# The Town of Dewey-Humboldt


# Community Wildfire Protection Plan 2026

## "Arizona's Country Town"

*Artwork by 2025 "Don't Get Burned Event" Winner J Mannen, 12th Grade*

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# The Town of Dewey-Humboldt


# Community Wildfire Protection Plan 2026

# BACKGROUND

**From the Arizona Dept. of Forestry and Fire Management CWPP Template**
*(Version 1)*

### *Healthy Forests Restoration Act – Guidance and Requirements*

*The Town of Dewey-Humboldt Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) has been developed in response to the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA). This legislation established unprecedented incentives for communities to develop comprehensive wildfire protection plans in a collaborative, inclusive process. Furthermore, this legislation directs the Departments of Interior and Agriculture to address local community priorities in fuels reduction treatments on both federal and non-federal lands.*

*The HFRA emphasizes the need for federal agencies to collaborate with communities in developing hazardous fuels reduction projects, and places priority on treatment areas identified by communities through development of a CWPP. Priority areas include the wildland-urban interface (WUI), municipal watersheds and other local values at risk that would be negatively impacted by a catastrophic wildfire. In compliance with Title 1 of the HFRA, the CWPP requires agreement among local government, local fire departments, and the state agency responsible for forest management (Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management {DFFM}). The CWPP also must be developed in consultation with interested parties and the applicable federal agency managing lands surrounding at-risk communities.*

### *Arizona's Minimum Standards for CWPPs*

*The HFRA also required DFFM to establish minimum standards for development of CWPPs in Arizona, and DFFM must approve any and all CWPPs to ensure that they meet these minimum standards. The minimum requirements are listed below, however for a more complete description of these requirements can be found at https://dffm.az.gov/fire/prevention/plans.*

#### *Minimum Arizona state requirements:*

*1. Local Area Description: Defines CWPP area; provides a description of the community (or communities) within the CWPP; summarizes current/past community engagement or collaborations, and; identifies other plans within the CWPP area that provide valuable information to reduce threat of wildfires.*
*2. List of areas at high risk for damage from wildfire*
*3. Wildfire response resources that are already in place (high level overview of resources available to local governments in case of a wildfire)*
*4. Projects the community would like to accomplish within the next 5 years*

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# THE PLANNING PROCESS

***Instructions/Participation Process - Assemble a small working group of knowledgeable people, including property owners, DFFM, local government representatives, the local fire chief, and federal agencies with land adjacent to the planning area. Briefly describe the public activities that occurred in the development of your CWPP, including how the leadership reached out to the community and how participants worked together to contribute to the CWPP. Community and stakeholder participation is required.***

## What were the collaboration activities that took place to develop this CWPP?

In an effort to condense the process clock, limit precious work hours, and allow those that participated to provide input from their workstations, each was provided the basic boilerplate within an initial version of this CWPP, along with a request to review what had been provided for improvement and fill in the blanks related to information that would be best supplied by their organization. Dewey-Humboldt Firewise (DHF) took on the coordination position and then consolidated every other collaborator's inputs. Those were formatted into a single document which was then shared with all other collaborators and the public. A virtual meeting was then scheduled to review, improve, and prioritize the overall plan and essential actions needed to mitigate wildfire threats that endangered the CWPP area. The finalized plan was then edited to incorporate the collaborated accords.

## Describe the meetings you held

***Who Attended, Number of Meetings, What You Did***

There was only one virtual group meeting. As discussed above, it involved reviewing the initial document for accuracy and discuss and prioritize Values-at-Risk. As everyone had an opportunity to review everyone else's input in advance, the meeting went well.

# DESCRIPTION OF PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES

***Instructions/Participation Process: List the Working Group Members from the Community, Fire Department/FPD and Any Other Agencies that are Providing Information or Assistance in Development of the CWPP***

## Core Planning Team

Name the members of the core planning team and what organization or agency they represent. If appropriate, describe the chairperson or key contact, as well as any smaller working groups.

| *Agency / Entity* | *Name* | *Position* |
|---|---|---|
| American Towers | No Response | |
| Arizona Department of Transportation | Anthony Brozich<br>David Egliskis | District Administrator<br>Emergency Manager |
| Arizona Public Service | Andrew Rable<br><br>Wade Ward<br>Brian Kelley<br>Amy Trask | Manager – Forestry and Resource Management<br>Manager – Wildfire Mitigation<br>Supervisor - Wildfire Mitigation<br>Fire Mitigation Specialist |
| Arizona State Department of Forestry and Fire Management | Aaron Casem<br>Karl Gehrke | Prevention Division Chief<br>Fire Grants Manager |
| Arizona State Land Department | Dr. Josh Grace | Assistant Director, Natural Resources Division |
| AT&T | No Response | |
| U.S. Wildland Fire Service | Carlos Payan | Prevention |
| Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority Fire District | Chief Darrell Tirpak<br>Alan Schuster | Fire Marshall<br>Battalion Chief |
| Dakota Logging LLC | Ben Aragon | Owner |
| Dewey-Humboldt Firewise | Vivien Winneke<br>Mike Donovan<br>Nelle Carlsmith | Board Chair<br>Board Member<br>Board Member |
| El Paso Natural Gas | No response | |
| Lumen/CenturyLink | Armen McNerlin | Network Implementation Engineer |
| Mortimer Miracles LLC | Gary Mortimer | Owner |
| The Town of Dewey-Humboldt | Dan Field | Town Manager |
| UniSource | Teresa Inman | District Manager |
| USDA Forest Service Strategic Analytics Branch | Rick Stratton | Chief |
| USDA Prescott National Forest Bradshaw & Chino Ranger Districts | John Kava<br>Cory Carlson | Acting District Ranger<br>Fire Management Officer |
| Yavapai Board of Supervisors | Dee Jenkins | Supervisor District 2 |
| Yavapai County Community Health Services | Sean Underhill | Emergency Response Coordinator |

| *Agency / Entity* | *Name* | *Position* |
|---|---|---|
| Yavapai County Emergency Management | Ashley Ahlquist<br>Fred Heggestad | Emergency Manager<br>Coordinator |
| Yavapai County Flood Control District | Lynn Whitman | Director |
| Yavapai County Sheriff's Office | Sgt Heath Slay | Force Control |
| Yavapai Firewise | Mark Richardson | Vice President |
| Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) | Matt Pollock | Vegetation Program Manager |

# LOCAL AREA DESCRIPTION

***Draw a Map of the CWPP Area Showing the External Boundaries, Ownership Types, and Fire Protection Coverage and Gaps. Completing this Section Addresses the WUI Description. You Must, at a Minimum, Include the WUI Boundary Map in your CWPP***.

## Describe the WUI Area the CWPP Will Cover

### *History*

In the late 1800s, like a majority of Arizona's towns, due to the lure of mining, the southern end of Central Arizona's Lonesome Valley developed into the unincorporated towns of Humboldt and Dewey. Humboldt was the housing and business area for the local mills, smelters and mines – predominantly the Drake and Iron King mines, the remnants of the latter which sit just above and west of the old Humboldt town center. Dewey was the area predominantly for farmers and ranchers. They raised the food and hay that fed the miners, local soldiers, and work animals. Housing in Humboldt was condensed. In Dewey, forty acres would have been a small spread.

When mining was good, the area thrived. The 1900 census counted 3,640 residents in the area which was 81 more than the territorial capital of Prescott. However, when ore prices plummeted or the mining veins petered out, the population dwindled into the hundreds. Within the October 2018 Issue of Arizona Highways Magazine, an article titled "Arizona Ghost Towns" includes the town of Humboldt, a community that previously had "a school, a telephone exchange, a bank, an icehouse, a hospital, the Tisdale Hotel, Wingfield's Mercantile, the Humboldt Commercial Co., saloons and pool halls". Nearly all of those establishments have been consumed with time and, per the article, the only highlight of the town at the time of the article was a "well-regarded Italian restaurant".

On the fire front, within the ranching and farming areas, controlled burning was a yearly event. Local folklore has it that these regular clearings of undesired vegetation continued until the "feds" decided that untrained ranch-hands and farmers weren't allowed to ignite such large expanses of acreage. However, recognizing the need, the "feds" would manage that year's prescribed burns. The understanding is, what followed was the area's last, large vegetation clearing using fire, as what was lit escaped the boundaries and was one of the towns' first, and possibly, last out-of-control wildfires.

### *Currently*

That aforementioned ghost town has been revived and in 2005 the once separate, unincorporated towns of Humboldt and Dewey incorporated to become the Town of Dewey-Humboldt. As the Lonesome Valley increased in popularity, many were drawn to the new Town's low density, rural-feel along with the incredible views punctuated with spectacular sunrises and sunsets. Many residents live on private, dirt roads and only a few, who are lucky enough to be connected to one of the three, small, private water districts, don't need a private well or water delivery. Private parcels bordering public lands are considered a sought-after bonus, as well as being tucked away within Nature without being disturbed by racket from one's neighbors. Ranchettes are not uncommon, and horseback riding throughout the area is still a popular mode of recreation.

Unfortunately, the Town of Dewey-Humboldt is at significant risk for maybe its second major wildfire. There is an available analysis of communities' wildfire danger produced by Economic Profile System (EPS). This report presents data about wildfire risk, socioeconomic vulnerability, and land use to help communities understand their relative wildfire risk profile. It was created through a partnership between the company Headwaters Economics and the U.S. Forest Service through the Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire program using data from **Wildfire Risk to Communities** (https://wildfirerisk.org/), a website with interactive maps, charts, and resources to help communities understand, explore, and reduce wildfire risk. That tool was created by the USDA Forest Service under the direction of Congress and is designed to help


***Figure 1 - Headwaters Economics' EPS Wildfire Risk - March 2026***

community leaders, community planners, and fire managers. An evaluation of the Town of Dewey-Humboldt by Headwaters Economics' Economic Profile System (EPS) dated March 26, 2026 and titled ***A Profile of Wildfire Risk*** concluded that, at the state level, our town was at the **88th** percentile level for Risk to Homes and Wildfire Likelihood. At the national level, we are at the **98th** percentile.

An element of the disproportionate wildfire danger to Dewey-Humboldt is likely based on the unusual lack of recent, significant wildfires within the Town's borders. The shock and understanding following a local wildfire event, resulting in an enhanced interest in preparing for the next one, are mostly missing. Like it or not, for many this naturally causes a significant reduction in the priority of preparedness for a future wildfire event. Comments such as, "I grew up here and the area has never burned and it's not likely to in my lifetime" are not uncommon. There is no wish for a catastrophic wildfire in our town, but there can be no doubt that should one happen, interest for fire adapting the remainder of the community would greatly increase.

Added to the wildfire apathy is the fact that the town housing density is predominantly low and the population not affluent. One-acre parcels are common but 2½ + acre parcels are predominant. While some owners have decided to remove nearly all vegetation on their parcels, most have chosen to only thin some natural vegetation adjacent to their structure(s), and many decided to keep natural vegetation natural. These last two options have maintained the continuous natural vegetative biome through much of the community, and embody the worst potential possibility of the Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI).

### *Demographics*

What follows are the demographics related to the Town of Dewey-Humboldt taken from the US Census Bureau located on the internet at:

*https://data.census.gov/profile/Dewey-Humboldt_town,_Arizona?g=160XX00US0419145*.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Town size | 19.5 sq mi | | Population Density (Private Property) | 182/sq mi |
| Percent State and Federal Lands | 18.0% | | Average Income | $37,128 |
| Population | 4,326 | | Per Capita Income | $27,043 |
| Annual Population Growth *(last 10 yrs)* | 0.59% | | Average Household Income | $69,619 |
| Total Households | 1,701 | | Median Household income | $64,183 |
| Total Housing Units | 1,995 | | Below Poverty Threshold | 10.30% |
| Population Density (All Lands) | 221.8/sq mi | | | |

***Figure 2 - United States Census Bureau Data - Dewey-Humboldt***

What's not noted within the typical demographic data is the dispersed population of those with functional needs. They tend to be proud or stubborn and still feel that they don't need

help, even if a wheelchair is their primary mode of transportation. Additionally, there is an unknown number of residents, who typically have a fixed and/or low income, that still rely on a hardwired home phone or possibly a flip-phone, and have no intention of connecting to the internet or upgrading to one of those, so-called, smart phones. Attempting to connect to this populace using texts, email, or websites will absolutely fail.

### *Housing Density*

The highest housing unit density areas in the community are located within the old, downtown Humboldt area, plus two adjacent subdivisions (Blue Hills Farm 3, and Valley High Indian Meadows Add) which are at the town's northern boundary and just west of AZ State Hwy 69. Medium to High density populations include, to the west, most of the Upper Blue Hills area, the E Henderson Road and E Kachina Place corridors, plus, to the east, a wide swath on either side of S Foothill Drive below AZ State Hwy 169. The classification of what is and what is not within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) depends on the source, but most seem to accept that the entirety of the Town is within a WUI. Figure 3 provides a 2024 depiction of the community's WUI Housing Unity Density as extracted from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service's Strategic Analytics Branch's Risk Management Assistance (RMA) Dashboard.

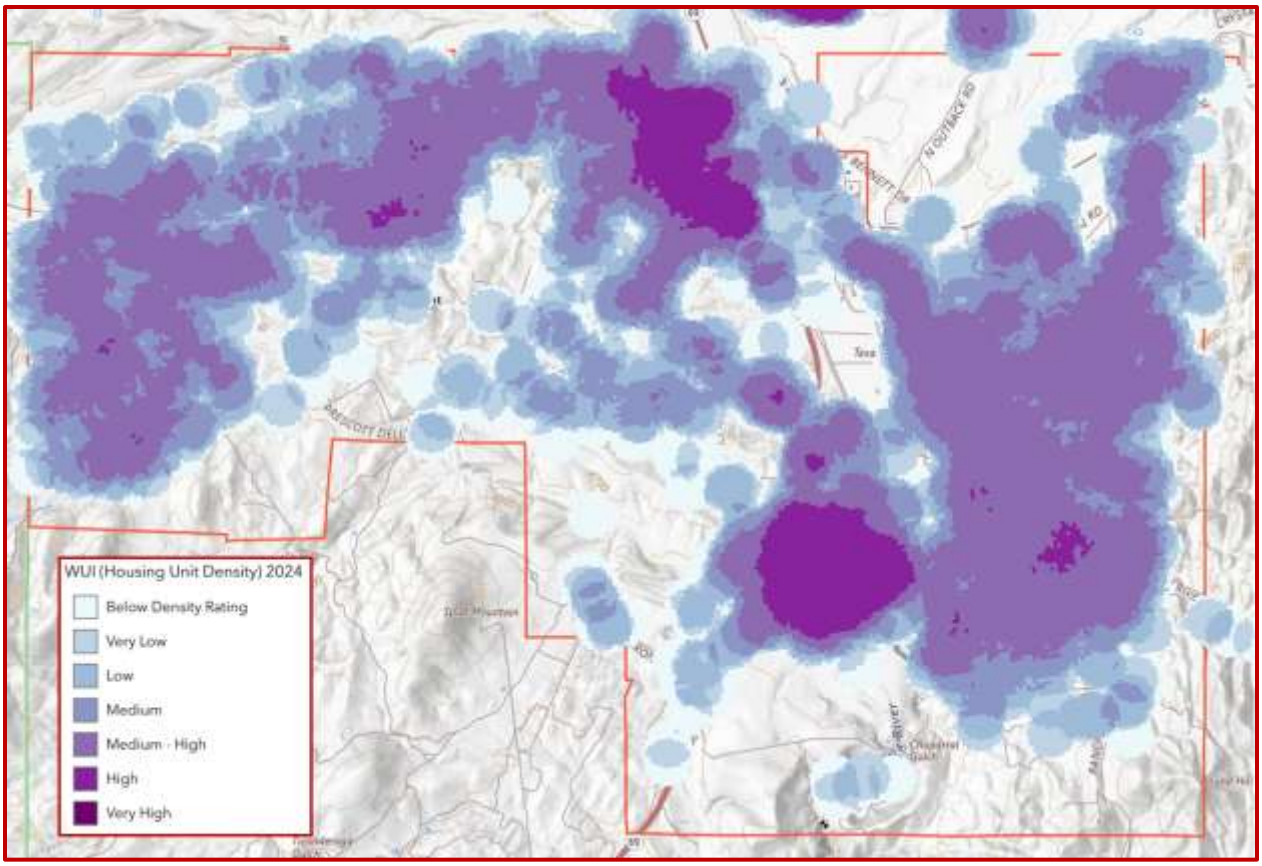


***Figure 3 - WUI Housing Unity Density - 2024***

## *Weather*

Every wildfire will be influenced by weather at the point of the fire. The Town's undulating ridges and valleys that come down from the Bradshaw mountains to the west and the hills that mark the southern terminus of Lonesome Valley to the east and south, combine to cause swirling, chaotic winds that, with significant elevation changes, can easily produce substantial weather changes at properties only hundreds of yards from one another. Not just the wind, which can vary dramatically in both direction and intensity, but precipitation and temperatures variances are a dependable topic of discussion among residents dealing with the extreme differences.

Regrettably, the nearest interagency Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) are roughly 12 and 16 miles northwest and northeast from the community's center. The stations are 26.5 miles from one another, in nearly a perfect east/west alignment. This is not a negative critique on the agencies that own the systems, as weather stations cannot be everywhere, but instead a warning to those that use the data and apply it to the Town of Dewey-Humboldt. Unless an unacceptably low confidence level is applied to each value, the official weather history for Dewey-Humboldt, to include average temperatures, wind

velocity and direction, precipitation, and humidity will be incorrect. Nearly every parcel that is not within a few hundred yards from the Agua Fria River bed will have its own microclimate, and those preparing to or are actively fighting a local wildfire should be cognizant that official forecasts for the area should be supplanted with readings at the fire's perimeter and anticipated path.

For instance, from a property within the Town's Upper Blue Hills, a two-year capture of wind data, from Aug ,1 2016 to Jul 31, 2018, showed that 25% of winds 10 mph or greater, came from the south, and 51% of the time, the winds came from the southwest, south, or southeast. However, 49% of the time, the winds did not come from those directions. Of the eight cardinal and intercardinal compass directions, winds from the northeast were least likely, but still occurred 5% of the time. This suggests that, in this neck of the woods, deciding in advance which direction the winds will be blowing during a wildfire is a risky and uncertain venture.

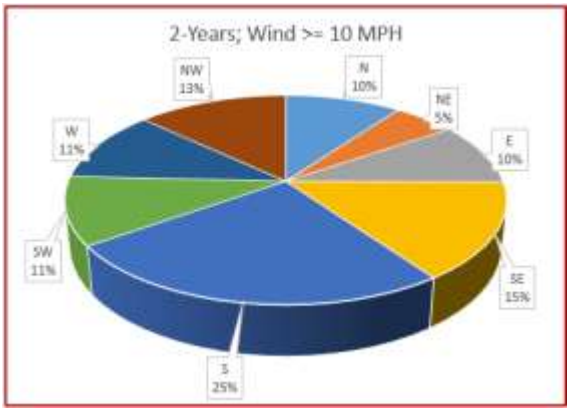


***Figure 4 - Upper Blue Hills Wind Directions; Aug 2016 thru July 2018***

That all said, here is the typical weather year in Dewey-Humboldt as noted within the Town's website:

*Dewey-Humboldt is located in the high desert of Northern Arizona. At the city-hall elevation of 4556', town residents enjoy a mild four-season climate which includes an occasional snowfall during the winter months and sporadic monsoons from June to September.*

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Average temp. (°F) | 40 | 42 | 46 | 53 | 61 | 71 | 76 | 74 | 68 | 58 | 47 | 40 |
| High temp. (°F) | 52 | 55 | 59 | 67 | 76 | 87 | 90 | 88 | 82 | 72 | 60 | 53 |
| Low temp. (°F) | 27 | 30 | 33 | 38 | 46 | 55 | 61 | 60 | 54 | 43 | 33 | 27 |
| Precipitation (in) | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 |

***Figure 5 - Annual Weather - Town of Dewey-Humboldt Website***

Historical seasonal wind measurements from the previously mentioned RAWS' Iron Springs and the Cherry stations were extracted from the RMA Dashboard and are posted in Figure 6.

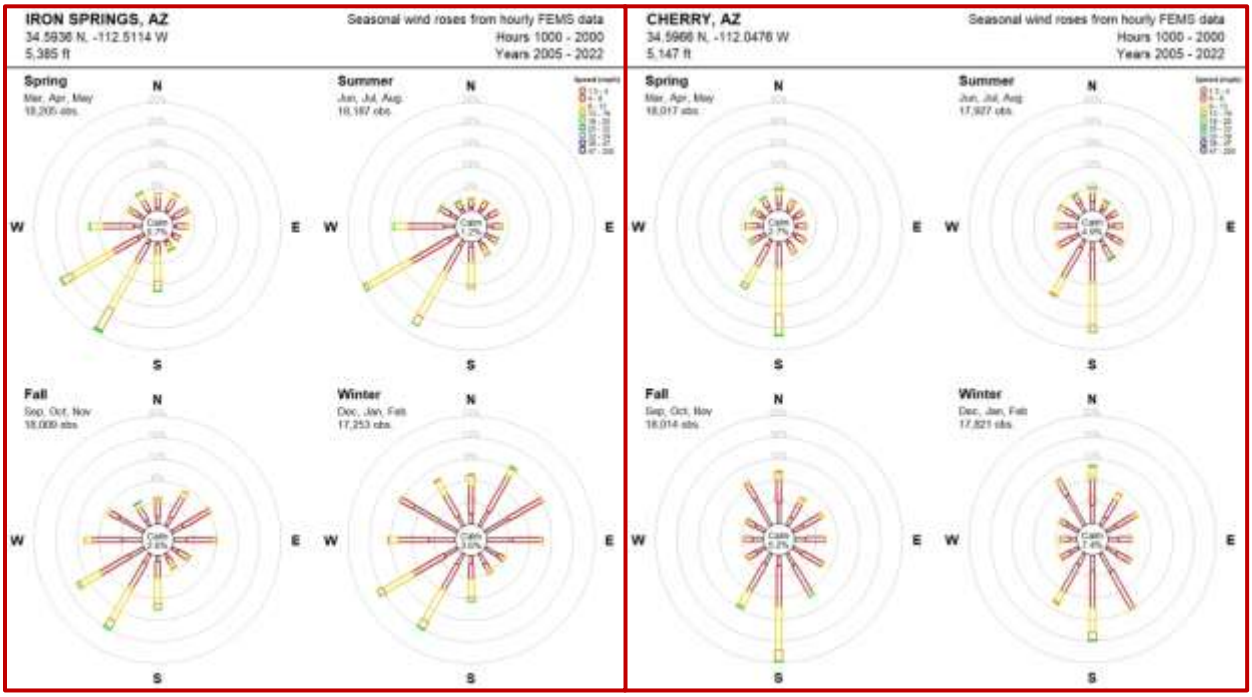


***Figure 6 - Iron Springs and Cherry RAWS Seasonal Wind Measurements***

## *Water*

The amount of available water needed to fight an urban fire has many available studies that will confidently specify a number of gallons needed based on an array of data. Other studies will calculate the water flow required from which fire hydrants for a specific commercial building, or a house fire in a particular neighborhood that jumps to one or two of its neighbors. However, how much water a wildfire will need is an understudied question. Part of the problem is that, for the large ones, all of the variables will be unique. The weather, terrain, fuel, and available resources are typically unknown until the wildfire has started. For the big fires, the Incident Commander will create a battle plan based on all the known and estimated variables, and available water is certainly one of those to consider. Water will be used and dispensed using everything from backpack pumps, to firetruck hoses, to firefighting aircraft, but that final calculation could be 10's of thousands or millions of gallons, and won't be absolutely known until the last firefighter has departed.

What is known is, the Town of Dewey-Humboldt will not locally have sufficient water. There are three water districts within the town's boundaries; Acme Water-Blue Hills is a local household provider and container fill-up stop where a quarter will get you 50 gallons. Those

that tote water to their property fill up there, but it's not likely a source for firetrucks or water tenders. Soft Winds MHP is a small community water system whose 10,000-gal tank provides drinking water to the mobile home park's single-family residences. And Humboldt Water Co provides household water to residents and businesses within the old-Humboldt town area. Their 65,000-gal water storage capacity is sufficient for their customers; however, that capacity is 258 gallons short of their average, daily distribution. That, plus the realization that they have no fire hydrants, suggest that they'll not be a reliable source of water for a wildfire.

There are some water storage tanks, primarily for structure fires. One is at the Humboldt Elementary School; another is next to the Dewey US Post Office (to which a fire hydrant is connected) but it occasionally has very little water. Several businesses have water tanks that could be used for fires, and Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority (CAFMA) installed four 8,000-gal water tanks in the Blue Hills area, near the base of the Bradshaw Mountains. There are no Town lakes or reservoirs and the pond that was used to douse the 2021, 16-acre wildfire in the Agua Fria riverbed, discussed within the "10-Year Fire History…" section, has been removed. A few properties have in-ground swimming pools, many properties have large water tanks, and there are some occasionally-full livestock tanks, all of which the owners would likely make available for any fire.

There are fire hydrants in neighboring Prescott Valley, which is the resource most often used to refill fire trucks and tenders. For firefighting helicopters, Linx Lake is just over 4-miles away from the Town's closest boarder, Watson Lake is roughly 7-miles away, and both Willow and Goldwater Lake are 8-miles away. Beyond that, CAFMA has a fleet of 4,000-5,000-gal water tenders, as do local, mutual-aid districts. Prescott's nearby Earnest A Love Airfield supports retardant-carrying aircraft up to the Large Air tankers (LAT). Very Large Air tankers (VLATs), when used in the area, typically fly out of Mesa Gateway Airport located in the Phoenix Valley. With all of that, additional local water sources designated for the area's potential wildfires should be considered.

### *Wildland/Urban Interface Boundary*

Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI) maps have a difficult time agreeing what is and what is not within the WUI. Some recent maps still differentiate between the "I" being for either Interface or Intermix and most maps that require a structure be onsite rapidly become obsolete as those parcels are likely destined to eventually have at least one home. Designation of parcels without a dwelling as not yet being within the WUI miss the point. As Figure 3 points out, the town is filling out. For Dewey-Humboldt, if a property is zoned for residential, it will almost certainly, eventually have at least one home, likely including those public properties that are within its borders, unless they become parks. With that, as

property zoning is mostly stagnant, and essentially all residentially zoned property has natural vegetation, the Town's Zoning Map is presumably the best indicator of what is or what will be within the WUI. That is provided with Figure 7.

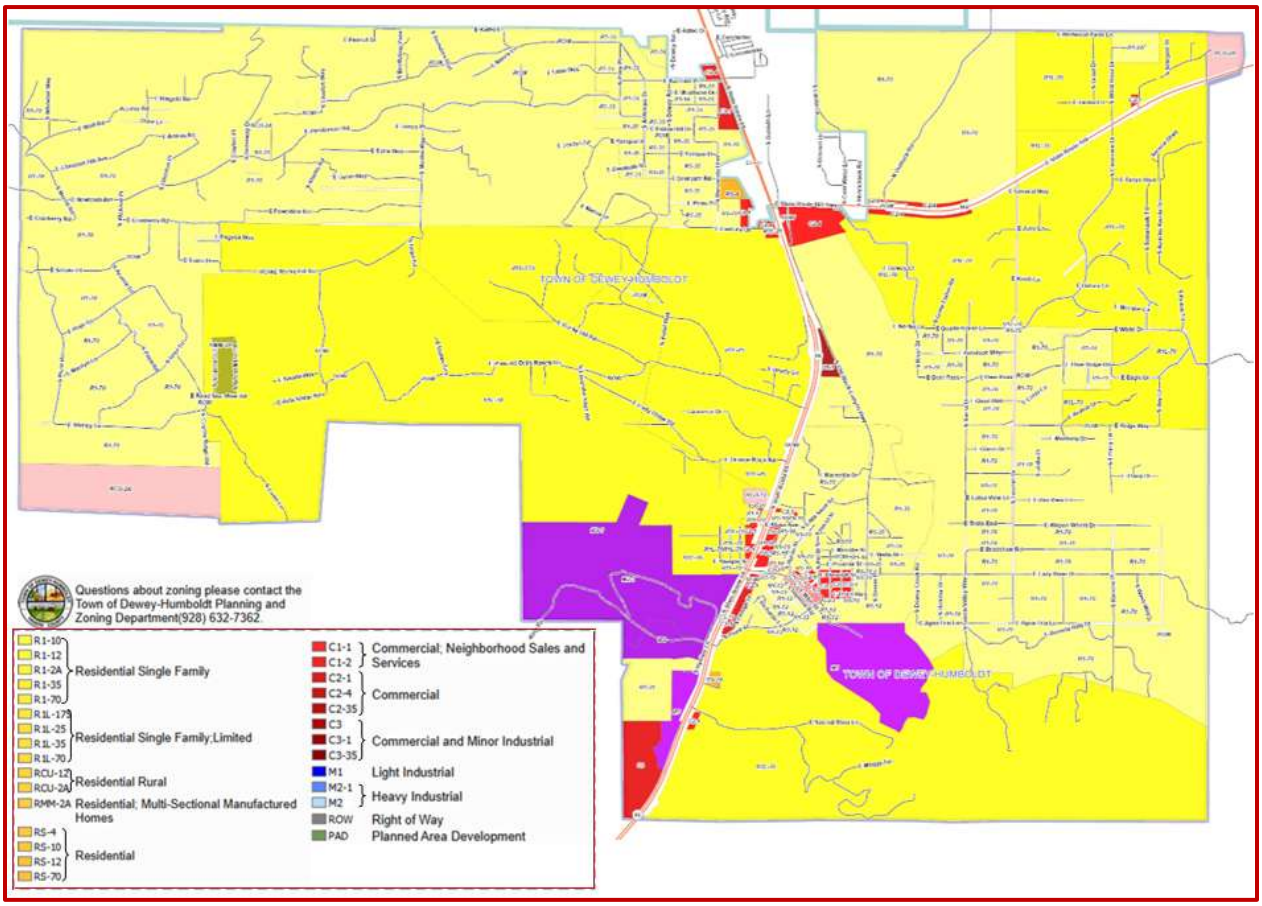


***Figure 7 - Dewey-Humboldt Zoning Map Indicating What Properties Are or Will Be in the WUI***

## CWPP Boundaries

### *Adjacent Federal and Public Land*

The CWPP area is the incorporated Town of Dewey-Humboldt which is approximately 19.5 square miles or 12,480 acres is size. It is located in central Arizona, 73 miles north of Phoenix, 10 miles southeast of Prescott, and 20 miles southwest of Sedona. Dewey-Humboldt is located in the southern end of Lonesome Valley and is the smallest of the Quad-Cities that are also made up of Prescott, Prescott Valley, and Chino Valley.

The western edge of the town abuts the Prescott National Forest (PNF), where they share a 2.4-mile border. The entire 24.5-mile outer border of the town is predominantly owned by the public (2.4 mi/9.9% PNF; 2.0 mi/8.2% Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and 10.4 mi/42.4% Arizona State Trust Land (ASTL), for a total of 60.5%), and 42.8% of the inner border is also public lands (2.4 mi/10.0% BLM and 8.0 mi/32.8% ASTL). The remaining border properties are privately owned.

## Describe the Amount (Acres/Percentage) of Private and Public Land Within the CWPP

Land within the CWPP is roughly 9,862 Acres (82%) privately owned and 2,164 acres (18%) publicly owned. ASTL, managed by the Arizona State Land Department's Northeast District (A5S), manages 1,478 acres (12.3%), and BLM properties, managed by the Phoenix District Office, manages 686 acres (5.7%). Figure 8 is a map of the Town of Dewey-Humboldt from the RMA Dashboard which identifies publicly and privately owned parcels.

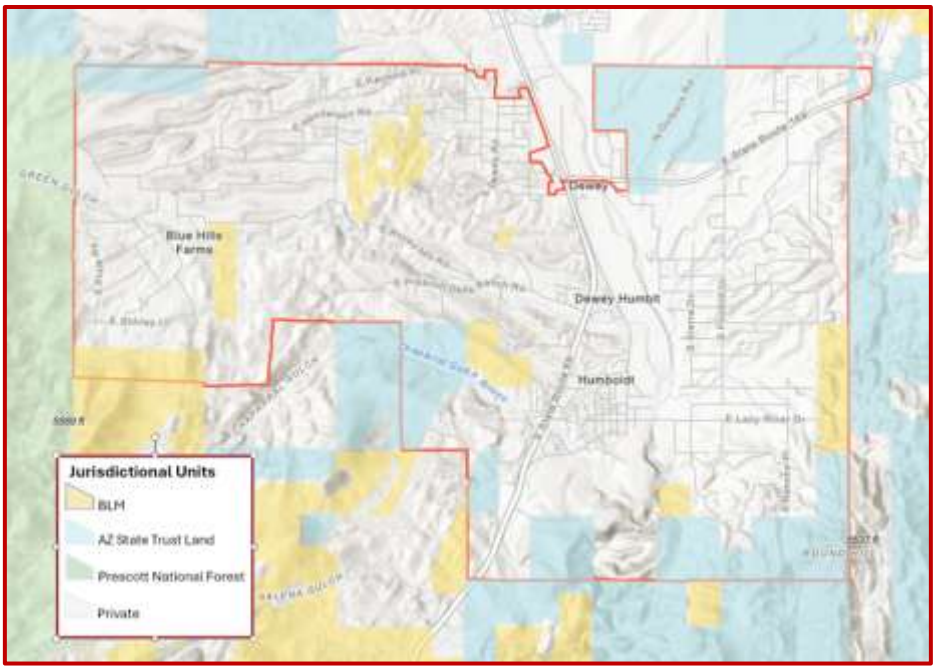


***Figure 8 - Public and Private Lands Within and Adjacent to Dewey-Humboldt – RMA Dashboard***

## Brief Description of Fuel Types in Areas Covered by the CWPP

Per the Arizona Wildlife Conservatory Strategy *(https://awcs.azgfd.com/habitats/chaparral)*, the Town of Dewey-Humboldt is within Arizona's 3.5-million-acre chaparral plant community (see Figure 9), which is characterized, in this area, by a dense, nearly impenetrable thicket, typically dominated by two species of manzanita, acacia, juniper, or shrub live oak. Forbs and grasses are not abundant, mostly due to the high percentage of crown cover. However, this understory vegetation can occur in the scattered intershrub openings or after a fire event. Other conspicuous species present in chaparral include birchleaf mountain-mahogany, skunkbush sumac, silktassels, hollyleaf buckhorn, cliffrose, desert olive, Palmer oak, Arizona white oak, Emory oak, pinyon pine, juniper, catclaw acacia, and desert ceanothus. Succulents such as prickly-pear cactus, agaves, and yuccas commonly grow alongside shrubs.

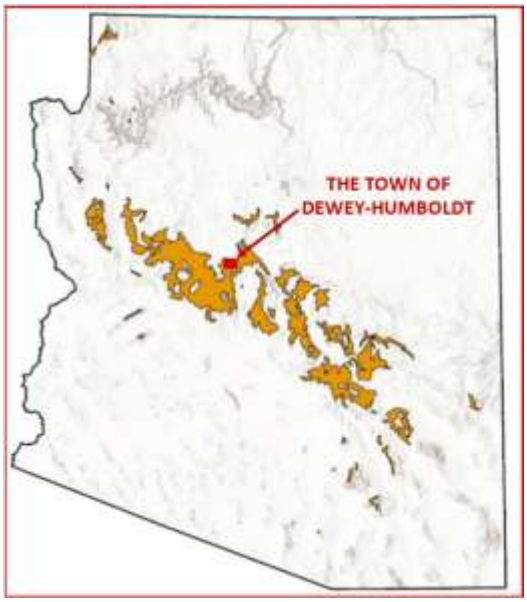


***Figure 9 - Distribution of Chaparral Habitats in Arizona***

Based on the Landfire Gov website, (https://www.landfire.gov/viewer) Conterminous U.S. Landfire - LF 2023 Fuel – Surface and Canopy – 13 Anderson, along with Urban and Barren areas, there are four distinct fuel models within the community. They are Fuel Behavior Fuel Models (FBFM) 2, 5, 8 and 9. Figure 10 is a map of those fuel types within Dewey-Humboldt. Missing from the map are the riparian zones within the Agua Fria River and the community's gulches, possibly due to the riparian area's narrowness along with the 30-meter pixel size diameter of the imaging satellite's resolution.

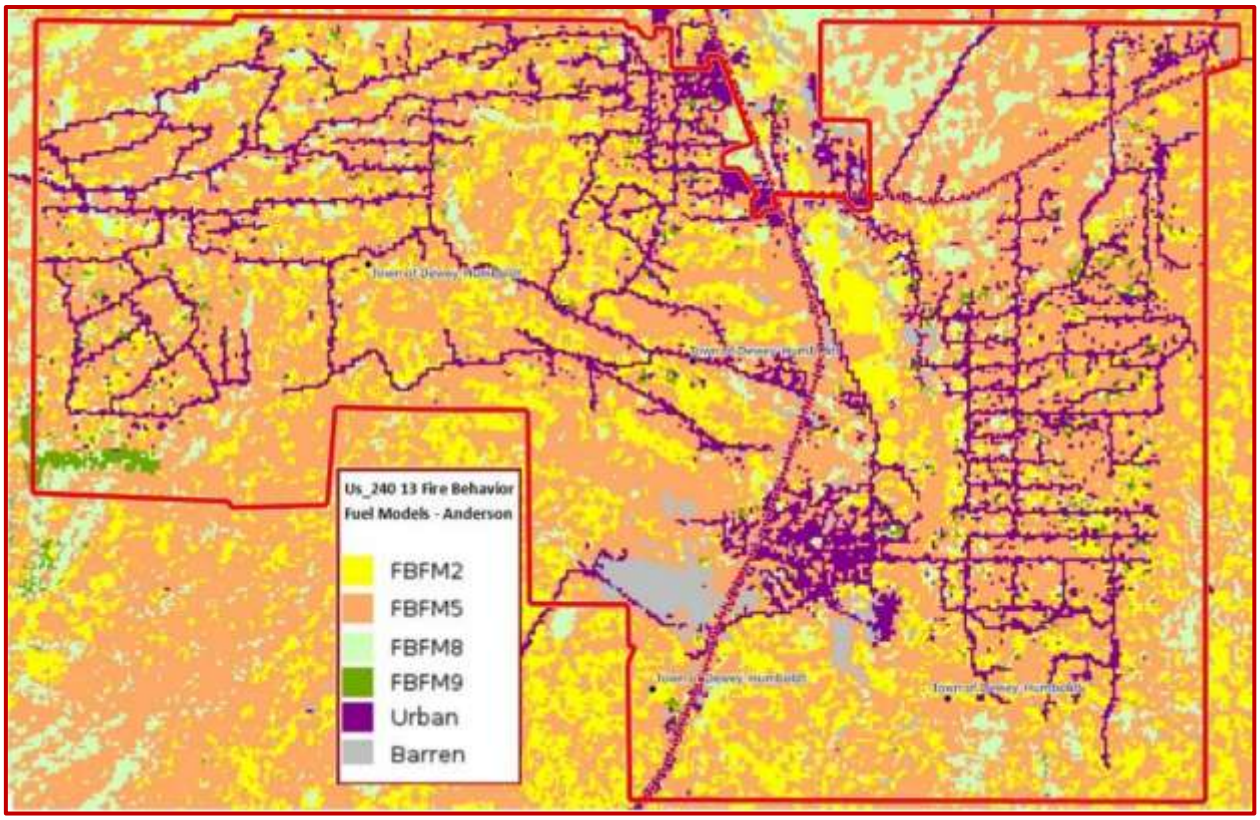


***Figure 10 - Fuel Behavior Fuel Models within Dewey-Humboldt***

Descriptions of each of those four identified FBFMs follow. These were extracted from the Interagency Fuel Treatment Decision Support System (IFTDSS) Help Center. (*https://iftdss.firenet.gov/firenetHelp/help/pageHelp/content/00-concepts/fbfm/fbfmsummaries.htm*).

| Fuel Type | Short Description | Long Description |
|---|---|---|
| FBFM 2 | Timber (grass and understory) | Fire spread is primarily through fine herbaceous fuels, either curing or dead. These are surface fires where the herbaceous material, in addition to litter and dead/down stemwood from the open shrub or timber overstory, contributes to the fire intensity. Open shrub lands and pine stands or scrub oak stands that cover one-third to two-thirds of the area may generally fit this model; such stands may include clumps of fuels that generate higher intensities and that may produce firebrands. Some pinyon-juniper may be in this model. |

| Fuel Type | Short Description | Long Description |
|---|---|---|
| FBFM 5 | Brush | Fire is generally carried in the surface fuels that are made up of litter cast by the shrubs and the grasses or forbs in the understory. The fires are generally not very intense because surface fuel loads are light, the shrubs are young with little dead material, and the foliage contains little volatile material. Usually, shrubs are short and almost totally cover the area. Young, green stands with no dead wood would qualify: laurel, vine maple, alder, or even chaparral, manzanita, or chamise. |
| FBFM8 | Closed timber litter | Slow-burning ground fires with low flame lengths are generally the case, although the fire may encounter an occasional "jackpot" or heavy fuel concentration that can flare up. Only under severe weather conditions involving high temperatures, low humidity, and high winds do the fuels pose fire hazards. Closed canopy stands of short-needle conifers or hardwoods that have leafed out support fire in the compact litter layer. Because little undergrowth is present in the stand, this layer is mainly needles, leaves, and occasionally twigs. Representative conifer types are white pine, lodgepole pine, spruce, fir, and larch. |
| FBFM 9 | Hardwood litter | Fires run through the surface litter faster than FM 8 and have longer flame heights. Both long-needle conifer stands and hardwood stands, especially the oak-hickory types, are typical. Fall fires in hardwoods are predictable, but high winds will actually cause higher rates of spread than predicted because of spotting caused by rolling and blowing leaves. Closed stands of long-needled pines, such as Ponderosa pines, Jeffrey pines, and red pines, or southern pine plantations are grouped in this model. Concentrations of dead/down woody material contribute to possible torching of trees, spotting, and crowning. |

## 10-Year Fire History for Areas Covered by the CWPP and Describe How Fires Impacted the Communities

Fire occurrences within and adjacent to the community are common. From the RMA Dashboard, Figure 11 depicts nine years of fire occurrences (from 1992-2020) along with historical fire occurances since 2011. The data suggests that a significant wildfire is in the community's future and that larger, area fires tend to travel in a northeast direction.

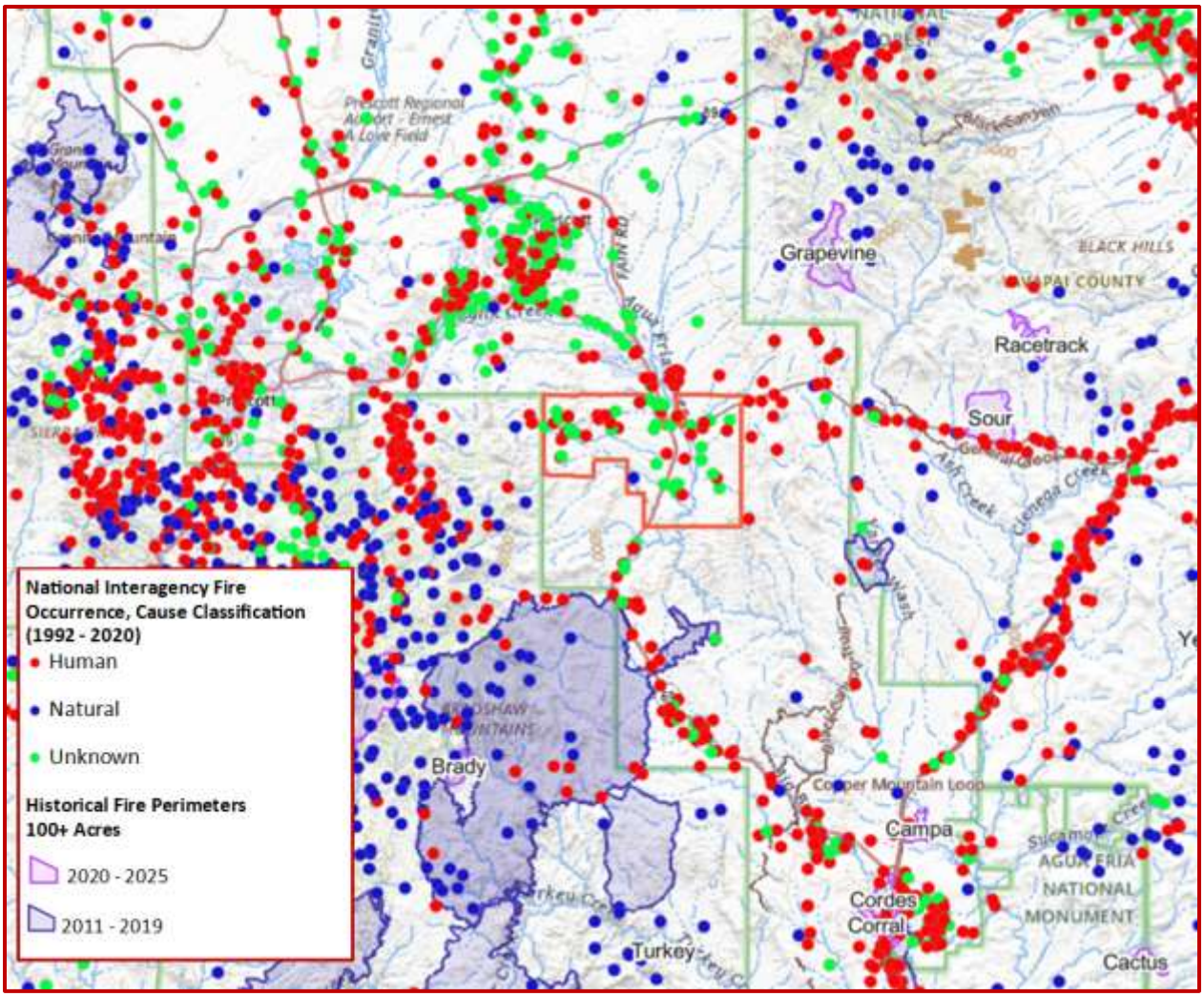


***Figure 11 - Fire Occurrences, Causes, and Perimeters***

In the past decade, the one wildfire within the CWPP area that could or should have been devastating was a 16-acre unnamed wildfire near the town center. That fire, on May 27th, 2021, was highly unusual as it happened on a bright, sunny day during which there was no wind – an anomaly in this part of Arizona. Additionally, as was conveyed by the fire district's now-retired Fire Marshall, just a few minutes away was an out-of-state hotshot crew that happened to be inbound to fill the gap for the local, deployed hotshots; plus, the local fire district Type 1 Fire Engine was on River Drive, almost at the ignition point, when they got the call; plus, a single water-dropping helicopter and crew were, for that time of the year, uncharacteristically available at Prescott airport, along with a full pond of water at the neighboring Mortimer Farms from which the water-bucket could be filled.

The Agua Fria River, adjacent to where the fire started, travels north to south through the center of what was the old town of Humboldt, the most densely populated area of Dewey-Humboldt and an area that is lined by old cottonwoods and river brush and slash that

hadn't been fire treated in anyone's memory. Without all of the unusual aids at that time, the vegetation and homes along the length of the Agua Fria River could easily have been consumed. Due to the unexpected resources readily at hand, many recognize the relatively small area burned and the lack of a much more ruinous wildfire as miraculous.

Other than the 2021 fire along the Agua Fria River, none of the old timers recall the last significant wildfire within Dewey-Humboldt, meaning the area is likely past due. The local Firewise Site has diligently been educating and assisting in creating survivable or defensible zones around receptive homes, but undeveloped lots and a hopeful belief that it won't happen here are common.

***Figure 12 - 2015-2025 Nearby Wildfires to Dewey-Humboldt 17-mile radius***

There was an eye-opening period in 2017 with the Goodwin Fire. It started south of Dewey-Humboldt, just down Arizona State Highway 69 and east of the town of Mayer. High winds fanned it in most every direction, closing the state highway and causing a state of emergency, and once it hit 18,000 acres, the Incident Commander's team held an evening community meeting to explain what could be expected. Residents returned home from that meeting sighing relief as the fire was not expected to cross the Bradshaw Mountains and reach Dewey-Humboldt. Ten hours later, the Code Red alert noted mandatory evacuations for all of Dewey-Humboldt west of Arizona State Highway 69, at the base of the Bradshaw Mountains, as the new trajectory had the fire rapidly overrunning the Blue Hills and continuing on to Prescott. Several days later, the residents were allowed home and, thanks to hard working firefighters, an unexpected wind shift, availability of all three VLATs, along with unexpected rains, the fire was finally contained at 28,529 acres and, for a while, interest in Firewise skyrocketed.

Surrounding the town, there have been persistent, significant wildfires. In the past decade, 35 greater than 1-acre, named wildfires have burned 51,871 acres. A map of those wildfires and their relationship to the Town of Dewey-Humboldt, taken from the National Interagency Fire Center's Historical Wildland Fires's Inter Agency Fire Perimeter History; All Years View (*https://data-nifc.opendata.arcgis.com/*), combined with the Wildland Fire Interagency Geospatial Services (WFIGS) Interagency Fire Perimeters, which can be found at (*https://data-nifc.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/nifc::wfigs-interagency-fire-perimeters/about*, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) All Disaster Declaration listings (*Disasters and Other Declarations | FEMA.gov*), is provided with Figure 12. Figure 13 is a list of those wildfires.

| Year | Incident Name | Miles to D-H | Source | Acres |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2015 | Copper Road | 3.0 | IAFPH | 121.1 |
| | Sa Hill | 8.5 | IAFPH | 4,336.4 |
| 2016 | Gulch 2 | 10.5 | IAFPH | 25.2 |
| 2017 | Goodwin | 2.0 | IAFPH | 28,528.6 |
| 2018 | Viewpoint | 6.7 | FEMA | 5,670.0 |
| 2019 | Brady | 12.2 | IAFPH | 14.1 |
| | Lynx | 4.1 | IAFPH | 16.4 |
| | Orne | 3.3 | IAFPH | 914.4 |
| 2020 | Cordes | 11.4 | IAFPH | 343.6 |
| | Corral | 11.8 | IAFPH | 270.5 |
| | Dry Creek | 9.0 | IAFPH | 11.1 |
| | Government | 9.7 | WFIGS | 3.9 |
| | Jack | 4.8 | WFIGS | 4.7 |
| | Misty Mountain | 7.4 | IAFPH | 1.3 |
| | Prescott Ridge | 12.2 | IAFPH | 40.8 |
| | Buck | 10.7 | IAFPH | 31.9 |
| 2021 | Pasture | 10.2 | IAFPH | 13.4 |
| | Sour | 8.0 | IAFPH | 122.9 |
| 2022 | Arcosanti | 10.9 | WFIGS | 11.3 |
| | Crooks | 8.8 | IAFPH | 9,398.7 |
| | Hood | 11.4 | IAFPH | 17.0 |
| | Mine Fire | 1.1 | WFIGS | 3.0 |
| | Mining | 1.3 | IAFPH | 2.1 |
| | Orme | 3.4 | IAFPH | 30.7 |
| | Quarter | 9.6 | IAFPH | 3.0 |
| | Water Tank | 7.2 | WFIGS | 28.9 |
| | Yankee Doodle | 13.2 | IAFPH | 7.5 |
| 2023 | Battle Flat | 11.6 | IAFPH | 11.9 |
| | Grapevine | 5.0 | IAFPH | 1,049.3 |
| | MAY-Cross | 10.5 | WFIGS | 41.0 |
| | Racetrack | 5.0 | IAFPH | 391.3 |
| 2024 | Big Bug | 4.6 | IAFPH | 1.2 |
| | Blue Bell | 12.3 | IAFPH | 38.1 |
| 2025 | Brady | 9.7 | WFIGS | 363.0 |
| | Knapp Gulch | 7.1 | WFIGS | 3.0 |
| Average Miles to D-H | | 7.9 | 10 Yr Total Acreage | 51,871.3 |

***Figure 13 - 2015-2025 Wildfires Greater than 1-Acre; 17 Miles or Less Away from Dewey-Humboldt***

Based on DFFM's ***Living with Wildfire; Homeowners' Firewise Guide for Arizona (2021)***, tall chaparral wildfires have been shown to travel at up to 8-½ miles per hour (Figure 14)**.** Realizing that a 2-hour travel time from Dewey-Humboldt's boundaries is equivalent to 17 miles (8.5 mph x 2 hours), any of those past 35 wildfires posed a significant and recognizable threat to the Town of Dewey-Humboldt. The average distance from the Town's border to these fires' outer boundaries works out to be 7.9 miles. Going with the above noted speed that a wildfire within tall chaparral can travel in one hour, that suggests that, with an unfavorable wind and a continuous chaparral fuel load, the average local wildfire within the last 10 years could be at Dewey-Humboldt's doorstep in 56 minutes. That there has not yet been a recent wildfire that either started within Dewey-Humboldt or crossed into its boundary is a fortuitous mystery.

FLAME LENGTH 47 FEET
3,600 ACRES CAN BURN IN ONE HOUR
TRAVELS AT 8 1/2 MPH

TALL CHAPARRAL: Chaparral vegetation, found from 3,000-5,500 feet, typically consists of a mix of shrub species, such as shrub live oak, mountain mahogany, manzanita, hollyleaf buckthorn, desert ceanothus, and other shrub species. Grasses and half-shrubs may also be present. Dense chaparral is especially dangerous when it is growing down slope from a house.

***Figure 14 - Examples of Tall Chaparral Fire Behavior***

The impact of that reality has created a deficiency of community concern. Regardless of how many fire experts have warned that a devastating wildfire is inevitable, an abundance of the population has decided that they will have moved on before that promise becomes a reality, and they'd rather spend their precious time dealing with other priorities. Hopefully, action by public agencies proving that they are worried enough to act and protect their property will convince the populous that there really is a need to prepare.

## COMMUNITIES/VALUES AT-RISK LIST

***Top 5 - 10 values that are at a high or moderate risk of damage from a wildfire: Provide a brief overview of preparation activities already taken, where additional resources are needed, evacuation plans for at-risk communities, where there are limited escape routes, description of values at risk for each community, and extent to which wildfire has the potential to impact these values.***

A list of values at risk is a difficult consideration for the town as nearly the entire community is somewhere between a moderate to very high likelihood of wildfire. The previously mentioned **Wildfire Risk to Communities** concludes that Dewey-Humboldt has a **Very High Risk** of wildfire – higher than 96% of communities in the US. The related community maps numbers depicting levels and areas of risk are provided in Figures 15-20.

## Wildfire Risk to Communities - Risk to Homes

Homes in Dewey-Humboldt have, on average, have a **Very High Risk** to Homes, greater risk than 98% of communities in the US. Risk to homes measures the relative consequence of wildfire to residential structures everywhere on the landscape, whether a home actually exists there or not. It poses the hypothetical question, "What would be the relative risk to a house if one existed here?" It asks that question regardless of whether a home actually exists at that location or not. Risk to homes integrates modeled data about wildfire likelihood and intensity with a generalized concept of susceptibility for homes. Risk to homes allows us to consider wildfire risk in places with homes in addition to places where new construction is proposed.

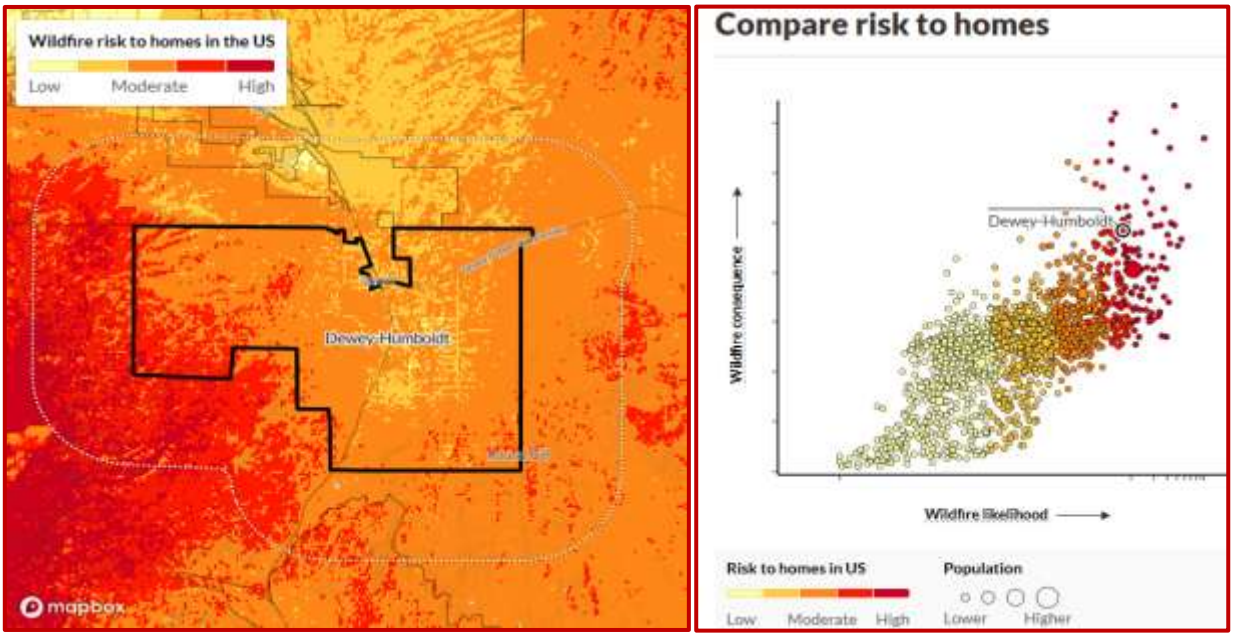


***Figure 15 - Wildfire Risk to Communities – Dewey-Humboldt Risk to Homes***

## Wildfire Risk to Communities - Risk Reduction Zones

Homes and other buildings in Dewey-Humboldt are predominantly in the Direct Exposure Zone and the Town's overall risk due to this is **Very High**. Risk Reduction Zones are the areas where mitigation activities will be most effective at protecting homes and other buildings from wildfires. Homes with minimal exposure are unlikely to be subjected to wildfire. Homes with indirect exposure may be ignited by embers or home-to-home ignition. Homes with direct exposure may be ignited by adjacent vegetation, flying embers, or nearby structures. Effective wildfire risk-reduction activities will vary depending on the zone


***Figure 16 - Wildfire Risk to Communities - Dewey-Humboldt Risk Reduction Zones Numbers***

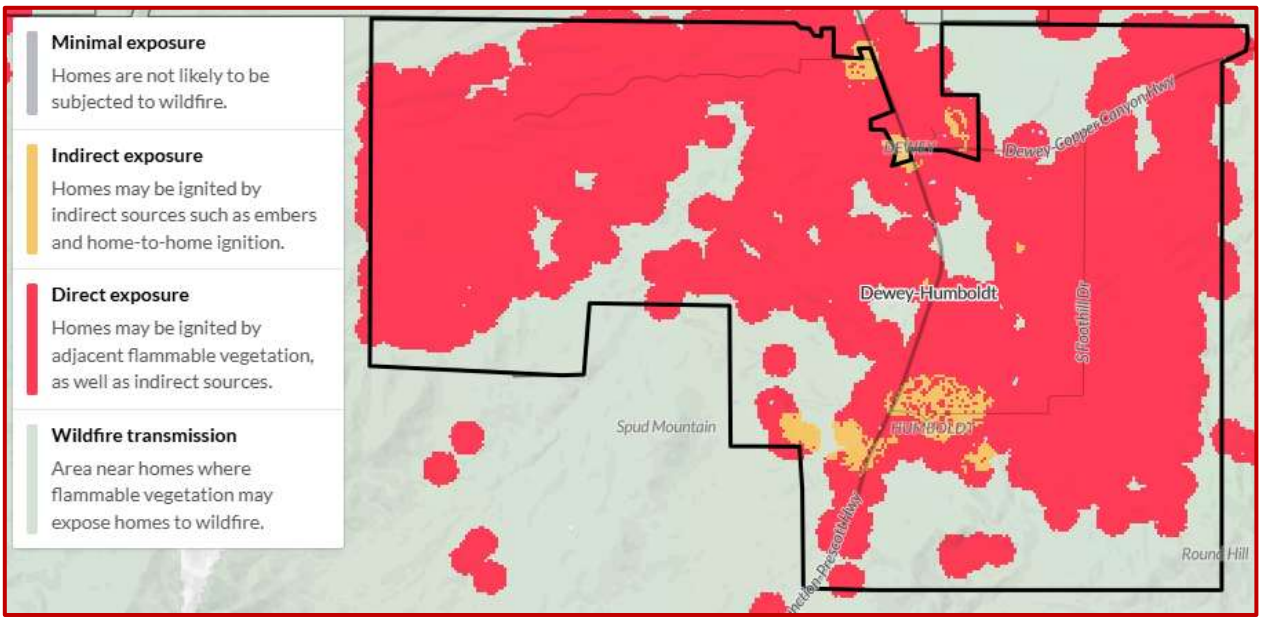


***Figure 17 - Wildfire Risk to Communities - Dewey-Humboldt Risk Reduction Zones Map***

## Wildfire Risk to Communities – Wildfire Likelihood

Dewey-Humboldt has, on average, greater wildfire likelihood than 94% of communities in the US. Wildfire likelihood is the probability of wildfire burning in any given year, and for Dewey-Humboldt, it is **Very High**. It does not say anything about the intensity of fire if it occurs. At the community level, wildfire likelihood is averaged where housing units occur.

Communities in all but the lowest wildfire likelihood classes need to be prepared for wildfire. Wildfire likelihood can be difficult to modify, but preventing ignitions and managing fuels can help.

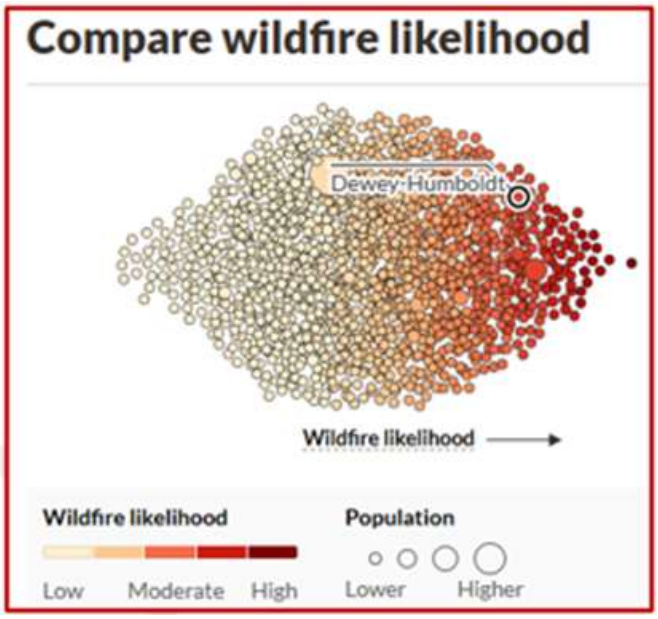


***Figure 18 - Wildfire Risk to Communities - Dewey-Humboldt Wildfire Likelihood Comparison***

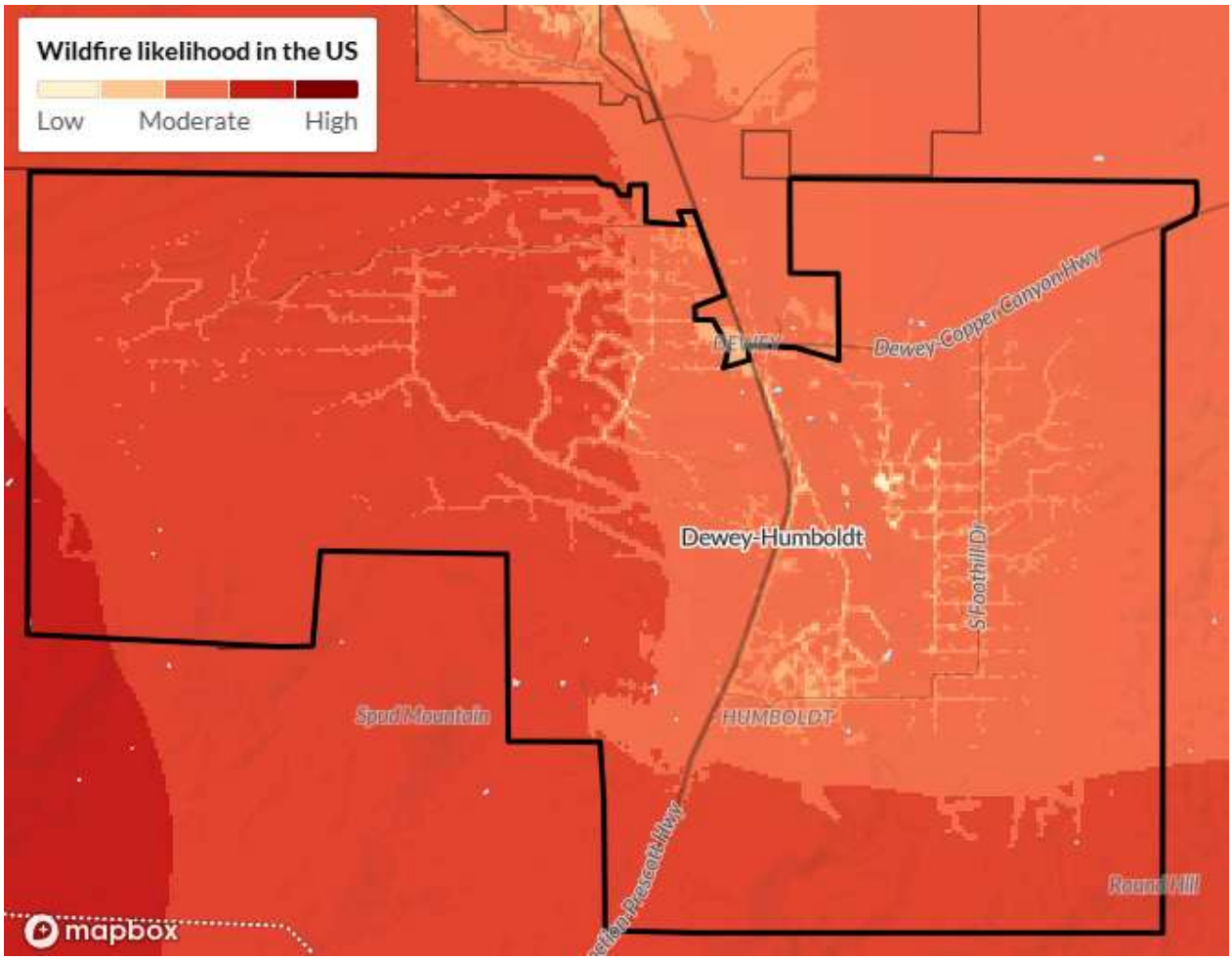


***Figure 19 - Wildfire Risk to Communities - Dewey-Humboldt Wildfire Likelihood Map***

## Wildfire risk to Communities - Vulnerable Populations

Potentially vulnerable populations, along with social and economic factors, can make it more difficult for some people to prepare for, respond to, and recover from wildfire. Vulnerable populations may lack access to resources, experience cultural and institutional barriers, have limited mobility, or have medical conditions exacerbated by stress or smoke.

For example, people over age 65 and people who are disabled are more susceptible to air pollution and particulates associated with wildfire smoke. Language barriers can make it difficult to follow directions during an evacuation or to access support after a disaster. Race and ethnicity are strongly correlated with disparities in health and access to aid and resources. Wildfires disproportionately impact people with low incomes because of factors such as inadequate housing and a diminished ability to evacuate or relocate.

### Potentially Vulnerable Populations

| Populations, 2024* | Dewey-Humboldt, AZ | United States |
|---|---|---|
| Families in poverty | "58 | 7,273,175 |
| Households with no car | "48 | 10,793,323 |
| Mobile Homes | `500 | 6,574,815 |
| People under 5 | `175 | 18,779,951 |
| People over 65 | 1,470 | 57,633,628 |
| People with disabilities | `806 | 43,869,797 |
| People with language barriers | "49 | 13,657,150 |
| **Percent of Total**** | | |
| Families in poverty | 4.5% | 8.8% |
| Households with no car | 2.9% | 8.4% |
| Mobile Homes | 29.9% | 5.1% |
| People under 5 | 3.9% | 5.6% |
| People over 65 | 32.7% | 17.2% |
| People with disabilities | 17.9% | 13.3% |
| People with language barriers | 1.1% | 4.3% |

**High Reliability**: Data with coefficients of variation (CVs) < 12% are in black to indicate that the sampling error is relatively small.
**Medium Reliability**: Data with CVs between 12 & 40% are in orange to indicate that the values should be interpreted with caution.
**Low Reliability**: Data with CVs > 40% are displayed in red to indicate that the estimate is considered very unreliable.

** Each measure on this page comes from a different subset of the overall population. For example, "poverty status" is not determined for all families. "Households with no car" is determined only for occupied households. "People with disabilities" includes only those people in civilian, noninstitutionalized settings. "Language barriers" is determined only for people five years or older.

***Figure 20 - Wildfire Risk to Communities - Dewey-Humboldt Vulnerable Populations in Numbers***

The previously mentioned Headwaters Economics' EPS report calculated that 90.9% of the community's homes are exposed to wildfire from direct sources, such as adjacent flammable material. The other 9.1% of homes are only exposed to wildfire from indirect sources, meaning embers. Zero percent of the homes were determined to not be exposed to wildfire. Their related data is provided in Figure 21.

# Wildfire Risk

## Dewey-Humboldt, AZ

## Wildfire Exposure

| | Dewey-Humboldt, AZ | United States |
|---|---|---|
| **Buildings Exposed** | | |
| Buildings directly exposed | 2,865 | 60,824,884 |
| Buildings indirectly exposed | 288 | 27,108,412 |
| Buildings minimally exposed | 0 | 58,490,985 |
| **Percent of Total** | | |
| Buildings directly exposed | 90.9% | 41.5% |
| Buildings indirectly exposed | 9.1% | 18.5% |
| Buildings minimally exposed | 0.0% | 39.9% |

**Exposure of Buildings to Wildfire**

- 91% of buildings in Dewey-Humboldt, AZ are exposed to wildfire from direct sources, such as adjacent flammable vegetation.
- 19% of buildings in the U.S. are exposed to wildfire from indirect sources, such as embers or building-to-building ignition.

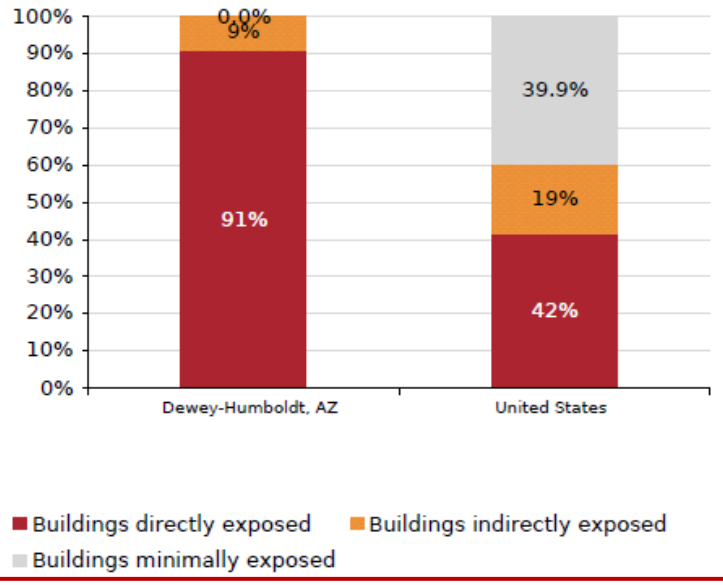


***Figure 21 - A Profile of Wildfire Risk - Dewey-Humboldt AZ by Headwaters Economics' EPS - March 26, 2026***

Similar information is available from the FEMA US Fire Administration **WUI Fire Community Awareness Explorer** (WUI Fire Community Awareness Explorer) which notes that 213 (6.6%) community structures are in the Wildland, 410 (12.7%) are in the Ignition Zone, and 2,600 (80.7%) are in the Ember Zone. Again, all structures are endangered from wildfires, each likely as precious, if not as valuable, to their owners as is any other structure in the community. Those areas are shown in Figure 22.

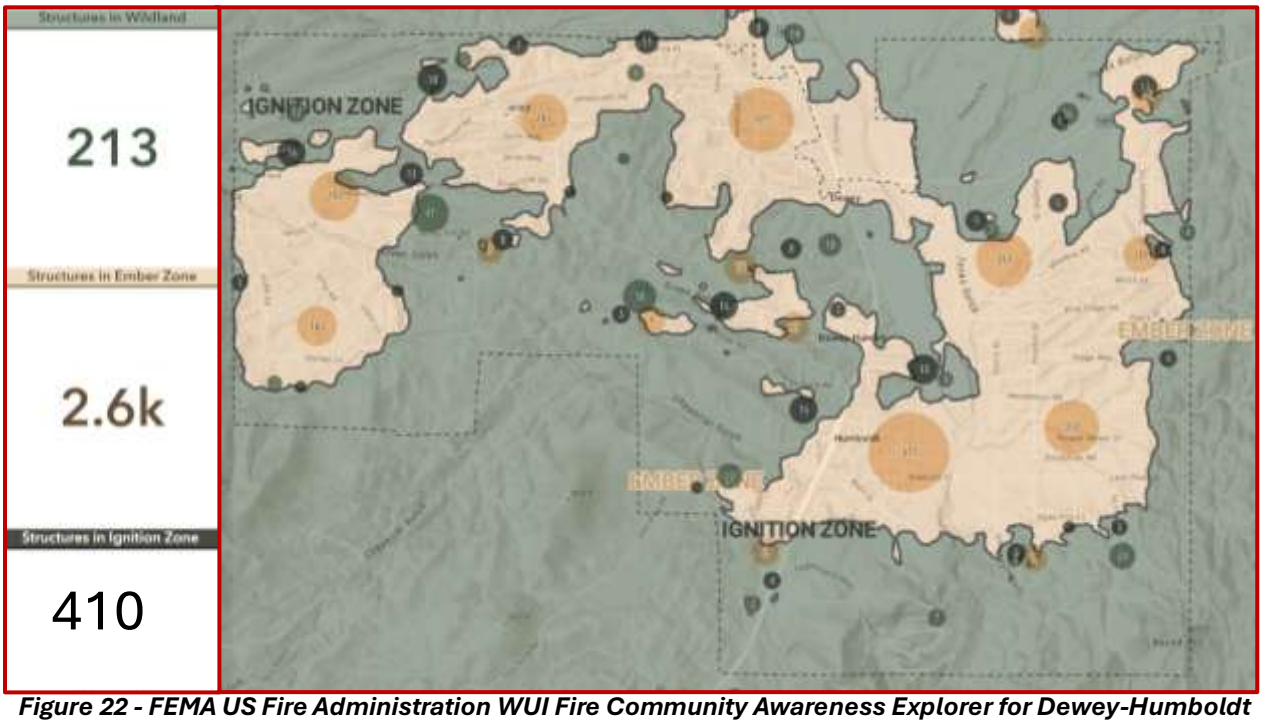


***Figure 22 - FEMA US Fire Administration WUI Fire Community Awareness Explorer for Dewey-Humboldt***

With all of the above, what follows are 10 values that are at a high or moderate risk of damage from a wildfire:

### Value 1 - Nearly Every Home Within the Community

There are very large, unbroken swaths of shrub oak based chaparral, predominantly on northern-faced ridges within the town's Upper Blue Hills, located within its western section, and at the southern and eastern borders of the Town's eastern section, with valleys in both areas heading up into the hills. These fuel-ladened areas, if ignited, will be extremely difficult to manage and may overwhelm many properties' Home Ignition Zone (HIZ).

Many property owners have done everything they can to mitigate their HIZ, short of convincing all of their neighbors to do the same. There are pockets of homes where several neighbors have combined to create a continuous HIZ; and while they may all be hardened from convection heat and ember storms, almost regardless of previous preparations, the radiant heat on a windy day from a burning structure less than 100' away could be the

death knell for most any structure. Since 2016, DHF has overseen the mitigation of 224 acres of private lands that expended $491,483.87 in grant and private funds. Educational outreach has convinced an untold number of other property owners to do it themselves by removing thousands of tons of vegetation on their property. However, we have just scratched the surface. Today, a chaparral wildfire with a strong wind behind it will likely be devastating to the community.

### Value 2 - E Newtown Ave/E Henderson Rd Thoroughfare

At last count, nearly 600 households use this single road that transitions from one name to the other for their customary ingress and egress. The number 600 is of interest as the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA®) **Code 1141; Standard for Fire Protection Infrastructure for Land Development in Suburban and Rural Areas** (2017), par 5.1.4.3, recommends that the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) assure that there are at least 2 access routes for communities with 400 households and 3 access routes for 600 or more households. Today, the roughly 3-mile length of the East Henderson Road/East Newtown Avenue thoroughfare is our fire district's only viable access to those households. In addition, except for off-road paths, it is those homeowners only evacuation route. Recognizing that, "leave early" is the oft repeated mantra of those responsible for evacuations, which is not a realistic expectation. Some will, but many won't, and the infrastructure and plan should be in place to efficiently allow all residents, along with their beloved large animals, to safely evacuate from no less than two, but preferably three egress routes.

Three additional options beyond what already exists have been identified. The first is an old, abandoned dirt road (North Destiny Drive to South Merrill Road) that travels between northwestern Dewey-Humboldt and the Prescott Valley community of Stoneridge. As an evacuation route, this road, if developed, would support emergency ingress and egress to both communities. This proposed route crosses both Prescott National Forest and Arizona State Trust lands, plus one private property, all of whom would need to approve reclaiming the road. While the roadway is still visible from satellite maps of the area, significant work would be required to recreate the roadway and install suitable drainage overpasses, particularly over Whistle Wash. Efforts have started to convinced those that it will impact to make this a reality.

The second option would take advantage of the Government Tank Borrow Pit (mine) that is scheduled to be created above the Town's northern border at its west corner. Along with the mine is planned a two-lane dirt road that will be designed for heavy equipment and truck travel from the mine to East Old Black Canyon Highway in Prescott Valley. Accessing the planned road would likely entail using the South Merrill Road access identified in the first

option, but then circling around to the east and intersecting the mine road. This 1.6-mile road segment would likely be a much easier project than the North Destiny Drive to South Merrill Road.

The third proposed route is also a dirt road that would start on South Lovin Lane and travel south until it converts to an unnamed Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) easement road that supports their 230kV transmission towers. The road continues through private, Yavapai County, State Trust, and BLM lands before it intersects to East Iron King Road, which terminates at Arizona State Highway 69. This route traverses at least two washes that would require culverts, plus it will require multiple private and public approvals and easements.

In order to provide three access options for the soon to be 600 plus households that currently rely on the E Newtown Ave/E Henderson Rd thoroughfare, and therefore come into compliance with NFPA® Code 1141, two options should be pursued, preferably traveling in opposite directions. A map showing the locations of the proposed routes is provided in Figure 34.

### Value 3 – The Agua Fria River Riparian Zone

Entering the Town's northern border just east of the Arizona State Highway 69 and 169 interchange, and fed within the town by the Texas, Green, and Chaparral Gulches, the Agua Fria River exits the Town a mile east of Arizona State Highway 69 at the Town's southern border. Its narrow riparian zone is a haven for cottonwood, mesquite, willow, and salt cedar vegetation along with all the wildlife that an unusual, above-ground perennial stream in this area can support. Passing within 2,000 feet of the Town's Main Street, the above noted 2021 fire within the river's riparian zone is ample evidence that the river and its adjoining gulches need attention.

***Figure 23 - Narrow Riparian Area Along Agua Fria River***

Slightly confounding work along the southern portion of the Agua Fria River is the US Environmental Protection Agency Superfund cleanup of the Iron King Mine and Humboldt Smelter areas. Near-term EPA operations along the river along with potential water contamination of the gulch may prevent this community mitigation effort from being completed. Currently, the EPA does not see any issues with working in and along the Agua Fria River, as long as care is taken to not disturb the slag overhangs. However, Chaparral Gulch currently contains hazardous waste, and any vegetation clearing in this area will need to await EPA's finalization of the area cleanup.

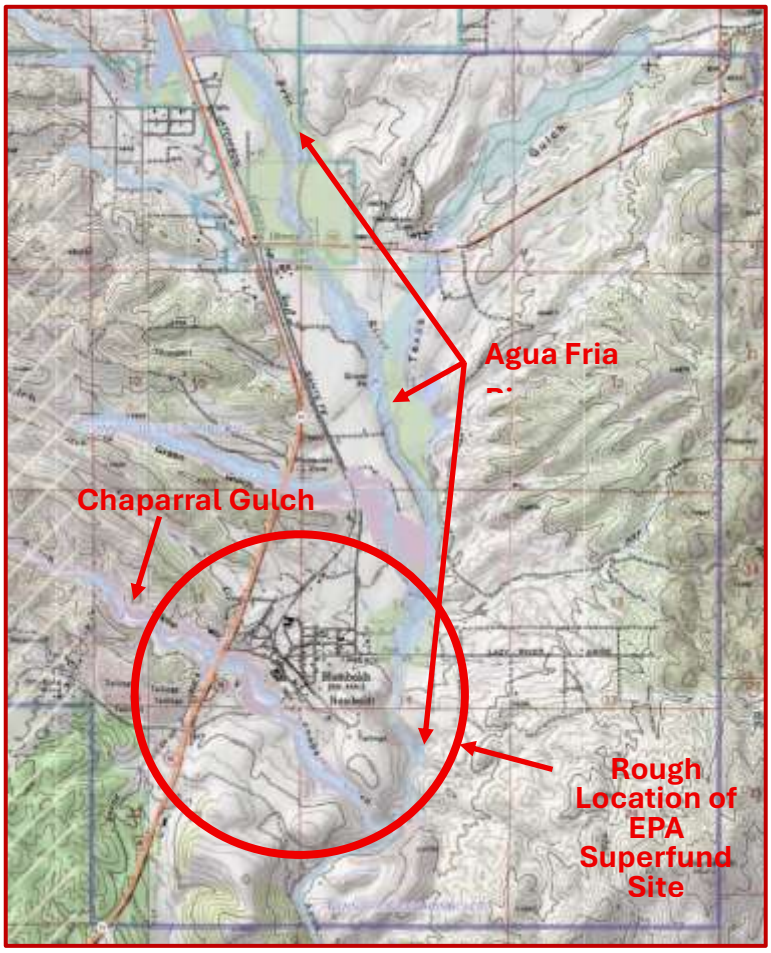


***Figure 24 - Riparian Zones in Relation to Superfund Site***

## Value 4 – The Old Town of Humboldt

Constructed over time, from the 1800s until now, the most condensed area of Dewey-Humboldt is old-town Humboldt. This is a mixture of original wood structures that somehow survived the not-infrequent town fires from the mining days, interspersed with single and double-wide, manufactured homes, to random, solidly constructed homes and businesses. This area is certainly susceptible to a wildfire's ember storm, and this portion of the community needs cognizance of the real possibility of a wind-fanned, neighborhood calamity. Understanding that, an education program for the area along with resources to assist in property HIZ mitigation efforts should be implemented to limit enhanced fire destruction.

## Value 5 – Areas of Condensed, Man-Made Fuels

Not being within a WUI is not assuredness of being safe from a wildfire, especially when large concentrations of flammable fuel are added to properties. Wildfires can certainly

start from, or unduly impact, man-made areas of flammable material. Last year's wildfires around Las Angeles certainly proved that understanding.

Adjacent and parallel to the Agua Fria River is Mortimer Miracles LLC, a farm that has been a community focal point for 85-years. Growing season, with its regular watering, is naturally fire resistant; however, every year at the end of the growing season and into the winter, not just here but throughout the world, dried stalks result in fast moving, difficult to control corn field fires. On a dry day with a bad wind, a stray spark or ember could ignite a rapidly spreading conflagration that would race at the speed of that wind. Like a grass fire on steroids, it would likely be relatively easy to curtail, as long as that could happen before the flames reached the next fuel type.

Adjacent to the Iron King Mine, Dakota Lumber LLC, RMLM LLC, and West Coast Lumber LLC all own parcels on which lumber is processed – thousands of tons of lumber. While absolutely necessary for the economy, these stacks of predominantly pine-tree fuel would become a challenge to protect and suppress in case of a wildfire.

Awareness of these hazards, and plans of mitigation to prevent fire spread to or from these man-made consolidations of fire fuel to neighboring housing or wildlands needs to be factored into the community's protection.

### Value 6 - Roadways and Driveways

Every driveway and every roadway is an evacuation route. They're also access routes for first-responders to approach their destinations. Too many within the town are lined by flammable vegetation, unsuitable for two-way traffic, and insufficiently maintained for heavy (water carrying) vehicles. An understanding of their emergency use and design requirements, along with the public and private responsibilities to maintain them, so as to not impede those fleeing and those responding, is needed within the community.

***Figure 25 - Publicly Owned, Chaparral-Lined Road***

As an uncommon number of roads within the CWPP are privately owned (see Figure 26), mitigating the risk related to this value may be a challenge. The Town will first need to assure that road standards meet both the needs for evacuation while at the same time assuring that first-responders that are moving toward the emergency are not delayed, and

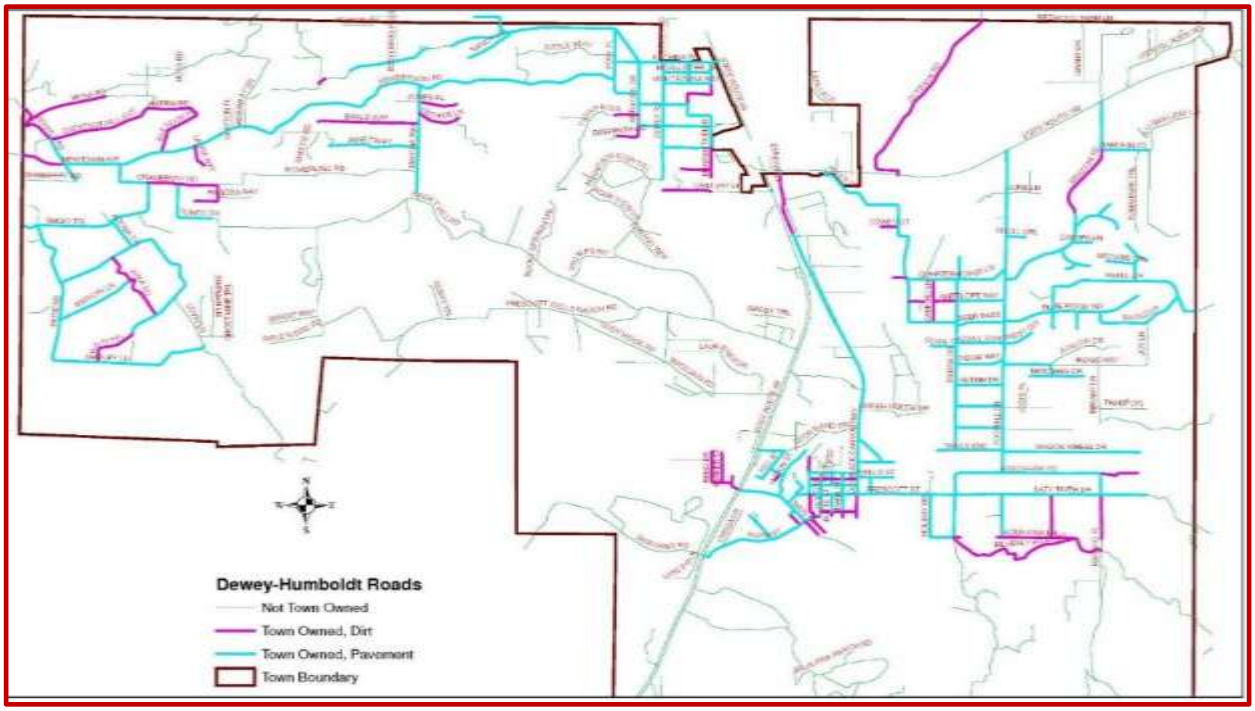


***Figure 26 – Town Roads – Public and Private***

they must be enforced. This may be made easier for all involved if a community road district is created that allows those that live on private roads to join the district that then takes on the responsibility for road design, maintenance and repair. For many residents, this will add an additional expense to their tax bill, to which they'll expectantly object; however, it may be more acceptable than requiring that each private road property owner individually maintains their own portion of a shared roadway.

## Value 7 – Utility Infrastructure

Utility infrastructure are obvious, potential hazards whose owners are very cognizant of their responsibility in designing, installing, and maintaining them in manners that are wildfire resilient.

Within the CWPP's boundaries, WAPA and El Paso Natural Gas LLC (EPNG) own installed transference utilities. WAPA's 230kV transmission line passes through the southwest corner of Dewey-Humboldt's Blue Hills Farm subdivisions, well above the natural, chaparral vegetation. The EPNG natural gas transmission pipeline also travels in a mostly north/south direction, traversing the town roughly 1 ¾ miles west of Arizona State Highway 69 and entering Prescott Valley 1.8-miles west from the same highway. EPNG has a 30-foot-wide utility easement along the path of their transmission gas line which has been treated to minimize vegetation growth, making it easily viewed using satellite imagery. Figure 27 displays the WAPA and EPNG transference paths, along with local microwave antenna locations.

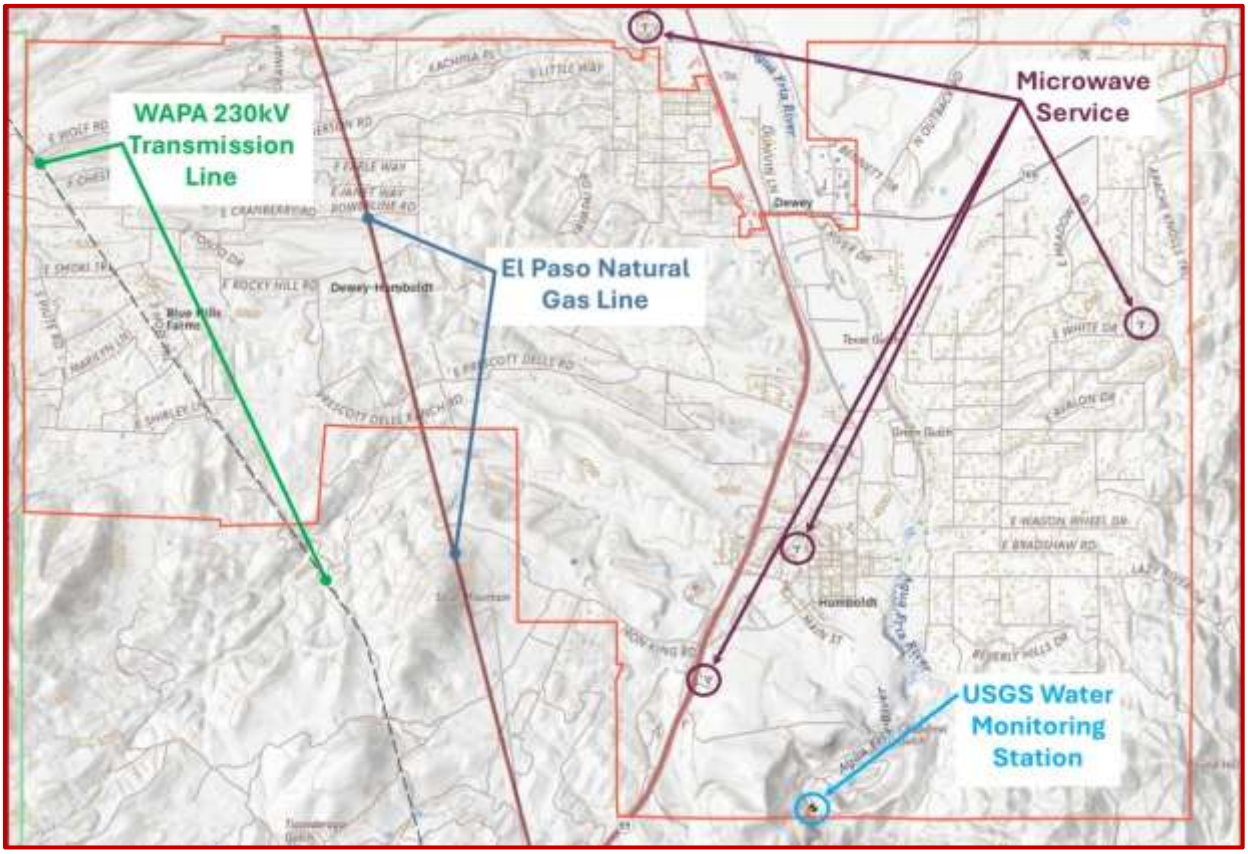


***Figure 27 - Dewey-Humboldt Utilities Map –RMA Dashboard***

Arizona Public Service Company (APS) has distribution lines within the neighborhoods and a transmission line that runs parallel to Arizona State Highway 69. Every pole and tower have criteria for wildfire prevention, survivability, and potential repair that has the potential to impact the community.

Connected to the EPNG line is gas piping owned by UniSource, a Local Distribution Company (LDC) that provides natural gas to local businesses and residents.

There is no Town owned water district; however, there are three water districts within its borders. Acme Water – Blue Hills services 65 households along with the nearby Post Office and Chevron gas station, plus a steady stream of those that transport water to their properties. Humboldt Water Company provides drinking water to 420 properties plus the Humboldt Elementary School, and Soft Winds MHP is a small community water system that provides drinking water to 52 mobile home park single family residences. None of these community water systems have a wildfire protection plan nor is their infrastructure sufficient to support wildfire battles. The locations of these water districts are depicted on the Arizona Department of Water resources (ADWR) map at Figure 28.

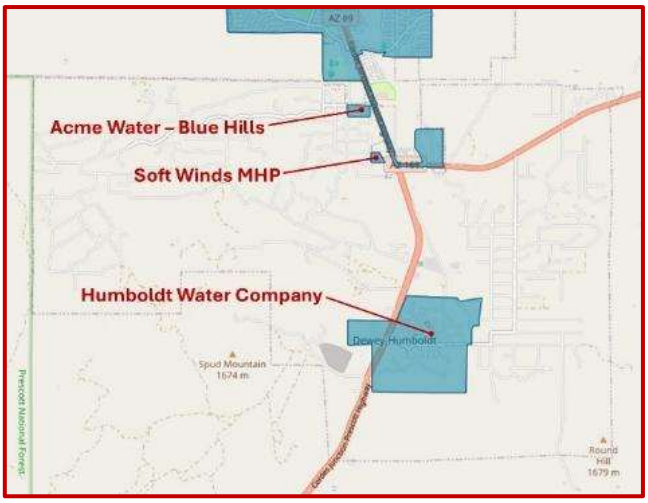


***Figure 28 - ADWR Community Water Systems Service Area Map***

CenturyLink (which merged with Quest Communications in 2011) was purchased by Lumen Technologies in 2020. They have one concrete block structure on downtown's Main Street. There is also a similar AT&T facility at the intersection of Arizona State Highway 169 and East Cielo Vista Lane.

Also in the area, there are 4 microwave service arrays shown in Figure 27. The largest (tower number 82380 which is owned by American Tower) is located at the American Legion Lodge Humboldt Post 78, just off of Arizona State Highway 69. Upon it is an array of antennas and transmitters (shown on Figure 29), along with onsite electrical power.

***Figure 29 - American Tower #82380***

And lastly, the Department of Interior's U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with the Arizona Central Arizona Project, maintains a water monitoring station at the town's southern boundary within the Agua Fria River.

Recent incidents in a neighboring state have highlighted the hazards and responsibilities for utilities, and those within our community have paid attention and instituted corrective actions. That said, little is perfect and continuous improvements based on internal and external viewpoints should be welcomed. All of these utilities will require regular inspection and maintenance to assure that they remain wildfire safe, along with acceptable roadway access to manage those responsibilities.

### Value 8 – Public Property

With 42.8% of its inner boundary, 60.5% of its outer boundary, and 18.0% of its interior being public properties, these wildlands certainly require attention and maintenance to protect the community. With a "thou shall not endanger your neighbor" philosophy, all of these lands should be managed to prevent fires from spreading both from public to private and vice versa. This will almost certainly entail strategically designed fuel breaks or vegetation managements that would limit embers, radiant heat, and direct flame transfers to adjacent properties.

### Value 9 - E Kachina Pl Thoroughfare

East Kachina Place starts at AZ State Highway 69 and heads due east. About half a mile later, it takes a 45-degree turn right and then parallels the Town's northern boundary. It has become a popular area to build one's home, and for its roughly 1.8-mile length and 99 households (as of the date of this CWPP) it is the only sensible route out for residents and the only access route in for emergency vehicles. It may be a challenge to comfortably evacuate the residents and assure that a future wildfire does not block the only exit route before everyone has a chance to leave.

### Value 10 – Continuous Fuel Management

Community survival within a WUI assumes the eventual, natural burning of wildland fuels but emphasizes intelligent reduction of fuels within vulnerable zones surrounding man-made infrastructure along with natural areas that need protection from wildland fires. The entire process of vegetative fuel elimination, transportation, and reprocessing or waste management for public and private property owners should be made as easy and economical as is possible. Government or volunteer organizations should be encouraged to directly support or provide the labor to assist in intelligent fuel management. The focused means to pulverize on-site, where it can be positioned for water retention or a soil nutrient, or biomass removal to a processing location should constantly be available. And a local facility should perpetually be available to accept and reprocess vegetative fuel as landfill matter or, even more desirably, into bio-waste that serves a purpose, such as fuel for power, compost, bio-char, or any other component that derives value from what has been removed. Simplistic means to accomplish all three stages of processing the strategically managed WUI fuels will certainly entice property owners to actively participate in managing the planned survival of that which they manage. Partners and processes will need to be coordinated to enact and continually improve this work as part and parcel of existence within a WUI.

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

***Wildfire response resources that are already in place. Provide a high-level overview of resources available to local governments in case of a wildfire.***

## Protection Capabilities & Infrastructure Protection

### *Fire Protection District Capabilities*

#### *Average Response Times*

#### *BLM*

In January, 2026, the Phoenix BLM fire mitigation task was transferred to the Department of Interior's U.S. Wildland Fire Service. That entity now manages wildfire issues across the Bureau of Indian Affairs, BLM, National Park Service, Office of Aviation Services, Office of Wildland Fire, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The U.S. Wildland Fire Service works to reduce wildfire risk through proactive fuels management; create fire-resilient landscapes; advance wildland fire science and technology; promote fire-adapted communities; and respond to wildfires in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and our tribal, state and local partners. For the Dewey-Humboldt community, this change only affects BLM lands.

Fire protection capabilities, around communities at risk, focus on rapid wildland fire response, strong interagency coordination, and proactive fuel reduction to reduce the threat to lives, property, and critical infrastructure. These capabilities are strengthened through partnerships with local fire districts, shared resources, and preparedness efforts in the WUI.

Response times for wildland fires can vary daily and even hourly due to factors such as fire location, resource availability, weather conditions, and concurrent incidents. For example, it may take approximately 90 minutes for a Phoenix resource to get to Dewey-Humboldt. However, once a wildland fire is reported, Duty Officers coordinate closely with dispatch to ensure the closest and most appropriate available resources are assigned if available. Established mutual aid agreements allow agencies to work together so that the nearest available wildland resources respond, particularly to incidents occurring outside the Phoenix area.

#### *CAFMA*

Response times for CAFMA vary depending on staffing levels, seasonal conditions, and the location of the incident. For structure fire and medical responses, the most recent response time statistics note that for urban areas, the engine arrived in under 6 minutes

and, for rural areas, the time was just over 9 minutes (*https://www.cazfire.gov/DocumentCenter/View/925/Statistical-Summary-4th-Quarter-2025*).

### *DFFM*

Response times to incidents will vary depending upon availability of resources in any time of year. District 5, where Dewey-Humboldt is located, is centered in the town of Prescott just a short distance away. With that being the case resources can be onsite for a wild fire under an hour. Additionally, resources from Phoenix and Flagstaff have the ability to respond to wildfires in and around that area within 3 to 4 hours. DFFM also has agreements with local/national aviation services so that aircraft can be onsite if needed within 1 hour.

### *PNF*

Response times can vary depending on seasonality, day of the week, time of day and resource availability. The Prescott National Forest (PNF) has a National Interagency Hotshot Crew (Prescott Hotshots), a seasonal Helitack Crew (Prescott Helitack), a seasonal Airtanker base, and two zones which staff fire resources year-round (West Zone & East Zone). The East Zone of the Forest maintains a station at Camp Verde. The Camp Verde Station is equipped with Type 3 and Type 6 engines, as well as two Prevention and Patrol units. The East Zone typically services the Verde Valley but their response area extends across Highway 169 to Hwy 69. The West Zone of the PNF has two Type 3 engines, one type 6 engine, one ten-person suppression module, three Prevention/patrols as well as a Division Chief and three Battalion Chiefs. The West Zone would primarily respond to fires on the PNF that border the Dewey-Humboldt boundary.

Staffing by the West Zone is generally minimal on the engines outside of the primary wildfire season which runs from late March through October**.** Hours are typical business hours Monday-Friday with on call staffing during the weekends. During wildfire season, the engines and suppression module are fully staffed with a permanent and seasonal workforce and extends staffing across all 7-days and extended daily staffing as much as 12 hours per day with 24 hour on-call staffing. Additionally, during wildfire season, the West Zone brings in out-of-area engines and crew to help supplement staffing and increase response times and resource availability.

## *Inventory of Fire Protection Resources*

### *Equipment and Personnel*

### *BLM*

Phoenix U.S. Wildland Fire Service fire resources vary by location and level of wildfire risk. Areas with frequent fires or communities in the WUI have more engines, crews,

and aviation support, while lower-risk areas rely on fewer resources and shared interagency response.

The Phoenix District typically staffs three Type 6 engines and one Type 3 helicopter (120-day contract), supported by assigned crew members and overhead personnel.

### *CAFMA*

Within thirteen stations, CAFMA maintains the following resources:

***For Wildland Fire Response Levels***

Level 1 Wildland Response (Low to Moderate Fire Danger)

- Battalion Chief (1)
- Brush Truck (1)
- Fire Engine (2)
- Water Tender (1)

Level 2 Wildland Response (High and Above Fire Danger)

- Battalion Chief (1)
- Brush Trucks (2)
- Fire Engines (4)
- Water Tenders (2)

| Station | Primary Equipment | Minimum Staffing | Additional Apparatus |
|---|---|---|---|
| 50 | Engine 50 | 3 | Truck 50, UTV 50 |
| 51 | Engine 51 | 3 | Water Tender 51 |
| 52 | WT 52 | Unstaffed | |
| 53 | Engine 53 | 3 | Water Tender 53, Brush 53, Utility 53, |
| | Battalion 3 | 1 | |
| CARTA* | Engine 540 | 3 (40 Hour Engine) | Engine 55 |
| 54 | Engine 54 | 3 | Water Tender 54, Brush 54 |
| 56 | WT 56 | Unstaffed | |
| 57 | Engine 57 | 3 | Water Tender 57, Brush 57 |
| 58 | Engine 58 | 3 | Support 58, Rescue 58 |
| 59 | Engine 59 | 3 | Water Tender 59, Brush 59 |
| 61 | Engine 61 | 3 | Water Tender 61, Brush 61, UTV 61 |
| | Battalion 6 | 1 | |
| 62 | Engine 62 | 3 | Water Tender 62, Brush 62, Rescue 62 |
| 63 | Engine 63 | 3 | Water Tender 63, Brush 63 |

** Central Arizona Regional Training Academy*

***Figure 30 - CAFMA Station Equipment and Staffing***

### DFFM

The Town of Dewey-Humboldt is located in District 5 for DFFM. Within this district there are four engines (three type-6 engines and 1 type-3 engine) that can quickly (<1 hour response time) respond to emergencies. The district also has two type-2 hand crews that can also be quickly called upon to assist in emergencies. DFFM also hosts multiple engines and crews across the state that can respond in a reasonable time depending on severity.

### PNF

- Prescott Fire Center – Prescott Hotshots, Prescott Helitack, Air Tanker base (Seasonal April-Sept)
- Verde Ranger District, Camp Verde, AZ – Type 3 Engine - Engine 351, Type 6 Engine – Engine 652, Patrol- 951
- CAFMA Station 54, Dewey, AZ – Prescott NF Type 6 Engine 633
- Prescott Fire Dept Station 71, Prescott, AZ – Prescott NF - Type 3 Engine 330
- Willow Work Center, Williamson Valley – Prescott NF - Type 3 Engine 331
- Chino Valley RD, Chino Valley, AZ – Prescott NF – Crew 2
- Bradshaw Ranger District, Prescott, AZ – Patrols 931,932,933

## Plans Within the CWPP Area that are In Place to Mitigate Wildfire Damage

### BLM

Phoenix U.S. Wildland Fire Service uses fire mitigation measures to reduce risk and severity of wildfires and protect communities and natural resources. These include fuel reduction projects, fire restrictions, public education, and coordination with local fire agencies to prevent fire damage before fires start.

### CAFMA

At this time, CAFMA does not conduct fuels mitigation projects. However, the agency provides home wildfire risk inspections and is actively developing a CWPP for its entire district.

### DFFM

DFFM has a number of hazard mitigation plans in place in case of a wild fire. These include the Forest Action Plan, District 5 Fire Response Plan, and the Yavapai CWPP, to name a few.

### PNF

The Prescott National Forest has been proactive in hazardous fuels mitigations along the forest boundary within the Dewey Humboldt CWPP. Fuels management strategies have

included mechanical thinning treatments which includes the 2,300-acre Blue Hills mastication project as well as a masticated fuels break along the PNF/Blue Hills Boundary. In the fall of 2025, the 300-acre Blue Hills prescribed fire project strengthened the boundary between Blue Hills and PNF land. Future RX projects within the initial 2,300-acre mastication project will continue over the next 5 years. Forest patrolling also occurs in the area along with fire restrictions and participation in Firewise events with Dewey-Humboldt.

#### *Town Of Dewey-Humboldt*

The Town of Dewey-Humboldt has adopted the Yavapai County 2023 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, within which it notes that, for wildfire mitigations, the town has promoted the Community Firewise Program to enhance defensible space and worked with stakeholders in hazardous fuels mitigation. Within the Town, residents have worked to effectively mitigate the propagation of wildland fire through Firewise mitigation, strategies. Emphasis currently is those properties on the west and southwest side of Town.

### *Local Utility Companies' Plans and Processes*

#### *American Tower*

American Tower is a global provider of digital communications infrastructure. Their tower number 82380 is located at the American Legion property on East Legionnaire Way, at the southern border of the town and just east of State Highway 69. No input was received dealing with its wildfire mitigation plans.

#### *Arizona Public Service*

APS plays a critical role in reducing wildfire risk through a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program. This program includes regular inspection, maintenance, and upgrading of transmission and distribution infrastructure to minimize ignition sources, such as replacing aging equipment, and strengthening poles and crossarms. APS conducts vegetation management along power line corridors and distribution poles by trimming or removing trees and other fuels that could contact energized lines, especially during high wind events. Advanced weather monitoring, fire risk modeling, and real-time system monitoring are used to inform operational decisions, including implementation of Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) during extreme fire weather conditions to reduce the risk of equipment-related ignitions. In addition, APS coordinates with local fire agencies and emergency management partners to share information, support response efforts, and participate in community outreach to improve preparedness and resilience.

### AT&T

AT&T has a robust disaster recovery program. They note that, "With one of the largest and most advanced disaster recovery programs in the world, we run toward danger and disaster, turning emergency response minutes into seconds. We believe in the power of grit and determination, a spirit of service, and the ability to make a better world through technology". Their "Network Disaster Recovery (NDR) program is one of the largest in the industry. Its sole purpose – to rapidly restore connectivity to areas affected by disasters. At AT&T, we pride ourselves in rapid restoration of communications for consumers and businesses, and public safety on FirstNet®, in areas affected by disasters, emergencies and disruptive events. We conduct exercises each year that are vital to testing our equipment, process, and state-of-the-art technology. We monitor and maintain our network 24/7 and conduct several readiness drills throughout the year to help ensure we are prepared to respond quickly." Regarding this specific CWPP, no response was received.

### El Paso Natural Gas

The Lonesome Valley's primary natural gas transmission line is owned by EPNG, a Kinder Morgan company, and traverses from their North Mainline, which parallels US Interstate 40, to the Phoenix Valley. Just over 2 miles of that pipeline is buried in the Town's Upper Blue Hills. Satellite imagery easily depicts its location as their 30-foot easement path has been treated to minimize vegetation growth, as is shown in Figure 21.

From their Pipeline Safety Info brochure (https://www.pipelinesafetyinfo.com/user/file/Arizona/El%20Paso%20Natural%20Gas.pdf), "The El Paso Pipeline Group invests substantial human and financial resources in efforts to ensure the integrity of its natural gas pipelines. We feel the best emergency response system begins with prevention and continuous monitoring. However, in the event of an emergency, we work closely with emergency response personnel to implement well-defined and extensively tested response plans. The response plans are designed to prepare our employees and local emergency response personnel to handle emergency situations involving our facilities and to protect the public.

El Paso uses the Incident Command system (ICS) for the organization and coordination of activities in response to system operating emergencies. The use of ICS provides common terminology, organizational structure and duties, and operational procedures among El Paso personnel, various federal, state, and local regulatory agencies and response contractors who may be involved with emergency response operations". Regarding this specific CWPP, no response was received.

### *LUMEN (CENTURYLINK)*

In 2020, CenturyLink rebranded its enterprise business to Lumen Technologies to focus on the "4th Industrial Revolution," emphasizing fiber-rich networks and edge computing. Lumen is the parent organization which serves business clients, while the CenturyLink brand continues to be used for residential and small business internet services. They own one property with an infrastructure building on the Town's Main Street.

Their Business Continuity Overview plan was last updated in January, 2026. Within it, they note that Lumen is committed to business resiliency and survivability during an incident or business disruption. Lumen's Corporate Business Continuity Management (BCM) Program supports an environment of prevention, collaboration, communication, response, and recovery… in the face of disruptive events. The Incident Management process and Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery Plans provide procedures for maintaining continuity of Operations and are implemented to effectively respond to and recover from Lumen-wide Operational Disruptions. To test viability and develop a state of readiness, Lumen requires Crucial Plans be updated and exercised annually.

Lumen defines an Incident as a man-made or naturally occurring Disruptive Event where the Impacts affecting its Employees, Assets, or Crucial Business Operations meet predefined activation triggers. Activation triggers would include but are not limited to: life threatening situations (severe weather, natural disasters, pandemic/epidemic, workplace violence), extended outages, or security breaches for top Critical Systems or Applications, or extended evacuations due to building infrastructure failures or environmental emergencies.

Lumen Incident Management Teams (IMTs) are operational 24/7 and convene virtually when any Member becomes aware of an actual or impending situation within their support area. Incident Commanders are engaged to determine if the Incident has met an activation trigger or threshold. If the situation warrants, the Incident Commanders coordinate the activation of the Team and the necessary notifications. The IMT(s) reconvene at agreed-upon time intervals to provide status updates on their Team's tactical recovery and any resources or logistics requirements. Incident Status Reports are updated and distributed after each meeting and disseminated appropriately to Top Management, Functional Groups, and other Interested Pares. A Post-Incident Review incorporating lessons learned and after-action items from all Activated Teams are created to track Action Items to closure.

### *UNISOURCE*

UniSource, a Local Distribution Company (LDC), is the Town's source for residential and business natural gas, primarily for those properties in close proximity to Arizona State Highway 69 and 169. Supplied by the transmission gas line owned by El Paso Gas Company, LLC (EPGC), the company is regulated by **Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 49, Part 192 Transportation of Natural and Other Gas by Pipeline: Minimum Federal Safety Standards**. The gas infrastructure has five sectionalizing valves, plus an emergency valve at the point of custody that gives UniSource the capability to shut gas off to all or a portion of Dewey-Humboldt customers. The sectionalizing and emergency valves can all be managed remotely and the local fire district does not have access to those valves. All underground pipes are regularly inspected with specialized equipment to assure there are no underground leaks. For properties beyond the UniSource service area, which is the majority of the Town's area, those that use gas appliances are reliant on propane tanks filled by local distributors.

UniSource has a "**Wildfires Emergency Response**" document. It follows:

> *"When responding to a report of a major fire, the primary consideration shall be safety to customers, the public and employees. Personnel required to respond to this type of call shall be thoroughly trained in our emergency procedures to be followed in controlling the incident.*
>
> *The following actions and procedures shall be considered:*
>
> *a) As soon as possible upon arrival, contact shall be established with fire and police personnel on the scene. If Company personnel precede fire and police arrival, they shall verify with the company dispatcher that proper notice has been given to these agencies.*
>
> *b) It must be determined as soon as possible if gas is directly involved in the fire. If gas is not involved but is in close proximity, action shall be taken to ensure the protection of the public and the affected facilities.*
>
> *c) If gas is involved and the presence is such that there is immediate danger to public and property, the area shall be evacuated. Fire/ Police Department assistance shall be requested in evacuation efforts, if needed. If gas service to the affected properties has not been discontinued, action shall be taken to discontinue service. If it is necessary to stop the flow of gas through a main line, gas control valves will be utilized.*
>
> *Emergency Control Valves or Sectionalizing Valves:*

*When necessary to stop the flow of gas to any affected area our trained company personnel will close emergency control valves or sectionalizing valves serving the area in danger."*

### *Western Area Power Administration*

In January and February of 2026, WAPA completed a project on their 230 kV line in the area. All 90 structures, beginning adjacent to the Green Gulch Trailhead and ending almost 22 miles south, where their line crosses I-17 near Bumble Bee now has a cleared pad, 100x100 feet, with all woody vegetation (and residual fuels) removed and regrowth suppressed with stump-applied herbicide.


***Figure 31 - WAPA Vegetation Clearence at Tower Base - Typical***

## *Local Wildland Fire Management Policies*

### *Full Suppression, Partial Suppression, etc.*

### *BLM*

Phoenix U.S. Wildland Fire Service uses both full suppression and fire management, depending on conditions and objectives. Fires that threaten life, communities, infrastructure, or critical resources are managed with full suppression. In other situations, where risk is low and conditions are favorable, BLM may manage fires to achieve resource benefits, such as reducing fuels and improving ecosystem health, while still closely monitoring fire behavior and weather.

### *CAFMA*

CAFMA follows a full suppression strategy for wildland fire incidents.

### *DFFM*

Within the WUI boundary, DFFM will use full suppression tactics to manage wild fire. However, in certain situations there may be an opportunity to use the different methods depending on the values at risk and what the overall strategy is at that point in time.

### *PNF*

The Prescott National Forest employs two wildfire suppression strategies.

- **Direct Extinguishment Strategy** – Firefighters engage the active flame front directly to stop fire spread.

- **Indirect Confinement Strategy** – Firefighters work away from the active flame front to steer or contain the fire.

### *Mutual Aid Agreements*

#### *BLM*

Phoenix U.S. Wildland Fire Service has absorbed all of the mutual aid agreements (MUAs) previously held by the Phoenix BLM wildfire mitigation office which, for the Dewey-Humboldt community, includes all local fire districts plus, through its unification of other national wildland fire management offices, the expanded list of MUAs held by those other organizations.

#### *CAFMA*

CAFMA maintains mutual aid and automatic aid agreements with multiple partner agencies to support coordinated emergency response across jurisdictional boundaries.

#### *DFFM*

DFFM has mutual aid agreements with 95% if the fire districts and municipalities within the State of Arizona.

#### *PNF*

The Prescott NF has mutual aid agreements with local cooperating fire districts and agencies. The PNF will actively respond to wildfires on Prescott NF land adjacent to the boundary with Blue Hills as well as respond to wildfires from within the Blue Hills subdivision that threaten Prescott NF land. At the request of Arizona DFFM or CAFMA, the Prescott NF will provide agency assistance to wildfires within their jurisdiction as part of our local mutual aid agreements.

## *Evacuation Information*

### *Telephone trees, emergency contacts, address identification, community information database.*

Communities throughout Yavapai County utilize a variety of emergency notification systems to alert residents and maintain communication with responders during emergencies. These systems allow agencies to issue emergency and warning messages to the entire County or to specific geographic areas or populations using voice calls, text messages, emails, social media, and traditional media.

Yavapai County and its incorporated partners, including the Town of Dewey-Humboldt, utilize evacuation zones to support clear, consistent evacuation messaging. The **Genasys Protect** divides the entire county into evacuation zones with unique identifiers. The Town is divided into ten Zone IDs, shown in Figure 32. The Genasys Protect website (https://protect.genasys.com) will use a specific address and identify all residents within that ID and note the area's current status. During an emergency, officials may issue evacuation notices by zone, allowing residents to quickly determine whether they are subject to evacuation orders, warnings, or advisories and improving clarity, accuracy, and public understanding. The utilization of Genasys Protect allows residents to see the area of impact, roadblocks, shelter locations and maintain situational awareness.

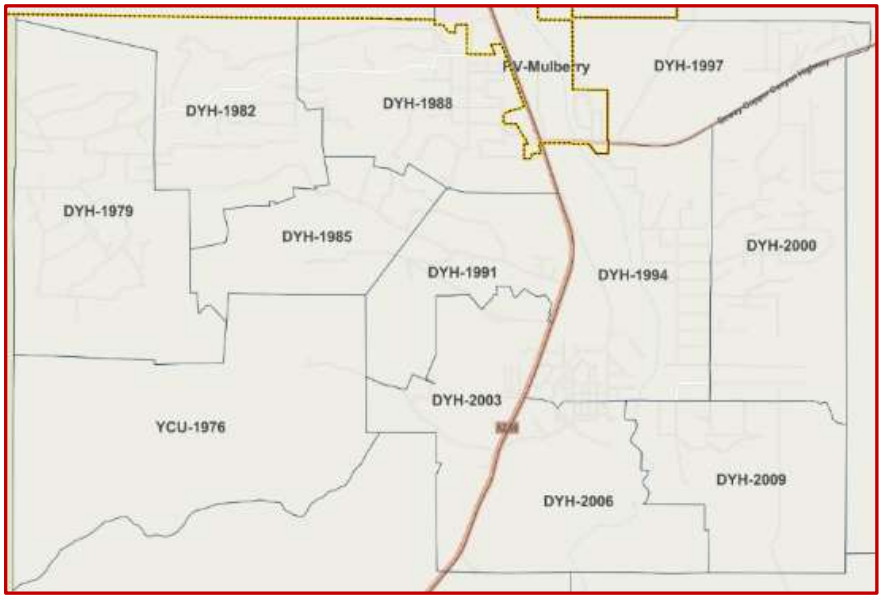


***Figure 32 - Genasys Protect Zone IDs for Dewey-Humboldt***

Both Yavapai County and the Prescott Regional Communications Center (dispatch center for Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority) utilize RAVE by Motorola, commonly referred to as Smart911. These systems generally require voluntary public registration, and residents may register for more than one notification system concurrently depending on jurisdiction.

The Ready, Set, Go! program is a web and application based, nationwide initiative that Yavapai County has adopted alongside the other 14 Arizona Sheriffs to educate the public on proactive emergency measures and critical response actions. This system is primarily used to communicate via phone (landline or cell) and/or text, evacuation levels to the community, with the understanding that residents should always remain in the Ready status by staying prepared for potential local threats. As a situation escalates, residents move to Set, which requires high situational awareness of significant danger, and finally to Go, which dictates an immediate evacuation due to current, life-threatening conditions. While this framework is essential for evacuations, it is not the only messaging used during emergencies. Officials may also issue specific alerts such as Shelter-in-Place, Avoid the Area, or instructions on how to Return once the environment is deemed safe.

The Yavapai County Office of Emergency Management (YCOEM) and the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office (YCSO) have the authority and capability to issue alerts using the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). IPAWS is FEMA's national public alerting system that provides authenticated, life-saving information to the public through Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) on mobile phones, the Emergency Alert System (EAS) via radio and television, and NOAA Weather Radio. IPAWS does not require any registration by the public.

Other agencies with IPAWS activation authority in Yavapai County include the National Weather Service and the Arizona Department of Emergency Management, depending on the nature of the incident.

Yavapai County Community Health Services maintains a confidential Functional Needs Registry for residents who voluntarily identify as requiring additional assistance during evacuations. For the purposes of this CWPP, functional needs individuals may include persons who are elderly, disabled, injured, without reliable transportation, or otherwise unable to evacuate independently. Information collected is confidential and is shared only during emergencies. The Functional Needs Registry is available through Smart911, with legacy systems currently being phased out.

When a wildfire starts, YCSO deputies are often among the first law enforcement responders on scene to assess public safety issues, secure roads, and work with fire suppression agencies to protect life and property. A specialized unit within YCSO is the Forest Patrol Unit. Forest Patrol helps respond to emergencies on remote public lands, including wildfire, flood incidents, and coordinates search and rescue operations when needed. Wildfire evacuations fall under search and rescue operations.

YCSO is responsible for declaring and managing evacuation zones when a wildfire threatens populated areas. YCSO uses Genasys to identify which zone is being impacted

and communicate Ready, Set, Go statuses through public notification systems. Currently, YCSO is partnering with Rave notification and integrate with Yavapai County Emergency Management, fire agencies, and medical agencies while operating within the Incident Command System (ICS). In the event of an evacuation, YCSO also conducts door to door notifications to ensure those who do not receive public notifications are made aware.

YCSO is responsible for road closures, evacuation routes, and securing perimeters around fire scenes so that firefighters can work safely and residents can avoid danger. Once an evacuation is ordered, YCSO enforces the evacuation orders and provides emergency instructions to ensure public safety and minimize interference with firefighting activities. Throughout the incident, YCSO will remain integrated with all on-scene resources until it is determined that YCSO is no longer needed.

Once an evacuated area is determined to no longer be threatened, YCSO is responsible for public reentry, notifications and coordinating the reentry process. This is accomplished through the same public notification system as well as social media platforms. Upon initial reentry YCSO will continue to man roadblocks only allowing residents back in the evacuated area to minimize excessive traffic.

Before, during, and after evacuations, some or all of the all-volunteer, nonprofit, Yavapai Sheriff Auxiliary Force organizations (Verde Search & Rescue (SAR), the Yavapai County Search & Rescue Team, Yavapai County Jeep Posse, and the Volunteers in Protection ("VIPs")) can be called upon to directly augment Deputies' responsibilities.

### *Education and Training Resources in Place for Fire Awareness*

Dewey-Humboldt Firewise (DHF) has been focused on educating the community's residents and town's leadership about wildfire and home fire safety since its inception in 2016. Early on, they went door-to-door with brochures, discussions, and cookies. That expanded to email lists, a comprehensive website, and social media. Weekly and then quarterly community meetings were coordinated, with invites to professionals in the fields to provide their insights. And in 2020, the "Don't get Burned Event" was created, during which every agency in the area that's involved in home and wildfire responses, along with businesses and public agencies involved in preparation and response operations are gathered in one place to directly interact with the populous. For that event, every school in the county, plus homes that home-school students, are provided a teachers' lesson plan to educate students about home and wildfire safety, and then the students draw a sheet of art depicting their new knowledge. Twelve of those hundreds of submittals were converted into a book, but now are converted into a calendar, with the winners and their teachers

receiving cash and prices for their masterpieces. With this, DHF is not only reaching the parents, but also the parents of the future.

Training for property HIZ evaluations continues to be offered yearly from the Arizona DFFM. All DHF members are encouraged to attend these classes along with refresher classes in order to stay current with updated knowledge. Other training for home fire safety, evacuation preparedness, WUI property management, structure hardening for wildfire survivability, and Firewise landscaping are all periodically provided through Firewise and County education meetings throughout each year.

Recognizing the reasonable chance of a wildfire disaster, all public entities are persistent in their efforts to educate the community regarding fire awareness. Through community meetings, public fairs, and other gatherings, mailings, public service announcements, and social media, the public is offered a steady stream of knowledge and available resources. However, like in many communities, what may be missing is evidence that the warnings are not just hypothetical, and that they deserve residents' attention and action. It's a fine balancing act between unnecessarily crying wolf, and preparing everyone for the wolf's appearance. Throughout the entire County, every support agency is actively involved in reaching the entire population with related knowledge for surviving the next wildfire.

## TREATMENTS FOR STRUCTURAL IGNITABILITY

For over thirty years, the International Code Council (ICC®) has been the leading global source of model codes and standards and building safety solutions. Among other codes, their 2018 versions of the International Building Code (IBC®), International Residential Code (IRC®), and International Fire Code (IFC®) have been adopted by The State of Arizona. The ICC's WUI dedicated publication is the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC®), a code that is in the process of being adopted by the local fire district (CAFMA) and which the town will consider for implementation. In addition to these codes, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA®) through Firewise USA®, the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IHBS®) and Underwriters Laboratory (UL®) are heavily involved in fire safety and related codes. Combined, they provide the guidance to prepare for the survivability of one's property from wildfire.

All of the sources are used in educating the community's residents, which is done through regular newsletters, emails, meetings, and most every local gathering event. In the end, the various codes guide each resident in structure and vegetation management that, together, will vastly improve the property's chances of surviving a wildfire. When adopted and

enforced, each has their unique benefits and costs, but all will strengthen the community's resiliency, reduce property damage, likely reduce insurance costs, and probably save lives.

## Making the Structure Survivable

A structure can be ignited by a wildfire's direct flame contact, radiant heat transfer, or embers (also called firebrands). Preventing the structure ignition requires both the hardening of the structure to withstand the onslaught of those three means of ignition and the mitigation of the fuels that can generate the flames, heat, and embers. IBHS research (*https://ibhs1.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/Home-Mitigations-that-Matter-FINAL.pdf*) has identified eleven potential structure and landscaping weak points that, if properly addressed, will significantly reduce wildfire risk. They follow:

### *Roofs*

All roofs should have a Class A fire rating in good condition. Additionally, leaves, limbs, and all other gatherings of roof litter should persistently be removed.

### *Gutters*

Gutters should not be flammable and they and their downspouts should not be allowed to accumulate plant debris.

### *Vents*

All vents (attic, eaves, crawlspace, etc.) need to be manufactured of non-flammable material and have no larger than a 1/8" opening.

### *Vertical Ground Clearence*

During a wildfire, wind will deposit burning embers at the base of structures. In order to prevent the accumulation of embers from igniting the structure's siding, from ground level, a 6" vertical, non-combustible material should be in place.

### *Fuel Management in Zone 0*

Due to anticipated ember accumulations and the likely ignition of flammable materials adjacent to a structure, Zone 0 has been created as the immediate or noncombustible zone. This means that there should be no vegetation, no flammable mulch, no furniture that can burn, certainly no firewood, no wooden or plastic nick-naks, no flammable door mat, no fiber or plastic broom, no wooden fence, no anything that can burn, out to at least 5 feet from the structure's wall or eave, with the only exception being well watered perennials and low growing shrubs if the structure's siding is nonflammable. The most problematic house addition that is typically within Zone 0 is the beloved wooden deck. If a

home is being designed, these should be manufactured using non-combustible components. If one already exists, it should be retrofitted to survive an ember storm. For many residents, Zone 0 may be the most difficult mitigation; however, because roughly 80% of homes lost to wildfires were ignited by embers, it is the most important.

### *Accessory Buildings*

When sheds, gazebos, or pergolas ignite, they will create their own storm of embers, produce significant radiant heat, and likely generate flames that can reach 30 feet or more. Because of this, all accessory buildings within 30 ft of another structure should be built with the same mitigation measures as one's residence.

### *Structure's Eaves*

Heat will travel up, and a structure's eaves do a good job in capturing and consolidating that heat. Enclosing those eaves with non-combustible soffits will significantly deflect that heat and limit the potential of it from igniting rafters and eventually the adjacent walls and then the building's interior.

### *Walls*

The brunt of a wind-driven wildfire will be borne by a structure's walls. This flat face will be hit by flames, heat, and embers, and for the structure to survive, the walls must repel those attacks. The best defense here will be noncombustible siding where all cracks and other gaps have been properly sealed.

### *Windows*

Any point at which flames, heat, or embers can enter a structure will significantly reduce its chances of survival. Unsuitable windows are very vulnerable to flame contact and radiant heat. The severe heat blast can too easily fracture window panes. Multipaned windows are more resilient to sudden temperature changes and tempered glass is even more durable.

### *Doors*

Wildfire embers are likely to accumulate at the base of a door or penetrate small openings around the door and ignite the door jamb. Because there is a lack of noncombustible door jambs on the market, fire-rated doors are the most practical solution.

### *Bay Windows*

The geometry of bay windows traps heat underneath them. While field evidence of ignitions is anecdotal, enclosing this area with noncombustible materials eliminates the risk.

## Zones of Mitigation

Current science has settled on three distances (identified as zones) from a home or accessory building, if we want them to survive a wildfire, that need continual mitigation. They are the Immediate or Noncombustible Zone 0 that extends at least 5' outward from the structure's eave, the Intermediate Zone 1, which is roughly 5-30' from the structure, and the Extended Zone 2, which is 30-100'+ away. See Figure 33.

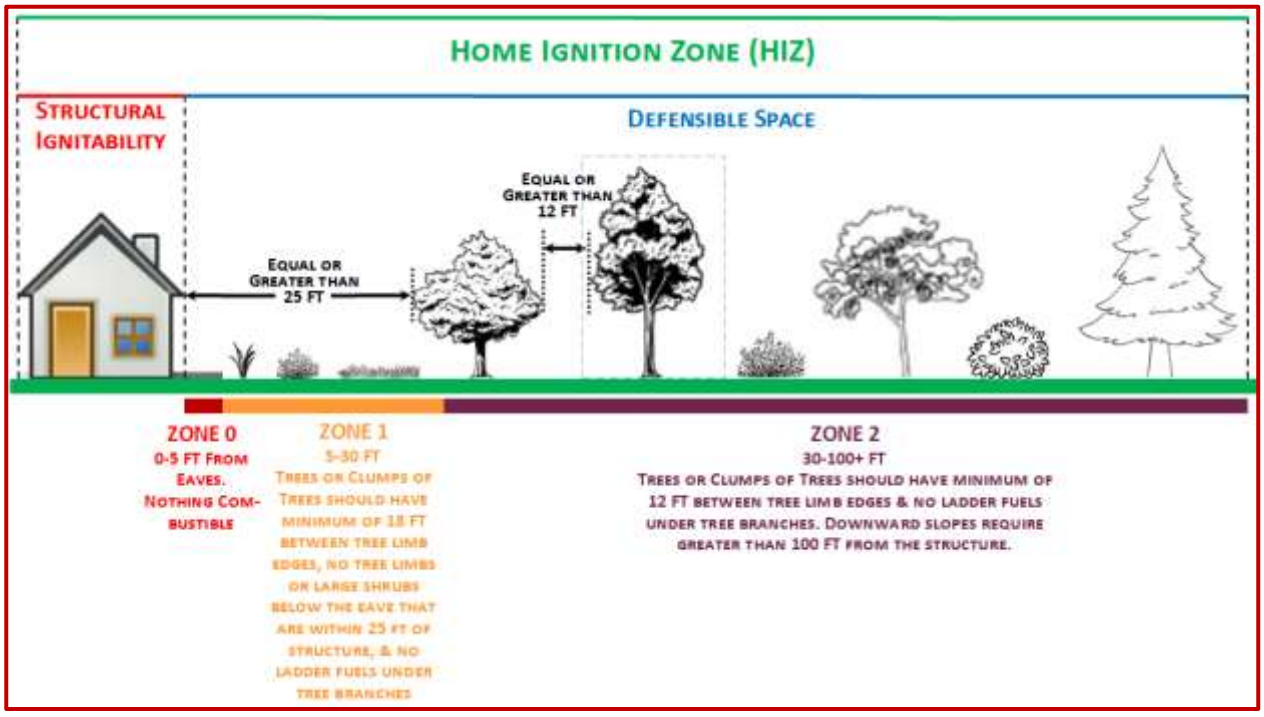


***Figure 33 - Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Depiction***

### *Immediate Zone 0 - 0-5 Feet*

This has previously been discussed and is the area 5 foot or more from the structure's eaves, within which there is nothing combustible.

### *Intermediate Zone 1 - 5-30 Feet*

The primary purpose of the intermediate Zone is to create a fire-resistant area that helps prevent flames and radiant heat from reaching the structure. All dead or dry vegetation should be cleared from this area, along with wood piles, planted vegetation should be suitable for a wildfire environment (hard to ignite and low heat if it does burn). All non-native vegetation should be well watered, trees should be spaced at least 18' apart to minimize the risk of fire spreading from one tree to another, no large shrub or tree should be within flame-length of the structure (typically 25'), or limbs should be removed to a height that would cause any wind-driven flames to go over the roof. Ladder-fuels (grasses and

smaller shrubs) should be removed under tree's branches and large bushes, and non-combustible materials should be used for driveways, walkways, and patios to interrupt fire spread.

### *Extended Zone 2 - 30-100+ Feet*

The purpose of the Extended Zone is to reduce the blast of radiant heat from impacting a structure. This is done by thinning vegetative fuel by creating islands of vegetation that are 10-12' in diameter and spaced 10-12' (or more) apart from one another. Additionally, all dead and dying plant material should be removed. The intent is not to eliminate all vegetative fuel, but to keep sufficient vegetation in place in order to hold down the soil and provide areas for wildlife. For taller shrubs or trees, lower branches should be removed, typically to 6' high or more; and again, ladder fuels should be removed to prevent low lying flames from reaching higher limbs. Due to a wildfire's propensity to rapidly run up hill, properties that have vegetation sloping down from the structure should expand the Extended Zone to 150' or even 200', depending on the type of vegetation and degree of the slope. All roads or driveways in this zone should have vegetation cleared 10-15' on either side to make the way safer in case of an emergency evacuation and to allow first-responders access during a wildfire.

## PROJECTS COMMUNITY WOULD LIKE TO ACCOMPLISH WITHIN THE NEXT 5 YEARS

***Qualified activities include hazardous fuels reduction, wildfire prevention planning, and wildfire prevention education with an emphasis on improving public health and safety.***

### Priority 1 – Evacuation Route(s) and Emergency Response Access

Based on existing wildfire danger levels, odds are, due to one or more wildfire events, the entirety of the town's population will be evacuated. The routes available to assure full success of the evacuations and first-responder access will need to be obvious and redundant, preferably to the levels recommended by NFPA 1141.

The reality is, for many households, there will only be one way in and one way out – and that is what those residents have tacitly accepted. However, many property owners and residents could easily overlook the situation, and therefore the Town and Fire District should regularly notify those properties of that reality, in order that their personal evacuation plan takes the added risk into consideration. For all others, as is advocated by all agencies that are involved with evacuations, no less than two, viable evacuation routes

need to persistently be available, and first responders must have sufficient access routes to effectively respond even if a primary route is impassable.

With that, town building codes for new construction must be edited to include an owner's validation that they are aware of any evacuation constraints. Additionally, a property-by-property evaluation of the town must be performed that identifies which properties do not have adequate evacuation routes and first-responder access routes. With input from first-responders and YCSO, the Town must adopt an enforceable definition of what constitutes a road acceptable for evacuations and as an access route for first-responders. This must include the minimum roadway width, the vegetative fuel clearance width on both sides, mandatory turnarounds, the maximum slope and weight requirements, culvert requirements, and the criteria that will make the routes usable for vehicles used by residents within the community.

Today, per NFPA 1141, the Upper Blue Hills area is a few new homes away from needing two more viable access routes that will also be suitable for evacuations. The recommended routes for development are a potentially historic road from northwest Dewey-Humboldt to the Prescott Valley community of Stoneridge, and the less desirable but still viable route from southwest Dewey-Humboldt to Arizona State highway 69 via Iron King Road. A new opportunity may be coming in the form of a rock mining project (the Government Tank Borrow Pit) within the town of Prescott Valley that is just north of the Dewey-Humboldt's northwest border. These three opportunities are shown in Figure 34. Two of these potential solutions, preferably traveling in opposite directions, should be initiated and completed before they are needed.

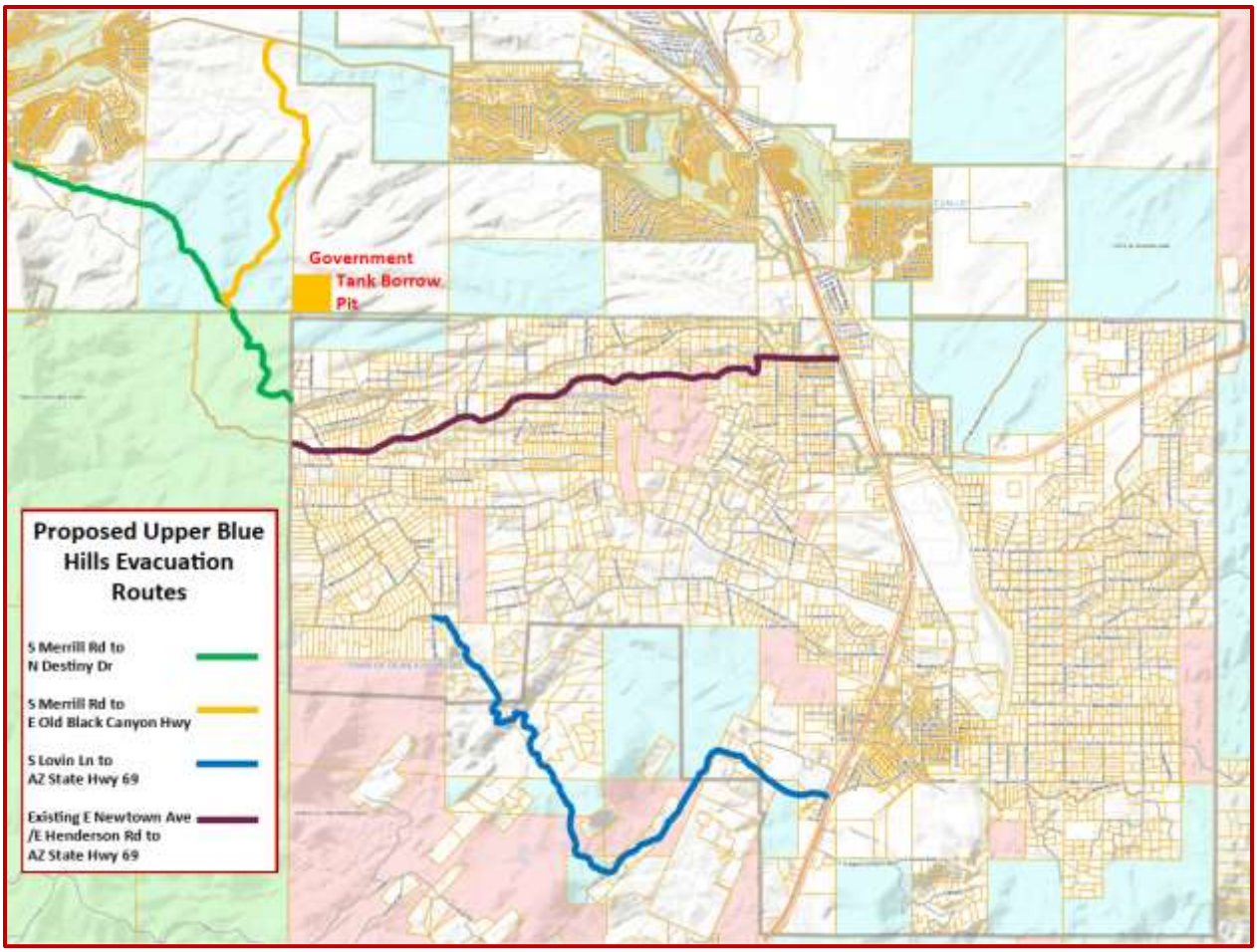


***Figure 34 - Proposed Upper Blue Hills Evacuation Routes***

## Priority 2 – Community Fuel Breaks

With embers able to leap miles ahead of the wildfire front, the community's wildland vegetation is likely assured of becoming its own calamity. Within this wildland/urban Interface, the land is foreordained to burn, and the hazard alleviation needs to be fully planned and implemented. Integrated strips of land, where airtanker pilots can see from a distance the obvious areas to drop their retardant, need to be intelligently designed and created; and where possible, all the dots connected. With the abundance of public lands and utility easements, it's likely that the majority of these fuel breaks can be located on those properties; however, in order to connect all of those dots, easements may be needed on some private properties. This open discussion by those that fight wildfires for a living, along with those whose property will be included and affected, is needed to first sell the idea and then implement it. The intent is to accept that a wildfire is a likelihood, but containment can minimize the impact to structures, utilities, and lives.

Figure 35 is an overlay of three maps that combines previous fuel mitigations and incorporates the similar public lands parcels used within this plan's other maps. Along with the desired connection of currently separated fuel breaks, it also addresses existing and future mitigations that will need to be addressed.

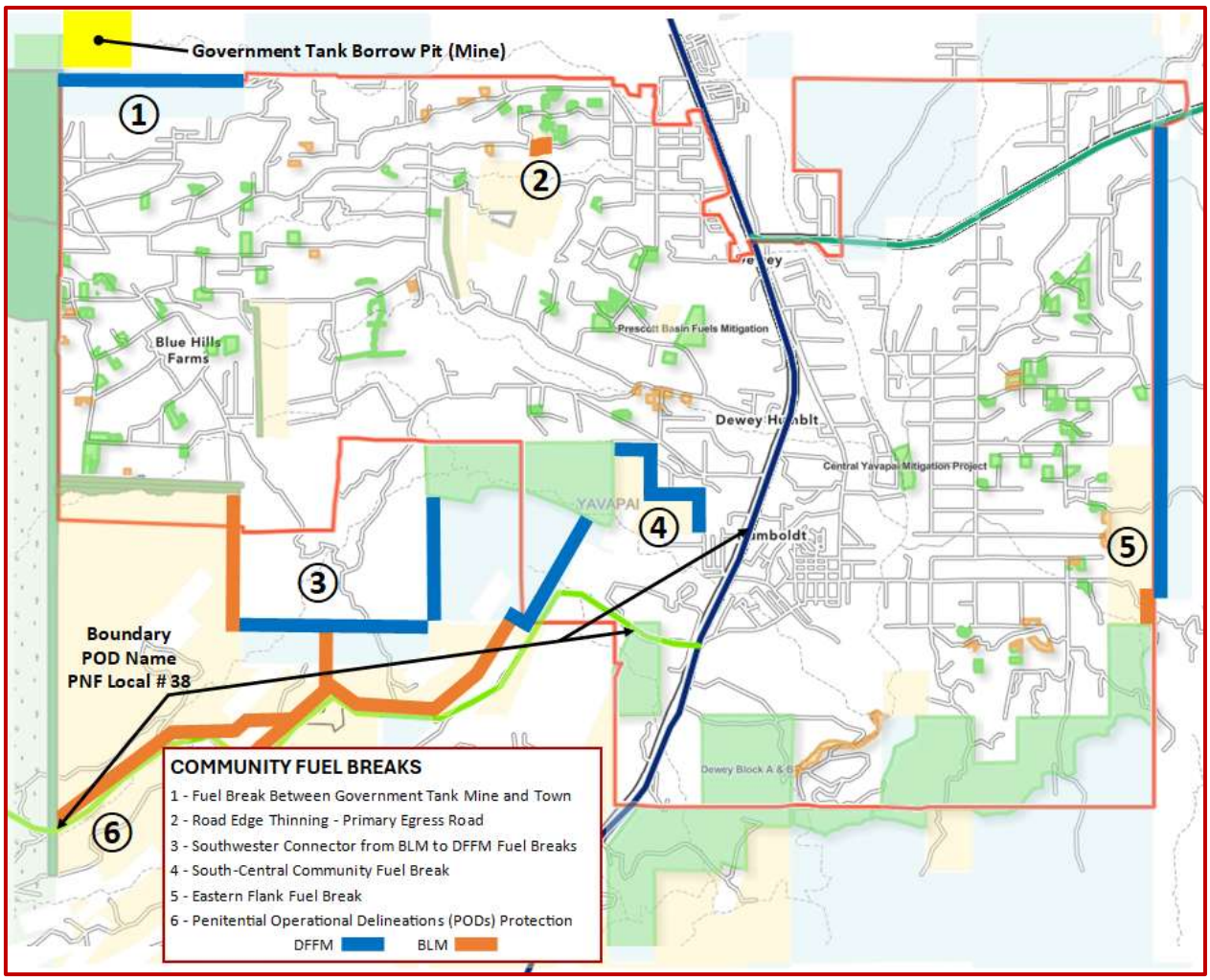


***Figure 35 - Proposed Community Fuel Breaks***

Where possible, previously completed fuel breaks on public land should be connected to create contiguous barriers. Based on an examination of the area by the USDA Forest Service's Strategic Analytics Branch, recent, nearby wildfires' previous travels, along with prevalent winds (see figures 12 and 6) suggest that the western and southern borders of the town are the most likely areas of wildfire intrusion. Figure 36 shows that DFFM has completed recent fuel thinning along nearly the entirety of the Town's southern border to the east of AZ State Hwy 69. Additionally, many individual parcels are displayed that have been mitigated through grants managed by DHF. Figure 37 shows that PNF has created a fuel break along the entire western border with Dewey-Humboldt and BLM has created a

mile long fuel break on their parcel at the southwest corner of town, along with three strategic fuel breaks with the Upper Blue Hills. The community's southwestern border needs further, strategic fuel treatment. Additionally, the eastern edge of the community, which is nearly 100% public lands, should have a continuous fuel break to prevent a wildfire from coming down the hill into the community. These plans are shown in Figure 35 and further discussed with what follows.

1. As was previously mentioned, the 40-acre Government Tank Borrows Pit (mine) is planned for development north of the town's northwest corner. In the coming years, expansion of that 40-acres is anticipated. Heavy equipment and explosives will be regularly used and a fire at that location can, with a southerly wind, quickly sweep through private properties to the south. A fuel break within the quarter mile strip of AZ State Land between the mine and the Dewey-Humboldt border will provide an opportunity to slow the spread of a fire travelling south and give first-responders more time to respond.

2. The primary ingress/egress road for the Upper Blue Hills is E Henderson Road. At one area, the road passes through roughly 600-ft of BLM land. The BLM property on either side of the road should be sufficiently thinned so that an area wildfire does not impede those using E Henderson Road for ingress and egress during a potential wildfire.

3. Connected to PNF's north/south fuel break on the Town's wester border, BLM has created an approximately 1-mile fuel break on their property oriented to the east. Roughly a mile to the east of where the BLM fuel break ends, DFFM has created a fuel mitigation area on their property. These two areas should be connected with an intersecting fuel break in order to close the current opening between the two treatments.

4. West of AZ State Hwy 69 and south of E Orange Rock Road is a BLM parcel (800-05-002R) that is east of and adjacent to an Arizona State property that has been recently mitigated by DFFM. The mitigation process should be continued along the BLM parcel's border to provide wildfire protection to residents to the north and east of that area.

5. At the Town's easter border, DFFM has mitigated their properties at the southeastern area. Recent wildfire knowledge has accepted that, with the wrong conditions, wildfires do come down the hill. A fuel break should be created through the State and BLM lands along the community's eastern border.

6. A Potential Operational Delineation (POD) is a spatial unit that is defined by potential control features, such as roads and ridge tops. They are designed to help land managers pre-plan for wildfire responses by summarizing relevant information on forest conditions, ecology, and fire potential within these defined areas. The primary purpose of PODs is to provide a structured approach for developing landscape-scale wildfire response options

before fires occur, thereby enhancing preparedness and response strategies. The POD framework can be integrated with other fuel and vegetation management projects, enhancing resilience against wildfires. The southern border of the PNF Local #38 POD travels just south of the Town's southern border to the west, primarily along E Iron King Road. With the southwestern town's corner being the most likely wildfire path into the town's interior, the PNF Local #38 POD should be enhanced with a fuel break.

### Priority 3 – Riparian Areas

The unique riparian areas along the Agua Fria River and its interconnecting gulches offer a biodiverse environment within the community. However, during dry seasons, these areas can become flammable corridors, leading to severe, high-intensity burns that damage not only aquatic habitats but the ecosystems and typically condensed businesses and households that are attracted to the locale's stark contrast to the area's typical chapparal and grassland environment.

The abnormal luck we experienced during the previously mentioned 2021 fire along the Agua Fria River should not be anticipated in the future. Along these areas, existing ladder fuels easily reach to the cottonwood-based tree limbs and, with a summer wind, the potential destruction is extreme. With input from ecosystem experts, these areas need to be managed by removing dead and dying fuels, along with any invasive vegetation, to prevent that potential destruction while maintaining the complexity of the environment and the watersheds' viability.

### Priority 4 – Roadside Vegetation

As was noted within the Communities/Values At-Risk List section, for Value 6; Roadways and Driveways an excessive number of both public and private roads within the community are bordered on one or both sides with an abundance of vegetative fuel. If ignited, overgrown roadside vegetation can block first-responders, reduce visibility, and create dangerous heat exposure for those fleeing or responding to a wildfire. While the necessary clearance to allow safe usage of these roads during a wildfire is not an assured science, a review of other community ordnances dealing with this danger suggest that 10-feet horizontally from both sides of the roadway and no less than 15-feet above the roadway should be cleared. Recognizing this, the Town code should require this safety enhancement on all roads. Additionally, the town roads should be maintained to the noted requirements on their Rights-of-Way, and assistance should be provided to those that live on private roads.

## Priority 5 - Fire Water

As was noted within the Communities/Values At-Risk List section, Priority 5; Fire Water, there is a dearth of available water within the community that is available for firefighting. However, flooding in the area is not uncommon. There are several seasonal gulches along

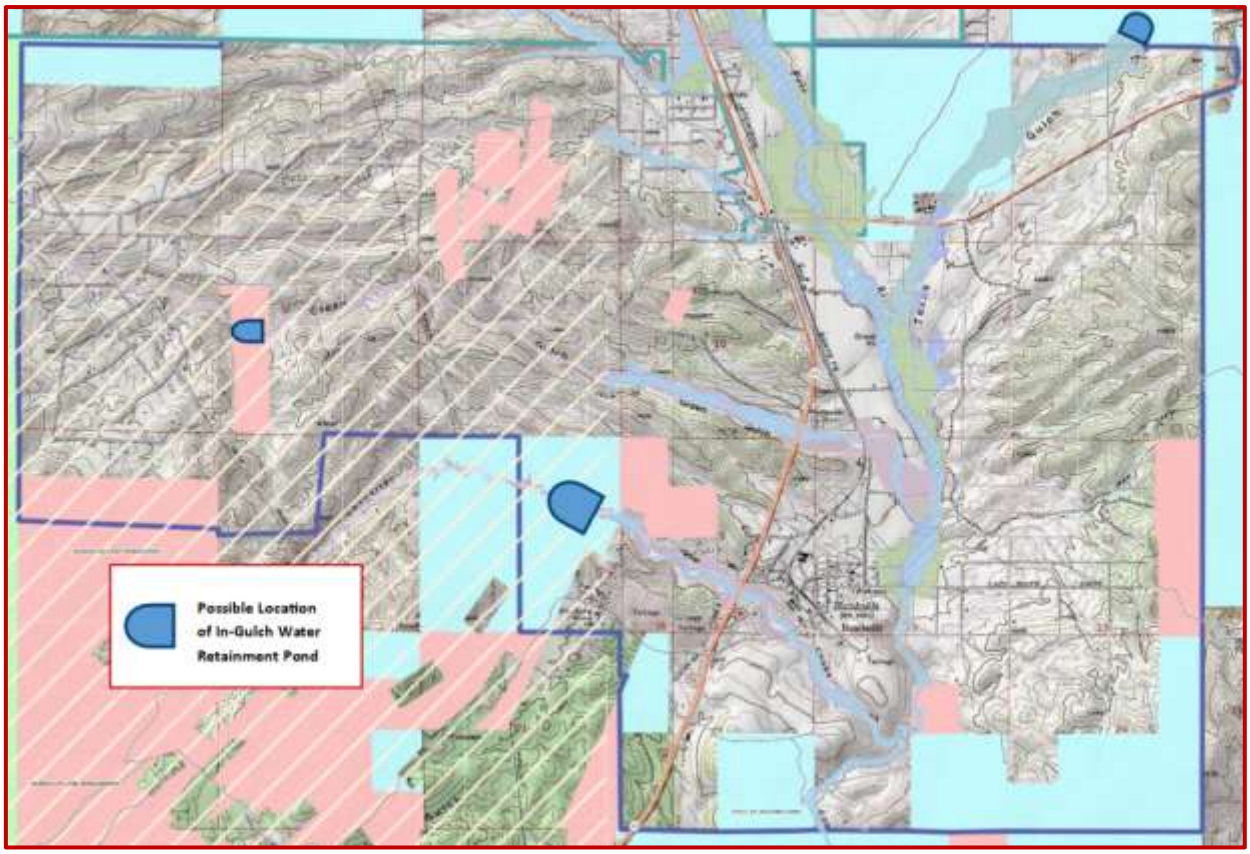


***Figure 37 - Possible Locations for Water Catchment***

with the Agua Fria River, which flows year-round, and all have flooded or been the cause of a greater flood in recent years. To mitigate those floods, plus provide local sources for firefighting water that are invaluable while a wildfire is still small, three areas on public lands have been identified where water catchments could be added to those waterways that would both limit downstream flooding and be suitable for wildfire water use by helicopters equipped with Bambi Buckets or snorkels. This requires

***Figure 36 - Typical Catchment Pond***

significantly more input and discussions at all levels of the government to determine this concept's development.

### Priority 6 – Classroom Enhancements

Current community wildfire prevention education meetings use the Kate Garber Activity Center, adjacent to the Town's library. The building is owned by the Community Action Program, a local non-profit organization that is focused on community projects. This centrally located facility has no technology for an interactive classroom, to include little to no cell service, which significantly limits presentations by guest speakers. Today's audiences anticipate presentations to include more than talk and brochures. An interactive audio and video system that assists in enticing audiences to attend, either in person or on-line, is expected to make the messaging exponentially more effective.

## EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

#### *Firewise Implementation and Community Education*

Throughout the year, all of the fire agencies and Yavapai County support offices are determinedly involved in community school and event educational opportunities, whether in a classroom, under a popup, or in a parade, education is constantly being practiced with and for the community.

As was previously noted, the CWPP area has been a Firewise USA® site since 2016. **All-of-the-above** has been the motto since day one, with door-to-door visits, community information articles (both using the Town's newsletters and our 400+ list of resident email addresses) which are regularly transmitted (especially during nearby wildfires), community meetings, town events, every clean-up day (twice a year), special needs functions, property HIZ inspections and mitigations, Yavapai Firewise involvement, support to new Firewise community startups, neighboring Firewise Site collaboration, and our annual "Don't Get Burned Event", they've done their best to reach not just their community, but everyone beyond that could provide support or needs assistance. To date, as reported each year for recertification to Firewise USA®, DHF has invested into the community $1,108,777.93 in time and material.

### Fuels Reduction

#### *Mapping, Fuel Type, Treatment Levels, etc.*

#### *BLM*

BLM mitigates excessive fuels through mechanical treatments, to include thinning, mastication (grinding/mulching vegetation), hand-clearing brush and small trees, piling cut

material for removal and mowing to break up continuous fuels. Recent Fuel Reduction projects within the community, all of them accomplished through mechanical mastication, have been completed on BLM parcels in 2020, 2021, and 2024 and are illustrated, along with recent PNF fuel management projects, within the RMA Dashboard's Fuels Treatment (2000-Present) module map at Figure 39.

### *DFFM*

Reducing the threat through action, the Department of Forestry and Fire Management works diligently throughout the year to reduce the threat of devastating wildfires by conducting fuels mitigation projects across the state and by educating the public and our communities through in person home assessments, as well as, classroom and virtual courses designed for all ages.

DFFM supports several programs which help prevent and reduce the start of wildland fires and provide education to Arizona communities and the public about what they can do to help these efforts, to include:

- DFFM Fuels Management crews remove dense vegetation, brush, and trees to create shaded fuel breaks, often using both hand and mechanized treatment. Projects focus on protecting rural communities, reducing invasive species, and improving forest health/watershed conditions. DFFM uses the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) to work with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on federal lands.
- The agency participates in Firewise USA™, a program that educates homeowners on the simple action items they can do to protect their homes and communities from wildfires. Funding is available to fire districts, government organizations, and non-profits for hazardous fuels reduction.
- In 2003, Congress passed the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) to provide funding and guidance for better forest management practices throughout wildland areas and the wildland urban interface. One of the key outcomes of the HFRA was to incentivize communities to create Community Wildfire Protection Plans or CWPPs. An approved CWPP can influence and prioritize future funding for hazardous fuel reduction projects, including where and how federal agencies implement fuel reduction projects on federal lands.

Fuel treatments by public entities and private properties are an ongoing effort. Figure 38 is from the DFFM Forestry Information Tracking System (FITS) Portal which is an interactive and regularly updated map with current and historic fuel and vegetation treatment projects

managed by the DFFM Forestry and Grant Programs. The map identifies recent mitigations performed by DFFM and DHF.

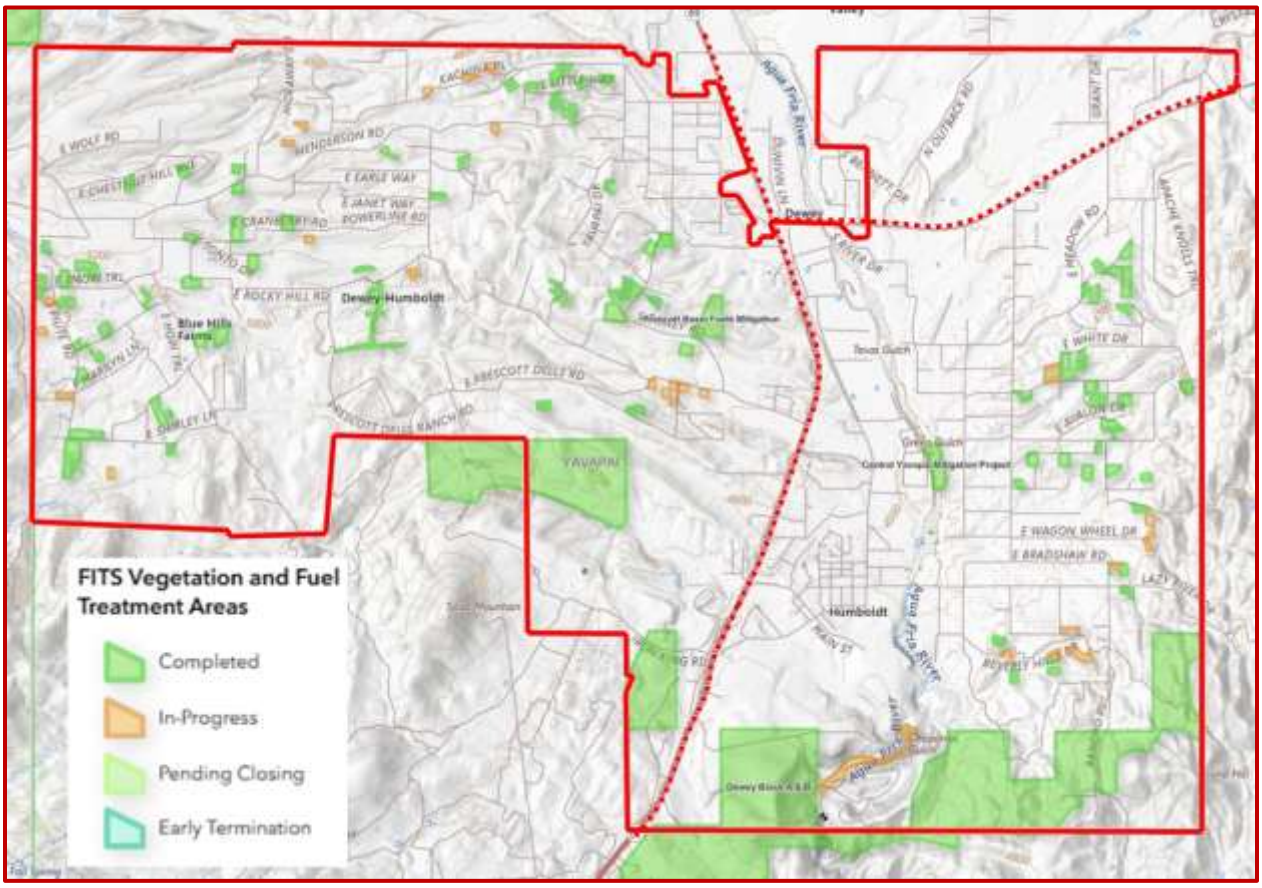


***Figure 38 - DFFM FITS Portal Depiction of Recent Fuel Mitigations – March 2026***

### *PNF*

The PNF has mechanically treated the boundary of the PNF land adjacent to the Blue Hills Subdivision. The PNF has also implemented some prescribed fire within that mastication. The PNF will continue to perform hazardous fuels treatments along that boundary as a form of ongoing maintenance. This maintenance could include mastication, hand thinning and prescribed fire or a combination of all. The PNF, as part of its 5-year planning cycle, will look at treating adjacent fuels and areas just off the boundary as funding and partner opportunities present themselves. Figure 39, extracted from the RMA Dashboard, depicts recent fuel reductions performed in the area by both PNF and BLM.

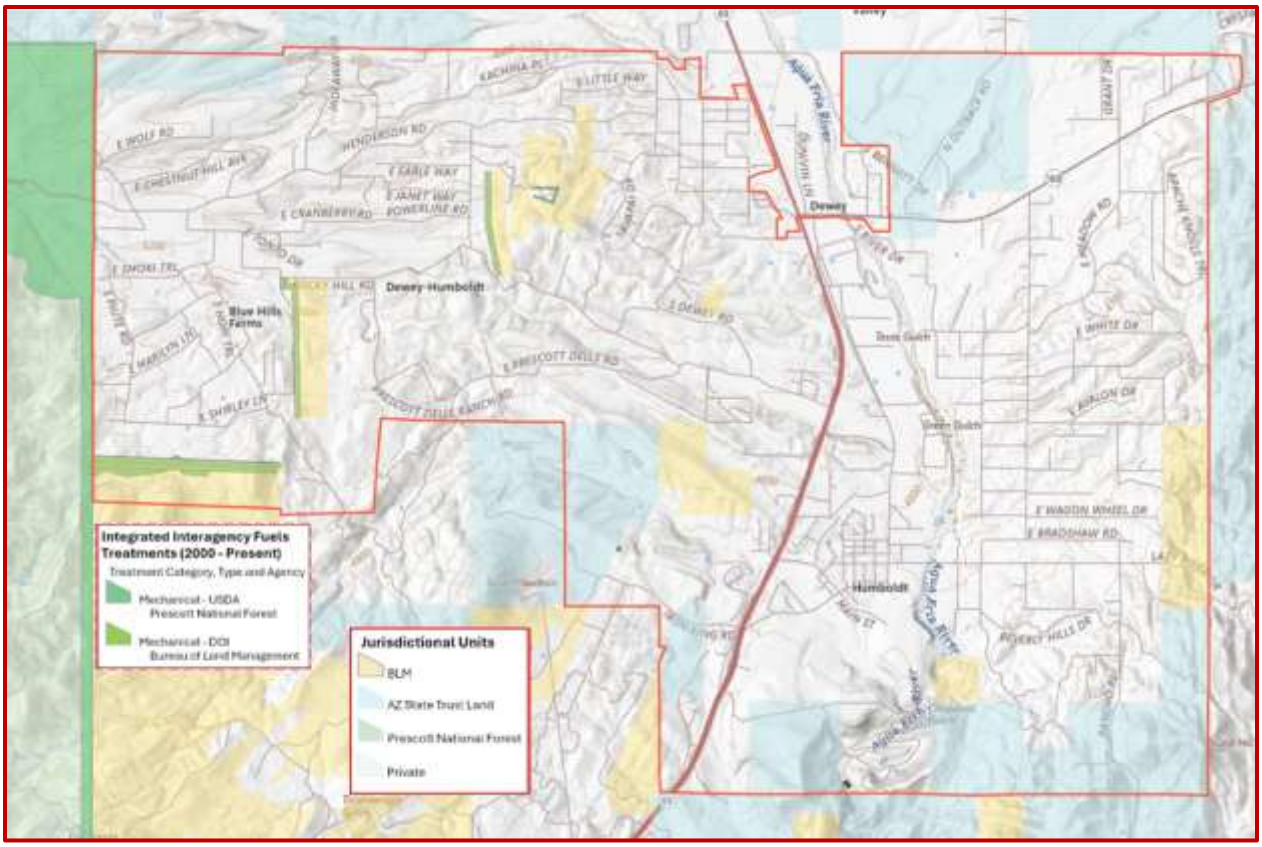


***Figure 39 - PNF and BLM Recent Fuel Treatments, with Jurisdictional Units***

### Policies and Agreements

*(new policies and mutual aid agreements being pursued)*

Policies and agreements are ever changing and continually being looked at for efficiency, compliance as well as strengthening partnerships and looking for additional opportunities to collaborate in a rapidly changing wildfire landscape.

# MONITORING AND EVALUATION

***Describe the key indicators for successful implementation or improvement. Set times for annual updates to the implementation plan. How will community leaders and residents remain involved?***

Monitoring and Evaluation of the community from the Prescott National Forest will include the following framework:

### *Hazardous Fuels & Vegetation Conditions*

- Conduct pre- and post-treatment assessments of fuels (surface, ladder, canopy continuity).

- Track juniper and brush types for encroachment reduction in grass/chapparal fuel types.
- Use photo points, transects, and GIS mapping to document change over time.

### *Treatment Effectiveness*

- Evaluate effectiveness of:
- Mechanical thinning
- Prescribed fire
- Hand treatments and defensible space work

### *Wildfire Response Outcomes*

- Document wildfire incidents within or adjacent to CWPP areas.

## Benchmarks and Objectives

1. Community Acceptance – initiate a base survey that measures the understanding and acceptance of the community as it relates to wildfire danger along with wildfire mitigation of both their property and the town as a whole. Repeat the survey yearly to assure that the message is significantly evolving upward. If not, modify the messaging so that it is better understood.
2. Insurance Coverage – within the base survey, collect information regarding whether or not a property has home insurance and, from the current cost to the previous year's cost, is that the same, did it go up, or is it going down. If the average is stagnant or going up, reassess what mitigation actions are being conducted or planned and determine how those can be modified to improve the insurability of community properties. Where it will help with insurance rates, adopt and enforce relevant building codes.
3. Wildfire Risk to Communities Score - On a yearly basis, review the Town's **Wildfire Risk to Communities** (https://apps.wildfirerisk.org/explore/overview/04/04025/0400019145/) status and verify that it is being reduced. If not, reassess what mitigation actions are being conducted or planned and determine how those can be modified to lower risk levels.
4. Funding - With the start of the town's coming fiscal year budget process, reassess wildfire mitigation priorities and needs for funding or needed grants required to continue existing projects or begin new ones. Coordinate with state and federal land managers to assure that past decisions are still relevant and that project prioritization remains accurate. If not, pivot to the new, highest priorities.

## Lessons Learned

1. A recurring theme is that effective communication remains both a critical necessity and a primary area for continued improvement. Experience has shown that the successful resolution of a crisis often hinges on the seamless utilization of a Joint Information Center (JIC) and a Joint Information System (JIS). These structures ensure that the messaging coming from Yavapai County, the Sheriff's Office, and various partner organizations is unified, accurate, and distributed through a "single voice" to prevent public confusion.
2. Beyond internal coordination, providing consistent situational awareness to the public is vital. Lessons learned from previous incidents highlight that residents make safer decisions when they receive timely, transparent updates regarding the status of a threat. Furthermore, the design of alert and warning notifications has evolved to incorporate the science of human behavior. Understanding how people process information under stress is vital; therefore, alerts are crafted to be specific, consistent, and actionable to effectively elicit the desired response from the public.
3. In putting this together, it quickly became apparent that finding the right department or person and their email and phone number was too often infuriating, and this for businesses and entities that should be a part of the solutions for prevention, response, and post-disaster efforts. Contact information for resources that may be needed during an emergency should be well publicized, easily accessible, and persistently validated to assure that they're still current. When seconds may count, there should be no wasted time in trying to identify and notify that entity that's suddenly and possibly unexpectedly crucial to responding to the next emergency.
4. Interest rapidly wanes. Collaborators would prefer a one-and-done input to the plan because they all have jobs that fill up their normal work day. Constant attempts to improve and integrate, hoping for fresh comments and recommendations is a fool's folly. Having one or two scribes dedicated to generating a nearly complete, rough draft, and then sharing this with collaborators to improve areas within their expertise, is likely the best path forward. This would likely entail significantly borrowing from previous CWPPs, improving location specific information and maps, and compiling the results in order that the document is close to good enough. With that, and only then, should other collaborators be asked to spend their precious time to polish the plan.

## Updates

In 2025, our local Fire District – Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority (CAFMA), received a multi-year Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) to create a CWPP for their area of responsibility. Once that is completed, it is envisioned that specifics to

Dewey-Humboldt will be included in the CAFMA CWPP. Additionally, the Yavapai County CWPP will again update their CWPP which will include the Town of Dewey-Humboldt. These will expectantly negate the need for continuing to revise the Dewey-Humboldt CWPP. However, the process involved in creating this Town specific CWPP provided an excellent education in how the Town needs to have an active seat at the collaborators' table when those other CWPPs are prepared and updated.

# DECLARATION OF AGREEMENT OR CONCURRENCE

The following collaborators, or their supervisors, in the development of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan, have reviewed and do mutually agree or concur with its contents:

## AGREEMENT

| | |
|---|---|
| Thomas Torres, State Forester, AZ Dept of Forestry and Fire Mgmt. | Date |
| Matt Fenn, Mayor, The Town of Dewey-Humboldt | Date |
| Darrell Willis, District Manager, AZ Dept of Forestry and Fire Mgmt. | Date |
| John Kava, Acting District Ranger, USDA Prescott National Forest | Date |
| Carlos Payan, Prevention, U.S. Wildland Fire Service | Date |
| **********, **********, CAFMA | Date |
| Josh Grace, Assistant Director, Arizona State Land Department | Date |
| **********, **********, Yavapai Board of Supervisors | Date |
| Ashley Ahlquist, Emergency Mgr, Yavapai County Emergency Mgmt. | Date |
| Lynn Whitman, Director, Yavapai County Flood Control District | Date |
| **********, **********, Yavapai County Sheriff's Office | Date |

# DECLARATION OF AGREEMENT OR CONCURRENCE

The following collaborators, or their supervisors, in the development of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan, have reviewed and do mutually agree or concur with its contents:

## AGREEMENT

| | |
|---|---|
| Sean Underhill, Emerg. Response Coord., YC Community Health Svcs, | Date |
| David Soto, Chair, Yavapai Firewise | Date |
| Vivien Winneke, Board Chair, Dewey-Humboldt Firewise | Date |
| Wade Ward, Manager, Wildfire Mitigation, AZ Public Service | Date |
| Matt Pollock, Program Manager, Western Area Power Administration | Date |
| Teresa Inman, District Manager, UniSource | Date |
| Armen McNerlin, Network Implementation Engr., Lumen/CenturyLink | Date |
| Anthony Brozich, District Administrator, AZ Dept. of Transportation | Date |
| Ben Argon, Owner, Dakota Logging LLC | Date |
| Gary Mortimer, Owner, Mortimer Miracles LLC | Date |
| **********, **********, ********** | Date |