



**Dewey-Humboldt
Dewey-Humboldt Blue Hills/Foothills East
Firewise Community
September 2021**



FIREWISE USA™
Residents reducing wildfire risks

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Introduction

Dewey, Az and Humboldt, Az were joined together in December of 2004. However, each town has a distinct and rich history, that together, has formed a strong alliance of community and support. With roots deep in agriculture, ranching, and mining, Dewey-Humboldt is a community of wonder. The Dewey-Humboldt community is comprised of an eclectic mix of homes to include mobile (built before June 15th, 1976), manufactured, site-built, Quonset, log cabin, log cabin kit, and off the grid. Dewey-Humboldt also boasts the Mortimer Farm at the South-East corner of 69 & 169 and multiple ranches of various use. The Dewey-Humboldt community has commercial use buildings to include construction types of timber, brick, mortar, and steel. Lath and plaster construction can be found in the more historical buildings along main street.

Dewey-Humboldt is comprised of the Town of Dewey-Humboldt, The Blue Hills, and Foothills East.

Population: 4,240 (2020 United States Census Estimate)

Elevation: 4,556 feet

Zip Codes: 86327 (Dewey) 86329 (Humboldt)

Location: Yavapai County

Area: 18.61 square miles

Founded: 1898

Incorporated: 2004

Goals/Objectives of Firewise:

The Dewey-Humboldt Firewise Organization was created to empower the community (Dewey-Humboldt, The Blue Hills, and Foothills East) to “Be Your Own Hero”. Through this initiative, the Dewey-Humboldt Firewise Board and Volunteers therewithin, have created community programs, essential agency relationships, and continue to seek innovative processes to provide tools and resources to the community and town to support Firewise efforts.

Objective 1) Implement a community triage and assessment with Arizona State Department of Forestry and Fire Management to create a strategic plan of prioritization for community outreach of “Survivable Space” grants and education.

Objective 2) Bridge a respectful and vital working relationship with the Town of Dewey-Humboldt through education of council members and town leadership through verifiable data, residential field-walks, informative presentations, and external agency backing while supporting ordinances set forth by the Town of Dewey-Humboldt.

Objective 3) Create database of historical wildfire incidents for future prevention that includes but is not limited to contributing factors, local fuels, environmental factors, human influence, available funding (increase or decrease increments and effect), fire behavior patterns, system forecasting, and external agency data and recommendations.

Objective 4) Develop community outreach programs through meetings, events, educational seminars/webinars, community interviews, external agency involvement, and surveys in conjunction with targeted demographics such as financially challenged, functional needs, vulnerable, children, isolated, and remote individuals.

Objective 5) Produce accurate and verifiable reporting of egress options and contact landowners, agencies, and local authorities to evaluate loss verses cost. For loss of life prevention, work in concert with residents to take concerns to the town council and create a strategic plan to obtain grants and other funding to allow for each population block at least two points of emergency egress.

Objective 6) Generate a mapping system in multiple mediums for residents that allow for real-time egress options for evacuation and emergencies.

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Location

Dewey-Humboldt (Main) can be accessed from Arizona State Highways 169 & 69. (34.5057° N, 112.2428° W) It is the smallest of the Quad-Cities (the others are Prescott, Prescott Valley, and Chino Valley) located within Central Arizona's Lonesome Valley, which is between the Juniper Mountains and Black Hills to the east and the Bradshaw and Santa Maria Mountains to the west.

The Blue Hills is in the far northwest corner of Dewey-Humboldt. There is ONLY ONE road in and out of this area for residents and livestock/animals which is approximately 1,272 residents that would be stranded. (80% of the roads are wide enough for only one vehicle, pass through a wash, blind egress drives, requires a 4x4, or becomes impassable once compromised). The access to this area is Kachina Place, Henderson Road, and Newtown Road. Due to the lack of egress options and density of the population, this area is considered an Extreme Fire Hazard. Evacuations will be hampered thus threatening lives based on the initial assessments and evaluations by Dewey-Humboldt Firewise and local agencies.

Foothills East Community is in the northeast corner of the Town of Dewey-Humboldt. There are multiple egress options to include two main direct routes to 169 which allows for evacuation in the event of a wildland fire.

Ownership

Number of Parcels: 3,372

Number of Structures: 1,861

Number of Residents: 4,240

Ownership of Adjacent land: Prescott National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, and the State of Arizona

Topography

Dewey-Humboldt-Main-

- Small parcel community originally made up of miners' dwellings along with the original Humboldt business center, plus farmland to the north
- Bisected by the densely treed Aqua Fria River, which is typically a very small stream
- Winding roads
- Diverse shrub and mature trees
- Mixed use of residential and commercial
- Dominated by the 300+ acre Mortimer Farm
- Generally situated between the north/south running Highway 69 to the west and parallel running south Foothills Drive to the east
- Some remote areas

The Blue Hills

- Rolling hills to some flat lands
- Steep grades with some areas more than 40% grade
- Miles of private dirt roads

- Larger parcels with nearly all one acre or greater
- The Green Gulch and Chaparral Gulch creeks are the main drainage channels traversing southeast from the Bradshaw Mountains and through the community and exiting into the Aqua Fria River; these flow seasonally.

East Foothills

- Relatively level
- Slope upwards from the river to the steeper eastern boundary of town
- Agua Fria forms the western boundary of the community

Vegetation

An array of landscape vegetation creates a significant wildfire fuel load for the Dewey-Humboldt community thus increasing the danger and compromising egress. Although density of each item below can be determined by $f(x,y)$ for R , we have listed the average for a more streamlined utilization for our specific community. Due to the extensive drought, wind conditions from the surrounding mountains, and the invasive behavior of the vegetation, the fire risk and fuel load would predominantly be considered extreme fire danger. Due to the density and amount of fuel, the environment has high potential for a catastrophic event that would include loss of life and property. Lessons and rates can be taken from the Goodwin fire from 2017 for more specific data. However, this data would be a baseline for future forecasting of vegetation dangers. There is an imperative need for residents to create “Survivable Space” and for Dewey-Humboldt Firewise to continue our education efforts with the authorities on multiple levels.

- Desert Scrub-Density based on area, exposure, moisture, and environmental influence
- Cacti (Choli, ect.)-Density is higher in the lower lands
- Live Scrub Oak density is predominant
- Manzanitas-Density is average for the climate
- Sumacs (Rhus)-Density is bit more than average
- Mountain Mahogany (Cercocarpus)-Density is average for the climate
- Arizona Cypress-Density is average for the climate
- Succulents-Density is sparse
- Grasses-Density is extreme
- Annuals (When moisture is present)-Density is sparse
- Palo Verde-Density is average for the climate
- Catclaw Acacia -Density is vast and cumbersome
- Mesquite-Density is average for the climate
- Ironwood-Density is average for the climate
- Whitehorn- Density is average for the climate
- Creosote-Density is a bit more than average
- Bur Sage- Density is a bit more than average
- Crucifixion Thorn- Density is average for the climate
- Bush Muhly- Density is sparse
- Tobosa- Density is a bit more than average

Climate

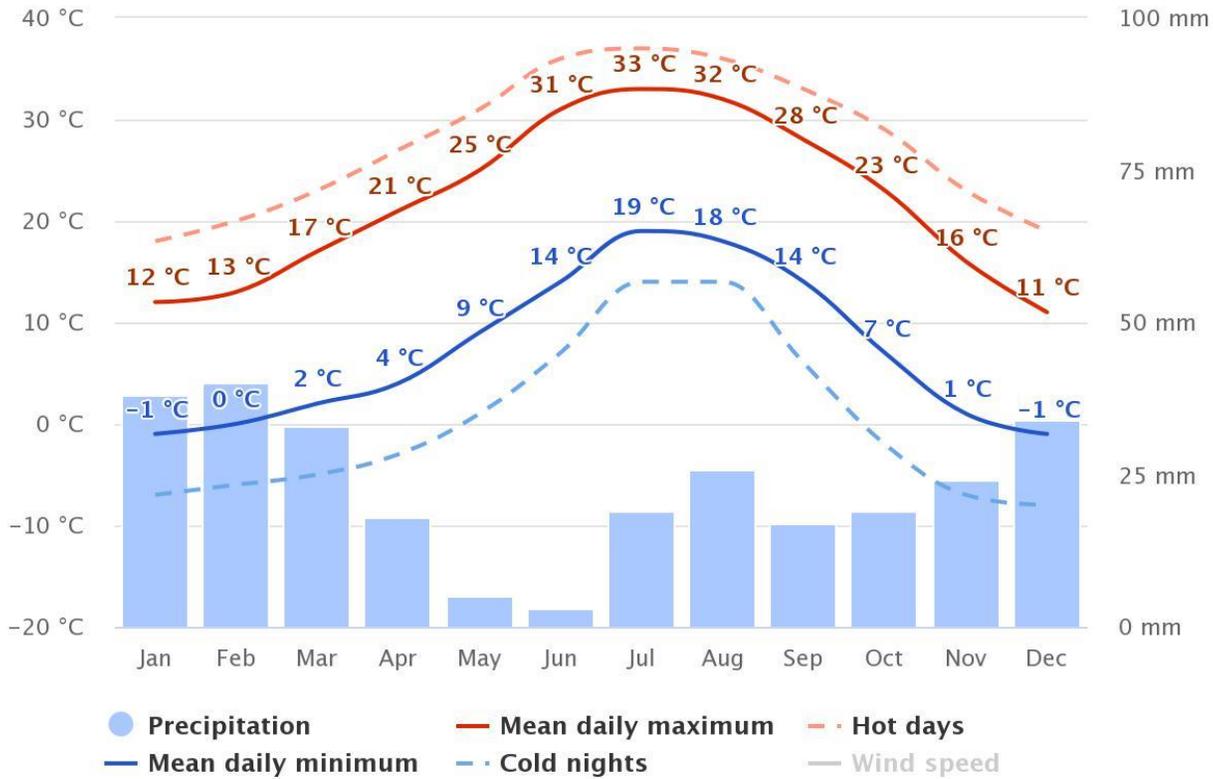
The following data is a 30-year average (days):

Sunny-212.2

Partly Cloudy-122.2

Overcast-30.7

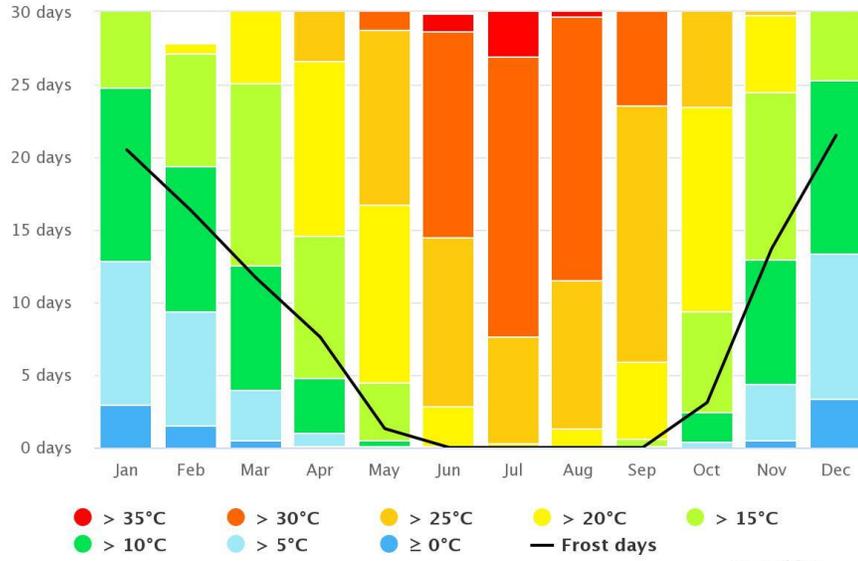
Precipitation-15.9 inches over 62.2



meteoblue

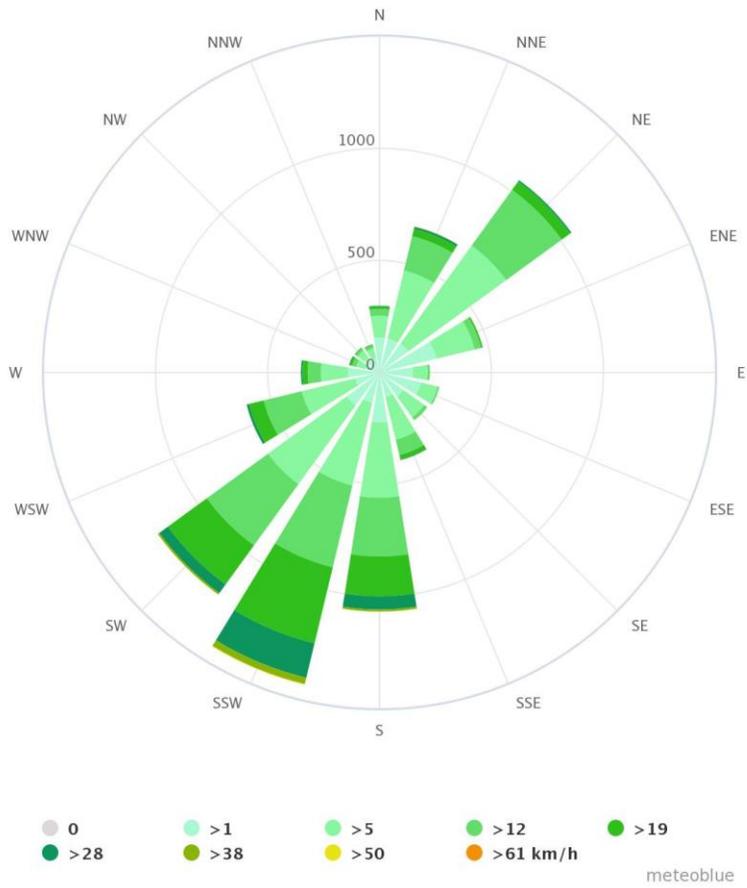
Temps High-51.8F to 91.4F (highest 98.6)

Temps Low-30.2F to 66.2F (lowest 19)

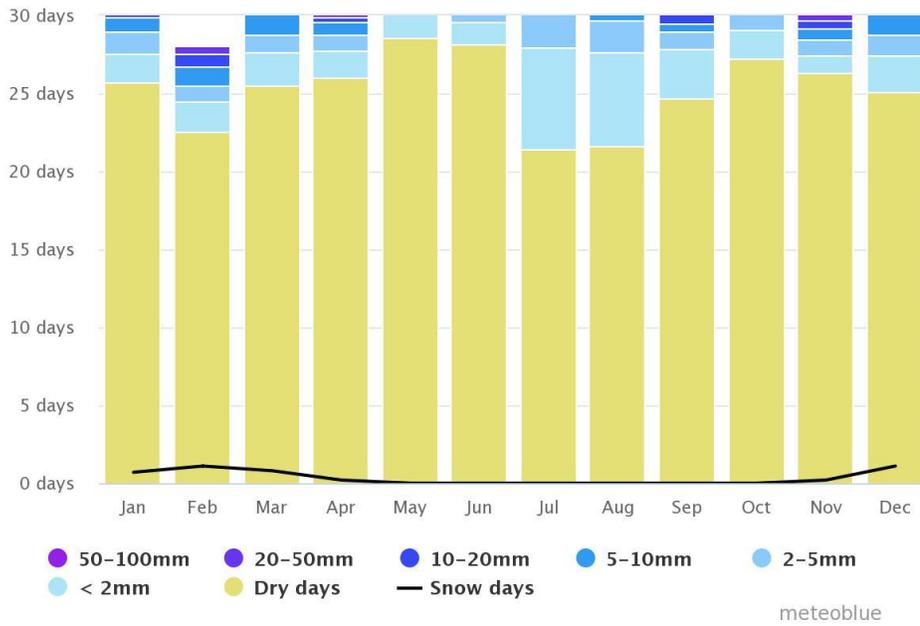


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Windspeed-See below



Rain and Snow-See Below



Wildlife

- Javelin
- Deer
- Rabbits
- Quail
- Lizards
- Snakes
- Coyotes
- Mountain Lion
- Bobcat
- Hawks
- Falcons
- Vultures
- Ravens
- Bald Eagles
- Various Small Birds
- Various Insects

Fire Regime and History

There is a lack of data for the Dewey-Humboldt area as to the historical fire characteristics based on vegetation. However, any appropriately trained fire personnel would be able to conclude upon a basic visual evaluation that the vegetation varieties, lack of fuel management, and absence of ordinance enforcement have the potential to contribute to a catastrophic event.

Goodwin Fire 06/24/2017

Orme Wildfire 07/05/2019

Mortimer Farms 05/27/2021

Community Infrastructure

Average street width and cul-de-sac width: The town code requires all roads to be at least 28 feet wide; however, many town-owned roads and the preponderance of private-roads (over half of all roads) do not meet that standard. There are very few cul-de-sacs as most roads either terminate at an intersection or within a property-owner's driveway.

Number of hydrants or nearby water sources: There are no hydrants within the town, nor is there a town code that requires water storage for use in firefighting. The fire agencies are aware of this limitation and therefore respond to all fires with multiple fire engines plus water tenders.

First responding fire departments; paid/unpaid and public/private: Nearly all of Dewey-Humboldt is within the Central Arizona Fire and Medical Agency (CAFMA) district. There are sixty-nine parcels within the town but outside of CAFMA's district; however, the owners may apply for a yearly fire protection contract. Additionally, due to the town's proximity to state and federal properties, the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management and the US Forest Service agencies respond to fires that have potential to progress beyond a dwelling. There are also mutual aid agreements with neighboring districts.

From the line above, capabilities such as engines, pumpers, wildland, and rescues: CAFMA maintains 10 active (one of which is within Dewey-Humboldt) and 2 reserve stations which cover 365 square miles of Yavapai County. Each station typically has a Type 1 pumper, a 5,000-gallon water tender, and type 6 patrols. Mutual aid agreements with neighboring districts often results in multiple agency responses.

Below is the August report from CAFMA that will show further data in support of the need for Dewey-Humboldt Firewise to continue in the efforts to support the community.



August Response Report - 2021

Land Area: 369 sq. miles Population: ≈106,500 Fire Stations: 10 Full-Staffed

Responses in District	
TOTAL FIRE INCIDENTS	11
STRUCTURE FIRE	2
STRUCTURE FIRE; CONFINED	3
MOBILE HOME/PORTABLE BLDG	1
VEHICLE FIRE	1
BRUSH/GRASS/WILDLAND FIRE	1
TRASH FIRE/OTHER	4
<i>Fire is 0.77% of call volume</i>	
TOTAL RESCUE & EMS	951
<i>EMS is 66.78% of call volume</i>	
OVERPRESSURE / OVERHEAT	1
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	14
SERVICE CALL	265
GOOD INTENT	141
FALSE ALARM/OTHER	41
<i>Other is 32.44% of call volume</i>	
TOTAL INCIDENTS IN DISTRICT	1,424
INCIDENT RESPONSES BY CAFMA	1,550
<hr/>	
Residential Fire Loss	\$26,000
Commercial Fire Loss	\$0
Vehicle Fire Loss	\$5,000
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Calls in Town of Chino Valley	210
Calls in Town of Prescott Valley	727
Calls in Town of Dewey-Humboldt	69
Calls in District, Unincorporated Areas	418
Calls Out of District	8
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Average total # of calls per day	45.94
Average fire calls per day	0.36
Average EMS calls per day	30.68
Average all other calls per day	14.90
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Aid Given to Prescott	161
Aid Received from Prescott	87
Mutual Aid Given	0
Mutual Aid Received	0

Unit Responses		
	In District	Total
E50	158	170
E51	40	197
E53	242	244
E540	46	48
E54	165	166
E57	62	65
E58	201	204
E59	169	175
E61	136	138
E62	159	164
E63	63	68
TR50	1	2
B3	57	66
B6	28	30

Call Volume at PRCC		
	MONTH	YTD
PFD	895	6,531
CAFMA	1,424	9,713
GCFD	16	87
OD	9	73
WKFD	4	31

Top 5 Call Types	
881	EMS
124	Assist Invalid
85	Cancelled en Route
57	Public Service
28	Vehicle Accident w/Injuries

Move Ups	
E50: 41	E57: 4
E51: 70	E61: 15
E53: 5	E62: 20
E54: 1	E63: 36
E58: 1	E540: 19
E59: 3	TOTAL: 215

Dewey-Humboldt Main

Basic services that are normally found in towns such as local fire stations, fire hydrants, and consistent water supply are not currently provided. Dewey-Humboldt Main (town) is supported by Central Arizona Fire and Medical Station 54 and there are no fire hydrants. Water sources used to fight any fire are from apparatus, wells, and portable water tanks. There is no know data currently about the use of residential pools that are in ground or above ground.

East Foothills & The Blue Hills

There is a lack of basic and lifesaving infrastructure for both the East Foothills and The Blue Hills. Homes are either on a private well or the residents must either haul their water from the local well off Kachina Place or pay premium for water delivery service. Each home is on a septic system due to the lack of Town services. The Blue Hills is extremely volatile due to poor and infrequently maintained roads, blind drives, narrow dirt roads, roads through running washes, eroded streets, blocked egress from overgrown vegetation, and the hindrance for fire personnel to respond including lack of space to turn around an engine safety.

In 2019, due to a lack of suitable water sources, in the western edge of town, 4- 8,000-gallon water tanks were placed on donated property to support fire activity. They are tested and maintained by CAFMA. Please follow

this link for additional information as to how Dewey-Humboldt Firewise lead this initiative. <https://www.d-hfw.com/completed>



Community Wildfire Protection Plans

Please see:

storymaps.arcgis.com

<https://yavapai.gov/Portals/30/HazardMitigationPlan.pdf>

<https://yavapai.gov/Portals/30/EOPFinal2020.pdf>

Community Accomplishments from 2017-2021

“Survivable Space Grants” (Abatement, Mitigation, Assessments)

Total: **\$224,436.34**

“911 Signs” (Reflective Address Signs)

Completed: **569**

In Process: **9**

Community Outreach

2017- N/A

2018- Community Monthly Meetings,
Assistance during Town Clean Up Days

2019- Door-To-Door Education & Material,

- Community Monthly Meetings,
- Assistance during Town clean up days.
- 2020- Door-To-Door Education & Materials,
- Microsoft TEAMS for communication
- Yavapai Emergency Management Partnership
- 2021- Dewey-Humboldt First Annual Wildfire Safety Event & Calendar Contest
- Agua Fria Festival & Parade for outreach and education
- Assistance during Town Clean Up Days
- State Farm Fire Prevention Week
- Findley Toyota Center Safe Trick or Treat Event
- Prescott Holiday Parade

Community Meetings with local agencies and resources 1 time per month:

- August**-Department of Forestry and Fire Management
- September**-Yavapai Emergency Management
- October**-Yavapai Jeep Posse
- November**-Northern Lights Fireplace and Chimney Sweep/Holiday Safety
- December**-Central Arizona Fire and Medical

Community Meetings to date of Report Submission

2017-2021 Approx. number of attendees: **407**

Misc.:

Title III Grants: Used for Mitigation support for low-income residents.

Social Media Outreach and Engagement (March 1st, 2021, thru October 1st, 2021)

Facebook: Likes-503+ Follows-547+ Reach: 13,800+

Social Media Outreach and Engagement (90 days from report date)

Instagram: Engagement-142%+ Follows-119

Twitter: Follows-9

LinkedIn: Connections-2 Follows-9

Community Project Goals

Along with the 6 objectives outlined above, Dewey-Humboldt Firewise has the following goals:

Pursue all options to educate and serve the community such as:

- Door-To-Door Education
- Community Meetings
- Community Events
- Community Resources for Clean-Up of Property
- Local and State Collaboration for Outreach and Education
- Local and State Events such as parades, fairs, and markets
- School Outreach
- Address Signs
- Street Signs
- Grants for Survivable Space
- Newsletters
- Social Media
- Innovative Technology
- Volunteer Collaboration
- Board Networking

Community Investment Since 2017 to 2021 to Date of Report Submission

Number of residents X \$2: **\$4,203.00**

Donations: **\$29,794.24**

Grants: **\$189,400.00**

Town of Dewey-Humboldt: **Clean-Up Days**
Labor Hours 555
Labor Costs \$6,115

Title III: **\$30,500.00**

Address Signs: **\$12,500.00**

Time in Hours: **13,439.15**

Community Firewise Day

May of 2021, Dewey-Humboldt Firewise presented “DHFV First Annual Wildfire Safety Event and Calendar Contest. This community event was held at the Mortimer Farms with over 10 agencies and sponsors in attendance with educational booths, apparatus, Smokey the Bear, and more. Our local schools participated in a calendar contest that included a wildfire lesson plan to support their artwork. Each winner received \$100 cash along with their teachers and a calendar with their artwork.

We are in the current planning stages for the “DHFV First Annual Wildfire Safety Event 2022 and looking at what events we may participate in for the 2022 year.

(Dewey-Humboldt will be participating in additional holiday events that are in progress at the time of this report such as the Prescott Holiday Parade.)

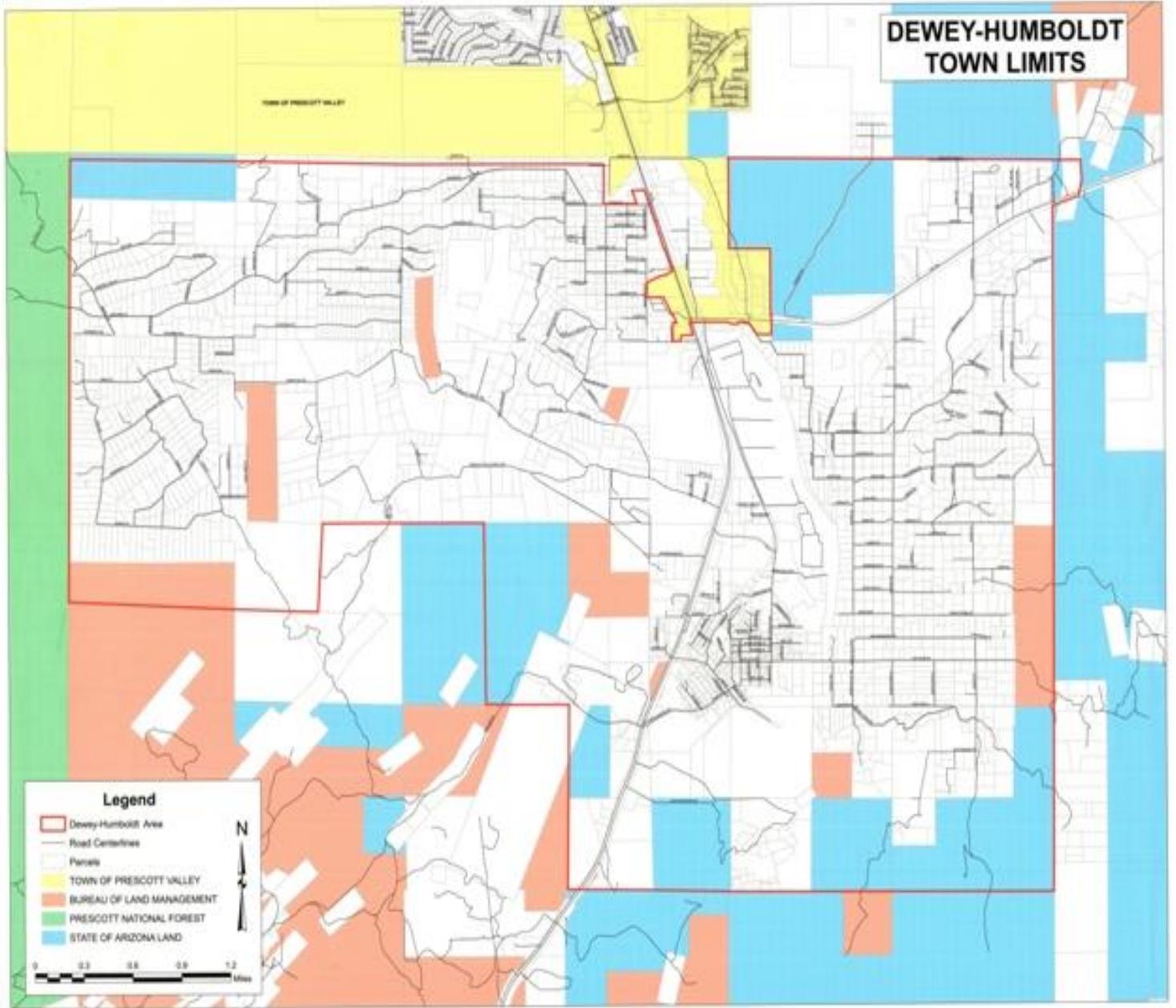
Dewey-Humboldt Firewise will continue to create events that serve the community and allows for opportunities such as education, training, and awareness. We are proud to serve our community and to develop professional and respectful relationships with our neighbors and agencies.

We look forward to the years ahead and have many exciting ideas and changes that will foster our community to “Be Your Own Hero”.

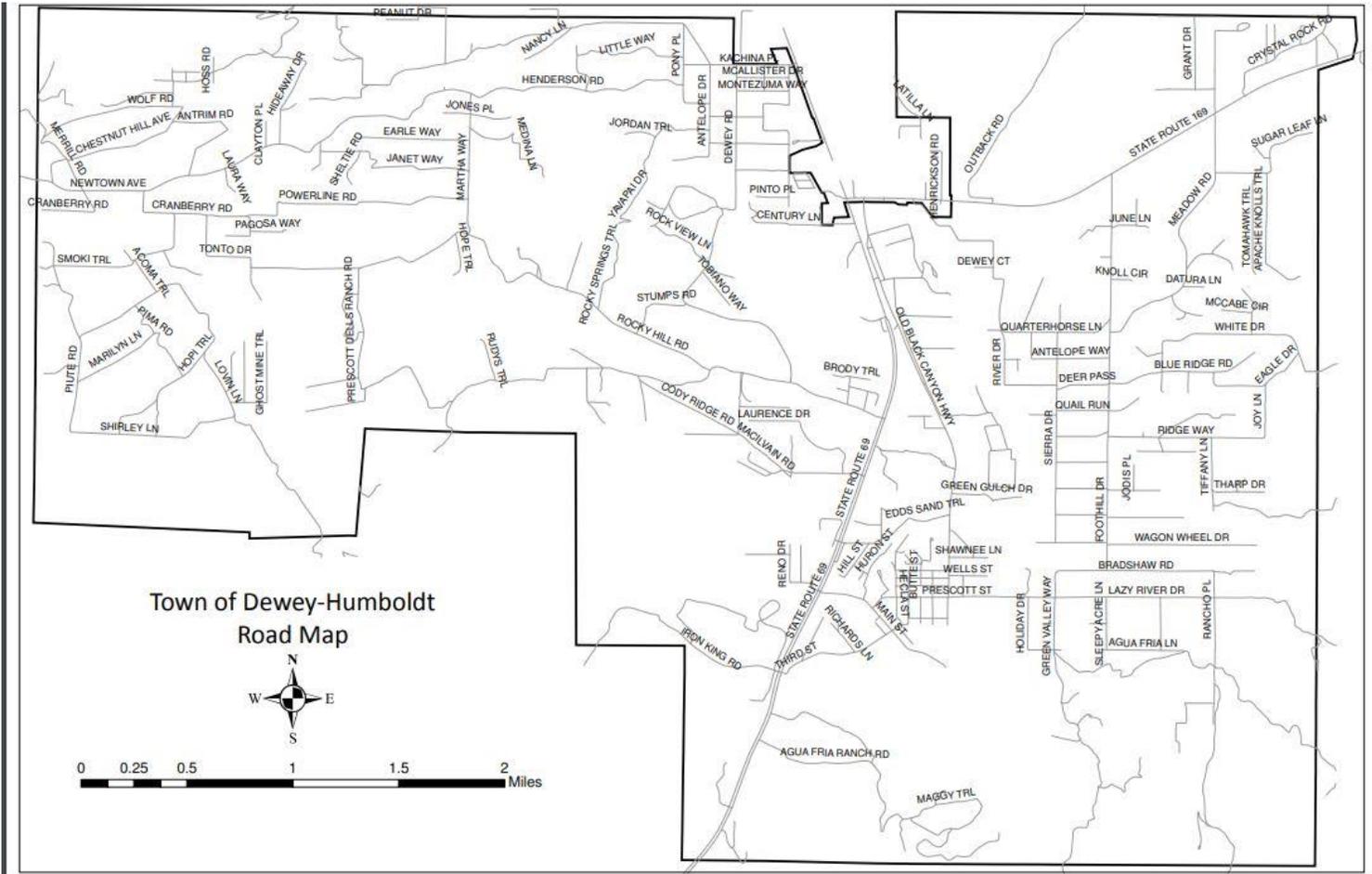
Maps and Community Photos

See next page.

DEWEY-HUMBOLDT TOWN LIMITS







Town of Dewey-Humboldt
Road Map



0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

TOWN BOUNDARIES vs. ZIP CODE BOUNDARIES

The Town of Dewey-Humboldt is composed of 18.9 square miles and has a population of roughly 4,000. There are two zip codes assigned to the Town (86327 Dewey & 86329 Humboldt). The below map gives an approximate depiction of the Town of Dewey-Humboldt on the zip code map.



The 86327 and 86329 zip codes cover just over 236 square miles and have a population of well over 10,000. A vast majority of the two zip codes are located within the unincorporated areas of Yavapai County. In addition to the unincorporated areas of the County, the Prescott Country Club, the Quailwood Meadows Subdivision and the Orchard Ranch RV Park all are assigned the 86327-zip code but are in the Town of Prescott Valley.

Dewey-Humboldt
Historic Area
Adopted October 2016

