Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District

Larimer County, Colorado

Community Wildfire Protection Plan September 2008

Poudre Park Station 1



Written by Laura Stahl with assistance of Buzz Stith and Jon Schneider

Introduction

This Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) was developed by The Poudre Park Community with guidance and support from the Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District, Larimer County Emergency Services, Colorado State Forest Service, and US Forest Service. This CWPP was created according to the guidelines of *Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, A Handbook for Wildland-Urban Interface Communities*, March 2004. This CWPP supplements several Larimer County documents referenced in Appendix A. Information in this plan will be provided at a level of specificity determined by the community and appropriate agencies.

The process of developing a CWPP can help a community clarify and define its priorities for the protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure in the wildland-urban interface. It can also lead community members through valuable discussions regarding management options and implications for the surrounding watershed.

Community / Agencies / Interested Parties Involved

Representatives involved in the development of the Poudre Park CWPP are included in the following table. Their name, organization, and roles and responsibilities are indicated below:

CWPP Development Team

| Name | Organization | Roles / Responsibilities |
|---|---|---|
| Sandy Lemberg, Pat Davis, Cheryl White, Jan Gueswel, | Community members who live within the Poudre Park Area | Primary development of CWPP and decision making – community risk and value assessment, development of community protection priorities, and establishment of fuels treatment project areas and methods |
| Laura Stahl Jon Schneider Buzz Stith | Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District | Primary development of CWPP and decision making – community risk and value assessment, development of community protection priorities, and establishment of fuels treatment project areas and methods |
| Bill Sears | Lower Poudre Canyon Association | Primary development of CWPP and decision making – community risk and value assessment, development of community protection priorities, and establishment of fuels treatment project areas and methods |
| Boyd Lebeda, District Forester, and Denise White, Assistant District Forester, Fort Collins District | Colorado State Forest Service | Facilitation of planning process and approval of CWPP process and minimum standards. Provides input and expertise on forestry, fire and fuels, and FireWise concepts. |
| Tony Simons Services Specialist | Larimer County Wildfire Safety Program | Provides input and expertise on hazard assessment, defensible space, and FireWise concepts. |
| Richard Edwards, USFS | Relevant federal land management agencies (USFS, BLM, etc.) | Provides input and expertise on federal lands forestry, fire and fuels, and FireWise concepts. |

Community Description

It is the goal of the Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District to create a CWPP for all areas of the district. Due to the size and layout of the inhabited areas we will split the CWPP into four Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Communities. Each community will encompass one of the four fire stations. The communities will be defined as:

Poudre Park – Station 1 Rustic - Station 2 Spencer Heights – Station 3 Manhattan Creek – Station 4

This CWPP covers Poudre Park

The Poudre Park community is defined by the natural breaks between inhabited areas and encompasses the non-inhabited area west to the border on the Rustic CWPP area. The community borders are defined as:

- East Border Gateway Park
- West Border Indian Meadows Bridge
- North Border First visible Ridge
- South Border First visible Ridge



This section of Highway 14 is a major destination for campers, hikers, rafters, fishermen, and sightseers. Even though there are many miles that have few structures, such as from the cutoff at Stove Prairie to the Indian Meadows Bridge, this is a high use area. Popular hiking trails include Grey Rock, and Hewlett Gulch. The Cache La Poudre River is a favored destination spot for whitewater rafters and Kayakers.

Many residences and businesses are accessed directly off highway 14, also known as Poudre Canyon Highway. However, there are some roads and gulches off the main highway.

To the east, the PCFPD and the CWPP area starts at Gateway Park located at approximately mile marker 117. The home at 6019 Poudre Canyon Hwy is first home at the east edge of the district.

Boyd Gulch near MM 115 is a very narrow and rough road. There are 11 residences up this road. There are a few places to turn a type 6 engine around but no access to water.

Smith Bridge at MM 114.9 is wood construction with no official weight rating. There are 6 residences across the bridge.



At MM 114.5 there is a drive with 1 residence at the end. There is no place to turn around, but a type 6 could back up this driveway.



Unger Mountain Road

The entrance to Unger Mtn. Road MM 114.6 could easily be mistaken for a driveway. It is on the south side of road just east of Manners Bridge. There are 8 residences up this road, with the last being 1.1 miles up. There is limited turn around and no water access.

Manners Lane Bridge MM 114.5 Is concrete and steel beam construction. No official Weight rating. There are 6 residences across this bridge.



Workman Bridge MM 114



The workman bridge is wood construction and is posted at a 7 ton weight limit. This bridge is difficult to pass over.

Greyrock Trail at MM 113.4 is a popular hiking trail. There seems to be a fire up there almost every summer. There is a foot bridge crossing the river at the trail head.

Kramer Bridge MM 112.2 Concrete, Wood & Steel Construction. No Official Weight Rating This bridge is not right on Hwy 14.







The Wrobbel Bridge is concrete, wood & steel construction with no official weight rating.

Although there is no weight rating, it is not recommended to take fire equipment across this road. In an emergency you could access this area via the Kramer Bridge.



Elder Bridge MM 112

Concrete, Wood & Steel Construction. No Official Weight Rating

Near MM 112 you will find the community of Poudre Park. Poudre River Road runs through Poudre Park on the North side of the road. There are 27 residences on this road.

At the South West end of Poudre Park is Falls Creek Drive. This is a narrow road, but does have adequate turn around for type 6 engines. There are 17 residences on that road.



Hewlett Gulch Bridge MM 111.2

Concrete and steel beam construction. This bridge should be able to handle any type emergency equipment. There are 5 residences over this bridge.

There are very few structures/residences west of Poudre Park, but there are a few still captured in this CWPP.

At about MM 106.5 you will find Stove Prairie road. The district covered by PCFPD runs about .7 mile up this road. At that point it becomes the Rist Canyon Fire Department's area.

At MM 103.8 there is a walk suspension bridge and two homes on the other side of the bridge. There is no way to get fire equipment across the bridge for fire suppression.

The Narrows are from MM 105-102. The south aspect has heavy enough vegetation to support a significant fire. The north aspect is mostly steep rock walls.

There are a few areas at MM 101, 99, and 98 that are popular but illegal campsites. These are of great concern for unapproved campfires.

Near MM 98 there is a bridge that access's 5/6 USFS cabins. There is a locked gate at the bridge, but if it is open the bridge is rated for 9 tons.

Near MM 95.9 is County Road 63E, which accesses the Pingree Park area. The bridge should handle any type emergency equipment. There are 4 structures across the bridge, which are within the CWPP area. Even though the PCFPD is called to support many emergencies in the Pingree Park area it is not within their district and is not part of the CWPP.

There is one residence at MM 95.3 which is the last home at the west end of the CWPP.

Community Access

The main access through the Poudre Park Community is via Highway 14, which runs east/west through the full length of the community. Highway 14 is a state highway maintained by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). Highway 14 is accessed from Jackson County to the west, the intersection of Us highway 287 to the east, and can also be accessed from Pingree park road (MM 96) or Stove Prairie Road (MM 106) west of Poudre Park.

Vegetation Type

The elevation in the Poudre Park area ranges between 5,000 and 7,000 feet. This elevation is know as the Lower Montane and consists mostly of ponderosa pine. Interspersed amongst the pine are fire-flashy Rocky Mountain juniper trees. Other trees in the area consist of blue spruce, Engelmann spruce, aspen. The river's edge is predominately populated with cottonwood and willow. At this elevation there is still a fair amount of highly combustible sage brush, chokecherry, and currant bushes.

Vegetation varies between the north and south facing slopes. The south aspect is predominantly sage brush and grasses. The north aspect consists of a much denser tree population, most of which is ponderosa pine. Tall prairie grasses reside along most of the roadways. During dry seasons of the year, this material would ignite quickly, carrying wildfire throughout the community

Fire History

Over the past twenty years, approximately 161 wildfires burn on average over 2200 acres each year in Larimer County. In "slow" years, such as 1996, wildfires are relatively small. During the summer of 1996, several fires ranging in size from one acre to 180 acres, threatened 50 to 60 homes throughout Larimer County. However, although threatened, no homes burned.

At the other extreme is a year like 1994 when 340 fires, including the Hourglass Fire which destroyed 13 buildings at Pingree Park, burned through out Larimer County. In addition to destroying 13 buildings at Pingree Park, the Hourglass Fire threatened 12 homes in the Poudre Springs area.

Other recent fires include:

- The Snowtop Fire, in July 1993, which threatened at least 5 homes in Cedar Park.
- ➤ In 1995, the Bonner Peaks Fire threatened 8 homes west of Highway 287.
- ➤ In 2000, the Bobcat Fire burned 10,599 acres and destroyed 18 homes.
- Tragically in 2002 the Big Elk Fire burned 4413 acres and claimed 3 lives.
- In 2004, a home owner burning trash started the Picnic Rock Fire, which burned 8,908 acres and destroyed 1 home.

The Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District responds to an average of seven fire calls each year and many vehicle accidents that have the potential for starting a fire. Many of these calls turn out to be minor fires, however if the volunteer department were not in the area to respond, many could have turned into large fires quickly. One example is in April of 2003 when the Glen Echo Resort burnt to the ground. Due to the quick action from the Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District and their surrounding mutual aid partners, the fire was contained to just the building itself. Had the fire moved into the surrounding ponderosa pines it had the potential to spread rapidly through the Upper Poudre Canyon.

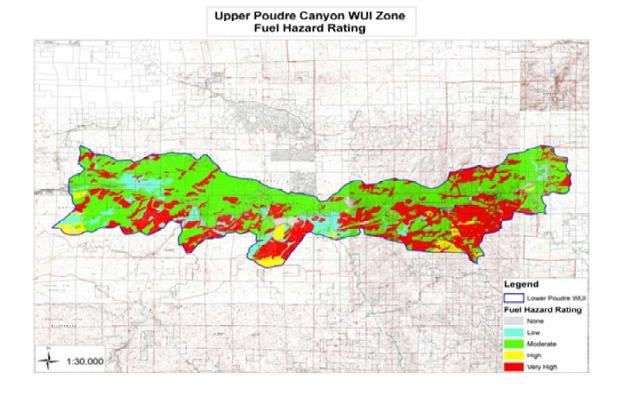
Current Fire Risks

Colorado as well as other western states is experiencing some of the largest fires in recent memory, in part, because we are experiencing some of the most severe drought conditions in history. Fire ecology reveals that big fires occur during times of extreme drought. There is little one can do to control drought. Under severe drought, especially if coupled with winds, normal fire behavior is thrown out the window.

History shows the West has always experienced periodic drought, and large fires are not just a recent phenomenon. During the 1930s Dust Bowl era more than 39 million acres yearly burned on average across the United States.

The drought condition is also a major factor in the recent mountain pine beetle epidemic. The pine beetle has not yet hit the Poudre Park community in epidemic proportion as it has in many other parts of the state, but many log pole and ponderosa trees have been lost to the mountain pine beetle. However, the mountain pine beetle is predicted to crest over Cameron Pass into Larimer County in large numbers within the next few years.

Red and dead trees in large numbers will add to the vulnerability of the Poudre Canyon to experience a large scale fire. Couple that with the overgrown forest, which is in part a result of an old philosophy to suppress all fire and we have a forest that is very vulnerable to fire. Without natural intervention via fire or human activity such as mechanical thinning, or prescribed burns, tree stands have stagnated. Fire crowning into these vulnerable stands would ignite quickly, carrying wildfire throughout the community.



The above fuel hazard map of the Poudre Park area shows that the current fuel hazard for most of the area is at the moderate or very high level. The large area of very high hazard exists mainly on the south slope near the most populated area of the community. Prevailing winds are from the west and northwest. Forested areas to the north and east are considered a moderate fuel hazard risk at the present time.

Fire mitigation projects completed by individuals can lend protection to individual homes and neighborhoods as well as lessen the chances of a wildfire starting from within the community. Many community residents have completed fire mitigation projects on their property. Recognizing that people cannot be forced to complete fire mitigation projects on their property, all Poudre Park Area landowners are encouraged to create defensible space and reduce other fire hazards on their personal property.

Community Risk Assessment

Representatives from the core team for the Poudre Park Community of the Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District (PCFPD) CWPP met on June 20, 2008 to discuss community values that are potentially at risk from wildfire, as well as to create action items for mitigating wildfire risk to these values. Participants at this meeting included community members, members from the local volunteer fire department, the district forester from the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS), a representative from the USDA Forest Service, and a privately-contracted facilitator. The community members played a critical role in identifying values atrisk and creating action items, while the role of the district forester and the USFS representative was to provide technical support and scientific information. It is important to note that the community members held the decision-making authority. The purpose of the community risk assessment is to help to prioritize areas for treatment and identify the highest priority uses for available financial and human resources.

The community members and PCFPD representatives listed the following community values that are at-risk from wildfire, and through action items prioritized these values as high, medium, or low. Identifying values at-risk provided this group with a basis for determining action items, as action items specifically address values at-risk. Prioritizing these values assists the community and PCFPD in prioritizing mitigation projects for implementation.

- Homes
- Poudre River/watershed; the Poudre River is the only Wild and Scenic river in Colorado
- Forests
- Residents/visitors/people with special needs
- Community infrastructure (i.e. bridges, power lines)
- Gateway Park/reservoir
- Clean air
- Community center/historic school house
- Hiking areas, especially Greyrock, Young's Gulch, and Hewlett Gulch.
- Businesses
- Fire station
- Pets, livestock
- Wildlife
- Campgrounds
- River-based recreation
- Access roads, bridges; Highway 14 in particular as the major access route
- Communication systems (although it was noted that the current communication system for residents mainly telephone is inconsistent and unreliable, and an improved communication system would be beneficial)

Homes, Businesses, and Essential Infrastructure at Risk

2 Businesses exist in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

- Columbine General Store
- Mishawka Amphitheatre

167 Homes exist in the WUI

- Poudre Park
- Hewlett Gulch
- Boyd Gulch
- Unger Mountain
- Falls Gulch
- And many houses along highway 14

Roads, Driveways and Structures

- Most roads are marked in the Poudre Park area. Larimer County is currently working on a street renaming project, which will include possible street name changes. At this time we are not pursuing homeowners to mark their roads/homes. The project is expected to be completed mid 2008 and will include Larimer county enforcing the marking of roads and house numbers.
 - Roads and driveways are gravel and/or dirt. Highway 14 is paved.
 - Presence of snow and mud limit seasonal access to many roads and driveways in the WUI.

- Most roads/driveways meet clearance and turnaround space needs of emergency equipment. However, a few such as Boyd Gulch and Unger Mountain Road have very limited turn around area and are not maintained.
- From surveys returned from homeowners it seems most homes and other structures within the WUI have composition roofs. About 1/3 have metal roofs. Only a few have wood shake roofs.
- Most homes are constructed of wood products and have attached wooden decks.

Bridges and Gates

- Most bridges in the Poudre Park area will support emergency equipment.
- Some gates are locked. PCFPD is encouraging homeowners to allow the department to put a lock in conjunction with the homeowner lock for emergency access.

Utilities

- The Rural Electric Administration (REA) has various electric lines situated in the WUI
- Some utilities are underground, including some REA & CenturyTel lines.
- Propane tanks are above ground and are placed at a safe distance from structures.
- There are no natural gas lines in the Poudre Park WUI.

Water

- Most homes have wells as a primary water source and a few have cisterns.
- The Cache La Poudre River is the main water resource.

Critical Infrastructure and Values at Risk

- Poudre Park Community Center
- Highway 14
- Cache La Poudre River
- Bridges
- Power Lines
- Phone Lines

Local Preparedness and Firefighting Capability

Initial response to all fire, medical and associated emergencies is the responsibility of the Poudre Canyon FPD. Wildland fire responsibilities of Larimer County, Colorado State Forest Service, United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service are described in the current *Larimer County Annual Operating Plan*. All mutual aid agreements, training, equipment, and response are the responsibility of the local fire department and the agencies listed above.

Water access for the fire department

- MM 114.7 Bridges Take out Good Drafting Site
- MM 112.8 Bridges Put In Good Pumping Site
- MM 111.6 Columbine Good Drafting Site
- MM 111.4 Louis Gueswel's home Has a pump in the river with hose for filling fire trucks. Only available during summer months.
- MM 111 Across Hewlett Gulch Bridge Good Drafting Site



- MM 111 Forest Service Dry Well
- MM 110.5 Poudre Park Picnic Area Good Drafting Site
- MM 110.2 Diamond Rock Picnic Area Good Pumping Site
- MM 109.7 Ouzel Picnic Area Good Pumping Site
- MM 109.1 Ansel Watrous Camp Ground #2 Good Pumping Site
- MM 109 Ansel Watrous Camp Ground #1 Good Pumping Site
- MM 108.2 Mishawaka Inn Good Drafting Site
- MM 105.4 Stove Prairie Landing Camp Ground Good Pumping Site
- MM 105.1 Upper Landing Picnic Area Good Pumping Site
- MM 104.7 Stevens Gulch Picnic Area Good Drafting Site
- MM 101 Narrows Camp Ground Good Drafting Site
- MM 100.6 Dutch George Camp Ground Good Pumping Site
- MM 100 Century Park Picnic Area Good Pumping Site
- MM 98.9 Moutain Park Camp Ground Good Pumping Site
- MM 97 Kelly Flats Camp Ground Good Pumping Site

Landing Zones that can be used for Helicopter support

- MM 94.4 Indian Meadows (Elev 7020) N40*41.9249 W105*32.3616
- MM 97 Kelly Flats (Elev 6796) N40*40.9926 W105*28.9390
- MM 105.8 Stove Prairie Road (Elev 6082) N40*40.967 W105*23.308
- MM 112 Hewlett Gulch (Elev 5706) N40*41.337 W105*18.503
- MM 118 Palmer Landing (Elev 5248) N40*41.275 W105*14.190

Generally speaking, the Poudre Park Area has good fire fighting and emergency services capability. The PCFPD is always working on enhancements in training and equipment. The biggest challenge for the PCFPD currently is the need to replace its current station #1, which is obsolete and outdated.

There is a need to design pre-planned evacuation routes, which would facilitate smoother traffic flow in an emergency.

Hazard Reduction Priorities

• Some thinning should occur on a number of properties, especially those properties that abut National Forest land and those that could cause access fire risk to others homes and structures. When properties are thinned, it is recommended that property owners retain the larger trees as well as, aspen, mountain maple and other deciduous varieties. This will allow the property to retain its forest-like quality even as wildfire protection levels are increased.

^{*} **NOTE:** Pumping Sites can be used with floating pumps or trash pumps but the water is too far away to draft with an engine.

^{*} NOTE #2: All Forest Service Campgrounds are locked during the winter months.

- The homes that have shake/shingle roofs are the most likely not to survive a wildfire. Flammable roofs should be replaced with non-flammable or fire rated alternatives.
- Homeowners should store firewood away from homes and propane tanks.
- Should a wildfire occur, deck furniture and hemp door mats should be pulled inside the house before the fire arrives.
- Roofs and gutters should be cleaned of pine needles, leaves and other debris. Needles, leaves
 and other dead materials must be continually removed from the roof, decks and
 walkways.
- Little things are important. Any items adjacent to a house are considered "attached" to the
 house by a fire. This includes wood decks, fences and walkways. Metal flashing can be
 inserted between the house and its "attachment" it could stop the progress of a fire. For
 decks, residents should consider using HardiPlank or fiber cement on the side wall
 adjacent to the wood decking material.
- Pruning and clipping slash are occasionally disposed of into a remote area of a homeowner's property. Slash should be removed from the area, as it creates a substantial fuel bed. If removing the slash is not practical, it should be mulched or piled in an area that is safe to burn and burned during the winter or spring when snow level allows for safe burning. Remember a burn permit is required for slash burns. If the slash is too much for the homeowner to burn in a safe manner, please work with PCFPD.

Action Plan

The community and PCFPD members have developed and attached an action plan which identifies roles and responsibilities, funding needs and timetables listed in Hazard Reduction Priorities. The core team will meet annually to evaluate progress and mutually agree on treatment priorities.

In cooperation with the Larimer County Fire Education Group, the Larimer Fire Council, and the Poudre Canyon FPD, the community supports and promotes Firewise activities as outlined in the Larimer County Fire Plan. The community supports and educates its citizens in ways to reduce structure ignitibility through meeting Larimer County Building Code Requirements and utilizing Colorado State Forest Service FireWise Construction Fact Sheets.

Poudre Park Community CWPP: Action Items

The community members referred to their list of values at-risk to create the following action items. The action items are presented in a general list according to priority level, which allows the community to implement projects in whatever order is the most efficient and effective.

Action Items: created from homeowners values

| Action Item | Owner | Priority Level |
|---|--|----------------|
| Recommendation to increase the availability of barricade system | PCFPD to provide information about the system to homeowners and possible help fund with grant money. | High |
| Create defensible space around | Homeowners | High |
| homes and structures; | | |
| Improve the communication | PCFPD to identify a | High |
| systems – recommendation for non- | scanner that home owners | |

| 11 1 1 1 | 1 1 1 1 11:1 | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| cordless phones, recommendation to | could purchase and publish | |
| investigate acquiring a scanner | an article in the | |
| | "connection" | |
| Continue to pursue grants to | PCFPD – will continue to | High |
| mitigate common areas and around | apply for grants and add | |
| historic structures | the community mitigation | |
| | efforts. | |
| Communicate with the USFS | Homeowners and PCFPD | High |
| regarding complimentary mitigation | need to identify these areas | |
| treatments | and work together to | |
| | develop a communication | |
| | process to USFS | |
| Create defensible space around | Homeowners and PCFPD | High |
| roads, bridges, power lines, and | need to identify these areas | 111811 |
| other critical community | and work together to | |
| infrastructure | mitigate. | |
| | | High |
| Create a formal evacuation plan and | PCFDP – will identify a | High |
| phone tree, which also addresses | team consisting of | |
| evacuating pets and livestock | homeowners and PCFPD | |
| | members in the area to | |
| | develop an evacuation | |
| | plan. | |
| Seek funding for fire fighting | PCFPD will continue to | High |
| resources | purse grants. | |
| | Homeowners should | |
| | support upcoming mill | |
| | levy and bond issue on | |
| | November 2008 ballet | |
| Increase water storage capacity and | PCFPD to identify areas of | High |
| hydrants | need and pursue funding | |
| Develop a plan to increase | PCFPD – will address at | High |
| community education and | least once each year at the | |
| awareness; includes the suggestion | monthly Lower Poudre | |
| to discuss emergency preparedness | Canyon Association | |
| in the newsletter | meetings. | |
| | moonings. | |
| Increase valunteer fire fighter | Homeown are are | High |
| Increase volunteer fire fighter | Homeowners are | High |
| recruitment | encouraged to volunteer | |
| | and PCPFD will provide | |
| | information to new | |
| | residence | 3.6.1 |
| Create a database of property | PCFPD will create a | Medium |
| information. | database using information | |
| | from homeowner surveys. | |
| | The data base will be used | |
| | in emergency response to | |
| | homes to reduce risk to | |
| | firefighters and property | |
| Annual updates and revision to | The PCFPD agreed to take | Medium |
| CWPP | the lead in annually | |
| | updating/revising the | |
| | CWPP. The group | |
| | suggested that this annual | |
| | task could be incorporated | |
| | into the Lower Poudre | |
| | Canyon Association | |
| | meetings | |
| Address tree mortality issues | PCPFD and LPCA should | Medium |
| Address nee mortanty issues | TOTTO and LICA SHOULD | iviculuili |

| associated with magnesium chloride | draft a joint letter | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| with CDOT; includes removing | addressing the issue | |
| dead trees, and the potential to | | |
| discontinue applying it to roads | | |
| Communicate with surrounding | PCPFD | Medium |
| communities in order to compliment | | |
| mitigation treatments | | |
| Create a lower Poudre Canyon | PCPFD to manage and | Medium |
| community slash pile | burn | |
| Create a plan for education and | USFS to communicate at a | Low |
| public outreach to campground | LPCA meeting any efforts | |
| visitors regarding wildfire | being made to educate | |
| prevention | campers | |

- A high priority is the need for a formal evacuation plan that ensures the appropriate agencies have emergency notification procedures and evacuation plans in place and clearly understood by residents. Below are some points to address when developing the plan.
 - o Encourage residents to put together individual evacuation plans including addressing any existing pet and livestock issues.
 - o Identify a pre-established evacuation destination.
 - o Identify community members to serve as key communicators in the event of a fire requiring evacuation and help monitor a check off list of residents as they leave.
 - o Identify any residents that will need assistance with evacuation.
 - O Distribute information about what to do when an evacuation has been ordered. This should include a map of evacuation routes.
 - o Ensure Business owners have identified how they will notify and assist guests.
 - o Identify a scanner that homeowners can purchase and program "Poudre Tac" to use as an information source during emergency evacuation.

Other Priorities

- Support the Poudre Canyon Fire and EMS and encourage full-time residents to become volunteers. All volunteers do not need to be emergency responders. There is a need for a support team that could run supplies and/or help with logistics in an emergency.
- Assist the fire department by following FireWise homeowner guidelines and create defensible space around homes and structures.
- Each homeowner is asked to evaluate his or her property and determine if a water source (river) is accessible to fire engines. If a homeowner believes water can be accessed from their property, they are encouraged to allow access to the Poudre Canyon Fire Department.
- The PCFPD would like to manage a slash pile burn or mulch program in the winter and early spring. They would utilize the snow cover and equipment to burn slash that is not safe for the homeowner to burn without assistance.
- The PCFPD applies for mitigation grants each year. When they are successful they use the grants to encourage homeowners to do mitigation. Past programs have included providing a dumpster to haul slash, selling fire extinguishers at a reduced rate, paying portions of hazard tree removal, and thinning and tree removal in common areas. Continuing this program is a priority.

Finalizing the Community Wildfire Protection Plan

The Poudre Park Area Community Wildfire Protection Plan was collaboratively developed. Interested parties and federal land management agencies managing land in the vicinity of Poudre Park have been invited to participate and provide input to the process by mail, e-mail, telephone, and face to face during CWPP meetings and homeowner visits.

The CWPP identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment that will protect the Poudre Park Area. It also recommends measures to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.

The following community representatives / agencies have reviewed and support this *Community Wildfire Protection Plan*.

William Sears

Lower Poudre Canyon Association

Boyd Lebeda 8/28/2008

Fort Collins District Colorado State Forest Service Bette Blinde

Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District

Ellen L Hodges 8/28/2008

Canyon Lakes Ranger District USDA Forest Service

Appendix A

The documents referred to below can be found at http://www.co.larimer.co.us/wildfire/

- Larimer County Fire Plan a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (Larimer County 2004)
- Larimer County Wildfire Mitigation Plan (CSFS 1998)
- Recommendations for Improving Wildfire Safety in Larimer County (CSFS 1997)
- Larimer County Subdivision Wildfire Hazard Review (Larimer County/CSFS 2002)
- Larimer County Annual Operating Plan (updated annually)
- FEMA— Northern Colorado Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (2004)

Current copy of this CWPP can be found at http://pcfpd.com/cwpp.aspx.

Page 16