



## Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Enhancing Collaboration and Building Community Capacity September 14, 2007 Workshop

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A Joint Fire Science Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Research Team and Resource Innovations at the University of Oregon invite you to participate in a one-day workshop focused on sharing lessons learned about collaboration and community wildfire protection plans and identifying strategies to strengthen future CWPP efforts.

**Location:** University of Oregon, Eugene, OR  
**Date & Time:** Friday, September 14, 2007 - 9:00 AM to 4:00 pm  
**Hosted by:** Resource Innovations, Institute for a Sustainable Environment, University of Oregon and the Joint Fire Sciences CWPP Research Team

### Background

*Enhancing Collaboration and Building Community Capacity* is a project funded by the Joint Fire Science Program (JFS) that has resulted in case studies within thirteen communities on the role of collaboration during development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Project researchers conducted cases in several types and sizes of communities California, Oregon, Montana, Colorado, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Virginia and Florida. Profiles of the case studies are available <http://jfsp.fortlewis.edu/communityProfiles.asp>.

### Workshop Goals and Outcomes

The workshop goal is to make available “lessons learned” about the contexts, processes and outcomes of collaboration. We anticipate that many of these lessons will assist communities in monitoring and strengthening existing CWPPs and help other communities as they get started with their CWPP efforts. The workshop will bring together participants from organizational, community, governmental and non-profit groups to share lessons from the JFS case study and facilitate dialogue on how to strength CWPP efforts. Outcomes should result in participants transferring an array of lessons about community collaboration within their own networks and increasing collaboration in CWPP efforts across the region.

### Shared Lessons and Strategies for Future Success

The thirteen CWPP cases took place in different social and economic contexts, and followed varying collaborative processes. Together, they provide a variety of lessons about how to build community capacities to enhance wildfire mitigation and community protection. Lessons to be shared, include:

- How past experiences with natural resource planning in the community context has enhanced community capacity to collaborate during CWPP processes;
- Ways in which community leadership enhances legitimacy and sustainability for the CWPP;
- The importance of employing multiple community and organizational networks to enhance information sharing, gather planning resources, and achieve mitigation outcomes;
- The effects on CWPP’s of how wildfire risks are socially and ecologically defined or framed;
- How the geographic and political scale of the community or region affects definitions of the wildland urban interface and other CWPP elements; and
- The factors that contribute to enhanced community ownership, implementation, and sustainability of a community wildfire protection plan.

### For more information and to RSVP for the event, contact:

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