

Salmon Creek, California

Community Wildfire Action Plan 2022-2024



FIREWISE USA
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

The rural area of Salmon Creek, California (approximately 320 households) is located within the wildland urban interface and intermix in Southern Humboldt. This proposed Firewise USA™ Site Community Wildfire Action Plan was developed through input received during the 2022 Firewise Risk Assessment process that included two site visits in March and April. The goal of the Plan is to develop a strategy to incrementally outreach, educate, and implement efforts to make the neighborhoods in Salmon Creek more fire resilient.

Timeline	Program	Description/Mitigation
Year 1 2022	Education & Outreach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Host a Firewise community wildfire preparedness event in April with educational materials that communicate defensible space, home hardening, water resources, and evacuation planning. Develop a non-combustible Immediate Zone (Zone 0) Salmon Creek recognition program with the goal to recognize four homes a year that have successfully treated their 0' – 5' area. Host Farmer's Market Firewise Booth in Salmon Creek to promote ongoing projects.
	Home Hardening	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Fire-resistant building materials list with local suppliers, costs, and examples. Coordinate with other local Firewise communities on this list. This would be integrated into the educational outreach. Promote, identify, and help organize the new installation of non-combustible skirting on four buildings in the Salmon Creek Firewise area. Photo document the success and plan the next year of skirting projects. Plan potential fire hardened soffit projects in a similar fashion as the skirting program.
	Fuel Reduction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Help to organize the prioritization of private fuel reduction projects through outreach. Establish the focus on working from the Immediate Zone to the Extended Zone, then connecting to the driveway. Organize and document the volunteer and expense investments to satisfy the Firewise "good standing" recognition. Research and plan a community wide, grant funded fuel reduction project, potentially addressing the ingress/egress fuel loads. Work with the County and/or CAL FIRE to organize a Chipper Day to dispose of materials generated by residents maintaining their own defensible space.
	Evacuation Planning & Wildfire Preparedness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to meet as the Firewise Committee to organize the community scale projects that address evacuation and wildfire preparedness. Develop a Salmon Creek NEST program with the first-year goal to identify the sub-unit neighborhoods, and neighborhood liaisons. Map the neighborhood sub-units. Promote the installation of dedicated fire suppression water tanks and fire standpipes. Document the residential systems that have these resources (establish a "Blue Dot" program). Create an address signage program that receives donations in return for address signs. Confirm accurate addresses, work with the county to update and correct information. Support the formation and approval of the Salmon Creek Fire Protection District. Develop a resource GIS mapping system. Update Zonehaven and POD programs with local input. Encourage residents to sign up for the "Humboldt Alert" emergency notification system.

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Timeline	Program	Description/Mitigation
Year 2 2023	Education & Outreach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Host the annual Firewise community wildfire preparedness event with educational materials that communicate defensible space, fire-resilient landscaping home hardening, water resources, and evacuation planning. Use the event as an opportunity to update Firewise community members on Action Plan implementation progress and achievements – celebrate success. 2. Continue the non-combustible Immediate Zone (Zone 0) Salmon Creek recognition program with the goal to recognize four homes a year that have successfully treated their 0’ – 5’ area. Develop the Intermediate Zone (Zone 1) version, each one having a separate recognition. 3. Host a Fire-Resilient Landscaping workshop.
	Home Hardening	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update the Fire-resistant building materials list with local suppliers, costs, and examples. Coordinate with other local Firewise communities on this list. 2. Promote, identify, and help organize the new installation of non-combustible soffits on four buildings in the Salmon Creek Firewise area. Photo document the success and plan the next year of soffit projects. 3. Plan potential fire hardened deck projects in a similar fashion as the skirting and soffit program. 4. Partner with UC Cooperative Extension to host home hardening demonstration day/tour.
	Fuel Reduction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Help to organize the prioritization of private fuel reduction projects through outreach. Establish the focus on working from the Immediate Zone to the Extended Zone, then connecting to the driveway. 2. Organize and document the volunteer and expense investments to satisfy the Firewise “good standing” recognition. 3. Continue to plan the community wide, grant funded fuel reduction project. Develop and write the grant application. 4. Work with the County and/or CAL FIRE to organize a Chipper Day to dispose of materials generated by residents maintaining their own defensible space.
	Evacuation Planning & Wildfire Preparedness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to meet as the Firewise Committee to organize the community scale projects that address evacuation and wildfire preparedness. 2. Continue to develop the Salmon Creek NEST program. Support the Neighborhood liaisons in developing a secure offline database. 3. Continue to promote the installation of dedicated fire suppression water tanks and fire standpipes. Document the residential systems that have these resources on the GIS mapping system (Maintain the “Blue Dot” program). 4. Continue the address signage program. Confirm accurate addresses, work with the county to update and correct information. 5. Coordinate the updating of the Salmon Creek resource and information mapping system. 6. Continue to support the formation and approval of the Salmon Creek Fire Protection District. 7. Continue to encourage residents to sign up for the “Humboldt Alert” emergency notification system.

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Timeline	Program	Description/Mitigation
Year 3 2024	Education & Outreach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Host the annual Firewise community wildfire preparedness event with educational materials that communicate defensible space, home hardening, water resources, and evacuation planning. Use the event as an opportunity to update Firewise community members on Action Plan implementation progress and achievements – celebrate success. Continue the non-combustible Immediate Zone (Zone 0) Salmon Creek recognition program and the Intermediate Zone (Zone 1) version. Develop the Extended Zone (Zone 2) version. Give awards to those who have achieved the “Hat Trick” of all three. Host an end of the three-year period event that showcases the successful work and reviews the process. Use this event to collaboratively plan the next three-year action plan.
	Home Hardening	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Update the Fire-resistant building materials list with local suppliers, costs, and examples. This would be integrated into the educational outreach. Coordinate with other local Firewise communities on this list. Promote, identify, and help organize the new installation of non-combustible soffits on four buildings in the Salmon Creek Firewise area. Photo document the success and plan the next year of soffit projects. Plan potential fire hardened siding projects in a similar fashion as the skirting, soffit, and deck program.
	Fuel Reduction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the prioritization of private fuel reduction projects through outreach. Establish the focus on working from the Immediate Zone to the Extended Zone, then connecting to the driveway. Organize and document the volunteer and expense investments to satisfy the Firewise “good standing” recognition. Implement the community wide, grant funded fuel reduction project. Photo document the success. Work with the County and/or CAL FIRE to organize a Chipper Day to dispose of materials generated by residents maintaining their own defensible space.
	Evacuation Planning & Wildfire Preparedness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to meet as the Firewise Committee to organize the community scale projects that address evacuation and wildfire preparedness. Update the Salmon Creek NEST program and database. Run a phone tree training. Continue to promote the installation of dedicated fire suppression water tanks and fire standpipes. Document the residential systems that have these resources on the NEST database and the mapping system. (Maintain the “Blue Dot” program). Continue the address signage program. Confirm accurate addresses, work with the county to update and correct information. Complete comprehensive GIS map with updated Zonehaven, PODs, water resources, bridge info, gate info, road conditions, etc. Support the Salmon Creek Fire Protection District. Continue to encourage residents to sign up for the “Humboldt Alert” emergency notification system.

Funding for this project was provided by a grant from the California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) as part of the 2019 Grants Clearinghouse Fire Prevention Program. This State Fire Assistance grant is made possible by federal financial assistance provided to the CFSC from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service.