

# CHAPTER 15.

## WHITNEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ANNEX

### 15.1. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN POINT OF CONTACT

#### Primary Point of Contact

Renn Ross, Chief  
2515 S. Five Mile Rd.  
Boise, ID 83709  
Telephone: 208 375-6407  
e-mail address: rross@clearwire.net

### 15.2. JURISDICTION PROFILE

The Whitney Fire Protection District (WFPD) is a tax district created pursuant to Idaho Code, Title 31 Counties and County Law, Chapter 14 Fire Protection District. The WFPD is responsible for the protection of property against fire and the preservation of life and for the enforcement of any of the fire codes and other rules adopted by the Idaho State Fire Marshal. The WFPD was established in 1947.

A three-member elected Board of Fire Commissioners, each serving a staggered four year term, elected from a specific sub-district, governs the WFPD. The Fire Chief provides contract administration between the WFPD and the City of Boise Fire Department. The primary source of revenue for the WFPD is generated through the collection of property taxes, with some state sales tax revenues and interest income.

The WFPD contracts with the Boise City Fire Department for all operational services, some fire prevention services and logistical support services. The WFPD owns two fire stations and maintains a fleet of three engines, one tender and two brush trucks. All WFPD stations and apparatus are staffed by the Boise City Fire Department per the contract agreement.

The WFPD service area encompasses approximately 18 square miles, primarily residential and rural areas within Ada County. The majority of the WFPD lies within the Area of Impact of the City of Boise and is subject to annexation at the discretion of the city.

The total population of the WFPD in 2010 was approximately 19,000.

The following is a summary of key information about the jurisdiction:

- **Population Served**—19,000 as of 2010
- **Land Area Served**—18 square miles
- **Value of Area Served**—The estimated value of the area served by the jurisdiction is \$1,112,751,246.00
- **Land Area Owned**—Approximately 2 acres.
- List of Critical Infrastructure/Equipment Owned by the Jurisdiction:
  - Four Engines           \$1,225,000.00
  - Two Brush Trucks   \$300,000.00

- One Water Tender \$425,000.00
- **Total Value of Critical Infrastructure/Equipment**—the total value of critical infrastructure and equipment owned by the jurisdiction is \$1,950,000.00.
- List of Critical Facilities Owned by the Jurisdiction:
  - Fire Station #17 3801 S. Cole Rd. Boise, ID 83709
  - Fire Station #22 4221 W Amity Rd. Boise, ID 83716
  - Fire Station #21 9500 Overland Rd. Boise ID. 83709
- **Total Value of Critical Facilities**—The total value of critical facilities owned by the jurisdiction is \$3,291,000.00.
- **Current and Anticipated Service Trends**—The economic downturn since 2008 has resulted in a decline of property values as well as a dramatic slowdown in any development activity. The WFPD property values have declined for the last two consecutive years and are predicted to continue to decline. There has been little population growth. Call volumes have declined for the last two years.

The district’s boundaries are shown on the map at the end of Chapter 1.

### **15.3. JURISDICTION-SPECIFIC NATURAL HAZARD EVENT HISTORY**

Table 15-1 lists all past occurrences of natural hazards within the jurisdiction.

### **15.4. HAZARD RISK RANKING**

Table 15-2 presents the ranking of the hazards of concern.

### **15.5. APPLICABLE REGULATIONS AND PLANS**

The following existing codes, ordinances, policies or plans are applicable to this hazard mitigation plan:

- Ada County Ordinance Title 8, Chapter 3, Article B: Wildland-Urban Interface Overlay District.
- Ada County Ordinance Title 7, Chapter 3 Adoption of the ICC Urban-Wildfire Interface Code, 2006 Edition

### **15.6. CLASSIFICATION IN HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAMS**

The jurisdiction’s classifications under various hazard mitigation programs are presented in Table 15-3.

### **15.7. HAZARD MITIGATION ACTION PLAN AND EVALUATION OF RECOMMENDED INITIATIVES**

Table 15-4 lists the initiatives that make up the jurisdiction’s hazard mitigation plan. Table 15-5 identifies the priority for each initiative. Table 15-6 summarizes the mitigation initiatives by hazard of concern and the six mitigation types.

## 15.8. FUTURE NEEDS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND RISK/VULNERABILITY

Adequate water supplies and adequate access for emergency vehicles are the basic yet critical components necessary to deal with the Wildland-Urban Interface problem in Ada County. Prior to the adoption of the wildland urban interface (WUI) overlay standard many developments were approved that have created a very high risk to occupants of those homes as well as the emergency personnel dispatched to protect them.

The adoption of the WUI Overlay and standard has provided the minimum standard for dealing with development within the WUI overlay district. However, much improvement remains to be made in enforcement of the WUI standard. Pressure from developers has resulted in approval of some projects that don't meet the standard. This cannot continue to happen. As the economy starts to recover, there will be even greater pressure on elected officials by developers to approve projects that fall short of the standard. All projects must be in full compliance with the adopted standards.

**TABLE 15-1.  
NATURAL HAZARD EVENTS**

Type of Event	Date	Preliminary Damage Assessment
Brush fire	3/6/08	NA
Brush fire	3/23/08	NA
Grass fire	4/5/08	NA
Brush fire	5/31/08	NA
Grass fire	6/28/08	NA
Brush fire	7/1/08	NA
Natural vegetation fire	7/2/08	NA
Natural vegetation fire	7/4/08	NA
Natural vegetation fire	7/4/08	NA
Grass fire	8/19/08	NA
Brush fire	8/20/08	NA
Grass fire	8/28/08	NA
Natural vegetation fire	10/20/08	NA
Grass fire	2/21/09	NA
Grass fire	3/9/09	NA
Grass fire	3/20/09	NA
Grass fire	4/4/09	NA
Natural vegetation fire	4/11/09	NA
Grass fire	6/4/09	NA
Grass fire	6/11/09	NA
Brush fire	6/12/09	NA
Grass fire	6/19/09	NA

**TABLE 15-1.  
NATURAL HAZARD EVENTS**

Type of Event	Date	Preliminary Damage Assessment
Grass fire	6/27/09	NA
Brush fire	6/28/09	NA
Grass fire	6/30/09	NA
Brush fire	7/26/09	NA
Brush fire	7/26/09	NA
Grass fire	9/16/09	NA
Brush fire	10/08/09	NA
Grass fire	6/28/10	NA
Grass fire	7/3/10	NA
Grass fire	7/4/10	NA
Brush fire	7/4/10	NA
Natural vegetation fire	7/4/10	NA
Brush fire	7/5/10	NA
Natural vegetation fire	7/22/10	NA
Grass fire	7/28/10	NA
Grass fire	8/9/10	NA
Grass fire	8/21/10	NA
Grass fire	8/31/10	NA
Brush fire	9/5/10	NA
Brush fire	9/28/10	NA
Brush fire	9/28/10	NA

**TABLE 15-2.  
HAZARD RISK RANKING**

Rank	Hazard Type	Risk Rating Score (Probability x Impact)
1	Wildfire	18
2	Earthquake	32
3	Flood	18
4	Dam Failure	6
5	Severe Weather	32
6	Drought	0
7	Landslide	0
8	Volcano	0

<b>TABLE 15-3. COMMUNITY CLASSIFICATIONS</b>			
	Participating?	Classification	Date Classified
Public Protection	Yes	3/8	6/1/2006
Storm Ready	No	N/A	N/A
Firewise	No	N/A	N/A

<b>TABLE 15-4. HAZARD MITIGATION ACTION PLAN MATRIX</b>						
Applies to new or existing assets	Hazards Mitigated	Objectives Met	Lead Agency	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Timeline
<b>Initiative WFD-1—Enforce existing wildland urban interface standards in Ada County</b>						
New & Existing	Wildfire	1,6,10	County	Low	District	Short Term Ongoing
<b>Initiative WFD-2—Require Local Fire District Approval of Water and Access Requirements for all projects.</b>						
New & Existing	Wildfire	2,3,6,9	County	Low	District	Short Term Ongoing
<b>Initiative WFD-3—Promote adoption of Firewise for development within the wildland urban interface Overlay</b>						
New & Existing	Wildfire	6,10	County	Low	District	Short Term Ongoing
<b>Initiative WFD-4—Support County-wide initiatives identified in Volume 1.</b>						
New and Existing	All Hazards	All	WFPD, ACCEM	Low	WFPD	Short term Ongoing
<b>Initiative WFD-5—Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Volume 1.</b>						
New & Existing	All Hazards	All	ACCEM, WFPD	Low	WFPD, FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding for 5-year update	Short-Term, Ongoing

**TABLE 15-5.  
MITIGATION STRATEGY PRIORITY SCHEDULE**

Initiative #	# of Objectives Met	Benefits	Costs	Do Benefits Equal or Exceed Costs?	Is Project Grant-Eligible?	Can Project Be Funded Under Existing Programs/Budgets?	Priority <sup>a</sup>
WFD-1	3	Medium	Low	Yes	No	Yes	Medium
WFD-2	4	Medium	Low	Yes	No	Yes	High
WFD-3	2	Medium	Low	Yes	No	Yes	Medium
WFD-4	10	High	Low	Yes	No	Yes	High
WFD-5	10	Low	Low	Yes	Yes	Yes	High

a. See Section 1.3 for definitions of high, medium and low priorities.

**TABLE 15-6.  
ANALYSIS OF MITIGATION INITIATIVES**

Hazard Type	Initiative Addressing Hazard, by Mitigation Type					
	1. Prevention	2. Property Protection	3. Public Education and Awareness	4. Natural Resource Protection	5. Emergency Services	6. Structural Projects
Dam Failure	2, 5		4	3	4	2
Drought	2, 5		4	3	4	2
Earthquake	2, 5		4	3	4	2
Flood	2, 5		4	3	4	2
Landslide	2, 5		4	3	4	2
Severe Weather	2, 5		4	3	4	2
Volcano	2, 5		4	3	4	2
Wildfire	1, 2, 3	1	4	3	4	2

1. Prevention: Government, administrative or regulatory actions that influence the way land and buildings are developed to reduce hazard losses. Includes planning and zoning, floodplain laws, capital improvement programs, open space preservation, and stormwater management regulations.
2. Property Protection: Modification of buildings or structures to protect them from a hazard or removal of structures from a hazard area. Includes acquisition, elevation, relocation, structural retrofit, storm shutters, and shatter-resistant glass.
3. Public Education and Awareness: Actions to inform citizens and elected officials about hazards and ways to mitigate them. Includes outreach projects, real estate disclosure, hazard information centers, and school-age and adult education.
4. Natural Resource Protection: Actions that minimize hazard loss and preserve or restore the functions of natural systems. Includes sediment and erosion control, stream corridor restoration, watershed management, forest and vegetation management, and wetland restoration and preservation.
5. Emergency Services: Actions that protect people and property during and immediately after a hazard event. Includes warning systems, emergency response services, and the protection of essential facilities.
6. Structural Projects: Actions that involve the construction of structures to reduce the impact of a hazard. Includes dams, setback levees, floodwalls, retaining walls, and safe rooms.