## Progress Report for the Southwest Nebraska Community Wildfire Protection Plan

## The Community Wildfire Protection Plan has been completed!

In mid-2018 the Nebraska Forest Service initiated preparation of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for southwest Nebraska, including Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow Counties, plus the southern part of Frontier County and the western third of Lincoln County. The purpose of the plan is to provide a tool for effectively managing fire and hazardous vegetative fuels and to bolster collaboration and communication between the various agencies and organizations who manage fire in southwest Nebraska.

Having a CWPP in place allows the Nebraska Forest Service to apply for federal grant dollars to costshare forest fuels reduction treatments in at-risk areas within the boundaries of the CWPP. It also may increase opportunities for counties, municipalities, and rural fire districts to seek grant funding for activities related to fire protection.

The whole process generally takes about a year. Here is a snapshot of what has been accomplished.

| Task  | Status                   |
|---|--------------------------|
| Identify stakeholders and establish steering committee                  | Completed August, 2018   |
| Organizational meeting, solicit stakeholder input; identify data needed | Completed September 2018 |
| Gather baseline data; develop maps and tables                           | Completed November, 2018 |
| Identify critical infrastructure; conduct risk analysis                 | Completed December, 2018 |
| Develop Action Plan and recommendations                                 | Completed January, 2019  |
| Prepare draft document  | Completed February, 2019 |
| Steering Committee and public review of draft CWPP                      | Completed June, 2019     |
| Incorporate comments and finalize CWPP                                  | Completed June, 2019     |
| Adoption by local officials   | Completed July, 2019     |
| Publication and distribution of final CWPP                              | Completed July, 2019     |

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## Thank you for your support!