



Supplemental CWPP Resources



Additional research, literature, and resources is available for anyone interested in expanding their CWPP and related wildfire knowledge. This resource provides a curated list of national guides, research, studies, and links to other information for supplemental learning.

CWPP Research and Studies

Research and studies on CWPP development and implementation can provide evidence-based strategies and insights to improve plan effectiveness. The following reports, blogs, and videos are free resources that explore aspects of CWPP development and implementation, such as CWPP success factors, community engagement practices, CWPP benefits, and social diversity considerations.

Resource Name	Publisher/ Author	Year Published	Summary
Best Management Practices for Creating a Community Wildfire Protection Plan	US Forest Service (Jakes et al.)	2012	This paper presents best management practices for CWPP development and implementation based on the experiences of 13 communities in eight states. Best management practices include focusing on community context, identifying and employing community capacity, leveraging pre-existing networks, evaluating the CWPP frame and how that impacts the process, selecting the appropriate scale, and ensuring long-term success by showing quick progress.



Resource Name	Publisher/ Author	Year Published	Summary
Community Wildfire Protection Planning: is the Healthy Forests Restoration Act's Vagueness Genius?	Joint Fire Science Program	2011	This paper examines the characteristics of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA) and how those characteristics have impacted the development and implementation of CWPPs. The authors determine that although some aspects of the HFRA may have made CWPP development problematic, those same aspects have allowed communities the flexibility to create CWPPs that are relevant for their unique conditions.
Community Wildfire Protection Planning: The Importance of Framing, Scale, and Building Sustainable Capacity	Journal of Forestry (Williams et al.)	2012	The authors examined 13 case studies from across the U.S. to determine best management practices for facilitating the development and effective implementation of CWPPs. The paper highlights three best management practices: framing the problems, selecting a relevant scale that enables action, and taking steps to facilitate implementation and long-term success.
Community Wildfire Protection Plans in the American West: Homogeneity Within Diversity?	Journal of Environmental Planning (Abrams et al.)	2015	This research paper presents an analysis of 113 CWPPs across 10 western states where large fires have occurred. The analysis reveals most CWPPs focus on a standardized model of risk reduction through vegetation management and emergency response. The authors propose communities can better capitalize on the inherent flexibility of CWPPs to develop unique, site-specific plans and more attention to actions that homeowners and communities can take to build less ignitable structures local community capacity for fire preparedness and response.
Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Enhancing Collaboration and Building Social Capacity	Joint Fire Science Program (Williams et al.)	2009	This paper identifies factors and processes that consistently lead to effective collaborative fire and fuels management and enhance local social capacity to sustain wildfire protection activities. Findings from this research emphasize the importance of drawing on local knowledge and skills, building learning communities, accessing pre-existing networks and involving intermediaries, building on local capacities and developing new capacities to successful wildfire planning.
Critical Elements in the Development and Implementation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)	US Forest Service (Jakes et al.)	2007	Researchers reviewed case studies and found that the CWPP process itself can lead to benefits beyond those associated with wildfire mitigation, including building social networks, creating learning communities, and developing community capacity communities. These three themes have become critical to the process and important outcomes resulting from CWPP development and implementation.



Resource Name	Publisher/ Author	Year Published	Summary
CWPP 2.0: An Exploration of the Next Generation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans	Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network	2021	In 2020, FAC Net facilitated the CWPP 2.0 learning group consisting of more than 50 participants from across the country, representing a variety of agencies, scales, and organizations. Their objectives were to connect practitioners, examine current research, and explore the future of CWPPs. This overview summarizes key themes and takeaways.
CWPP Learning Group Recordings	Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network	2021	Six CWPP-focused presentations are available on FAC Net's YouTube channel. Presentations focus on long-term recovery planning, the integration of post-fire flood and debris flow risks into CWPP documents, research surrounding CWPPs, and implementation lessons.
Engagement in Local and Collaborative Wildfire Risk Mitigation Planning Across the Western US - Evaluating Participation and Diversity in Community Wildfire Protection Plans	PLOS ONE (Palsa et al.)	2022	This research looks at 1000 CWPPs across 11 states to identify the scale and scope of participation in CWPPs and how levels of participation and stakeholder diversity vary as a function of factors related to the planning process, planning context, and the broader geographic context in which plans were developed. Findings reveal that CWPPs significantly vary both by count and diversity of participants and that the former varies as a function of the diversity of the geographic scale of the plan, while participant diversity varies largely as a function of diversity of landowners within the jurisdiction.
Keys to Success in the Development of CWPPs	Joint Fire Science Program	2006	This paper is based on an interview with a group of 16 people involved in the development of CWPPs at the local, state, and national levels who shared the keys to their success in developing and implementing CWPPs. These success factors include: start with communities that have some existing capacity, focus on process, use local leadership, focus on relationships, take advantage of windows of opportunity, use a scale that makes sense, get help, and develop success measures.
Re-Visiting Community Wildfire Protection Plans	Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network	2021	This post from the FAC Network outlines key themes from the learning group and includes resource links for fire departments, crosswalking Hazard Mitigation Plans and CWPPs, tips for community engagement and more.



Resource Name	Publisher/ Author	Year Published	Summary
Social learning in a Policy-mandated Collaboration: Community Wildfire Protection Planning in the Eastern United States	Journal of Environmental Planning and Management (Brummel et al.)	2010	This paper investigates social learning and transformative learning in three case studies of CWPPs. Research findings suggest a potential role for top-down policy in setting the structural context for learning at the local level, but also confirm the importance of collaborative context and process in fostering social learning.
Trial by Fire: Community Wildfire Protection Plans Put to the Test	International Journal of Wildland Fire (Jakes and Sturtevant)	2013	This paper provides research results from four case studies of communities that had CWPPs in place when wildfires occurred. In most of the four communities, the CWPP itself and the planning process resulted in improved relationships among firefighting agencies, clarified responsibilities, and improved communication systems, contributing to fire response efficiency and effectiveness. CWPPs and wildfire experience can also support community resilience and adaptive capacity for future environmental changes and disasters.
Understanding Social Complexity Within the Wildland–Urban Interface: A New Species of Human Habitation?	Environmental Management (Paveglio et al.)	2009	This research describes two case studies from California as examples to show how social diversity influences adaptive capacity to deal with wildland fire. The WUI is painted not as a uniform entity, but instead as a complex mosaic of communities with differing needs and capacities for wildland fire and natural resource management.
Wildfire Risk Governance from the Bottom up: Linking Local Planning Processes in Fragmented Landscapes	Environmental Management (Hamilton, Pincus, Evers)	2023	This research paper looks at how different groups work together across large areas to manage wildfire risks. The study found that areas with shared wildfire risks are more likely to connect their planning efforts, and planning processes that are closer to each other and more alike are more likely to work together.
Community Wildfire Protection Planning Webinar	Fire Adapted Communities Network	2024	CWPP webinar providing a general overview of the planning process and considerations for supporting implementation. This webinar is available in English or Spanish .



CWPP National Guides

National CWPP guides can offer additional insights for communities as they prepare and implement CWPPs. Note that these resources are not specific to California and do not include information on minimum CWPP requirements or recommendations for any plans being submitted to CAL FIRE for final approval.

Resource Name	Publisher/Author	Year Published
A Fire Service Leader's Guide to Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan	International Fire Chiefs Association	2019
Community Guide to Preparing and Implementing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan	Wildland Fire Leadership Council	2008
Community Wildfire Protection Plan Evaluation Guide	Resource Innovations Institute for a Sustainable Environment (University of Oregon)	2008
Creating a Community Wildfire Protection Plan	US Fire Administration	2020
Engaging Socially Vulnerable Populations in Community Wildfire Protection Plans	Resource Innovations/Univ of Oregon, Forest Guild, Watershed Center	2008
Leaders Guide for Developing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan	National Association of State Foresters, International Association of Fire Chiefs, The Wilderness Society	2005
Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan	Society of American Foresters	2004
Wildfire Prevention Program Handbook (90IAM 5-H)	Bureau of Indian Affairs	2022
Wildfire Prevention Planning Technical Guide #2 (Version 1.2)	Bureau of Indian Affairs	2022



CWPP Quick Guides

Published in 2009 by the Joint Fire Science Program, the CWPP Quick Guides provide a broad framework for the collaborative CWPP process. Each guide spotlights lessons learned from a diverse array of case studies that point to specific, interacting success factors. The guides are arranged into four categories:

- Community Context/Antecedents and Readiness: Guides 1-4
- CWPP Development Process: Guides 5-11
- CWPP and Collaboration Outcomes: Guides 12-15
- Support and Miscellaneous: Guides 16-19

Each quick guide is listed and linked below. The first document, *The Community Wildfire Protection Planning Process: A Quick Guide Series on Collaboration*, offers an overview of the series and a short summary of each subsequent quick guide.

Resource Name
The Community Wildfire Protection Planning Process: A Quick-Guide Series on Collaboration
Quick-Guide #1: Current Community Situation
Quick-Guide #2: Existing Leadership / Prior Cooperation
Quick-Guide #3: Existing Networks
Quick-Guide #4: Scale of Wildfire Problems / Goals
Quick-Guide #5: The Role of the WUI in CWPP Planning and Implementation
Quick-Guide #6: Assessing Community Resources for Collaboration
Quick-Guide #7: Crafting Effective Messages to Inspire Community Participation
Quick-Guide #8: Participant Roles and Functions
Quick-Guide #9: Key Components of CWPPs and Templates
Quick-Guide #10: Factors that Influence Collaboration
Quick-Guide #11: Potential Resources & Authorities Brought by Government Participants to the Collaborative Process
Quick-Guide #12: The Diverse Benefits of CWPPs
Quick-Guide #13: Learning Community
Quick-Guide #14: New and Increased Capacities
Quick-Guide #15: Implementation and Sustainability
Quick-Guide #16: Community Based Approaches to Knowledge Transfer
Quick-Guide #17: CWPP Resource Directory
Quick-Guide #18: Monitoring the Collaborative Process
Quick-Guide #19: Conducting Risk Assessments



Additional CWPP and Wildfire Resources

Additional resources to assist in learning more about CWPPs, wildfire mitigation, planning, and related topics include the following:

CAL FIRE Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance Clearinghouse

CAL FIRE’s Clearinghouse Data Center is a collaborative hub powered by the [Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance Statewide Clearinghouse](#). The clearinghouse offers an array of curated documents, research articles, best practices, and other critical resources that can be sorted by programs and categories. Each submission is reviewed to ensure its relevance and value to wildfire preparedness, mitigation, and risk reduction.

Community Wildfire Planning Center (CWPC) Planning Hub

[CWPC’s Planning Hub](#) provides state and national resources to support planning activities in the wildland-urban interface (WUI). Resources include the national American Planning Association “Planning the Wildland-Urban Interface”—a comprehensive resource on the WUI, wildfire hazard and risk, planning tools, and community examples, and California-specific planning resources, such as links to LCI’s WUI Planning Guide, CWPC/CAL FIRE training course materials, and more.

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) Fire Network

The [UC ANR Fire Network](#) is a statewide team with expertise across a wide range of disciplines, including fire science and ecology, prescribed fire, home hardening and defensible space, community and regional planning, grazing and fire interactions, and much more. The Network includes specialists on UC campuses, advisors and staff in local communities, and broad networks of partners and volunteers. The goal of the Fire Network is to inspire and empower Californians, connecting them to the research, training, and tools they need to live with fire in California.

California Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force

The [California Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force](#) is a proactive effort created by Governor Newsom to show progress toward long term health and safe, sustainable coexistence with wildfire. The Task Force website offers resources for communities including Regional Resource Kits and Regional Profiles that summarize ecosystem and socio-ecological information about each region in California.



CWPP Portal and Data Library

The [CWPP Portal and Data Library](#) is hosted by the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network and offers a range of resources for wildfire risk mitigation practitioners and researchers, including an interactive story map that helps users compare different approaches for CWPP development and identifies similar communities. The CWPP Data Library also offers unique opportunities for researchers interested in social and institutional dimensions of wildfire risk governance.

Interested in more CWPP resources and guidance? Explore the entire CWPP Toolkit [here](#).

About the California CWPP Toolkit

The California CWPP Toolkit was co-developed by CAL FIRE's Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Division, Community Wildfire Planning Center, Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network, and California Fire Safe Council.

