



2021/2022 Update

Idaho County, Idaho

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

August 1, 2022

Acknowledgements

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



Kooskia Fire Department	Stites Volunteer Fire Department	Riggins City Fire Department
Nez Perce/Clearwater National Forest – Red River Ranger District	Nez Perce/Clearwater National Forest – Salmon River Ranger District	Glenwood-Caribel Volunteer Fire District
Grangeville City Fire Department and Rural Fire District	Cottonwood City Volunteer Fire Department and Rural Fire District	Battle Ridge, Pleasant Valley, and Clearwater (BPC) Volunteer Fire Department
Elk City Volunteer Fire Department	Dixie Volunteer Fire Department	Secesh Meadows Volunteer Fire Department
White Bird City and Rural Fire Department	Harpster Fire Protection District	Kamiah City and Rural Fire Protection District
Salmon River Rural Fire Department	Ridge Runner Fire Department	Carrot Ridge Volunteer Fire Department
IDL – Craig Mountain Area	Payette National Forest	IDL – Maggie Creek FPD

To obtain copies of this plan contact:

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Cover photo: Smoke column from the Dixie fire as seen from Elk City, Idaho on the afternoon of Monday, July 5, 2021. USDA Forest Service photo by Jim Wimer.

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Foreword

The process of updating the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) began spring of 2021 with the goal of helping the community clarify and refine its priorities for the protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure in the wildland-urban interface on both public and private lands. The planning process guides community members and leaders through valuable discussions regarding management options and implications for the surrounding land base. Local fire service organizations help define issues that may place the county, communities, and/or individual homes at risk. Through the collaboration process, the CWPP planning team discusses potential solutions, funding opportunities, and regulatory concerns and documents their resulting recommendations in the CWPP. The CWPP planning process also incorporates an element for public outreach. Public involvement in the development of the document not only facilitates public input and recommendations, but also provides an educational opportunity through interaction of local wildfire specialists and an interested public.

The idea for community-based wildland fire planning and prioritization is neither novel nor new. However, the incentive for communities to engage in comprehensive forest planning and prioritization was given new and unprecedented impetus with the enactment of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) in 2003. This landmark legislation includes the first meaningful statutory incentives for the US Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to consider the priorities of local communities as they develop and implement forest management and hazardous fuel reduction projects. For a community to take full advantage of this new opportunity, it must first prepare a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

The CWPP update process for Idaho County was conducted alongside the update process for the Idaho County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP) which was spearheaded by Idaho County Disaster Services. Because some elements of the CWPP are naturally addressed during the MHMP update, these two planning processes were done simultaneously so as not to duplicate exercises and double planning efforts unnecessarily. The result is two standalone documents, each meeting the requirements set forth by the respective bodies that oversee it. The CWPP has been integrated into the MHMP chapter addressing Wildland Fire Hazards.

Declaration of Concurrence Page


R. Skipper Brandt, Idaho County Commissioner, Chair

9-20-22

Date


Denis Duman, Idaho County Commissioner

9-20-22

Date


Ted Lindsley, Idaho County Commissioner

9-20-2022

Date


Jerry Zumalt, Co-Chair, Idaho County Fire Chiefs Association

9-20-2022

Date


Tyre Holfeltz, Community Fire Program Manager, Idaho Department of Lands

11-3-22

Date

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Part I: Planning Process & Community Description

The Planning Team

The following individuals participated in the planning process and were crucial in updating the Idaho County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Table 1: Idaho County CWPP Planning Team

Name	Affiliation
Sandi Paul	Idaho County Fire Mitigation
Jerry Zumalt	Idaho County Disaster Management
Terry Cochran	Idaho County Emergency Planning Committee Chair
Thomas McLeod	Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, Red River Ranger District
Graydon Galloway	Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, Salmon River Ranger District
Tyre Holfeltz	Idaho Department of Lands
Kevin Chaffee	Idaho Department of Lands -- Maggie Creek FPD
Jeremiah Miller	Idaho Department of Lands – Craig Mountain Area
Dave Baldwin	Battle Ridge, Pleasant Valley, and Clearwater (BPC) Volunteer Fire Dept.
Andrew Puckett	Carrot Ridge Volunteer Fire Department
Greg Danly	Cottonwood City Volunteer Fire Department and Rural Fire District
Steve Repp	Dixie Volunteer Fire Department
Jeff Maxwell	Elk City Volunteer Fire Department
Chuck Kohagen	Glenwood-Caribel Volunteer Fire District
Brian Perry	Grangeville City Fire Department and Rural Fire District
Joe Armstrong-Nelson	Harpster Fire Protection District
Dan Musgrave	Kamiah City and Rural Fire Protection District
Mark Anderson	Kooskia Fire Department
Jim Gribble	Ridge Runner Fire Department
Jeff Joyce	Riggins City Fire Department
Alan Yearsley	Salmon River Rural Fire Department
Barry Allen Sears	Secesh Meadows Volunteer Fire Department
John Cantlon	Secesh Meadows Volunteer Fire Department
Mike Goodwin	Stites Volunteer Fire Department
Bryan Lowe	White Bird City and Rural Fire Department
Raechel Owens Compton	Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, Supervisors Office

The Planning Process

Planning Team Meetings

Planning Team meetings coincided with the planning process for the Multi-Hazard Mitigation plan and were scheduled and held from April 2021 through June 2021. Meetings were put on hiatus for July and August due to the 2021 wildfire season, then meetings were held in September and October. These meetings served to facilitate the sharing of information and to lay the groundwork for the Idaho County CWPP. Northwest Management, Inc. as well as other planning team leadership attended the meetings to provide the group with regular updates on the progress of the document and gather any additional information needed to complete the plan.

Planning Team meeting agendas and sign-in sheets are included in Appendix 2, beginning on page 17.

Public Involvement

The public was made aware of the beginning of the plan update process through a news release that went to two local newspapers – the Idaho County Free Press and the Clearwater Progress. Planning team members were encouraged to spread the word about the planning process and to discuss the issue of wildfire in Idaho County to make the public more aware of the process without becoming directly involved in the planning.

For a record of news releases, see Appendix 2, page 29.

Community Information Meetings

On June 19, 2021, Idaho County Fire Mitigation attended the Secesh Meadows community meeting. The Fire Mitigation Coordinator, Sandi Paul, presented the county fire mitigation program including what options are available to residents of the Secesh, Burgdorf, Warren, and surrounding areas. Representatives from the Payette National Forest also attended the meeting and discussed wildfires in the area and what measures individual property owners could do to reduce the threat of wildfire affecting their properties. This community meeting informed residents about the dangers of wildfire, wildfire mitigation strategies, and the role that planning plays in the hazard mitigation process.

Continued Public Involvement

Idaho County is dedicated to keeping the public informed of reviews and updates of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. A public announcement will go out as part of each annual evaluation or when deemed necessary by the planning team. Public meetings could be held to provide the public a forum for which they can express its concerns, opinions, or ideas about the Plan. The Idaho County Fire Mitigation Coordinator will be responsible for using county resources to publicize the annual review and maintain public involvement through the county's webpage and/or various print and online media outlets.

Maintenance and Monitoring

The Idaho County CWPP will be reviewed at least annually at meetings convened by the Idaho County Fire Mitigation Coordinator. These meetings will involve all municipalities/jurisdictions included in this five-

year update and will review action items, priorities, budgets, and new realities. Modifications can be made or confirmed and amendments to the plan should be documented and attached to the formal plan as an amendment. Re-evaluation of this plan should be made on the 5th anniversary of its acceptance, and every five years following.

County Description

Idaho County is the largest County in Idaho by geographic area. It covers 8,503 square miles and has 6,925 square miles of National Forest land within the county. Idaho County is located in central Idaho with the Snake River running along the western boundary. The Salmon River, Lochsa River, Clearwater River, Selway River, and their respective tributaries, drain Idaho County's heartland and empty into the Snake River. Elevations range from less than 1,000 feet above sea level at the confluence of the Snake and Salmon Rivers to 9,400 feet in the Seven Devils Wilderness at the western side of the County. Much of the county is covered by mountains and canyons with elevational changes of thousands of feet, making Idaho County one of the most inaccessible and remote counties in the state.

Table 2: Idaho County cities and communities

Cities	Unincorporated Communities		
Grangeville	Green Creek	Syringa	Powell
Cottonwood	Pollock	Elk City	Secesh Meadows
White Bird	Lucile	Dixie	Joseph Plains
Riggins	Slate Creek	Warren	Doumeccq
Kooskia	Harpster	Fenn	Pinehurst
Kamiah	Clearwater	Keuterville	Glenwood/Caribel
Ferdinand	Winona	Woodland	Red River
Stites	Lowell	Orogrande	Newsome Creek

Population and Demographics

The 2020 Census established the Idaho County population at 16,541, which is up slightly from 16,267 in 2020. The population of Grangeville in 2020 was 3,308 and the population of Kamiah was 1,117. Table 3 shows historical changes in population among the various communities within Idaho County. Most incorporated cities saw a decrease in population and most of the population increases are occurring in the rural parts of the county. Idaho County is experiencing significant in-migration, development in rural areas, and increases in second-home ownership in unincorporated communities and rural areas.

Table 3: Historical and Current Populations by Community

City	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Idaho County	12,891	14,769	13,783	15,511	16,267	16,541
Cottonwood	867	941	882	944	900	822
Ferdinand	157	144	135	145	159	133
Grangeville	3,636	3,666	3,226	3,228	3,141	3,308
Kamiah	1,307	1,478	1,157	1,160	1,295	1,117
Kooskia	809	784	692	675	607	514
Riggins	533	527	443	410	419	372
Stites	263	253	204	226	221	171
White Bird	185	154	108	106	91	83

Land Ownership

Ownership in Idaho County leans heavily toward federal ownership, mainly US Forest Service. Private owners make up less than 15% of the overall ownership.

Table 4: Land Ownership in Idaho County

Entity	Acres	Percent of Total Area
US Forest Service	4,434,502.1	81.5%
Private	791,650.3	14.6%
Bureau of Land Management	91,913.7	1.7%
State	74,044.1	1.4%
Other (including BIA land)	26,336.0	0.5%
Water	13,054.6	0.2%
Indian Reservation	4,183.5	<0.1%
State Fish & Game	1,497.1	<0.1%
State Parks & Recreation	159.3	<0.1%
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	126.7	<0.1%
National Park Service	84.2	<0.1%
Total	5,437,551.7	100%

The 2022 Idaho County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan contains a more in-depth profile of the county, including a description of the region, natural resources, geography and climate, socioeconomics, development trends, and a profile for the various communities. For information on the fire service organizations in Idaho County, see Appendix 3. Maps showing fire protection districts are found in Appendix 1, beginning on pages 12 and 13.

Part II: Risk and Preparedness Assessments

Wildfire Hazard Assessment

Historic Fire Regime

Historical variability in fire regime is a conservative indicator of ecosystem sustainability, and thus, understanding the natural role of fire in ecosystems is necessary for proper fire management. Fire is one of the dominant processes in terrestrial systems that constrain vegetation patterns, habitats, and ultimately, species composition. Land managers need to understand historical fire regimes, the fire return interval (frequency) and fire severity prior to settlement by Euro-Americans, to be able to define ecologically appropriate goals and objectives for an area. Moreover, managers need spatially explicit knowledge of how historical fire regimes vary across the landscape.

Many ecological assessments are enhanced by the characterization of the historical range of variability which helps managers understand: (1) how the driving ecosystem processes vary from site to site; (2) how these processes affected ecosystems in the past; and (3) how these processes might affect the ecosystems of today and the future. Historical fire regimes are a critical component for characterizing the historical range of variability in fire-adapted ecosystems. Furthermore, understanding ecosystem departures provides the necessary context for managing sustainable ecosystems. Land managers need to understand how ecosystem processes and functions have changed prior to developing strategies to maintain or restore sustainable systems. In addition, the concept of departure is a key factor for assessing risks to ecosystem components. For example, the departure from historical fire regimes may serve as a useful proxy for the potential of severe fire effects from an ecological perspective.

Table 5: Idaho County Historic Fire Regime

Group	Description	Percent of Total
Fire Regime Group I	<= 35 Year Fire Return Interval, Low and Mixed Severity	19.09%
Fire Regime Group II	<= 35 Year Fire Return Interval, Replacement Severity	3.23%
Fire Regime Group III	35 - 200 Year Fire Return Interval, Low and Mixed Severity	42.37%
Fire Regime Group IV	35 - 200 Year Fire Return Interval, Replacement Severity	33.96%
Fire Regime Group V	> 200 Year Fire Return Interval, Any Severity	0.91%
Water	Water	0.26%
Snow / Ice	Snow / Ice	0.02%
Barren	Barren	0.03%
Sparsely Vegetated	Sparsely Vegetated	0.11%

More than 75% of the county falls within the Fire Regime Groups III and IV. This means that a majority of the fuel types within the county burn every 35 – 200 years with low and mixed severity to replacement severity. The long return interval is typical of the forest communities at higher altitudes. Nearly twenty

percent of the county can expect a fire return interval of 35 years or less with a low to mixed severity. The ratio of grass to shrubs generally determines how often this fuel type burns and how severe the burn is. More grass increases the frequency but reduces the intensity, while more shrubs decrease the frequency but increases the intensity. Fire Regime Group I is primarily in the canyons of the major river corridors throughout the county. The map showing Fire Regime Groups in Idaho County can be found in Appendix 1 on page 14.

Vegetation Condition Class

Vegetation Condition Class (VCC) represents a simple categorization of the associated Vegetation Departure (VDEP) layer and indicates the general level to which current vegetation is different from the simulated historical vegetation reference conditions. VDEP and VCC are based upon methods originally described in the Interagency Fire Regime Condition Class Guidebook but are not identical to those methods. In LANDFIRE 2012™, the original three VCC classes were divided in half to create six VCC classes to provide additional precision.¹ An updated GIS layer using LANDFIRE data was used to create a vegetation condition class map specific to Idaho County.

Table 6: Vegetation Condition Class in Idaho County

Class Name	Description	Percent of Total
Vegetation Condition Class I.A	Very Low, Vegetation Departure 0-16%	1.2%
Vegetation Condition Class I.B	Low to Moderate, Vegetation Departure 17-33%	40.1%
Vegetation Condition Class II.A	Moderate to Low, Vegetation Departure 34-50%	43.8%
Vegetation Condition Class II.B	Moderate to High, Vegetation Departure 51-66%	9.0%
Vegetation Condition Class III.A	High, Vegetation Departure 67-83%	0.8%
Water	Water	0.3%
Snow / Ice	Snow / Ice	0.0%
Non burnable Urban	Non burnable Urban	0.2%
Burnable Urban	Burnable Urban	0.6%
Barren	Barren	0.0%
Sparsely Vegetated	Sparsely Vegetated	0.1%
Non burnable Agriculture	Non burnable Agriculture	2.5%
Burnable Agriculture	Burnable Agriculture	1.4%

More than 83% of Idaho County is 17% to 50% departed from the natural regime. This is considered low and moderate departure and is likely due to vigorous fire suppression efforts and advanced fire suppression techniques and equipment. The 9% of the county that has seen 51% to 66% departure (orange on the map) is located primarily in and adjacent to the Salmon River drainages. These areas have frequent rangeland fire activity and have experienced invasive grass species moving in. The red areas represent High departure (67% to 83%) and make up less than 1% of the area. These classes are most

¹ LANDFIRE™. "Vegetation Condition Class." Available online at <https://www.landfire.gov/vcc.php>.

likely present due to a combination of factors. Fire suppression in areas surrounded by agricultural and residential zones could lead to a forest succession that is outside the normal historic vegetation conditions. Areas that typically contain open-canopy ponderosa pine and grass for example, might begin to experience an increased presence of closed canopy Douglas-fir and other species. Some of these areas could also be impacted by development, logging, invasive species introduction, and replacement-severity fire activity. The map that shows Vegetation Condition Class across Idaho County can be found in Appendix 1 on page 15.

Wildland-Urban Interface

A key component in meeting the underlying need for protection of people and structures is the protection and treatment of hazards in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI).

Past planning efforts have stated that wildland-urban interface refers to areas where wildland vegetation meets urban developments or where forest fuels meet urban fuels such as houses. The WUI encompasses not only the interface (areas immediately adjacent to urban development), but also the surrounding vegetation and topography. Reducing the hazard in the wildland-urban interface requires the efforts of federal, state, and local agencies and private individuals.²

For the 2021-2022 planning process, the planning team utilized a definition of WUI advocated by the Idaho Department of Lands, that can be easily mapped at a HUC12 level:

Definition: *An area where developed lands interact with undeveloped lands and includes the infrastructure and natural resources that communities rely on for existence.*

Location: *It is found in remote, scattered development areas to highly developed urban areas and everywhere in between.*

Mapping

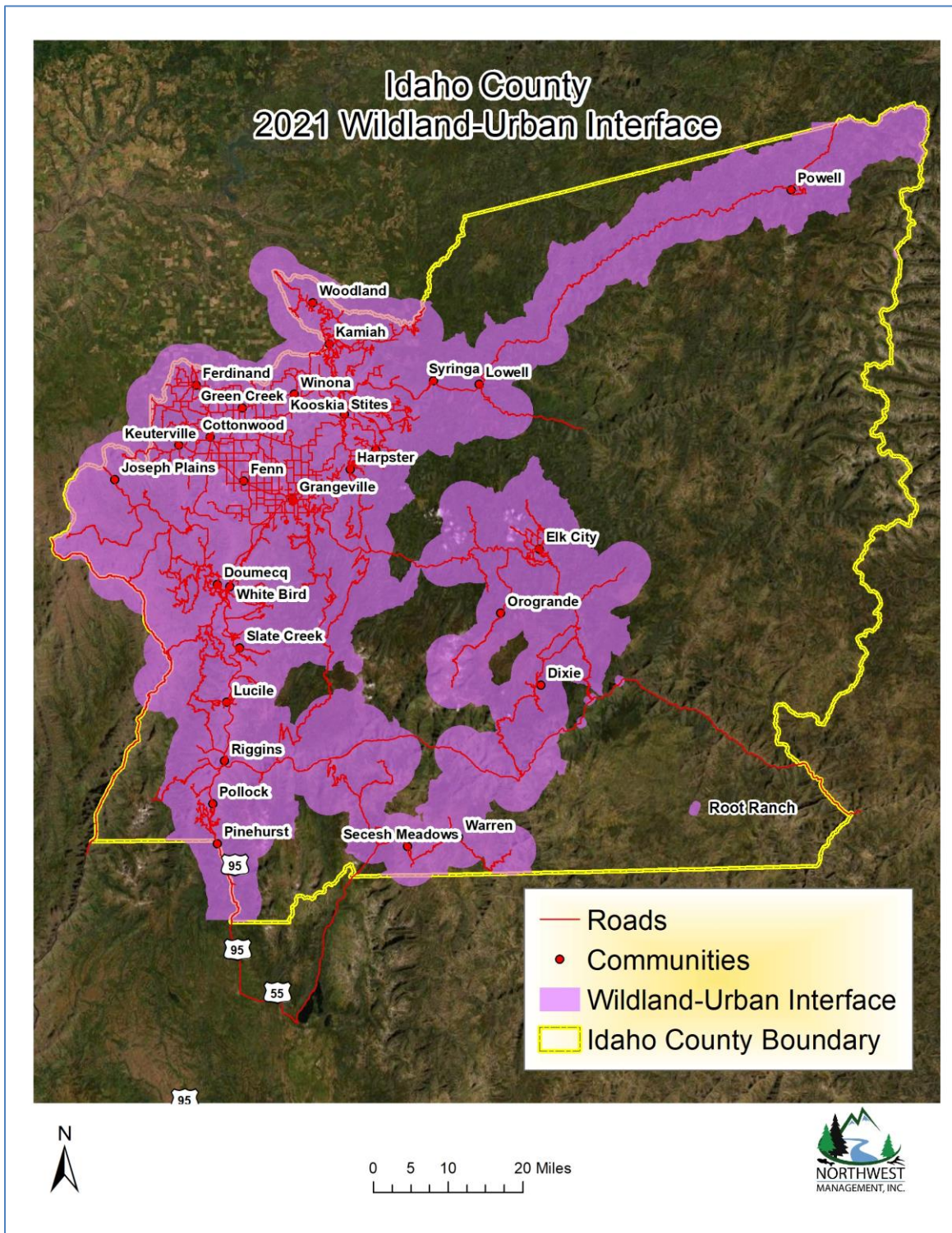
1. All private land is extracted from the BLM ownership layer
2. Private Lands are buffered with a 1.5-mile buffer
3. The 1.5-mile buffer is put over the top of HUC12 watersheds
4. Those watersheds that by ocular estimation are more than 50% encompassed by the 1.5-mile buffer are selected
5. Finally, the 1.5-mile buffer is extended to the selected HUC12's to create the final WUI for a County

In addition to a formal WUI map for use with the federal agencies, it is hoped that it will serve as a planning tool for the county, state and federal agencies, and local Fire Protection Districts. Appendix 1 contains

² Norton, P. Bear Valley National Wildlife Refuge Fire Hazard Reduction Project: Final Environmental Assessment. Fish and Wildlife Services, Bear Valley Wildlife Refuge. June 20, 2002.

additional WUI maps that examine sub-regions within Idaho County for a more focused, detailed view. The maps begin on page 1.

Figure 1: Idaho County Wildland Urban Interface



Potential Mitigation Activities

Homeowners within the wildland-urban interface should be encouraged to use fire resistant materials when building or remodeling a structure in accordance with *Ready, Set, Go!*, Idaho County Fire Mitigation, FAC (Fire Adapted Communities), or other similar recommendations.

Vegetation should be managed to increase the effectiveness of fire suppression equipment in the event of a wildland fire. Plantings near homes should use fire resistant landscaping and be well spaced. Grass surrounding homes and other buildings should be kept short and watered if possible. Other possible management actions include:

- Remove weak, dying, and sick trees, thin standing trees to create crown openings spaced to approximately 10 feet between crowns.
- Prune trees to a minimum of 12 feet of all branches.
- Prune 1/3 of the live crown of smaller trees.
- Remove ladder fuels that may carry fire into the crowns of larger, overstory trees.
- Dispose of all excess vegetative material by chipping or hand-piling and burning when conditions are favorable.

Many access roads throughout the county require additional treatments to ensure a viable escape route for residents while simultaneously providing for access by emergency vehicles. Most of the homes in the wildland-urban interface (situated within the range and forest lands) have multiple entrances and exits from their homes and businesses (many do not currently). The vegetation surrounding these access points should be trimmed and disposed of in such a way to allow easy access to and from homes. Site specific treatments should be developed for each home and subdivision.

In addition, some housing developments within the county have access roads that cannot support water trucks used by fire fighters (rural and wildland). Some roads have steep adverse grades, while others have turning radii that would be difficult for large trucks to navigate. Some roads have both limitations. Most of the bridges observed in the area would support water-laden trucks. Roads in developments should be signed to allow emergency vehicles to plot a route over navigable roads while responding to an emergency. High visibility address markers at driveways would improve accurate emergency vehicle response during fire or other incidents.

Post-fire Rehabilitation

The first year after a fire has been shown to be the most critical for erosion and slope stabilization as vegetation attempts to recolonize the slopes. Therefore, every effort should be made, post-fire, to mitigate any further disturbance to affected watersheds. Soils, vegetation, and litter are all critical to the functioning of hydrologic processes. A watershed with good hydrologic conditions typically has 75%

ground cover experiences only about 2% or less of rainfall as surface runoff.³ Conversely, a watershed that has had significant amounts of ground cover removed by a wildland fire can result in a surface runoff increase of 70%.⁴

Slope stabilization treatments often include grass seeding, reforestation, contour-felled logs, mulch, silt fence construction, placement of straw wattles, and lop and scatter slash. These practices are often implemented as a 'first line of defense' against post-fire sediment movement, sheet erosion, and debris flows.

Road treatments such as outsloping, gravel on road surface, rocks in the ditch, culvert removal, culvert upgrading, overflows, armored stream crossings, rolling dips, and water bars are all meant to mitigate water's erosive force. Increasing the water and sediment processing capabilities of roads and road infrastructure can prevent large cut-and-fill failures and the movement of sediment downstream. Trash racks and storm patrols can be used to reduce culvert blockages that may result in road failure and increased risk to downstream flooding and sediment deposition.

Channel treatments may be utilized to prevent downstream flooding and debris flows. In-channel structures are designed to reduce the rate at which water flows which allows sediment to settle out. As these structures decay, sediment is gradually released downstream. Debris that is currently in the channel may be removed to reduce the likelihood that it will become mobilized during a flood. Temporary dams constructed of straw, logs, or rocks are the most common examples.

There will likely be many private landowners that will require site-specific planning, financial, and implementation assistance with these activities, as well as the county should this situation occur. Both public and private infrastructure (i.e. culverts, bridges, road surfaces, etc.) will be affected which can impact the economy of Idaho County. Correcting these issues as soon as possible can reduce the impact on local citizens in the region. Funding for mitigation on private land has proven to be challenging, however.

Risk Assessment Mapping

For the Wildfire Risk Assessment Map, Idaho County used guidance from the Idaho Department of Lands to analyze various categories that affect likelihood of a catastrophic wildfire, including slope, aspect, fire history, vegetation class, and wildland urban interface. Each of these categories was weighted and put into the raster model, resulting in an output fire hazard that is the sum of each class value. For example, the lowest value for the analysis is 3: 1 for slope, 1 for aspect, 1 for WUI, and zeroes for fire history and

³ Robichaud, Peter R.; Beyers, Jan L.; Neary, Daniel G. 2000. Evaluating the effectiveness of postfire rehabilitation treatments. Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-GTR-63. Fort Collins: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 85 p.

⁴ Robichaud, Peter R.; Beyers, Jan L.; Neary, Daniel G. 2000. Evaluating the effectiveness of postfire rehabilitation treatments. Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-GTR-63. Fort Collins: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 85 p.

vegetation class. The highest possible value is 18: 3 for slope, 3 for aspect, 3 for WUI, 3 for fire history, and 6 for vegetation class. This model is widely used in produced by the IDL and is widely used in Idaho.

To view the Wildfire Risk Map and for more information regarding the methodology, please see Appendix 1, beginning on page 5.

Landscape Risk Assessments

Most homes and structures within and surrounding Idaho County communities are along a spectrum from low to moderate to high risk of loss to wildland fire. Individual characteristics of each community and structure dictate the risk factors. The prevalence of tree and shrub fuels pose a moderate to high threat to homes surrounded by these fuels as fire typically spreads quickly through the grasses and burns at relatively high intensities in the brush and forest fuels, especially where declining forest health is a factor. Many homes are at low risk because of the management of fuels in the area immediately surrounding the structures and access routes. There are several individual homes that have a much higher risk to wildland fire loss largely due to the use of highly ignitable materials in home construction or the lack of defensible space surrounding the home. Home defensibility practices can dramatically increase the probability of home survivability. The amount of fuel modification necessary will depend on the specific attributes of the site. Considering the high spread rates possible in these fuel types, homes need to be protected prior to fire ignitions as there is little time to defend a home in advance of an active fire.

Idaho County is comprised of three ecological sub-regions, the Camas Prairie in the northwestern corner of the County, the arid Snake and Salmon River canyonslands, and the vast forestlands of the Clearwater Mountains.

Agriculture & Rangeland Communities

The communities of Grangeville, Cottonwood, Ferdinand, Fenn, and Green Creek lie in the Camas Prairie vegetative ecosystem known as the “steppe” community. The Steppe Ecosystem is widespread over much of Idaho, eastern Oregon and Washington, and portions of northern Nevada, California and Utah. The central Idaho portion of this ecosystem occurs over a variety of landforms and vegetation types. Native vegetative communities range from vast expanses of grasslands to old-growth sagebrush communities.

The combination of deep and productive soils makes the Camas Prairie well suited to growth of both grassland and forest vegetation. The relatively arid meadow-steppe ecosystem of the Camas Prairie (part of the Palouse prairie bioregion) is dominated by bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, and a plethora of wildflowers including Blue Camas for which the prairie was named. Over the course of the past century, most of the native meadow-steppe grasslands have been converted to agriculture fields producing winter wheat, canola, bluegrass, alfalfa, peas, and many other crops.

The steppe is characterized by a persistently warm and arid environment that limits non-cultivated vegetative communities to grass and brush rangelands. Xeric vegetation and hot, dry, and windy

conditions have resulted in a rich fire history, with relatively frequent fires. The last decade has seen the proliferation of cheatgrass, an exotic grass species that is able to out-compete native bunchgrasses. Cheatgrass responds well to soil disturbance and is found in abundance along roadsides, driveways, new construction areas, and in recently burned areas. Over time, vegetative species composition in unmanaged or non-irrigated land has shifted toward fire prone species, particularly in high use areas where disturbance is common.

Agricultural and irrigation practices surrounding some communities within the Camas Prairie have created a patchwork of green, lush vegetation and cured cropland. This patchwork helps to break the continuity of fuels that are available to burn. This pattern is particularly apparent around Grangeville, Ferdinand, and Cottonwood. However, dry rangeland fuels become prevalent along the lower slopes of the Salmon and Snake River Valleys providing a consistent fuel bed for fire spread. There is little break in the continuity of fuels surrounding the communities of Slate Creek, White Bird, and Riggins. Most of the land outside of towns and communities within these fuel types is dominated by xeric vegetation with few breaks in continuity. Under dry and windy conditions, fires in these vegetative types can burn thousands of acres in a single burning period.

Fuels throughout the entire steppe community in Idaho County are quite consistent, dominated by grasslands. Fires in these fuel types tend to spread rapidly but burn at relatively low intensity. Where grasses become less consistent, wind is needed to push fires through the bunchgrass. Without wind, the fire will drop to the ground and in the absence of fine fuels, fire spread will stop.

Fire behavior and fire regimes have been altered due to the proliferation of cheatgrass. The fine fuel structure and its ability to completely dominate disturbed sites provide a dry, consistent fuel bed for fire. Where this invasive has encroached in grass stands, it now provides a consistent bed of fine fuels that actively carry fire without the influence of wind. Because of these characteristics, cheatgrass will support fire during months of the year and under conditions that native vegetation would not have sustained.

Continued natural and human-caused disturbances will favor cheatgrass; shifting species composition away from native species toward this highly flammable exotic. Consequently, the landscape will become increasingly fire prone over time. Fuels in more populated areas will continue to become increasingly receptive to ignition sources; thus, increasing both the frequency and intensity of wildland fires.

Forestland Communities

Vegetative structure and composition throughout much of Idaho County is closely related to elevation, aspect, and precipitation. Warm and mesic environments characterize the undulating topography of the Camas Prairie which transitions from the steppe plant communities of the northwest to the forested ecosystems of the south and east. Keuterville, Clearwater, Pinehurst, Harpster, Elk City, Red River, Dixie, Warren, and Secesh Meadows are some of the communities that fall into this type.

At higher elevations and in the mountainous river canyons, moisture becomes less limiting due to a combination of higher precipitation and reduced solar radiation. Vegetative patterns begin to show a shift

toward forested communities dominated by ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir at the lower elevations, transitioning to lodgepole pine and subalpine species at the highest elevations. The forested conditions possess a greater quantity of both live and dead and down fuels. Rates of fire spread tend to be lower than those in the grass and shrub lands; however, intensities can escalate dramatically, especially under the influence of slope and wind. These conditions, as well as reduced access and difficult terrain features, can lead to control problems and potentially threaten lives, structures, and other valued resources.

Coniferous woodlands associated with the national forest and wilderness areas cover the majority of the county. The transition zone between forest and meadow-steppe or river breaklands vegetation consists of a complex mosaic dependent on localized topographic and climatic conditions. A ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir habitat type typically forms the lower timberline on hills and low mountains. Mixed Douglas-fir, grand fir, lodgepole pine, and western larch forests dominate at middle elevations, while subalpine fir, lodgepole, and Engelmann spruce occur at higher elevations. Western red cedar and Engelmann spruce commonly grow in moist draws and frost pockets. This type of forest is highly valued for its scenic qualities as well as for its proximity to travel corridors in Idaho County. This has led to increased recreational and residential home construction in these areas. The juxtaposition of highly flammable forest types and residential areas will affect the management and response to wildland fires.

Local Event History

Federal databases that collect fire occurrences, causes, locations, and perimeters was analyzed to get a picture of wildfire history in Idaho County. Past planning efforts looked at detailed records of wildfire ignitions and extents from the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), US Forest Service (USFS), and Bureau of Land Management (BLM). These planning efforts examined several decades of data and found that wildfire ignitions since the 1980s have followed a general trend of increase in both wildfire ignitions and acres burned. The upward trends could be attributed to a higher amount of people moving to more rural areas of Idaho County. Another contributing factor could be the spread of invasive species. Wildfires are overwhelmingly caused by lightning or other natural ignitions. A significant number of fires are caused by humans, however.

This planning process took a close look at wildfire data since the 2016 plan was finalized. The data range used is from 2016 through 2021 and covers fires reported by multiple agencies. The data collected would suggest that number of ignitions and acres burned fluctuates greatly, depending on the severity of the fire season. In the date range, Idaho County had two fire seasons (2017 and 2021) that were more severe than the other four. In 2017 the number of ignitions (300) and the total acres burned (>300k) far surpassed all the other fire years. The number of ignitions in 2021 were not significantly higher than 2018-2020 but the acres burned (>200k) was significantly higher than those years. It should be noted that roughly half of these acres came from the Snake River Complex. This complex didn't cross the Salmon River into Idaho County, however, the fire still impacted Idaho County in several significant ways. Similarly, the Powerline and Lolo Peak Fires in 2017 only touched the Idaho County boundary and those two fires combined for more than 100,000 acres.

Recent and impactful fires mostly located within Idaho County

The Dixie-Jumbo Fires were located about 15 miles south of Elk City, Idaho. These fires reached more than 47,000 acres and were started by lightning on July 5 and July 6, 2021. The Storm Creek Fire, part of the Storm Theatre Complex, occurred 9 miles southeast of Powell, Idaho, and reached a little more than 15,000 acres in size. Altogether the fires were more than 22,000 acres in size and were started by a series of lightning strikes on July 25, 2021. In 2020 the Shissler Fires burned more than 11,000 acres about two miles south of Red River Hot Springs after starting from a lightning strike on August 17. Much of the Rattlesnake Creek Fire in 2018 was in nearby Adams County to the south and the fire only grew to about 8,000 acres. However, the fire threatened homes and structures in the Pollock and Pinehurst area and was found to be human caused. In 2017 The Highline Fire started by lightning on July 29, east of Warren and burned more than 89,000 acres. The Gun Club Fire in 2016 burned more than 2,000 acres within about one mile of the city of Riggins and required a Type 2 Incident Management Team.

Figure 2: Historic Fire Data for Idaho County

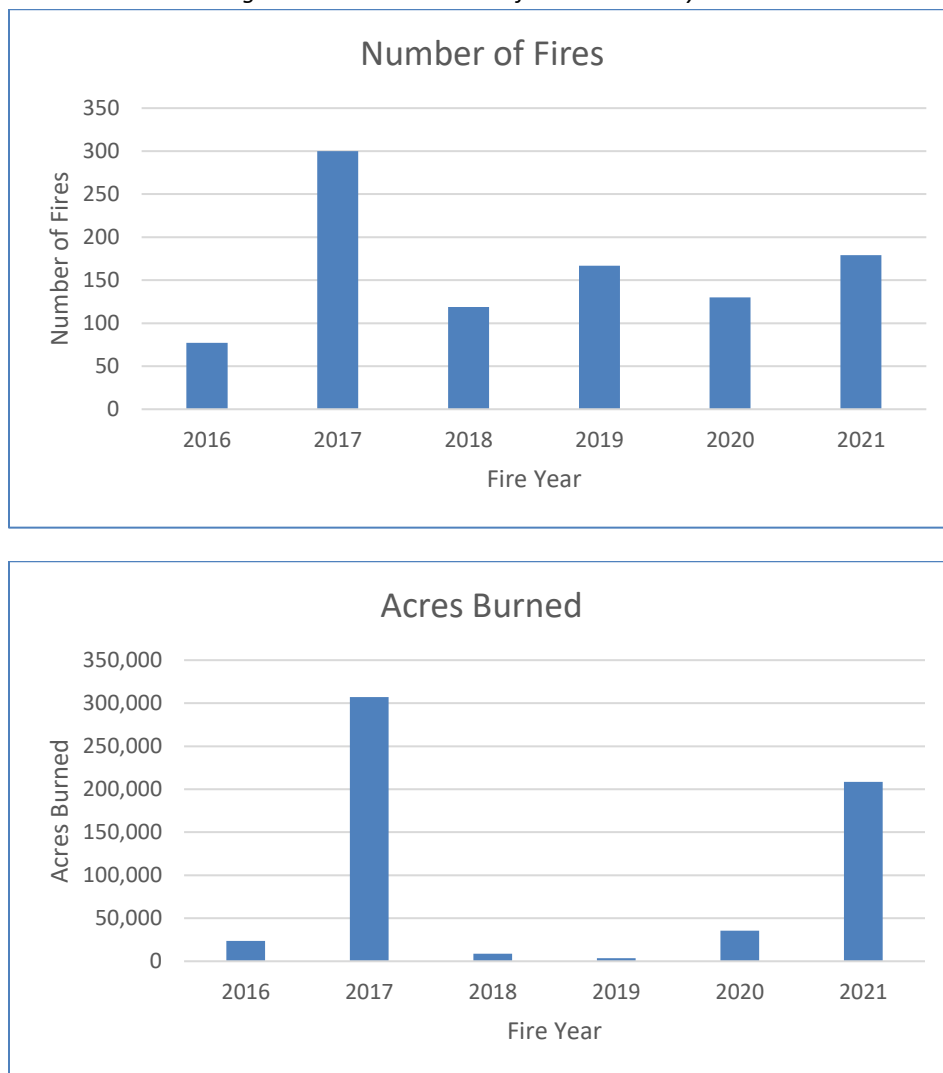


Figure 3: Map of 100+ acre fire in Idaho County since 2016

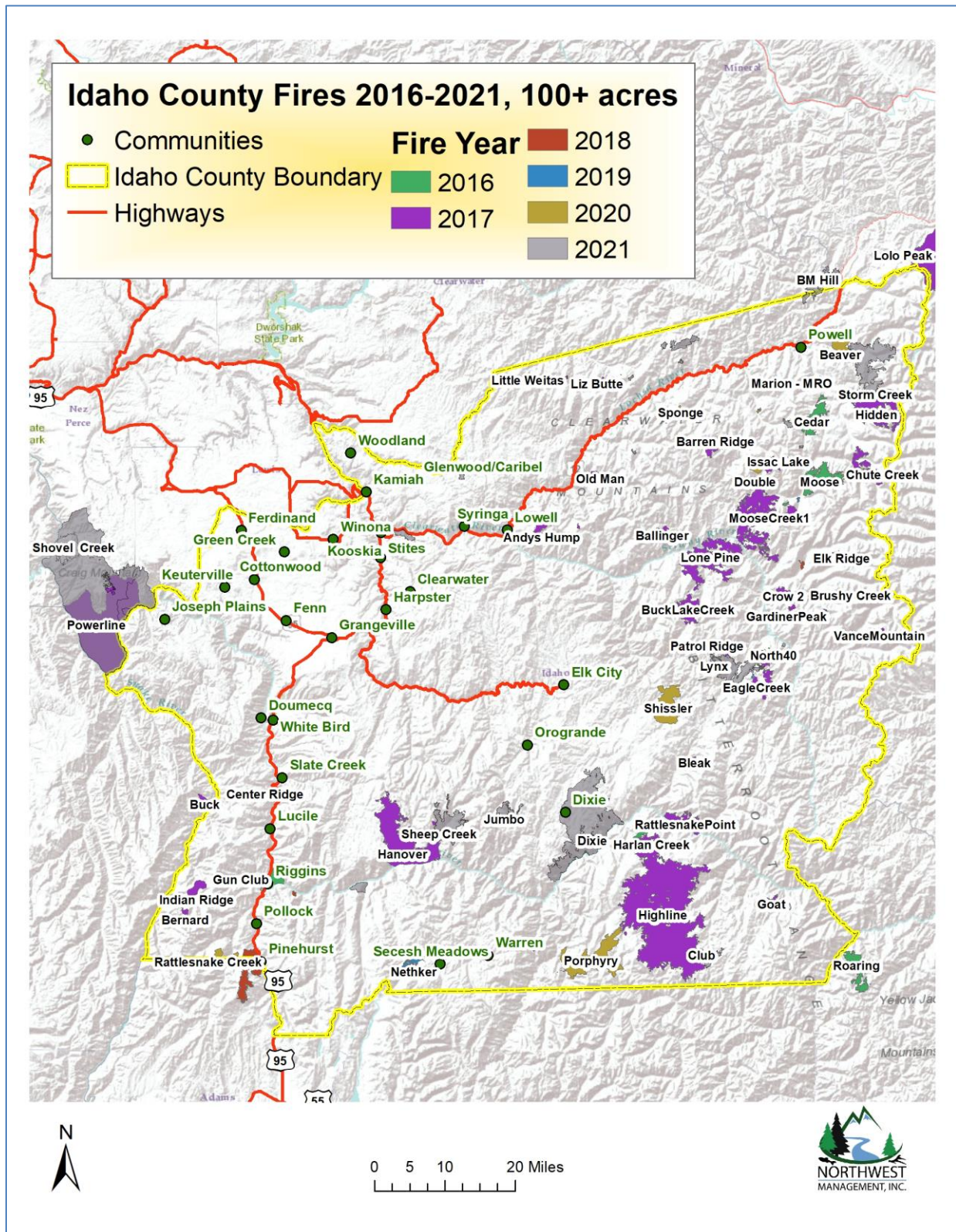


Figure 4: Fire occurrences in Idaho County, 2016-2021

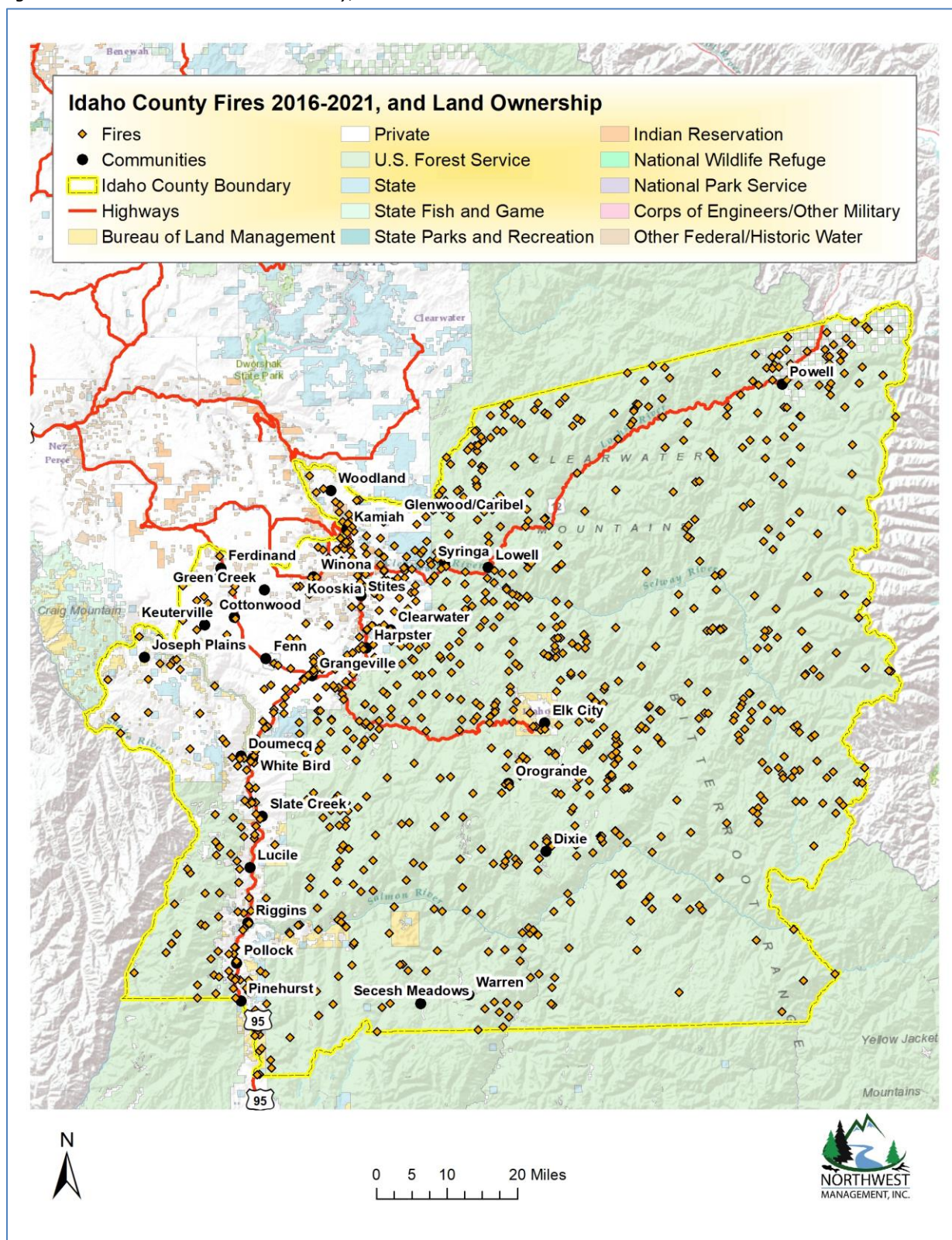
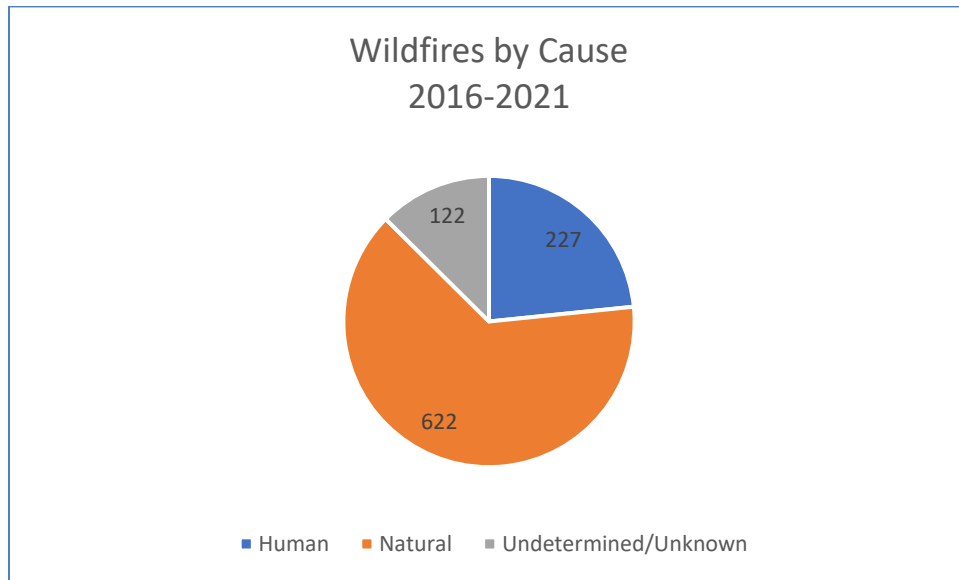


Figure 5: Idaho County wildfires from 2016-2021 broken out by ignition cause



Prior to 2016: Large Fires in the WUI

Although relatively infrequent, fires in the forest fuel types present throughout much of Idaho County have the potential to result in large, intense fires, creating high social and economic costs. In 2007 the Poe Cabin destroyed several homes and other structures and threatened many more. The Clearwater-Municipal Complex and Teepee Springs Fires during the summer of 2015, consisted of several fires in Adams, Clearwater, Lewis, and Idaho Counties. The fires within this Clearwater-Complex began August 10 from lightning and were driven by hot, dry, and windy conditions. In the first few days, the fire burned 50,000 acres, 62 homes, and more than 200 outbuildings. The Teepee Springs fire began from lightning on August 12 about three miles southeast of Riggins, Idaho. This fire grew to 122 square miles in size and crossed the Salmon River before reaching its final size of over 95,000 acres before firefighter efforts and winter weather extinguished the flames.

Vulnerabilities

Past large fire events clearly illustrate the mounting urban-interface issue facing Idaho County. Population growth rates have been greatest in the western part of the County around Grangeville, Cottonwood, Kamiah, and Riggins with development sprawling along the river corridors and toward bedroom communities such as Mount Idaho, Harpster, Burgdorf, Secesh Meadows, Keuterville, Clearwater, and White Bird. The growing appreciation for seclusion has led to significant development in many of the lower elevation forests. Frequently, this development is in the dry ponderosa pine/Douglas-fir, forest types where grass, needles, and brush surface litter create forest fuel conditions that are at a high propensity for fire occurrence. Human use is strongly correlated with fire frequency, with increasing numbers of fires as use increases. Discarded cigarettes, tire fires, and hot catalytic converters increase the potential for fire starts along roadways. Careless and unsupervised use of fireworks also contributes to unwanted and

unexpected wildland fires. Further contributing to ignition sources are some harvest activities, accumulated slash conditions, recreational forest and wildland users, and the debris burners and “sport burners” who use fire to rid ditches of weeds and other burnable materials. The increased potential for fire starts and the fire prone landscapes in which homes have been constructed greatly increases the potential for fires in interface areas.

Residents

Residents with property in the path of wildland fire will likely suffer the greatest impacts through loss of structures and/or the value of any timber or agricultural crops on their land. Many fires require an evacuation of nearby residences to ensure the safety of citizens. Evacuation procedures require the coordination of law enforcement and fire service organizations and may involve temporary sheltering in extreme cases.

Idaho County, like most areas, has sensitive populations, such as elderly, immune compromised residents and children, who may be affected by air quality during a wildland fire. Smoke and particulates can severely degrade air quality, triggering health problems. In areas heavily impacted by smoke, people with breathing problems might need additional services from doctors or emergency rooms. Smoke from wildfires is a significant and increasing public health impact in Idaho County.

Transportation and Infrastructure

Due to the remote nature of Idaho County and its extreme topography, transportation is a vital asset to both emergency response and public safety. Access (ingress and egress) can be a major vulnerability during a disaster event, such as wildfire. Hazards like landslides, severe weather, and wildfires have been known to impact the transportation system in Idaho County and leave residents and motorists stranded or cut off from basic services such as health care, food/water, shelter, and protection from a disaster event. Limited access within remote areas and a lack of maintenance on existing travel routes, increases fire suppression response time and has a direct effect on fire spread leading to increased fire size and destructive potential.

US Highway 95 is the main north/south highway in the state and the only significant transportation route for many Idaho County residents and people traveling through or recreating in the area. Many principal cities and communities are located on or near US 95. US Highway 12 is another important transportation route for the region. It runs west to east from Kamiah and Kooskia to the Montana line along the Clearwater and Lochsa Rivers and is heavily used by travelers, residents, recreationists, and for commerce.

Idaho 13 is a stretch of highway along the SF Clearwater that connects US 12 to US 95 in Grangeville and is an important arterial. Idaho 14 follows the SF Clearwater near Harpster, east to Elk City. This is an important route for rural residents of the Elk City/Orogrande area, along with many other rural residents, recreationists, and people who work in natural resources. The network of rural county and forest roads across Idaho County is extensive and each road is vital to the individuals who use it. There are many significant roadways that are also highly susceptible to various hazards that are essential to wildfire mitigation, response, evacuation, and rehabilitation.

There are numerous bridges throughout Idaho County with many stakeholders including federal, state, county, city, and private users. Bridges are inspected on a regular basis but hazards that threaten road use also pose risks to bridges. Local public electrical and telephone utility and fiber optic lines travel both above and below ground along roads and highways with high exposure to failure during a wildfire event. Cell phone service is poorly established in many parts of the county with service primarily in the more populated areas of Idaho County. Urban residents throughout most of Idaho County have municipal water systems, which include networks of public fire hydrants. Subdivisions and development outside municipal boundaries typically rely on individual or community well systems. Some have water distribution systems, most do not.

Economy

Commerce in Idaho County and the rest of the region may also be interrupted by wildland fires. Transportation corridors will likely be temporarily closed or slowed due to a fire burning in the area. Heavy smoke from a wildfire several miles away could be dense enough to make travel unsafe on roadways. Natural resources and farming are two important elements of the Idaho County economy. During wildfire season field work is often being done in the forest products and mining industries, along with heavy farming activity such as harvesting. Roads typically experience heavy use by equipment and industrial vehicles including log trucks, farming/mining equipment, and delivery vehicles. Restrictions and damages caused by wildfires can greatly impact the industries that are important in Idaho County, especially the timber industry.

Recreation is a major component of the local economy and is greatly impacted by a severe wildfire season, especially by area closures and poor air quality. Sites that experience heavy recreational use around and during wildfire season include many camp and boat launch sites along the rivers, trailheads and trails used by hikers, horses, and ATVs, lakes, popular hunting and fishing areas, campgrounds, designated wilderness areas, and a vast forest road system, much of which is very poorly maintained.

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Part III: Mitigation Recommendations

Idaho County

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Target Date
IC-1	Vol. Fire Dept. Equipment 1	Capacity Building	X	Idaho County District and Subscription Volunteer Fire Depts.	Purchase Turnouts, SCBAs, and other Structure Fire PPE Safety Equipment- update and modernize response PPE inventory.	Dept. and Grant Funds	Sixteen (16) City/Rural Depts., Chief's Association,	Vary by Dept. 2027
IC-2	Vol. Fire Dept. Equipment 2	Capacity Building	X	Idaho County District and Subscription Volunteer Fire Depts	Upgrade Structure and Wildland Fire Engines, as determined by local department personnel.	Dept. and Grant funds; FEP Programs	Sixteen (16) City/Rural Depts., Chief's Association	On-going efforts. 2022 - 2027
IC-3	Vol. Fire Dept. Equipment 3	Capacity Building	X	Idaho County District and Subscription Volunteer Fire Depts	Obtain new and replacement Wildland Equipment: PPE, Fire Shelters, Portable Pumps, Hoses, Fittings, Hand Tools, Portable Tanks and Pumpkins.	Dept., District and Grant funds	Sixteen (16) City/Rural Depts., Chief's Assoc., Idaho Dept. of Lands	2022 - 2024
IC-4	Fire District Station Facility 1	Capacity Building	X	Harpster Rural Fire District	Remodel, Expand and Upgrade Fire District Station	District and Grant funds	Fire District, and CEDA	2025

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Target Date
IC-5	Fire District Station Facility 2	Capacity Building	X	Grangeville City-Rural Fire District	Construct new City/Rural Fire Station Facility	District and Grant funds	Fire District, City and CEDA	2024
IC-6	Vol. Fire Dept. Station Facility	Capacity Building	X	Clearwater (BPC) VFD Elk City VFD	Design, Remodel, Expand and Upgrade Fire Department Stations- Clearwater and Elk City	Dept. and Grant funds	Subscription Departments, CEDA	TBD - 2025
IC-7	ICS	Capacity building	X	Countywide Rural Vol. Fire Depts.	Improve local, volunteer department's Incident Command & Control Using ICS and Unified Command (Training & Exercises).	County and Grant funds	Dis. Mgm't., LEPC, Chief's Assoc. IOEM	Spring 2022
IC-8	Comms	Capacity Building	X	Countywide Rural Vol. Fire Depts.	Improve Incident Response operable/interoperable Radio Communications- Tactical, Repeater Frequency Use/Assignment and interoperability Options, including VTACs (Training & Exercises).	County funds	Dis. Mgm't., LEPC, Chief's Assoc., Fire Depts.	Spring 2022
IC-9	Volunteers	Capacity Building	X	Countywide Rural Vol. Fire Depts.	Encourage and Promote Recruitment/Retention of Volunteer Firefighters by providing incentives	County, State	Dis. Mgm't., Chief's Assoc., Fire Depts., State Legislature	On-going

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Target Date
IC-10	Map Books	Capacity Building	X	County Rural Vol. Fire Depts.	Continue to upgrade and provide Response Area/District Map Books for Rural Fire Departments. Requires completion of County Mapping layer upgrades.	Fire Depts., County	Fire Depts., County GIS/Mapping	July 2022
IC-11	Dry Hydrants	Capacity Building	X	Countywide	Identify Locations; fund, develop, install and map Dry Hydrant placements	Local budgets; state or federal grants	County Fire/Fuel Mitigation, GIS, Fire Depts., Chiefs Assoc., IDL, USFS, IDWR	Ongoing
IC-12	Fire Resistant Materials	Education	X	Countywide	Promote use of Fire-Resistant Building and Landscaping Materials in WUI areas; New construction and Remodel/Retrofitting Projects.	Private	County Dis. Mgm't., Fire/Fuel Mitigation, Fire Depts.	June 2022, ongoing
IC-13	Community Wildfire Protection Committee	Planning	X	Countywide	Continue to engage local Departments, State, Tribal and Federal Partners in Planning and Leveraging Defensible Space and HFT Projects on private land adjacent to or near agency HFT projects.	County, Private, Grant funds	Communities, County Dis. Mgm't, Fire/Fuel Mitigation, Fire Depts., IDL, NPT, USFS, BLM	On-going coordination thru 2027
IC-14	Hazardous Fuel Treatments	Mitigation	X	Countywide WUI Areas in Unincorporated Areas	Implement Home Defensible Space, Community Fuel Breaks and Hazardous Fuels Treatment Projects on wildland Urban Interface private land across Idaho County.	County, Private, Grant funds	Communities, Private Landowners, Fire Depts., County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	Continues thru 2027

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Target Date
IC-15	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 1	Mitigation	X	Cove Area above the Community of Mt. Idaho	Private Property HFT Treatments completed and in-progress. Continue to identify new properties for treatments, develop landowner agreements and retain contractors to complete projects.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	Spring 2023
IC-16	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 2	Mitigation	X	Whitetail Drive-Grangeville Salmon Road City Watershed Area	Complete identified Private Property HFT Treatments and continue to develop additional projects in the dispersed, inter-face developments south and east of Grangeville.	County, Grant Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	Summer 2024
IC-17	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 3	Mitigation	X	Community of Clearwater and Surrounding area	Several area Private Property HFT Treatments have been completed; additional ones are laid-out and in-progress; continue to identify and define new projects on other sites in the general area east of Hwy 13.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	Summer 2023
IC-18	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 4	Mitigation	X	Newsome Creek	Identify projects, develop agreements, and sign contracts for additional private property HFT Treatments in the Newsome Creek community.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, USFS, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	2023
IC-19	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 5	Mitigation	X	Elk City River's Edge Subdivision	Private property HFT Treatments are planned and currently being laid out in this subdivision along the American River west of the community of Elk City.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, BLM, USFS, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	2023

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Target Date
IC-20	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 6	Mitigation	X	Red River and Hot Springs Road (Red Siegel)	Private property HFT Treatments are planned and currently being laid out in conjunction with USFS proposed fuel treatments and other projects on Red River Road and on parcels adjacent to the Hot Springs Road to reduce fire threats and increase home survivability. Consider ingress-egress treatments at identified pinch points along the Hot Springs Road to improve travel corridor safety.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation, USFS	2021 - 2023
IC-21	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 7	Mitigation	X	Big Cedar – Red Fir - Crane Hill Area	Expand private property, primary residence hazardous fuels treatment project locations across this area east of Kooskia, as more development continues to occur in the WUI area that extends from the lower elevation breaklands to the higher elevation parcels adjacent to US Forest Service administered lands.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, IDL, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	2022 - 2024
IC-22	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 8	Mitigation	X	Glenwood - Caribel & Surrounding Area north and east of Kamiah	Expand private property/primary residence hazardous fuels treatments and encourage additional project locations across this area north and east of Kamiah to provide increased community fire protection and home survivability in the event of a large, rapidly moving wildland fire.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, IDL, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	2022 - 2025
IC-23	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 9	Mitigation	X	Elk Lake Subdivision & Hwy 95 South	Implement private property/primary residence hazardous fuels treatments to create home and community defensible space in the subdivision and in those areas that also leverages the fuels reduction work being proposed by the Bureau of Land Management in both Idaho and Adams County along the Highway 95 corridor and Little Salmon River canyon in southern Idaho County.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, BLM, USFS, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	2022 - 2024
IC-24	Hazardous Fuels Treatments 10	Mitigation	X	Doumecq – White Bird Grade - Joseph Plains	Develop and implement private property and home defensible space hazardous fuel treatment projects in the White Bird Grade Area between Grangeville and White Bird and in the remote area of scattered homesites in Idaho County, between the Salmon and Snake Rivers south of Cottonwood and west of White Bird. Identify options to expand treatments planned and completed by the Bureau of Land Management, Nez Perce Tribe, and Idaho Department of Lands.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, IDL, BLM, USFS, NPT, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	2022 - 2026

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Target Date
IC-25	Hazardous Fuels Treatment 11	Mitigation	X	Secesh Meadows Subdivision – Warren Wagon Road	Encourage maintenance of properties previously treated. Augment and expand existing HFT treatments in the Secesh Meadows subdivision to provide increased residence and community fire protection. Consider fuel breaks and home defensible space, as appropriate to counter potential wildland fire threats. Work will be determined by property owner agreements, funding, and contractor availability.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, IDL, USFS, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	2022
IC-26	Hazardous Fuels Treatment 12	Mitigation	X	Warren	Identify projects, sign treatment agreements and advertise for contractors to complete home defensible space and HFT treatments on private property in Warren.	County, Grant & Private Funds	Individual Property Owners, IDL, USFS, County Fire/Fuel Mitigation	2022-2023
IC-27	Lolo Creek Glenwood	Shaded Fuel Break	X	Lolo Creek/Glenwood	Reduce fuel loading along the private/IDL property boundary in the wildland urban interface. Reducing fuel loading and creating a shaded fuel break will create defensible space along the private and state boundaries.	IDL, Grant	Individual Property Owners, County, IDL	2025
IC-28	Service Flats Fuel Break	Mitigation	X	Service Flats/Old White Bird Grade	Construct fuel break on the edge of the endowment ground adjacent to private properties to increase the defensible space between private properties being treated by the county and IDL ownership for wildland fire threats.	IDL, Grant	Individual Property Owners, IDL, County fire/Fuel Mitigation	2022
IC-29	Lower Suttler Creek	Shaded Fuel Break	X	Lower Suttler Creek 6 air miles East of the City of Kooskia	Reduce fuel loading along the private/IDL property boundary in the wildland urban interface. Reducing the fuel loading and creating a shaded fuel break will create defensible space.	IDL, Grant	IDL, Private Property owners, county	2023

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Target Date
IC-30	Maggie Creek	Shaded Fuel Break	X	Maggie Creek, 5 air miles Northeast of Kooskia	Reduce fuel loading along the private/IDL property boundary in the wildland urban interface. Reducing the fuel loading and creating a shaded fuel break will create defensible space.	IDL, Grant	IDL, Private Property owners, county	2024
IC-31	Glenwood Tom Taha Creek	Shaded Fuel Break	X	Glenwood Tom Taha Creek 6 air miles northeast of Kamiah	Reduce fuel loading along the private/IDL property boundary in the wildland urban interface. Reducing the fuel loading and creating a shaded fuel break will create defensible space.	IDL, Grant	IDL, Private Property owners, county	2026
IC-32	Grangeville Rural Fire, Structure Engine	Capacity Building	X	Grangeville Rural Fire District	There is a need to acquire a structure fire engine for the Grangeville Rural Fire District to adequately protect life and property of the public and firefighters. The Rural Fire District currently owns no structural engines and rural house/building fires are managed with wildland fire apparatus. Specifications for the engine may include: - >499-gallon water capacity - Four-wheel drive capable (4X4) - Safely transport at least 5 personnel - 28' Hydraulic Ladder system, minimum - Deck gun for water delivery - Integrated foam system	Grants, Tax Bonds/Levy	Grangeville Rural Fire District, Idaho County, Grangeville F.D.	05/2025
IC-34	Grangeville Rural Fire, Tender	Capacity Building	X	Grangeville Rural Fire District	The Grangeville Rural Fire District has a need to purchase a new water tender to support fire operations in the Wildland Urban Interface on both wildland and structure fires. The current tender is a 19XX. Approximate specifications may include: - 4,000 Gallon water capacity - Automatic Transmission - Four-wheel drive capable (4X4)	Grants, Tax Bonds/Levy	Grangeville Rural Fire District, Idaho County, Grangeville F.D.	05/2025

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Target Date
IC-35	Grangeville Rural Fire, Brush Truck	Capacity Building	X	Grangeville Rural Fire District	<p>The Grangeville Rural Fire District has a need to purchase a new wildland brush truck to replace the current model from 19XX. Approximate specifications may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 250-gallon water capacity minimum - Integrated foam system - Safely transport at least 5 personnel - Pump and roll capable 	Grants, Tax Bonds/Levy	Grangeville Rural Fire District, Idaho County, Grangeville F.D.	05/2025
IC-36	Grangeville Rural Fire, Fire Station	Capacity Building	X	Grangeville Rural Fire District	<p>There is a growing need to expand capacity for the Grangeville Rural Fire Department. The rural fire district has seen a substantial increase in new address requests within the district and will need to increase space for vehicles, personnel, and training in coming years. Additional residential housing is adding complexity and exposure to firefighters on fires within the Wildland Urban Interface. Building needs may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Six bay double stack to accommodate 12 trucks - Incident Command Post capable facility to house command teams when expanded emergency incidents occur: Secure location, include scalable internet and telecommunication systems, conference room for large briefings or public meetings, adequate parking, power wash/weed wash station, minimum of 6 smaller rooms to facilitate ICS sections and/or Joint Information Center. - Shower facilities and decontamination system - Commercial grade laundry - Administrative office - Kitchen Facility and mess hall - Communication base station - Two hydrant minimum with stand pipe fill station 	Grants, Tax Bonds/Levy	Grangeville Rural Fire District, Idaho County, Grangeville F.D.	05/2030
IC-37	City of Grangeville, Fire Station	Capacity Building	X	City of Grangeville, ID	<p>Building of new fire station to increase capacity and efficiency of Grangeville Fire Department. Building needs may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Four bay double stack to accommodate 8 trucks - 2-3 story, smoke and/or live fire training building - Shower facilities and decontamination system - Commercial grade laundry 	Grants, Tax Bonds/Levy	Grangeville F.D., City of Grangeville	05/2030

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Target Date
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administrative office - Large conference room and 2 small classrooms for training. - Kitchen Facility - Communication base station - Two hydrant minimum with stand pipe fill station 			

Secesh Meadows & Burgdorf Hot Springs

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Completion Date
SM/B-1	Secesh Fire Department improvement	Implement capacity	X	Secesh Fire House and Burgdorf Hot Springs	<p>PRIORITY #1: OBTAIN FIRE HOUSE EMERGENCY RESPONSE EQUIPMENT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One side x side w/snow tracks + transport trailer, 2. Disperse fifty fire extinguishers into cabins and gathering points for emergency use, 3. Two SAT phones, 4. Replace 6 old radios and properly set up the Secesh Fire House and with key people, 5. Add, improve, and maintain a new radio transmitter that covers the Secesh drainage, 6. Add solar panels for powering a radio system, WIFI and security cameras 12 months of the year, 7. Enhance 911 call option sites working with State/County/MTE to place 911 phone boxes creating emergency call locations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Add a call box Secesh Summit b. Upgrade phone box at the Secesh Fire House c. Add a call box at Burgdorf Junction 8. Budget estimate is \$50,000 excluding 911 phones. <p>Note: In 2021, Secesh added a donated 2003 Chevy 3500 with a 350-gallon water tank, pump, hose system with storage for fire extinguishers, tools, water sources, upgraded electrical system and added more EMS equipment. We can cover up or down river in the summer.</p>	State and/or Federal grant and private money.	MTE, USFS, IDL, Idaho County, Valley County, Secesh Meadows HOA	Plan and develop bid specs in 2022 and fulfill in 2023.
SM/B-2	Fuel Reduction	Fuel load reduction	X	Secesh Meadows and Burgdorf Hot Springs area.	<p>PRIORITY #2 SECESH/BURGDORF AREA PROPERTIES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce heavy fuel loads on Burgdorf Hot Springs, Fire House Property, County owned property (gravel pit) and the Historic Pioneer Cemetery Hill including live and dead standing, 	Title 3 funds or other Federal money, grants.	Secesh and Burgdorf Hot Springs property owners, County, State & Federal Agencies.	Start in June of 2022, complete in fall 2025

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Completion Date
					2. Encourage property owners, especially those adjacent to USFS property, to seek Title 3 funds for fuels reduction.			
SM/B-3	Road fuel breaks	Fire Buffers using roads	X	* Warren Wagon Road from Josephine Lake Road to Chinook Campground Road. * Burgdorf Junction to Marshall Lake Road. * Secesh River Road from Warren Wagon Road. * Grouse Creek Road FS325 from Warren Wagon extending 2 miles. * Add respective spur roads.	PRIORITY #3 ROADS AS BUFFERS AND FIRE LINE <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Using area roads, provide fuel reduction and thinning out both sides 35' from the center line creating a fuel break. Estimate 5 miles of roads with 212 acres of fuel removal at \$500/acre for a \$106,000 budget less wood cutters targets or a 40% reduction netting out at \$42,400 estimated cost. 	USFS budgets, Federal grant money	USFS	2022 – 2024
SM/B-4	Perimeter Buffer	Buffer	X	USFS land surrounding Secesh and Burgdorf Hot Springs.	PRIORITY #4 CREATE PERIMETER FUEL BUFFER ON USFS LAND <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Thin a 300 feet wide area surrounding the Secesh, Burgdorf and Federal sites, Critical concern is the southern and southwest perimeter to Secesh Meadows as fire typically runs with wind from the SW to the NE, Sites include the Burgdorf Hot Springs, Burgdorf Guard Station/rental cabins, Holly Summer Home cabin, Jeanette Creek Campground, Chinook Campground and the various unimproved and unnamed campgrounds located along the river corridor on French Creek Road, Warren Wagon Road and FS325. Estimate no cost to us, a USFS job. 	USFS budgets, Federal grant money.	USFS	Fulfill in 2022 – 2026.

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Completion Date
SM/B-5	Area Mapping	Private-land mapping	X	Secesh private land and Burgdorf Hot Springs	PRIORITY #5 MAPPING THE AREA: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create campaign to replace stolen or damaged road and trail signage. 2. Community will work with Life Flight to establish and map landing sites. 3. Coordinate with county 911, USFS, ISP, and county sheriff to ensure contact information is shared where applicable. In 2022 Secesh will provide county 911 for a list of contacts for use during emergencies. 	Local budgets, community grants	Idaho County, Secesh and Burgdorf Hot Springs property owners.	Late fall of 2022

Red River Ranger District

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Completion Date
RR-1	NCF Road, Administrative, and Recreation Site Maintenance	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	Idaho, within Idaho County, within the fire perimeters of the 2015 wildfires	Provide safe and unimpeded access along and near National Forest System roads, administrative facilities, and recreation sites. The project is needed to maintain the routes, administrative facilities, and trailheads which were damaged by wildland fire. Includes Deadwood Salvage, Noble Salvage, and Baldy Salvage	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2017
RR-2	South Township	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	State of Idaho within Idaho County, Sec. 2& 3, T28N, R8E and Sec. 33, 34 & 35, T29N, R8E	Mechanical treatments consisting of thinning and pruning. Accomplishment of thinning is by machine and hand, followed by underburning and/ or piling and burning piles. Project will create a ridge-top shaded fuel break by means of mechanical treatment. Biomass removal consisting of saw logs, pulp wood, firewood and post and rail may occur. Prescribed fire in the form of underburning in areas that are inaccessible to mechanized treatments. Reconditioning of existing transportation system road on BLM ground.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forests, Bureau of Land Management	2023

RR-3	Orogrande Community Protection Project	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	Crooked River Watershed on National Forest System lands in portions of T27N, R07E; T28N, R07E; T29N, R07E, T27N, R08E; T28N, R08E; and T29N, R08E (Boise Meridian) in Idaho County, Idaho.	Create fuel breaks on National Forest System lands adjacent to private property and emergency evacuation routes using a combination of prescribed burning and mechanical and hand thinning treatments.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2026. Continued maintenance of roadside fuel breaks (evacuation routes) past 2026
RR-4	Dutch Oven Stewardship	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	immediately adjacent to the Elk City Township on west side, Idaho County, Idaho, includes the Trail Creek, Allison Creek, Moose Creek, Dutch Oven Creek and Whiskey Creek drainages	To reduce hazardous fuels on approximately 2000 acres of designated Rural Wildland Urban Interface lands adjacent to Elk City. Activities would reduce the potential for, and intensity of, subsequent wildfire and increase the chance for fire suppression strategies and tactics to be successful.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2026
RR-5	Muddy Moose	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	southeast of Newsome along the Road 307 and Road 1808	To reduce hazardous fuels on designated Rural Wildland Urban Interface lands adjacent to Elk City. Activities would reduce the potential for, and intensity of, subsequent wildfire and increase the chance for fire suppression strategies and tactics to be successful.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2022
RR-6	Dixie\Comstock Community Protection Project	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	Idaho County, approximately 20 miles south of Elk City, Idaho, within the Crooked and Rhett Creek watersheds on Red River Ranger District. Project adjacent to the communities of Dixie and Comstock.	Treat vegetation to reduce wildfire risk to the local communities of Dixie and Comstock and surrounding federal lands. Create fuel breaks and escape routes using a combination of prescribed burning and mechanical treatments, with temporary roads.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2031

RR-7	20 Mile Project	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	Idaho County approximately 12 miles west of Elk City. Project located in the 20 Mile drainage between Sourdough Peak and Highway 14	To reduce hazardous fuels. Activities would reduce the potential for, and intensity of, subsequent wildfire and increase the chance for fire suppression strategies and tactics to be successful.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2028
RR-8	Limber Elk Project	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	North and east of Elk City, Idaho in Idaho County	Improve forest health in stands affected by insect & disease and to reduce hazardous fuels.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2027
RR-9	Red Seigel	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	Eight miles southeast of Elk City, Idaho. Idaho County	Improve forest health in stands affected by insects, reduce hazardous fuels and improve public and fire fighter safety, near Elk City, Idaho	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2027
RR-10	Newsome Fuels	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	Township 30 North, Range 6 East, Section 25; T30N, R7E, Sec 30; T29N, R7E, Sec 7, 8, 9; Idaho County, Idaho	Treat 220 acres within 300 feet around private property by hand thinning, hand piling/burning and raising canopy base heights in the Newsome Creek Drainage.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2025
RR-11	Blanco Landscape Rx Burn	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	Idaho County Township 29N, R9E, Sections 19, 20, 21, and 29-34	Ponderosa Pine prescribed fire underburning in the Red River Meadows area and adjacent to private.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2027
RR-12	Red Moose	Mitigation	APPENDIX 1, PAGE 16	North and North West of the Elk City Township. Along Forest Service roads 471, 1199, and 464	Improve forest health in stands affected by insect & disease and to reduce hazardous fuels, and reduce hazard trees along roads.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2024

Salmon River Ranger District

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Completion Date
SR-1	Hungry Ridge	Mitigation	X	The project area is in the Mill Creek and Johns Creek watersheds, tributaries to the South Fork of the Clearwater River, within the Salmon River Ranger District in the Nez Perce – Clearwater National Forests. This project is in north-central Idaho, approximately 17 miles southeast of Grangeville, Idaho, in Idaho County. The approximately 30,000-acre project area extends from the South Fork Clearwater River along Highway 14 to the south approximately 13 miles. Mill Creek and Johns Creek bound the project area, with a portion of the project area adjacent to the Gospel Hump Wilderness Area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct commercial timber harvest on approximately 7,144 acres using intermediate (1,959 acres) and regeneration (5,185 acres) prescriptions. • Conduct prescribed burning on approximately 12,372 acres to treat natural fuels and treat all activity residual fuels from timber harvest operations. • Conduct hand thinning on approximately 10 acres around private property to reduce fuel levels. 	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2027
SR-2	Center Johnson	Mitigation	X	The 9,855-acre project area is located approximately 3 miles west of Slate Creek, Idaho. The Center-Johnson project is located in tributaries to the Lower	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct intermediate harvest on approximately 1,911 acres. The majority of treatments will remove to reduce stand densities and address insect and disease infestations, reduce fuel hazards and improve elk winter range. • Conduct regeneration harvest on approximately 1,134 acres to maintain and/or re-establish 	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2025

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Completion Date
				<p>Salmon River including Johnson Creek, Lyon Creek, Joe Creek, Rhett Creek, Christie and Sherwin creeks, in Idaho County, Idaho.</p> <p>Access to the project area is from Highway 95, up the Deer Creek Road (493). The Deer Creek Road provides primary access to homes and the Pittsburg Landing, the Hells Canyon Natural Recreation Area, and the Snake River. This road functions as the primary escape route for residents along the Deer Creek Road, during wildfire events.</p>	<p>long-lived early seral species and reduce fuel hazard in the rural WUI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct landscape burning on approximately 1,038 acres. This treatment will reduce hazardous surface fuels, increase canopy height, and move the area towards Condition Class One (low departure from the natural historical fire regime). Treatment includes 323 acres of harvest units. • Complete activity fuel treatments on approximately 2,701 acres in harvest units to reduce activity fuel hazards and in some cases, prepare harvested openings for planting. • Conduct understory slashing on approximately 22 acres. This treatment will reduce hazardous ladder fuels adjacent to private lands. • Complete mastication of trees on approximately 70 acres. This treatment will remove encroaching ponderosa pine tree in a grassland area. 			
SR-3	End of the World	Mitigation	X	<p>The project area is located approximately six (6) miles south of Grangeville, Idaho. The project boundary encompasses about 49,565 acres within the Salmon River Ranger District of the Nez Perce - Clearwater National Forests. The project lies entirely within the</p>	<p>The End of the World Project area is designated as part of an insect and disease treatment program in accordance with Title VI, Section 602, HFRA, as amended by Section 8204 of the Agriculture Act (Farm Bill) of 2014. Based on observed existing conditions, as well as other supporting information (e.g. annual insect and disease aerial detection surveys, national insect and disease risk maps, community wildfire protection plan, and input from local community members), there is a need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the risk or extent of, or increase resilience to, insect or disease infestation; • Reduce wildfire risk to the local communities and surrounding federal lands; 	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2028

Project I.D.	Project Name	Type	Map	Project Location	Project Description	Sources of Funding	Involved Organizations	Projected Completion Date
				Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) for the Grangeville area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore forest vegetation, dry meadows, and grasslands to a healthy condition; and • Improve water quality and aquatic habitats. 			
SR-4	Race Cow	Mitigation	X	The Race Cow project area is located on the Salmon River Ranger District of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests and on the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The project area encompasses approximately 35,612 acres of National Forest System lands. The project area is located approximately 7 miles northwest of Riggins, Idaho, in Idaho County.	The Proposed Action would manage vegetation and reduce hazard fuels. The actions include commercial timber harvest on approximately 10,789 acres using a combination of intermediate (86%) and regeneration (14%) methods. Ground based logging systems such as tractor and skyline would be utilized. In addition, landscape prescribed burning is proposed on 15,635 acres to reintroduce fire to the landscape, reduce hazardous fuels and improve stand health. A roadside fuel break would be created along Road 2060A (~ 950 acres). Grassland enhancement is proposed on 168 acres.	Federal	Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest	2030

