

## What is a Community Wildfire Protection Plan?

### A Community Wildfire Protection Plan:

- Defines wildfire threat risk areas within and adjacent to the community for interface fires
- Identifies measures necessary to mitigate those risks i.e. tree removal, spacing, pruning
- Outlines a plan of action and proposed cost to implement these measures

A typical CWPP has two major components, reporting and maps. The reporting component details the community, the goals of the plan, assessed wildfire threat risks, the proposed plan and cost to address the risks both on crown land and adjacent land. The maps will outline the community, land ownership, hazards and treatment areas.

More detailed Guidelines are provided on the fuel management website at <http://ground.hpr.for.gov.bc.ca>.



Treated home



Area just as treatment commences

### A completed CWPP for your community will contain the following information:

#### Mapping:

An overview map that identifies land ownership, areas of wildfire threat risk to the community and priority fuel types for treatment to reduce the wildfire threats to the community. Ensure you are looking to potential treatment 2 km's from the community core.

#### Reporting:

General introduction and a description of forested areas in and around the community and on adjacent land whether Crown tenured, Municipality, Regional District or some other land tenure.

- Summary of findings and treatment recommendations
- Digital photos of high hazard areas

- A hazard risk analysis, debris utilization and treatment options
- An implementation plan that recommends fuel modification projects and prioritizes treatments areas
- A review of existing by-laws, land use, subdivision development, building construction and landscape design and make recommendations for changes to improve
- Consultation with the community about their wants and desires for the forest land that surrounds them
- Comments regarding wildlife habitat, riparian management, slope stabilization, Archeological Issues, access management, etc
- A commitment to adopt or promote FireSmart principles

## • Overview of the CWPP Process •

### **Step 1 Application for Funding**

The first step in the process is to apply for funding. Prior to making an application to the program, it is strongly recommended that you contact the FNESS office for advice. Applications for funding can be submitted to the FNESS office at 712 Mount Paul Way, Kamloops, BC V2H 1B5 or telephone (250) 377-7600

### **Step 2 Application Review**

After submission to UBCM, your completed application will be reviewed by the program team who will contact you if further information is required.

### **Step 3 Application Approval**

Applications that meet program criteria will be notified of funding approval by mail.

### **Step 4 Community Completes the CWPP**

Now work on the CWPP can begin. Remember that different elements of the plan will require different expertise and that any changes to your work plan after approval has been received must be approved by the FNESS Mountain Pine Beetle Program. Funds are not transferable to other projects. Ensure that you are communicating with the adjacent land owner so that we are working together to reduce the risk of wildfires.

It is strongly recommended that a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) be engaged for all aspects of the project relating directly to the forest management or fuel management treatments on forestland. Engaging an experienced professional as soon as possible will expedite the process. In any eventuality, a forest professional will be needed at the prescription stage before treatments commence.

### **Step 5 Completed CWPP is Submitted for Review**

The final report and associated mapping must be submitted to FNESS in hard copy and on a CD. The CWPP will be reviewed to ensure that all mandatory elements have been received in sufficient detail. Clarifications and/or additional information may be requested by program staff prior before CWPP is considered complete. Go to <http://ground.hpr.for.gov.bc.ca> to see what is contained in a completed submission.

### **Step 6 CWPP Review**

Once the final reporting has been received, the CWPP will be reviewed to ensure that all mandatory elements have been received in sufficient detail. Clarifications and/or additional information may be requested by program staff prior before CWPP is considered complete.

### **Step 7 CWPP is Finalized**

Following final approval, project funding can be applied for to initiate the fuel management treatments outlined in the plan. The final CWPP will be posted publicly on the FNESS website as a legacy for other communities.

### **Step 8 Implementation of Recommendations**

Now you are ready to consider the recommendations in your plan. If you are considering removal of forest fuels as a part of your community protection strategy, you may wish to consider a “fuel management pilot project” or a larger scale “operational fuel management” program.

Funding support is available for both of these alternatives and details are available at <http://ground.hpr.for.gov.bc.ca>