

## Lake County Community Wildfire Prevention Plan (CWPP) Revision—2011

The Lake County CWPP was revisited in 2011 with basic goals in mind. These goals included reviewing the current role of the Lake County CWPP and its functionality now compared to when it was written in 2005 such as improving fire prevention and suppression, reducing hazardous forest fuels, restoring forest health, and promoting community involvement recommending measures to reduce structural ignitability and encourage economic development in the communities within Lake County. The group additionally wanted to review the current map and see if wildland urban interface (WUI) boundaries are still accurate with expanding communities in Lake County. The group also wanted to focus on public safety by identifying main evacuation corridors throughout the county that could be improved to help facilitate safe travels by the public during times of high wildfire activity. Finally, the group wanted to identify values at risk that are economically important to Lake County that were not identified with the original Lake County CWPP.

Representation of the group consisted of representatives from the following: Lake County Fire Chiefs, Lake County Commissioner, Lake County Resource Initiatives, Fremont-Winema N.F., Lakeview District BLM, Lake Unit of Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Hart-Sheldon National Refuge with the US Fish & Wildlife, and Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife.

Many changes were made to the WUI map of Lake County's CWPP. These changes include:

- Relocating the WUI boundary from the previously designated .5 mile to 3 miles beyond community developments to further treat private and federal lands to provide additional fire protection by fuel reduction. This change is in recognition that given the fuels, weather, and topography of Lake County, a wildfire can easily burn several miles in one burn period and a .5 mile buffer would be insufficient in protecting the community.
- Identify additional industrial timber lands belonging to Collins Timber and JWTR and incorporating a 1 mile buffer around those lands that are economically important to slow wildfire from burning from federal land onto these industrial lands.
- Evacuation routes and developed campgrounds were identified throughout Lake County's public lands. A .5 mile buffer around the campgrounds and .5 mile on each side of the evacuation routes have been identified and mapped. The identified campgrounds are high use recreation sites during the summer months (fire season) and can become small communities at certain times.
- Communication sites throughout Lake County are identified on the map with a .5 mile perimeter around the sites. These sites are important to the emergency services that are within the County.

Values at Risk were identified and these include:

- Sage Grouse Habitat throughout much of Eastern Lake County and Winter Range Habitat for large animal wildlife. Both of these vital intact habitats are economically important to the people of Lake County. Many projects that come with federal funding to keep these two

habitats intact add jobs and money into businesses throughout Lake County and the deterioration of this habitat could impact the large ranching economy within the county through further regulations.

With these changes to the CWPP for Lake County, more projects can potentially be funded on federal lands to protect not only communities, but also private industrial timber lands, sage grouse/winter range habitat for wildlife, and other important values that Lake County deems as necessary to sustain and protect from wildfire in order to maintain continued economic viability.

See attached map(s) labeled "Lake County CWPP 2011 Revision"

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