

Progress Report for the Wildcat Hills Region Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update

In December, 2020 the Nebraska Forest Service initiated the update of the 2015 Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for the Wildcat Hills Region of Nebraska, including Banner, Cheyenne, Kimball, Morrill, and Scotts Bluff Counties. 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 this region.

Having a CWPP in place allows the Nebraska Forest Service to apply for federal grant dollars to cost-share 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.

Here is a snapshot of what's been accomplished so far and what still needs to be completed:

Task	Status
Identify stakeholders and establish planning team	12/15/2020
Organizational meeting, solicit stakeholder input; identify data needed	
Gather baseline data	
Develop maps and tables	
Identify critical infrastructure; conduct risk analysis	
Develop Action Plan and recommendations	
Prepare draft document	
Public review of draft CWPP	
Incorporate comments and finalize CWPP	
Adoption by local officials	
Publication and distribution of final CWPP	

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Stay Tuned!