geneva Road and provide a secondary year-round emergency access to the Three Rivers and Grandview areas.

7.0 ACTION PLAN

The CWPP action plan is based on a 5-year timeline and was derived from the identified priorities and the risk assessment. Each action (defined below) is stated in the Action Plan Matrix Table 7-1. This table provides information about each identified action, the community and the lead agency(ies).

- *Defensible Space*: proper management of vegetation surrounding homes or structures to reduce the threat from wildfire, and increase number of Firewise communities
- *Fuels Reduction*: reduce fire intensity and improve potential control locations through activities like creation of fuel breaks for/by undeveloped properties and large parcel landowners.
- *Community Infrastructure*: development of water supply, access/egress improvements, evacuation routes, communication sites and water storage facilities, and EMS facilities, improve resiliency of critical community infrastructure (e.g. water storage and infrastructure, especially for RFPAs)
- *Fire Readiness*: EMS training, apparatus acquisition, capacity and staffing, communications and fire suppression equipment, and pre-planning/triage/classification.
- *Fire Prevention and Mitigation Education*: educating the public on wildfire risks and promoting fire safety mitigation practices using materials from nationally and locally recognized fire prevention education programs (e.g. Firewise; Ready, Set, Go; Fire Adapted Communities; Keep Oregon Green; OSU-Extension resources; etc.)

Table 7-1 Action Plan Matrix

Action	Identified Community	Stakeholder agency(ies)	Partner agency(ies)
Approve and maintain defensible space	<i>Madras</i>		
	Juniper Crest	JCFD	OSFM, ODF
	Madras Ranchos/Canyon View	JCFD	OSFM, USFS, ODF
	North Madras Heights	JCFD	OSFM, ODF
	Dizney	JCFD	BLM, BIA, OSFM, ODF
	<i>Metolius</i>		
	Round Butte	JCFD	USFS, PGE, OSFM, ODF
	<i>Culver</i>		
	High Chaparral	JCFD	USFS, ODF, OSFM,

			ODF
	Juniper Butte	JCFD	USFS, ODF, OSFM, ODF
	Shamrock Estates	JCFD	USFS, OSFM, ODF
<i>Lake Chinook</i>			
	Grandview • Forest Park • Rim Park • Air Park	LCFR	USFS, ODF, OPRD, CRNG, OSFM
	Three Rivers	LCFR	BLM, ODF, USFS, PGE, OSFM
<i>Crooked River Ranch</i>			
	Crooked River Ranch	CRRFD	BLM, USFS, CRNG, OSFM, ODF
<i>Sisters-Camp Sherman</i>			
	Camp Sherman	SCSFD	USFS, ODF, OSFM
<i>Rural Fire Protection Associations</i>			
	Ashwood-Antelope	Ashwood-Antelope RFPA	ODF, OSFM
	Gateway	Gateway RFPA	BLM, CRNG, OSFM, ODF
<i>Under or Unprotected Communities</i>			
	Grizzly Saddle	Under or unprotected	USFS, BLM, ODF
	Street Creek-Upper Metolius/Montgomery Shores	Under or unprotected	ODF, USFS, BIA
Action	Identified Community	Stakeholder agency(ies)	Partner agency(ies)
Community Infrastructure Development	<i>Madras</i>		
	Juniper Crest	JCFD	City, County
	Madras Ranchos/Canyon View	JCFD	City, County
	North Madras Heights	JCFD	City, County
	Dizney	JCFD	City, County
	<i>Metolius</i>		
	Round Butte	JCFD	PGE, City, County
	<i>Culver</i>		
	High Chaparral	JCFD	ODF, County
	Juniper Butte	JCFD	ODF, County
	Shamrock Estates	JCFD	County
	<i>Lake Chinook</i>		

	Grandview: • Forest Park • Rim Park • Air Park	LCFR	ODF, OPRD, County
	Three Rivers	LCFR, TRLOA	ODF, PGE, County
	<i>Crooked River Ranch</i>		
	Crooked River Ranch	CRRFD, CRRHOA	County
	<i>Sisters-Camp Sherman</i>		
	Camp Sherman	SCSFD	County
	<i>Rural Fire Protection Associations</i>		
	Ashwood-Antelope	Ashwood- Antelope RFPA	County
	Gateway	Gateway RFPA	County
	<i>Under or Unprotected Communities</i>		
	Grizzly Saddle	Under or unprotected	ODF, County
	Street Creek-Upper Metolius/Montgomery Shores	Under or unprotected	ODF, County, BIA
	Action	Identified Community	Stakeholder agency(ies)
Fire Readiness	<i>Madras</i>		
	Juniper Crest	JCFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	Madras Ranchos/Canyon View	JCFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	North Madras Heights	JCFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	Dizney	JCFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	<i>Metolius</i>		
	Round Butte	JCFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	<i>Culver</i>		
	High Chaparral	JCFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	Juniper Butte	JCFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	Shamrock Estates	JCFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	<i>Lake Chinook</i>		

	Grandview • Forest Park • Rim Park • Air Park	LCFR	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	Three Rivers	LCFR	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
<i>Crooked River Ranch</i>			
	<i>Crooked River Ranch</i>	CRRFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
<i>Sisters-Camp Sherman</i>			
	<i>Camp Sherman</i>	SCSFD	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
<i>Rural Fire Protection Associations</i>			
	Ashwood-Antelope	Ashwood-Antelope RFPA	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	Gateway	Gateway RFPA	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
<i>Under or Unprotected Communities:</i>			
	Grizzly Saddle	Under or unprotected	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
	Street Creek-Upper Metolius/Montgomery Shores	Under or unprotected	USFS, ODF, BIA, BLM
Action	Identified Community	Stakeholder agency(ies)	Partner agency(ies)
Prevention and Mitigation Education	All communities using fire prevention and mitigation education programs like Firewise, Ready Set Go, Fire Adapted Communities, Keep Oregon Green, or resources from OSU Extension.	N/A	City, County, OSU Ext, BLM, ODF, USFS, BIA, OSFM, PGE, OPRD, CRNG; All partners
Fuels Reduction	<i>Madras</i>		
	Juniper Crest		JCFD
	Madras Ranchos/Canyon View	USFS	JCFD
	North Madras Heights		JCFD
	Dizney	BLM, BIA	JCFD
<i>Metolius</i>			
	Round Butte	USFS, PGE	JCFD

<i>Culver</i>		
High Chaparral	USFS, ODF	JCFD
Juniper Butte	USFS, ODF	JCFD
Shamrock Estates	USFS	JCFD
<i>Lake Chinook</i>		
Grandview • Forest Park • Rim Park • Air Park	USFS, ODF, OPRD, CRNG	LCFR
Three Rivers	BLM, ODF, USFS, PGE	LCFR
<i>Crooked River Ranch</i>		
Crooked River Ranch	BLM, USFS, CRNG	CRRFD
<i>Sisters-Camp Sherman</i>		
Camp Sherman	USFS, ODF	SCSFD
<i>Rural Fire Protection Associations</i>		
Ashwood-Antelope	ODF	Ashwood-Antelope RFPA
Gateway	BLM, CRNG	Gateway RFPA
<i>Under or Unprotected Communities</i>		
Grizzly Saddle	USFS, BLM, ODF	Under or unprotected
Street Creek-Upper Metolius/Montgomery Shores	ODF, USFS, BIA	Under or unprotected

BIA – Bureau of Indian Affairs

BLM – Bureau of Land Management

CRNG – Crooked River National Grassland

CRRFD – Crooked River Ranch Fire Dist.

JCFD – Jefferson County Fire District #1

LCFR – Lake Chinook Fire & Rescue

LOA – Landowners Associations

ODF – Oregon Department of Forestry

OSU Ext – Oregon State University-Extension

PGE – Portland General Electric

TRLOA – Three Rivers Landowner Association

OSFM – Oregon State Fire Marshal

SCSFD – Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District

USFS – United State Forest Service

8.0 PERFORMANCE MEASURES

An effective monitoring process for the CWPP is important to ensure that resources are being utilized effectively, efforts from various agencies are well coordinated and complimentary, and that duplication of effort is minimized.

Annual Review

An annual review will occur in the fall of every year and will record the progress on the items listed below and provide the information for Table 8-1 Performance Measure Evaluation Matrix. This review will be included in Appendix E or as an Addendum. Each year the Steering Committee will refer to the action plan in this report to verify that steps are being taken to decrease the risk associated with each priority.

Five-Year Review

Every five years the Steering Committee will re-convene to assess this document and determine and set new priorities, and if needed, risk, for the next five-year period.

Recommended performance measures for the Steering Committee are listed below. Each of these measures should be reviewed and reported on annually. The organization responsible for the information or data source is noted below.

Understand the scope of the wildfire problem and potential in Jefferson County

- Updates completed, documented and incorporated into the CWPP (County).
- Communities and at-risk infrastructure identified and mapped (County).
- Wildland-urban-interface (WUI) identified, evaluated, and mapped (County).
- Wildfire Atlas for all agencies and jurisdictions compiled and updated annually (Steering Committee); state and federal atlas map are updated by the respective agency.
- Underserved communities for potential outreach and projects have been identified.
- Protection has been assessed for adequate personnel and equipment for fire prone areas.

Reduce hazardous fuels

- Increase number of acres treated for fuels reduction annually.
- Increase the total number of acres treated through fuel reduction measures to reduce the fire threat and intensity. Accomplishment to be reported at the annual CWPP review meeting (Respective Jurisdiction).
- Ensuring treated areas have been/are being maintained.
- Increase the number of homes protected.

Reduce structural ignitability

- Number of acres/local community areas where defensible space is established around individual homes or clusters of homes (Fire Departments).
- Number of structures lost to wildland fire (All jurisdictions).
- Implement Fire Adapted Communities (All jurisdictions).
- Adopt defensible space and structural integrity standards into building code in Jefferson County.
- Increase the number of Firewise communities in Jefferson County.

Coordinate WUI treatment activities on adjoining public and private lands

- Number or percentage of WUI areas adjacent to federal lands where complementary treatments occurred (Wildland Protection Agencies).
- Number or percentage of WUI treatment areas where public and private mitigation measures were conducted simultaneously or under a unified plan (All jurisdictions).
- Track Shared Stewardship work in Jefferson County and work with Central Oregon Forest Stewardship Foundation to expand this work into Jefferson County.

Provide for safety of public during wildfire incidents

- County-wide and local community evacuation processes developed (Sheriff's Office)
- Number of temporary refuge areas that have been established within a community (Local Homeowners Groups in coordination with Fire Departments).

Promote community involvement and awareness

- Number of outreach or education events held (Fire Department/Homeowner Group and Central Oregon Prevention Co-op).
- Assessment of overall participation in neighborhood fuels treatment initiatives (Fire Departments and/or Homeowners Group).
- Increase outreach and education to public on Ready. Set. Go. principles.
- Increase the number of participants in Frontier Emergency alerts.

Table 8-1 Performance Measures Evaluation Matrix

Performance Measure	Responsible Party	Response
A. Scope of wildfire problem and potential		
1 Have the communities and at-risk infrastructure been identified?	COIC	
2 Have updates been completed, documented and incorporated?	COIC	
3 Have WUI's been identified?	Committee	
4 Have WUI's been mapped?	COIC, Jeff Co GIS	
5 Was a private and state/federal lands Fire Atlas compiled and updated annually?	Committee	
6 Were underserved populations identified and mapped in the OWRE?	COIC, OSU-Extension	
7 Protection has been assessed for adequate personnel and equipment for fire prone areas	OSFM	
B. Reduce hazardous fuels		
1 Were the risk assessment scores for communities reduced?	Fire Department	
2 Was the flame length potential reduced (measured in acres)?	Jurisdictions	
3 How many acres were treated in total?	Jurisdictions	
4 Ensuring treated areas have been/are being maintained. (years since treatment based on veg type and treatment type)	Committee	
5 Number of homes protected	Committee	
C. Reduce structural ignitability		
1 How many acres of defensible space around home(s) were established?	Fire Department	
2 How many structures were lost to wildland fire(s)?	WPA, Fire Department	
3 Adopt defensible space and structural integrity standards into building code in Jefferson County	Jefferson County	
4 Increase the number of Firewise communities in Jefferson County	ODF	
D. WUI coordination on adjoining public/private lands		
1 How many treatments (or acreage) occurred on adjacent federal lands?	WPA	
2 How many treatment mitigations occurred on federal and private lands under a unified plan?	WPA	
3 Track Shared Stewardship work in Jefferson County and work with Central Oregon Forest Stewardship Foundation and Oregon Living with Fire to expand	COIC	
4 Shared Stewardship work into Jefferson County	COIC, OSU-Extension	

E. Provide for safety of public during wildfire incidents		
1	Have county-wide and local community evacuation processes been developed?	JCSO
2	What were the numbers of fire responses or evacuation drill exercises performed?	JCSO
3	How many temporary refuge areas that have been established within a community?	Homeowners and Fire Department
F. Promote community involvement and awareness		
1	How many outreach and educational activities were held?	Fire Dept., Homeowners
2	What is the assessment of the overall participation in neighborhood fuels treatment initiatives?	Homeowners and Fire Department

OSFM-Oregon State Fire Marshal, COIC-Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council, WPA-Wildland Protection Agency, JCSO-Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

APPENDIX A: GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ACRONYMS

Aspect – The direction a slope faces (e.g., a north facing slope has a northern aspect).

BIA – Bureau of Indian Affairs

BLM – Bureau of Land Management

COIC – Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council

Community at Risk – A community that has significant amount of wildland fuels; if left untreated, these fuels pose a threat to the safety of the residents and a danger to the homes occupied by the residents.

COFMS – Central Oregon Fire Management Service, which is comprised of Prineville BLM, Ochoco National Forest, Deschutes National Forest, Crooked River National Grassland.

CRNG – Crooked River National Grassland

CRRFD – Crooked River Ranch Fire District

CTWS – The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Flame Height – The vertical distance between the bottom of the flame and the top of the flame.

Flame Length – The length of the flame from where it occurs on the lowest portion of a fuel to the very tip of the flame.

Fuel – Anything that will burn when exposed to the combustion process.

Hazard – For the purposes of this CWPP, hazard is comprised of the fuels present on a site, the topography, and the weather that contribute to the potential for a wildfire to spread. Also considered is the flame length that a fuel or forested area will produce during the driest portion of the fire season.

JCFD – Jefferson County Fire District #1

LCFR – Lake Chinook Fire & Rescue

LOA – Landowners Association

ODF – Oregon Department of Forestry

OHV – Off highway vehicle

OSFM – Oregon State Fire Marshal

OWRE – Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer, which is a statewide mapping tool designed to increase wildfire awareness, give a comprehensive view of wildfire risk and local fire history, and educate users about wildfire prevention and mitigation resources.

PGE – Portland General Electric

RFPA – Rangeland Fire Protection Association

Risk – For the purposes of this CWPP, risk is defined as the likelihood of a fire occurring and considers both natural ignitions (lightning) as well as any human activity that could cause an ignition.

SB 360 – Senate Bill 360, the Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act of 1997. This Act is fully described in Oregon Revised Statute 477.015 through 477.061 and Oregon Administrative Rules 629-044-1000 through 629-044-1110.

SB 762 – Senate Bill 762, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 762 in 2021, a comprehensive bill that provides more than \$220 million to help Oregon modernize and improve wildfire preparedness through three key strategies: creating fire-adapted communities, developing safe and effective response, and increasing the resiliency of Oregon's landscapes.

SCSFD – Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District

TRLOA – Three Rivers Landowners Association

Unprotected land – Land that has no organized fire suppression response when a fire—either structural or wildland—occurs.

USFS – United States Forest Service

Wildland – Areas that have natural occurring vegetation and are, for the most part, not groomed or cultivated.

Wildland fuel – All dead and/or living vegetative matter which will combust and contribute to the spread of a fire.

WUI – Wildland Urban Interface, that geographical area where structures and other human development meets or intermingles with wildland vegetative fuels.

APPENDIX B: FIREWISE CHECKLIST FOR HOMEOWNERS

See next page.



Firewise tips checklist for homeowners

WILDFIRE DOESN'T HAVE TO BURN everything in its path. In fact, cleaning your property of debris and maintaining your landscaping are important first steps to helping minimize damage and loss.

The work you do today can make a difference. Follow these simple action steps now and throughout the year to prepare and help reduce the risk of your home and property becoming fuel for a wildfire:

- Clear leaves and other debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks. This prevents embers from igniting your home.
 - Remove dead vegetation from under your deck and within 10 feet of the house.
 - Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.
 - Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
 - Remove flammable materials (firewood stacks, propane tanks, dry vegetation) within 30 feet of your home's foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds. If it can catch fire, don't let it touch your house, deck or porch.
 - Wildfire can spread to tree tops. If you have trees on your property, prune so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet from the ground.
 - Keep your lawn hydrated and maintained. If it is brown, cut it down to reduce fire intensity. Dry grass and shrubs are fuel for wildfire.
 - Don't let debris and lawn cuttings linger. Dispose of these items quickly to reduce fuel for fire.
 - Inspect shingles or roof tiles. Replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration.
 - Cover exterior attic vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8 inch to prevent sparks from entering the home.
 - Enclose under-eave and soffit vents or screen with metal mesh to prevent ember entry.
-

Learn more about how to keep your family safe and reduce your home's risk for wildfire damage at www.firewise.org.



APPENDIX C: 2011 PUBLIC MEETING

Seven public participants

- I. Introduction and purpose (Katrina Van Dis, COIC)
- II. Introduction to Committee (Jay Olsen, JCFD)
 - a. Mutual Aid: purpose is for agencies to assist with fires and to lessen the impact of fire on life and property; to assist people with egress from potential fires.
 - b. COIC will help assist agencies to receive grants to help communities most at risk
- III. Introduction to CWPP (Ken Lydy, BIA Warm Springs)
 - a. CWPP - Community Wildfire Protection Plan is a collaboration between communities and agencies
 - i. How does the CWPP affect the public?
 1. Agencies work together to protect public and private land from the threat of wildfire.
 - ii. What is a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)?
 1. If you see the country-side then you live in a WUI area. The people that live, recreate, travel, or anyone that is in the area that could be affected.
 - iii. What do you get if you are in a WUI?
 1. Fuels reduction and increased defensible space. Doesn't stop a landowner from doing more for their space.
- IV. Fire occurrence and threat from federal lands (Bryan Scholz, COFMS)
 - a. How are resources allocated for fire?
 - i. What is going on in the rest of the county has everything to do with what shows up in your area. Resources in our area go through the Central Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center in Prineville. Whichever agency is closest to the fire will go first (BLM, USFS, ODF, etc.). Heavy helicopters work out of Prineville, but they are controlled by a office in Portland. When several large wildfires are burning throughout the country and resources are scarce, national offices in Boise will prioritize where resources are placed. There are a limited number of tankers, fire trucks, and helicopters. (\$10,000/day to have a helicopter to sit in Sisters, \$3000/hour to run). Populated areas will take precedence over federal land fires not threatening communities. Projects have been identified and worked on because they were identified in the CWPP. This makes it easier to determine how to use our limited funds to the best of our abilities. It is a useful tool.

- b. The Central Oregon Fire Management Service (COFMS) was formed to help collaborate. It also provides firefighters an opportunity to be on more significant fires, which provide experience.
- V. Risk Assessment/SB 360/Firewise (Kevin Benton, ODF)
- a. The application of the risk assessment can be variable in scale to address different areas (urban versus rural).” Should read as “The application of the ODF risk assessment is adaptable to various scales of analysis such as a State, regional or more local county wide scale risk assessment analysis”
 - b. Initial statewide assessment was identified based on density, adjacent landscape and the vegetation. This was then subdivided by the jurisdiction protecting the area.
 - c. Local Level: communities at risk are determined by the CWPP Steering Committee
 - d. Five Risk Components: Risk, Hazard, Protection Capabilities, Values protected and structural vulnerability (definitions – see CWPP)
 - e. Each component is assessed and quantified into a point score. An adjective class rating is assigned to a community to be used as a comparison with other communities (see CWPP for point system).
 - f. How do we use this information? We use this to illustrate specific vulnerabilities to reduce the community’s threat from wildfire. This way we can educate the community. We can discuss how homeowners are at risk from fire. Also, to help develop an action plan to help mitigate fire (fuels reduction projects etc.).
 - g. Firewise: Landowners and homeowners can reduce fuels on their property by increasing defensible space and minimizing the impact on the house (fire proofing).

Public Comments and Questions

1. Is the lake a safe place for the community of Three Rivers? Answer: It is a water source so the sheriff might close it so that helicopters can use it as a dipping source. You would most likely be moved to a safe space.

2. If there is a fire, what initiates a response? Who decides and what are the steps? Answer: It depends on whose protection zone the fire is in. For example, the community of Three Rivers extends to Fly Creek and down to Sisters. If a fire starts in Three River, the Rural Fire District would be on the initial attack. We would call on COFMS when it overlaps with adjacent lands or if we need additional resources. We call in structural agencies for home protection.

3. What do you get if you are in a WUI? Answer: you can get roads widened; brush taken down; and/or defensible space increased to reduce the wildland threat that comes at your home. Examples are Round Butte, Camp Sherman, and the West side of Sisters

4. Response time on the Eyerly fire was not that fast, why? How do you deal with the fact that the dispatcher didn't report my call in? Answer: I don't know why that happened; that was a very tough situation. The hardest issue for fire protection agencies is to prioritize fires and resources. In Warm Springs we had over 10 fires going at once. There were no air resources because of prioritization. When structures are involved priorities shift to those areas.

5. If a fire leaves my community then what? Answer: Agreements are in place so we can use anyone's resources. Fires will be notified through any agency, including COFMS. ODF has issues getting to places fast because they are generally out of the area.

6. Comment: It makes it hard that there are so many regulations that keep people from fighting fires. For example, retardant dumping cannot be near the rivers (within 300 feet).

7. How do we get funding for these projects? Answer: This money is handed down through the federal government to communities. We use the CWPP to identify what is at most risk in our community and then develop an action plan and respective projects. We then apply for monies for those projects. It is a competitive process.

8. What does the grant get you? Answer: The grant will give you money to increase defensible space and get infrastructure needs built.

9. Are there any active or identified projects in Montgomery Shores? Answer: Part of the mitigation at the airport was for that community. When federal monies come, we will then put money into identified projects from the CWPP action plan. Your community has to be in a WUI to be eligible for monies.

10. Is the money retroactive to things I have already implemented? Answer: No, it has to be things that are going to be implemented.

11. Who can I contact? Answer: ODF is a good place to start.

APPENDIX D: 2016 PUBLIC MEETING

No public participants

- I. Introduction and Purpose (Brian Huff, JCFD)
 - a. Due to wildfires of the recent past, the FLAME Act of 2009 prompted the development of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. The CWPP was identified as a primary tool for implementing broad-based stakeholder collaboration and locally appropriate strategies for achieving resilient landscapes, fire adapted communities, and safe and effective wildfire response.
 - b. The original Jefferson County CWPP was adopted in 2005. A rewrite of the CWPP occurs every 5 years. Additionally, the Steering Committee conducts an annual review.
- II. Introduction to Committee (Brian Huff, JCFD)
 - a. Steering Committee: Jefferson County Fire District, Crooked River Rural Fire Protection District, Federal Agency Reps (USFS and BLM), County Reps, Sheriffs, Lake Chinook Fire and Rescue, Oregon Department of Forestry, Ashwood-Antelope, Gateway RFPA, US Dept. of Agriculture.
 - b. CTWS has been removed
 - i. Do Warm Springs Fire and Safety and BIA have their own process, similar to the CWPP?
 1. No. the Tribes have been included in the Jefferson County CWPP process since 2005 but have not participated in the process. Additionally, BIA is mostly federally funded and run and therefore does not benefit from the CWPP.
- III. Introduction to CWPP (Brian Huff, JCFD and Ken Lydy, Volunteer for JCFD)
 - a. County Participation and Role: The County is ultimately responsible for promoting voluntary compliance for SB-360
 - i. What is the SB-360 used for?
 1. SB-360 is used to identify areas the wildland urban interface (WUI), classify fire risk (based on past weather, past fire, housing density, and topography), and establish fuel-reduction measures for each of those classifications to mitigate risk.
 2. The entire County is classified as high, with some communities rated as high density extreme.
 3. Based on the SB-360 rating, the CWPP outlines an action plan for communities within Jefferson County which includes

- hazardous fuels reduction, defensible space, education, community infrastructure development, and fire readiness.
- ii. Is each representative for each community listed responsible for public outreach?
 - 1. Public education is expensive. If each agency were to conduct outreach for the CWPP within their community, they would need the funds to do so.
 - iii. Is it preferable to provide the materials at public places as a means of passing them along to the public?
 - 1. Yes. There are brochures that are distributed in this manner. However, there is not a budget for mailing materials to residents.
 - iv. Why is Young Life not included?
 - 1. Most of Young Life is within Wasco County but a small irrigated field in Jefferson County.
- b. County Participation and Role Continued: The Committee suggests:
- i. The County look more closely at evacuation routes, specific to Crooked River Ranch and Three Rivers in Juniper Butte
 - ii. Maintain public roads
 - iii. Recognize the Cove Palisades Park is at higher risk of in the Summer
 - iv. Develop aggressive fire safety and prevention programs
 - 1. What does the County need to do?
 - a. Agree to participate, as the County has been.
- c. Accomplishments: The CWPP notes a number of accomplishments within each community such as public education and outreach events, fuels mitigation, etc.
- i. On page 34, the document refers to adjacent federal land fuels reduction within the Round Butte development. Does this mean that work being done on those grasslands?
 - 1. Yes.

Public Comment and Questions:

There were no public comments.

APPENDIX E: 2022 PUBLIC MEETING

Jefferson County CWPP || Public Input Meeting Notes

Date: Thursday, March 31, 2022
Time: 2PM – 3PM
Place: Jefferson County Fire District #1
765 SW 5th St Madras, OR

Meeting called by: COIC on behalf of Jefferson County CWPP Steering Committee
Purpose: Review the CWPP purpose and updates and accept feedback from the public

Steering Committee members in attendance: Sgt. David Pond (Jefferson County Emergency Management), Chief Harry Ward (Crooked River Ranch), Chief Roger Johnson (Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire Protection, Chief Don Colfels, Ariel Cowan, Stacey Lacy, Heather Miller, Kasey Skaar, Shelby Knight, Sienna Fitzpatrick

Other meeting attendees: Jodie Bear (Oregon Living with Fire), Vince Grace (COFMS), Natalie Kuntz (Prineville District BLM – Sheldon Rhoden rep), Brad Pahl (CRR Fire President)

Notes

Introductions & Overview

The first 60 seconds of the recording is missing; in that time, staff member Shelby Knight gave an overview of the agenda and purpose for this public meeting. The steering committee for this project has been working hard over the past year to put this document together and are pleased to present this work to the public for review. The Jefferson County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is meant to be a living, public document, so public input is critical to its completion. We hope this meeting will help the public better understand the purpose of the document, and the risks and opportunities/resources available for wildfire mitigation and prevention.

This meeting will provide an overview of the purpose of the CWPP, the update process, and the changes made from the 2016 Plan.

The steering committee members present introduced themselves, as well as the partners present (see attendance).

CWPP Presentation

Please see the PowerPoint for the slides and contact information.

Updates to the 2021-22 CWPP are bulleted below for easy reference.

- Senate Bill 762 provided updated guidance for risk mapping and defining the WUI. The Steering Committee compared the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer (OWRE) mapping tool to old materials and stuck with the mapping method from years past as the OWRE currently doesn't capture community level/parcel level risk. Future annual updates will revisit those maps and use the OWRE once the parcel level information is updated
- Each community revised their priorities
- Camp Sherman was added to this update of the CWPP – it's part of Jefferson County, and it's partially covered in the Sisters CWPP
- The Action Plan focused on five action items, and each community set their priorities based on their individual risks. The priorities for each community include one or more of the action items.
- Each of the maps in the CWPP were significantly updated and reviewed by the Steering Committee. These are useful for grant applications for landowners.
 - o **Fire history & occurrence map:** includes data from 1990.
 - o **Fuels treatments map:** includes data since 2016. We used total acres to show private property treated to avoid breaches of privacy.
 - o **Infrastructure map:** this map is useful for prioritizing work and identifying evacuation strategies.
 - o **Land ownership map:** important for coordination of fuels mitigation and response.
 - o **Risk classification map:** this is an important part of the plan; the Steering Team looked hard at the SB762 statewide mapping tool for risk assessment and decided to go with the ratings formula from SB360 as it captures community risks better at this point in time. All communities in Jefferson County are rated as at least high risk.
 - o **Structural fire protection:** outlines the boundaries of the different structural fire protection districts.
 - o **WUI map 1/2:** This version of the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) map was included to show the set of conditions that determine the WUI, as often it's not necessarily a specific geographic area. This map came from the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer mapping tool (OWRE).
 - o **WUI map 2/2:** This WUI map is from 2016 to show the hazard rating based on density.

Public Comment:

The discussion was opened up to public comment. The PowerPoint and recording will be posted to the COIC website. The public input survey was open for another week and a half. There were no public comments.

Next Steps:

Partners offered to help share the CWPP and public survey to get community input. Once the survey is closed and comments are incorporated, the CWPP will be taken for approval to the Board of County Commissioners, ODF, and then Chief Colfels. Once the plan is finalized, we'll post the plan on the fire districts' websites and on COIC's, print copies and drop at fire locations, and ODF will retain a copy. Partners are welcome to post the plan on their websites as well. At the meeting, partners suggested COIC leave some copies of the final plan at the library, the Chamber of Commerce, and file one with the County clerk.

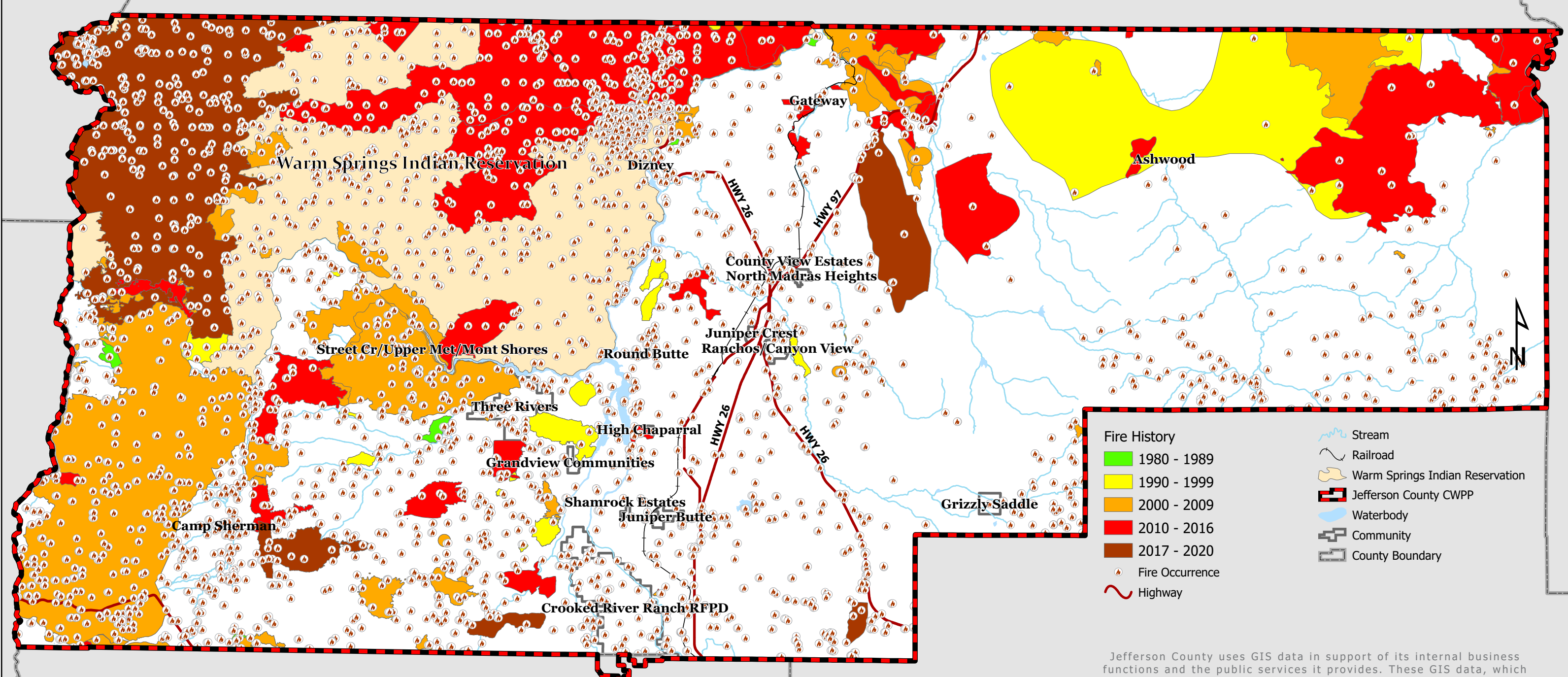
Ariel Cowan let the group know about the new Lower Bridge RFPA, a portion of which is located in Jefferson County. It's very new, and she suggested sharing the CWPP and inviting them to the annual updates and full review in 5 years. Shelby agreed, Boone connected her with that group and she will invite them to the future meetings and updates.

APPENDIX F: CWPP MAPS

See the following maps attached:

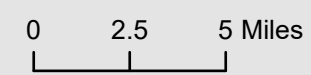
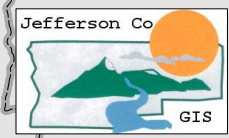
- Infrastructure
- Land Ownership
- Structural Fire Protection
- Fuels Treatments
- Fire History & Occurrence
- Risk Classification
- WUI Hazard Rating (OWRE)
- WUI Hazard Rating (2016 CWPP)

JEFFERSON COUNTY FIRE HISTORY & OCCURRENCE



Fire History		Stream
1980 - 1989		Railroad
1990 - 1999		Warm Springs Indian Reservation
2000 - 2009		Jefferson County CWPP
2010 - 2016		Waterbody
2017 - 2020		Community
Fire Occurrence		County Boundary
Highway		

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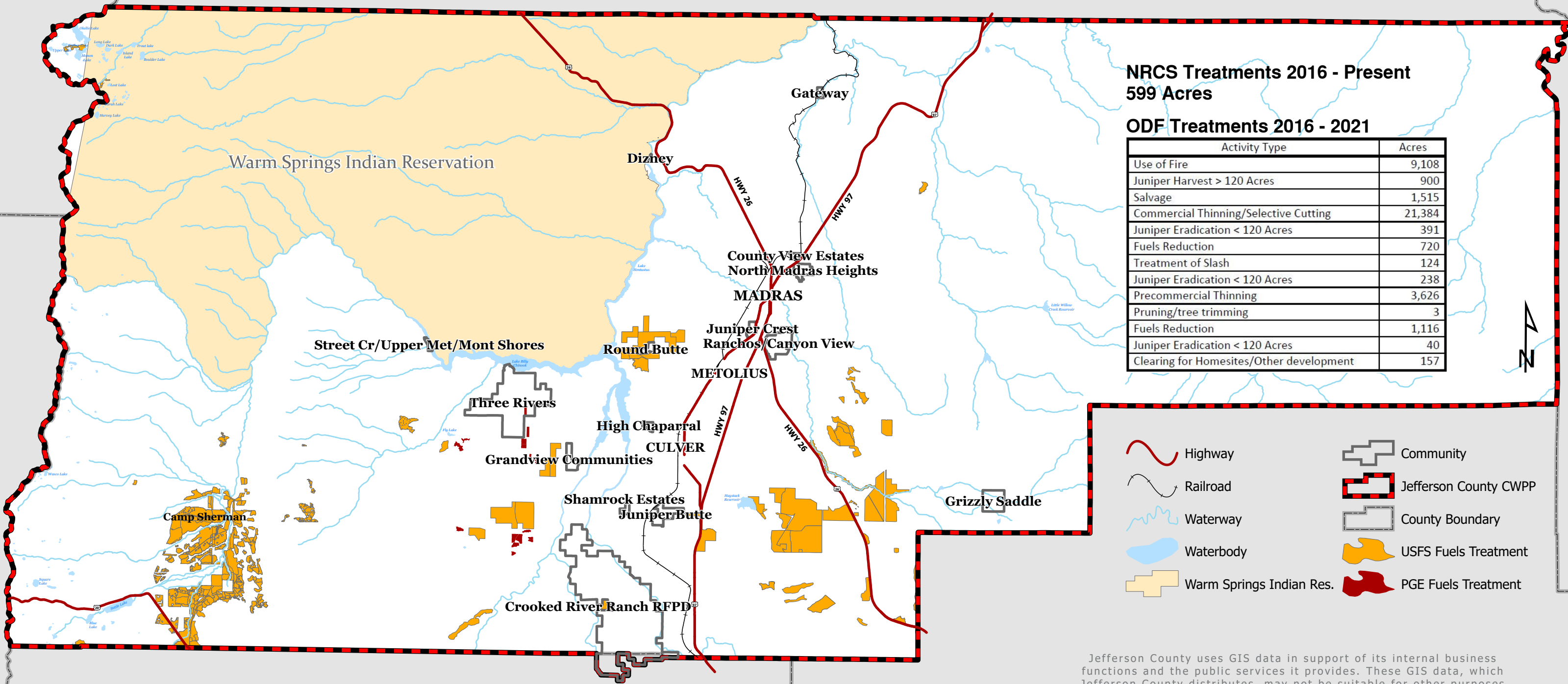


JEFFERSON COUNTY FUELS TREATMENT

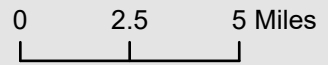
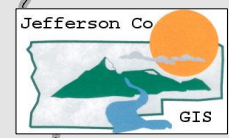
NRCS Treatments 2016 - Present
599 Acres

ODF Treatments 2016 - 2021

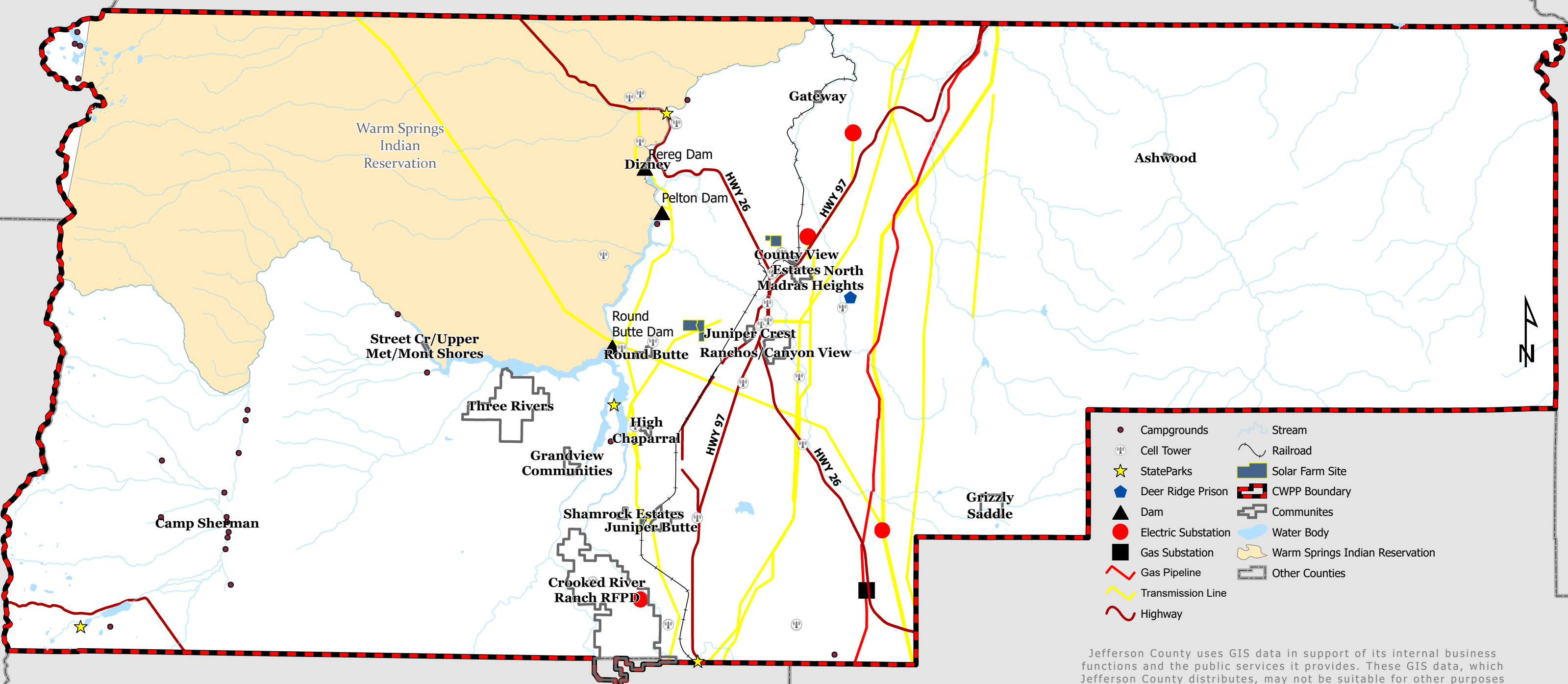
Activity Type	Acres
Use of Fire	9,108
Juniper Harvest > 120 Acres	900
Salvage	1,515
Commercial Thinning/Selective Cutting	21,384
Juniper Eradication < 120 Acres	391
Fuels Reduction	720
Treatment of Slash	124
Juniper Eradication < 120 Acres	238
Precommercial Thinning	3,626
Pruning/tree trimming	3
Fuels Reduction	1,116
Juniper Eradication < 120 Acres	40
Clearing for Homesites/Other development	157



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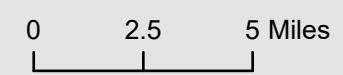
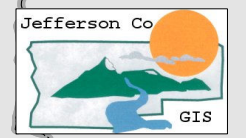


JEFFERSON COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE

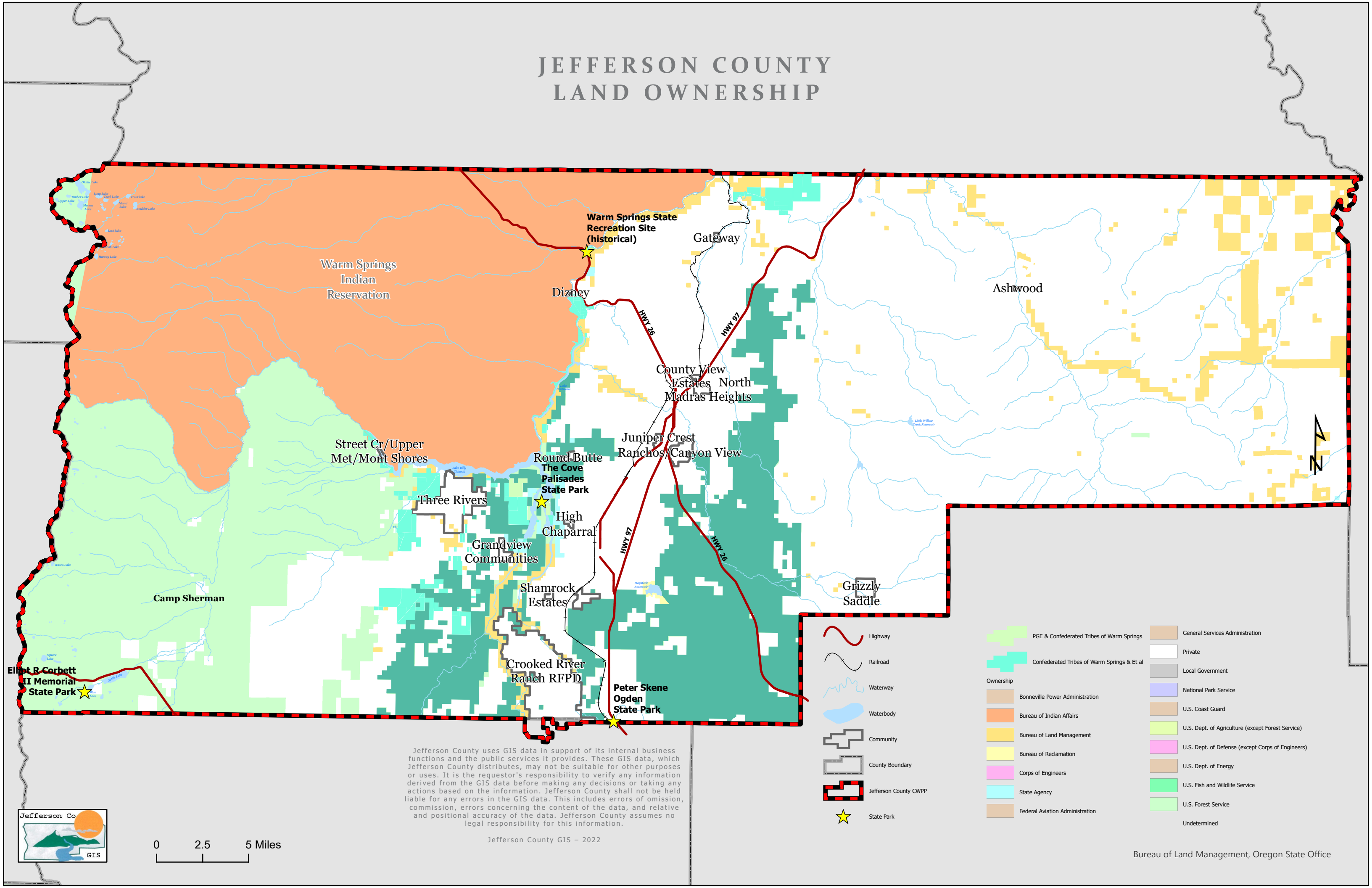


- Campgrounds
- ⊕ Cell Tower
- ★ State Parks
- ◆ Deer Ridge Prison
- ▲ Dam
- Electric Substation
- Gas Substation
- ↗ Gas Pipeline
- ↖ Transmission Line
- ↘ Highway
- Stream
- Railroad
- Solar Farm Site
- CWPP Boundary
- Communities
- Water Body
- Warm Springs Indian Reservation
- Other Counties

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JEFFERSON COUNTY LAND OWNERSHIP

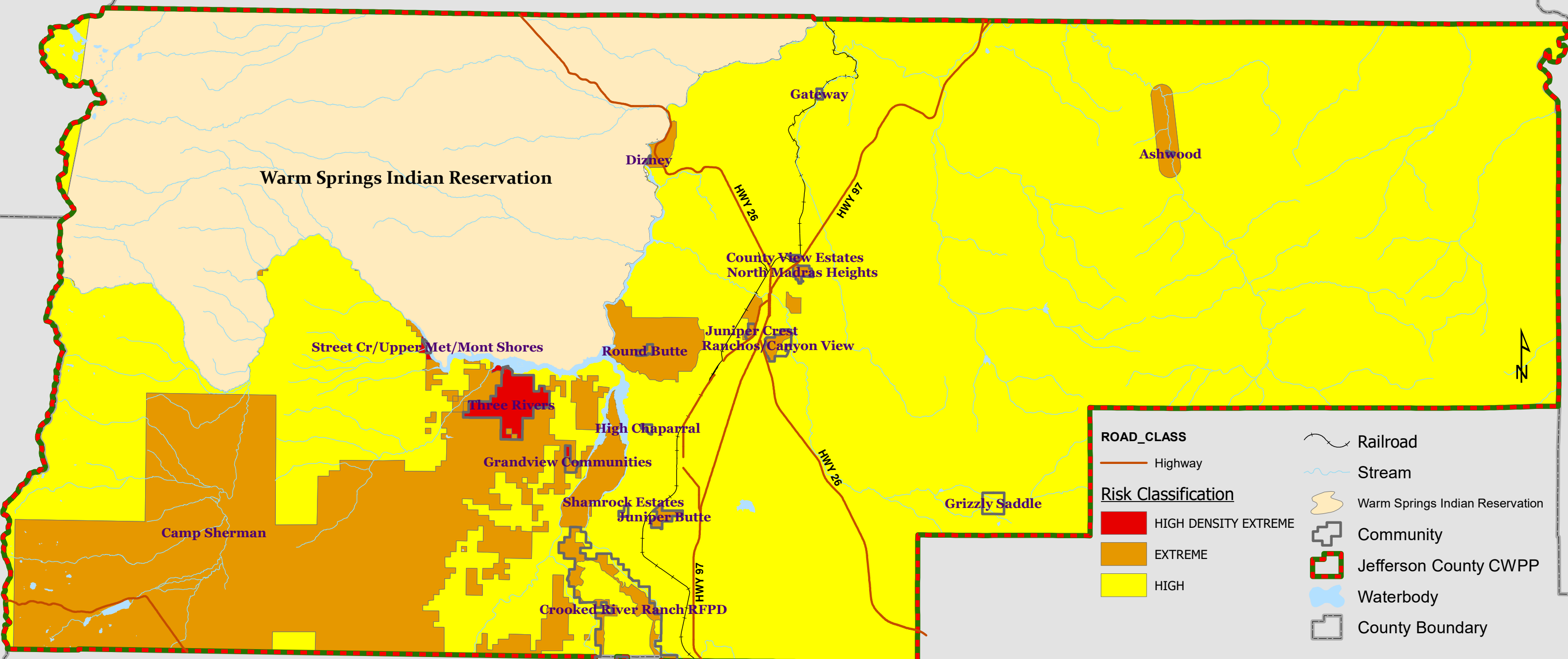


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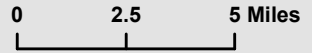
Jefferson County GIS - 2022



JEFFERSON COUNTY RISK CLASSIFICATION

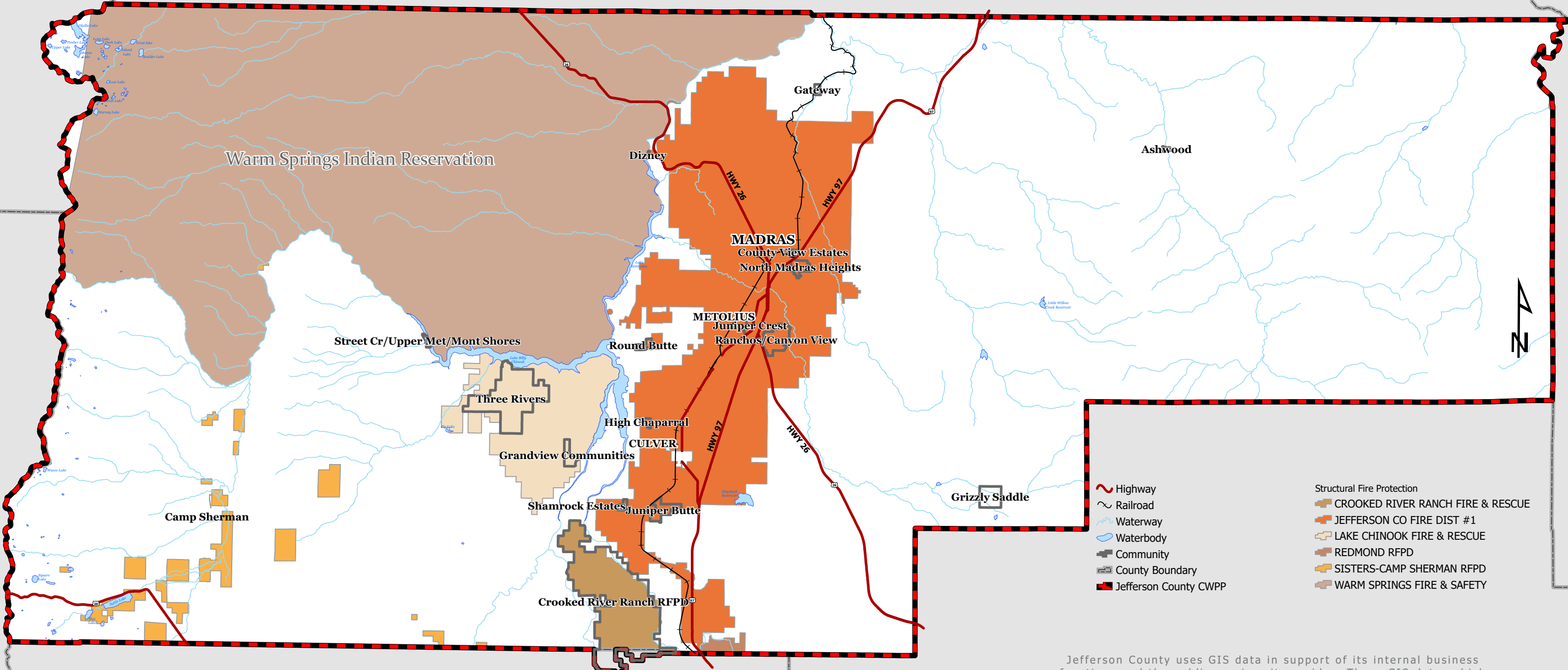


ROAD_CLASS		Railroad
	Highway	Stream
Risk Classification		Warm Springs Indian Reservation
	HIGH DENSITY EXTREME	Community
	EXTREME	Jefferson County CWPP
	HIGH	Waterbody
		County Boundary



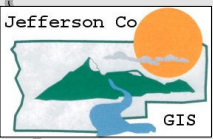
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JEFFERSON COUNTY STRUCTURAL FIRE PROTECTION



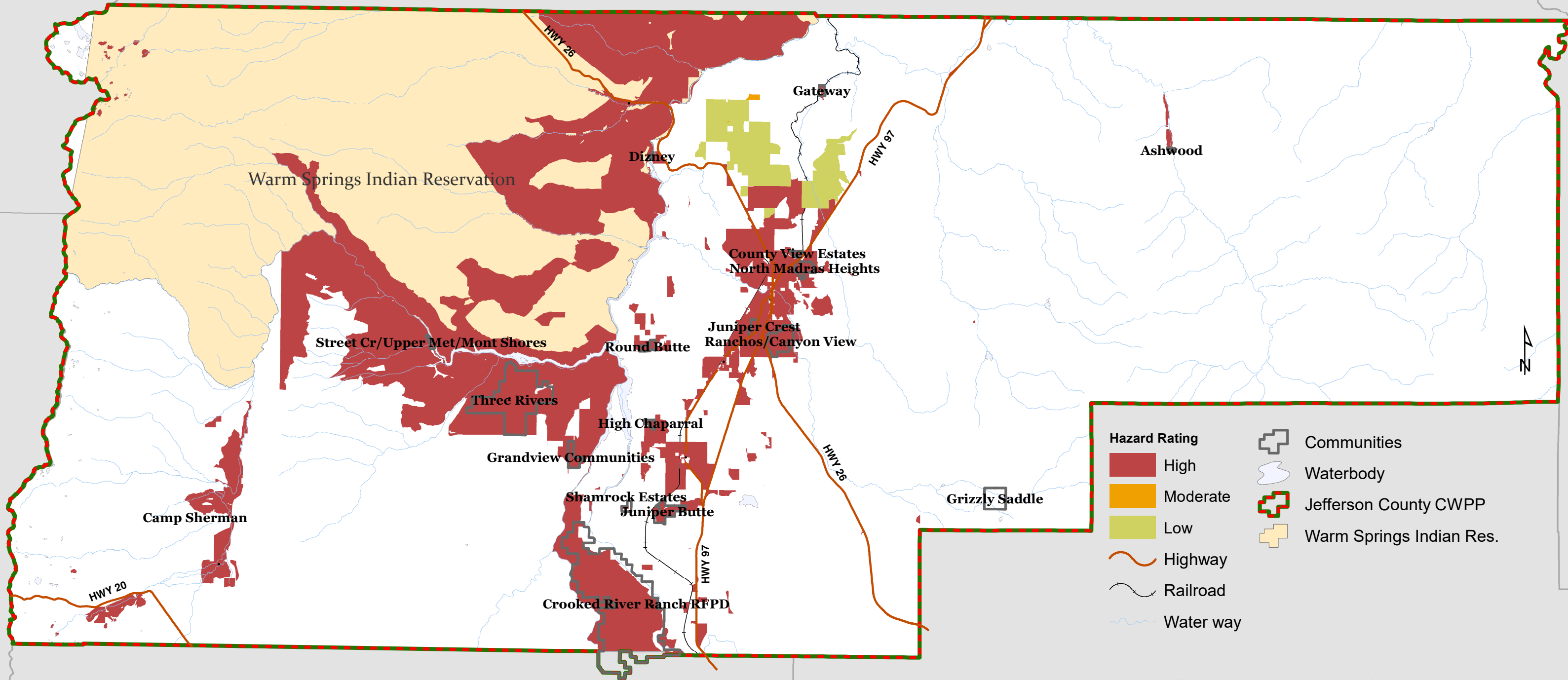
- Highway
 - Railroad
 - Waterway
 - Waterbody
 - Community
 - County Boundary
 - Jefferson County CWPP
-
- Structural Fire Protection**
 - CROOKED RIVER RANCH FIRE & RESCUE
 - JEFFERSON CO FIRE DIST #1
 - LAKE CHINOOK FIRE & RESCUE
 - REDMOND RFPD
 - SISTERS-CAMP SHERMAN RFPD
 - WARM SPRINGS FIRE & SAFETY

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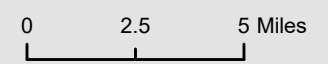


0 2.5 5 Miles

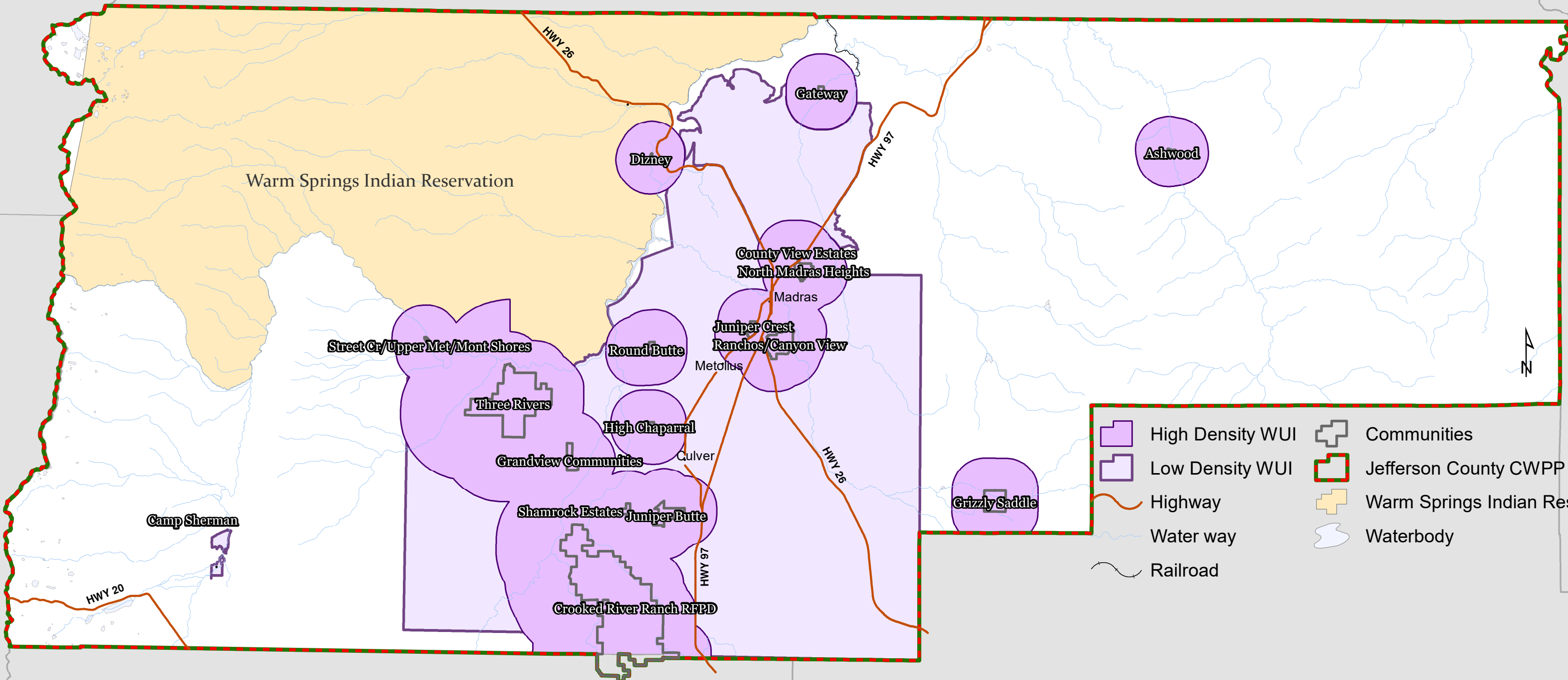
JEFFERSON COUNTY WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE












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JEFFERSON COUNTY WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE



	High Density WUI		Communities
	Low Density WUI		Jefferson County CWPP
	Highway		Warm Springs Indian Res.
	Water way		Waterbody
	Railroad		

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