



Josephine County Integrated Fire Plan 2004/2005 Action Plan

This document contains the goals, objectives and actions within the Josephine County Integrated Fire Plan, as well as the strategies for monitoring and implementation and review of the fire plan over time.

Plan Goals

- Protect against potential losses to life, property and natural resources from wildfire
- Build and maintain active participation from each Fire Protection District;
- Set realistic expectations for reducing wildfire risk;
- Identify and prioritize actions for fire protection;
- Access and utilize federal and other grant dollars;
- Identify incentives for fire protection and community participation;
- Promote visible projects and program successes;
- Monitor the changing conditions of wildfire risk and citizen action over time; and
- Institutionalize fire-related programs and sustain community efforts for fire protection.

Objectives and Actions

1. Risk Assessment
2. Fuels Reduction
3. Emergency Management
4. Education and Outreach
5. Stewardship Contracting





1. Risk Assessment Objectives

- Identify Communities-at-Risk and the Wildland-Urban Interface
- Develop and conduct a wildfire risk assessment
- Identify and prioritize hazardous fuels treatment projects

Risk Assessment Actions

1.1 Develop a methodology for the risk assessment.

This action includes a review of existing risk assessment processes and state and federal requirements for risk assessment.

Timeline:	October – December 2003
Outcomes:	Assessment of wildfire risk in Josephine county
Progress:	Completed: Risk Assessment reflects NASF, HFRA, NFP and FEMA requirements and guidelines for risk assessment
Lead:	Jim Wolf, ODF, Charley Martin, BLM, Josephine County GIS
Monitoring Strategy	Maintain information on up-to-date technologies and data for risk assessment. Use reliable and usable data that is compatible among the various partner agencies.
Performance Measures	Annual report and maps of wildfire risk Description of data used and findings
Timeline	Annual

1.2 Review, identify, and integrate new and best available data in the wildfire risk assessment

This action includes using reliable data that is compatible among the various partner agencies. Compatibility between County, state and federal fire plans will ensure that all partners have access to information and resources. Consistent data will help identify fuels projects on adjacent public and private lands.

Timeline:	January – March 2004
Outcomes:	Refined database reflecting the best sources of data as it becomes available
Progress:	Completed: JCIFP Risk Assessment reflects BAD from FS, BLM, ODF and other agencies and RFPDs
Lead:	Jim Wolf, ODF; Cody Zook, Josephine County, BLM, FS
Monitoring Strategy	Review existing communities at risk list and any jurisdictional boundary changes that may affect this list Monitor changes in the Federal WUI boundaries.
Performance Measures	Annual report on Communities-at-Risk and up-to-date WUI map
Timeline	Annual





1.3 Define and illustrate “Communities at Risk” and the Wildland Urban Interface.

The National Fire Plan and Healthy Forests Restoration Act include guidelines for identifying the WUI and Communities-at-Risk. This task should consistent with those guidelines.

Timeline:	March – June 2004
Outcomes:	Maps and information on the Josephine County WUI and Communities at Risk
Progress:	Completed: List and map of Communities at Risk; Adopted Federal FMP definition of WUI
Lead:	Cody Zook, Josephine County; Jim Wolf, ODF; Fire Districts
Monitoring Strategy	Continue to reflect community input from ongoing meetings as an overlay on the risk assessment
Performance Measures	Up-to-date community overlay of resources and values
Timeline	Annual

1.4 Develop strategies for obtaining and using community input in the risk assessment.

Community values must be integrated within the risk assessment. While there are ways of quantifying density and structural value, it is equally as important to gather information from the public and find a way to include it within the risk assessment. Providing citizens with an opportunity to review maps and identify what they value most can result in an overlay for the risk assessment that illustrates social, ecological, cultural and economic values.

Timeline:	March 2004 – May 2005
Outcomes:	Community input on risk and values
Progress:	Semi-Completed: Community meeting process implemented in Applegate Valley, Williams, Wolf Creek and Illinois Valley to date. In Fall 2004 and Winter/Spring 2005, the JCIFP will conduct community meetings in the unprotected areas.
Lead:	Kathy Lynn, PWCH; Tracy Katelman, Illinois Valley Fire Plan
Monitoring Strategy	Inventory private, county, state and federal existing and planned fuels treatment projects
Performance Measures	Maps reflecting existing and planned fuels treatment projects
Timeline	Annual
Lead:	Josephine County GIS, ODF, BLM, RFPDs





1.5 Monitor public and private fuels reduction efforts.

As fuels treatment occurs on public and private lands, the risk assessment database must continue to reflect the treatment occurring on the ground. This will affect priorities, illustrate where work can be done on adjacent lands, and help the County to know how well progress is being made countywide.

Timeline:	Ongoing
Outcomes:	Treatment reflected in updated risk assessment maps
Progress:	Currently, the BLM, Forest Service and ODF provide updated information on existing and planned fuels treatment projects. The Applegate Valley Fire District has also provided the County with data on ongoing efforts. The Forestry Action Committee, Lomakatsi Restoration Group and Illinois Valley CRT are also actively managing defensible space programs.
Lead:	Risk and Fuels Committees

Monitoring Strategy	Review data gathered from various entities coordinating fuels reduction projects
Performance Measures	Consistent data collection and analysis illustrating implementation and effectiveness of treatments
Timeline	Ongoing

1.6 Develop a long-term strategy for monitoring and implementing fuels reduction. Direct fuels reduction efforts to highest risk areas.

As fuels treatment occurs on public and private lands, the risk assessment database must continue to reflect the treatment occurring on the ground. This will affect priorities, illustrate where work can be done on adjacent lands, and help the County to know how well progress is being made countywide.

Timeline:	September 2004 – June 2005
Outcomes:	Treatment reflected in updated risk assessment maps
Progress:	
Lead:	Risk and Fuels Committees

Monitoring Strategy	Monitor acres treated, location and relative risk rating annually. Coordinate with watershed councils and other organizations; utilize multi-party monitoring.
Performance Measures	Comparative maps illustrating changes in conditions over time
Timeline	Annual
Lead:	County GIS, ODF, BLM, Forest Service, watershed councils, community organizations





2. Fuels Reduction Objectives

- Sustain a landscape approach to fuels reduction that focuses on high wildfire risk areas (Identify strategies for coordinating fuels treatment projects at a landscape scale)
- Administer grants for fuels reduction equitably across fire districts and provide low-income and special need citizens with an opportunity to reduce their fuels and participate in local programs.
- Identify opportunities for biomass marketing and utilization

Fuels Reduction Actions

2.1 Identify/prioritize fuels treatment projects on county and private land using the risk data

This action is coordinated directly with the risk assessment committee. The risk assessment considers existing and planned fuels treatments on private and public land, which will aid in making decisions about landscape treatments. Priorities will also consider input gathered at community meetings.

Timeline:	June 2004 – September 2005
Outcomes:	Identification and prioritization of fuels treatment projects.
Progress:	The risk committee is identifying a preliminary list of projects and will present this information to the fire districts and fuels reduction committee for input.
Lead:	Risk Committee
Monitoring Tasks	Coordinate with the Risk Assessment group to identify and prioritize fuels treatment projects on an annual basis.
Performance Measures	Updated maps illustrating priority treatment areas and overlays of community values and priorities
Timeline	Ongoing

2.2 Use risk assessment in applications for National Fire Plan grants and other fuels dollars

As grants are announced, the fuels committee will use information and maps developed through the risk assessment in the applications. Coordination with the risk committee is essential.

Timeline:	Ongoing
Outcomes:	Increased competitiveness for grant dollars
Progress:	In 2004, the JCIFP Fuels Committee submitted National Fire Plan, Forest Service and BLM RAC grants using risk data. This is an ongoing action as funds become available.
Lead:	Fuels Committee (appointed grant writer)
Monitoring	Track grants and utilize risk assessment data in new applications





Tasks	
Performance Measures	Number of grants submitted for fuels reduction that reference risk assessment data
Timeline	Ongoing

- 2.3 **Review how grant dollars for fuels reduction projects are administered.**
Make changes to the program so that they are more directed towards landscape scale treatment and inclusive of the needs of low-income, elderly and disabled citizens. National Fire Plan and Title III grant dollars are used to provide home assessments and rebates for defensible space on private land. Grant funds have resulted in residents of Josephine County learning about and creating defensible space around their homes. However, the program has not provided an opportunity for strategic, landscape scale fuels treatments that are adjacent to federal land and planned projects, which would further increase fire protection. The rebate of \$330 has made it somewhat difficult for those who cannot afford the additional costs of fuels reduction on one-acre of land. Resource C describes interviews with contractors about average costs of defensible space on one acre of land.

Timeline:	Ongoing
Outcomes:	Increased competitiveness for grant dollars
Progress:	In 2004, the JCIFP Fuels Committee submitted National Fire Plan, Forest Service and BLM RAC grants using risk data. This is an ongoing action as funds become available.
Lead:	Fuels Committee and Special Needs Committee

Monitoring Tasks	Track fuels reduction grants and defensible space projects occurring on homes of citizens with special needs
Performance Measures	List and map illustrating # of homes and acres treated
Timeline	Annual

- 2.4 **Develop long-term strategies for maintenance of fuels reduction projects.**

This action should be coordinated with the Education and Outreach recognition program action items.

Timeline:	September 2004 – May 2005 (Ongoing action)
Outcomes:	Long-term maintenance of private fuels reduction projects
Progress:	The Education Committee is coordinating w/ Jackson County
Lead:	Fuels Committee

Monitoring Tasks	Document number of residents that maintain treatment (utilize the recognition program and Article 76)
Performance	Certification of homes every 3 years that have maintained





Measures	defensible space
Timeline	Every three years

2.5 Focus strategic planning for hazardous fuels treatment projects on evacuation routes/corridors

Timeline:	September 2004 – May 2005 (Ongoing action)
Outcomes:	Increased safety & effectiveness of evacuation procedures
Progress:	
Lead:	Fuels Committee/Josephine County Public Works and Utilities

Monitoring Tasks	Monitor number of evacuation corridors/roads treated for fire protection on county, private, state and federal roads
Performance Measures	Number of miles treated for fire protection along roads
Timeline	Annual

2.6 Promote education and outreach through all fuels reduction programs to ensure strong community involvement in fuels reduction and wildfire prevention projects.

Timeline:	September 2004 – May 2005 (Ongoing action)
Outcomes:	Increased awareness and citizen action to reduce wildfire risk
Progress:	The JCIFP Education committee is developing a campaign for Spring 2005.
Lead:	Fuels and Education Committee

Monitoring Tasks	Track education programs, document how well they integrate fuel reduction objectives, Coordinate with Education committee on education campaigns
Performance Measures	Annual report documenting fuels related education and outreach programs (utilize quarterly reporting forms)
Timeline	Annual

2.7 Increase grant dollars and target fuels reduction and fire protection to low-income, elderly, disabled and other citizens with special needs.

Timeline:	Ongoing
Outcomes:	Increased grant dollars and defensible space
Progress:	See the actions recommended in table A below.
Lead:	Risk and Fuels Committees





Monitoring Tasks	Track grant dollars and projects directed to citizens with special needs.
Performance Measures	Dollars and defensible space projects directed to citizens with special needs.
Timeline	Annual

2.8 Identify opportunities to explore and implement biomass marketing and utilization projects to help support long-term fuels reduction efforts.

Timeline:	Ongoing
Outcomes:	Opportunities to market and utilize raw materials from fuels projects. Economic benefit to help sustain long-term fuels reduction projects.
Progress:	See Chapter 9: Biomass Marketing and Utilization for background and information on existing activities
Lead:	RC&D, JSDI, Sustainable Northwest, Fuels Committee

Monitoring Tasks	Evaluate existing opportunities and markets and case study examples in the region
Performance Measures	Number of projects where raw materials are utilized and derive economic benefit
Timeline	Annual

2.9 Increase support for local contractors and workers to take advantage of employment opportunities related to fuels reduction projects.

This action may include training, a credentialing program and monitoring of the approach contractors take in the field. This action may also include support for residents to be able to do the work themselves around their own homes.

Timeline:	October 2004 - Ongoing
Outcomes:	Increased employment for local contractors and workers
Progress:	Referral list of local contractors and related businesses
Lead:	Fuels Committee

Monitoring Tasks	Identify and provide information on approaches to fuels treatment and standards for credentials.
Performance Measures	% of contracts completed by local workers and contractors
Timeline	Bi-annual





3. Emergency Management Objectives

- Develop strategies to strengthen emergency management, response and evacuation capabilities for wildfire or other natural disaster
- Build relationships between County government, local fire districts, ODF, BLM, Forest Service, Oregon Emergency Management, Oregon State Fire Marshal, Red Cross and others.
- Coordinate with California state agencies on border issues related to fire protection.

Emergency Management Actions

3.1 Clarify policies and procedures for the EOC, develop clear roles and responsibilities, and develop Standard Operating Procedures.

The Emergency Management Committee is the standing Board for the Josephine County Emergency Manager.

Timeline:	January 2004 – ongoing
Outcomes:	Standard Operating Procedures, clear roles and responsibilities in the EOC
Progress:	Ongoing efforts
Lead:	Sara Nicholson, JC Emergency Services and Phil Turnbull, Rural/Metro
Monitoring Tasks	Review policies and procedures on a regular basis.
Performance Measures	Standard operating procedures. Policy guide produced
Timeline	Annual Review

3.2 Strengthen Incident Command System and Create a Multi-Agency Coordination Group.

The Committee identified ICS and MAC training as a priority to strengthen emergency response and coordination. ODF and the Forest Service offered to coordinate and provide the ICS and Mac training at no cost.

- *Develop a written draft of MAC objectives and guidelines to present at the next Management Meeting.*
- *Have technical experts at the Management Meeting to help to facilitate the discussion.*
- *Draft MAC groups and coordinators, objectives and guidelines for each potential hazard incident.*
- *Review the EOP for each hazard.*
- *Appoint a MAC coordinator for wildfire at the first meeting and develop the position description.*
- *At the September state mandated disaster response exercise – test the MAC*
- *Create a declaration by the Josephine County Commissioners.*





Timeline:	March 2004 – Ongoing
Outcomes:	Increased Capabilities among County employees and County supervisors
Progress:	<p>Completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICS training held for Public Health Department in March. • ICS training also held for County Community Emergency Response Team members (100 citizens have been trained to date.) • 4 open ICS trainings for all County employees held in April - June. • Multi-Agency Coordination Group Training held June 29, 2004.
Lead:	Sara Nicholson, JC Emergency Services, Phil Turnbull, Rural/Metro, and Charlie Phenix, Rogue River - Siskiyou National Forest

Monitoring Tasks	Monitor County Management Meetings Evaluate annual exercise; focus on how well the MAC functions
Performance Measures	Number of people trained in ICS MAC Coordinators pre-appointed for each hazard event
Timeline	Annual exercise

3.3 Develop a protocol to use the County 911 Call-down systems

The 911 Technical Advisory Committee is in the process of developing protocols for the call-down system.

Timeline:	June 2004 – December 2004
Outcomes:	Protocol for the call-down system that utilizes GIS capabilities and is reflective of community telephone trees
Progress:	The 911 TAC Committee has begun to meet on this.
Lead:	911 Technical Advisory Committee

Monitoring Tasks	Test the call-down system using different variables (location, need, event)
Performance Measures	Implementation of the call-down system
Timeline	Annual





3.4 Strengthen public education and agency coordination on evacuation procedures.

Lessons learned from the 2002 Biscuit Fire indicated that increased public education about evacuation was necessary to control chaotic responses.

Timeline:	June 2004 – December 2004
Outcomes:	Protocol for addressing evacuation in an event of a wildfire or other disaster event, a map of current shelter sites and public education materials on evacuation.
Progress:	Production of an evacuation flyer. A meeting is scheduled for 8/5/04 to review preliminary ideas for the evacuation protocol. A map will be developed with Red Cross shelter sites.
Lead:	Josephine County Fire Defense Board
Monitoring Tasks	Update map illustrating arterial routes and shelter sites annually Review evacuation procedures with the Jo County Fire Defense Board
Performance Measures	Updated resource map Annual evacuation procedures review
Timeline	Annual

3.5 Increase opportunities for emergency management planning and identification of citizens with special needs.

Timeline:	June 2004 – December 2004
Outcomes:	Increased support for and reduced risk to elderly, disabled, youth, low-income and other special needs populations in the County.
Progress:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Josephine County Emergency Management is coordinating an inter-organizational special needs committee. • JC Emergency Management is also working with the Rogue Valley Council of Government to register citizens in the Special Needs Disaster Registry. • The Special Needs Committee is also developing the HELP program (<i>see Resource F.</i>)
Lead:	Josephine County Emergency Management
Monitoring Tasks	Monitor all JCIFP program implementation and evaluate how different elements target the special needs population
Performance Measures	The number of facilities and residents that participate in the disaster registry or in fuels reduction and education programs
Timeline	Annual





4. Education and Outreach Objectives

- Develop strategies for increasing citizen awareness and action for fire prevention
- Reach out to all citizens in the county (people of all ages, ethnicity, income, etc.)

Education and Outreach Actions

4.1 Develop principles and strategies for community mobilization.

Timeline:	April 2004 – June 2005
Outcomes:	Model approach for community organizing, Case Study from Thompson Creek Fuels Reduction project.
Progress:	Community Fire Plan meetings and events held and evaluated in Williams and Wolf Creek between April and July 2004. Additional meetings scheduled in the Rural/Metro area and Thompson Creek. Lessons learned will be documented in a case study.
Lead:	Kathy, Neil
Monitoring Tasks	Evaluate techniques used to mobilize and education community members Report on techniques and lessons learned
Performance Measures	Increased awareness of fire risk Increase action to reduce fire risk
Timeline	Annual
Lead	

4.2 Refine and implement the JCIFP Spring Fire Prevention Campaign

Timeline:	June 2004 – June 2005
Outcomes:	Actions implemented (see the campaign document.) Evaluation and priorities for future years.
Progress:	A draft campaign document has been developed, priority actions identified and lead coordinators appointed.
Lead:	JCIFP Education Committee
Monitoring Tasks	Evaluate tasks implemented during the campaign, successes and challenges
Performance Measures	Number of homes certified in recognition program Number of participants in free day at the dump Number of displays Materials distributed
Timeline	Annual Review (beginning June 2005)

4.3 Focus on efforts with children.

Timeline:	June 2004 – Ongoing
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Outcomes:	Increased fire prevention activities and awareness for children
Progress:	2 presentations by Rural/Metro to after school program in May 2004. Included in Spring 2005 Campaign activities
Lead:	JCIFP Education Committee (Lloyd, Sue and Sara)

Monitoring Tasks	Evaluate number and type of fire education programs delivered to youth.
Performance Measures	Number of children that participate in County or RFPD fire activities
Timeline	Annual Evaluation

4.4 Coordinate all activities with the Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Cooperative.

Timeline:	June 2004 – Ongoing
Outcomes:	Strengthened partnership with the RVFPC (increased ownership of activities and opportunities for two county coordination.)
Progress:	RVFPC is hosting the JCIFP booth at the County Fair
Lead:	JCIFP Education Committee

Monitoring Tasks	Work with RVFPC to build their capabilities to maintain oversight to two-county fire prevention activities.
Performance Measures	Number of programs that RVFPC are involved with
Timeline	Annual evaluation

4.5 Identify opportunities to coordinate and leverage resources with the insurance industry.

Two resources include the Institute for Business and Home Safety and the Insurance Information Service of Oregon and Idaho (www.ibhs.org and www.insuranceoregon.org).

Timeline:	October 2004 – Ongoing
Outcomes:	Potential support from the insurance industry. Increased incentives for homeowners.
Progress:	
Lead:	TBD

Monitoring Tasks	Monitor interest and actions by the Insurance industry
Performance Measures	Number of programs (or amount of funds) that the insurance industry invests in.)
Timeline	





5. Stewardship Contracting Objectives

- Identify how stewardship contracting may contribute to broader economic and community well being.
- Identify the opportunities for stewardship contracting on Forest Service and BLM Land
- Discuss the role of the County in stewardship contracting in Josephine County
- Identify the resources needed to pursue stewardship contracting at a county level (and opportunities for other partner organizations)
- Identify opportunities to build upon JCIFP objectives for reducing wildfire risk across the landscape through stewardship contracting.

Next steps

- Conduct background research on stewardship contracting authorities and case studies
- Identify public and private partners with an interest in stewardship contracting in Josephine County
- Identify the costs and benefits to the County, federal agencies and other JCIFP partners involved with stewardship contracting in the region
- Work with Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management representatives to identify opportunities and challenges associated with stewardship contracting in Josephine County
- Meet with interested stakeholders to identify goals and objectives for stewardship contracting
- Identify connections between stewardship contracting and biomass utilization in the region
- Develop a written strategy for pursuing stewardship contracting in Josephine County.

