

Between the Practice of Knowing and the Knowing of Practice

**Reflections on collaboration
between research and
management in a study of
community wildfire
protection Planning**

Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Enhancing Collaboration and Building Community Capacity



Study Team

- Pamela Jakes, USFS, NRS
- Tony Cheng, Emily Saeli, CSU
- Sam Burns, Fort Lewis Col.
- Victoria Sturtevant, So. OR U.
- Dan Williams & Alex Bujak, USFS, RMRS
- Kristen Nelson, Rachel Brummel, & Stephanie Grayzeck, U. Minn.



16 member Advisory Team



Joint Fire Science Program

Research Supporting Sound Decisions

www.firescience.gov

- Project Funded by the Joint Fire Science Program -- created in 1998
- Interagency research, development, and applications partnerships
- Sponsors research that meets emerging needs of policymakers and fire managers

Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Enhancing Collaboration and Building Community Capacity

- improve the ability of agencies, organizations, communities, and citizens to work together collaboratively, and**
- enhance the long-term capacity of community to address wildfire risk**

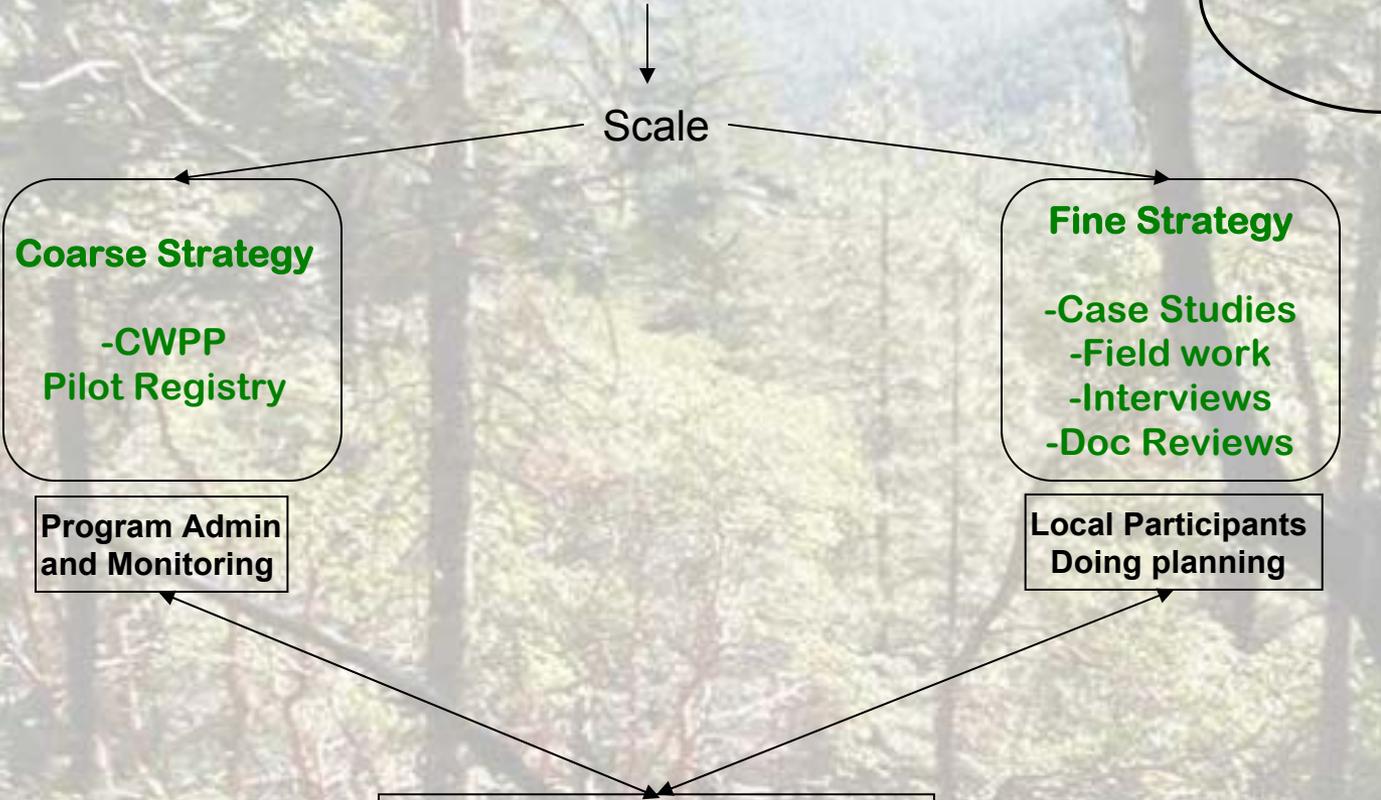
Research Advisory Team

- **Help identify relevant issues**
- **Help identify research questions important to managers and policy makers**
- **Assist in building awareness of the research project**
- **Provide guidance regarding science delivery**

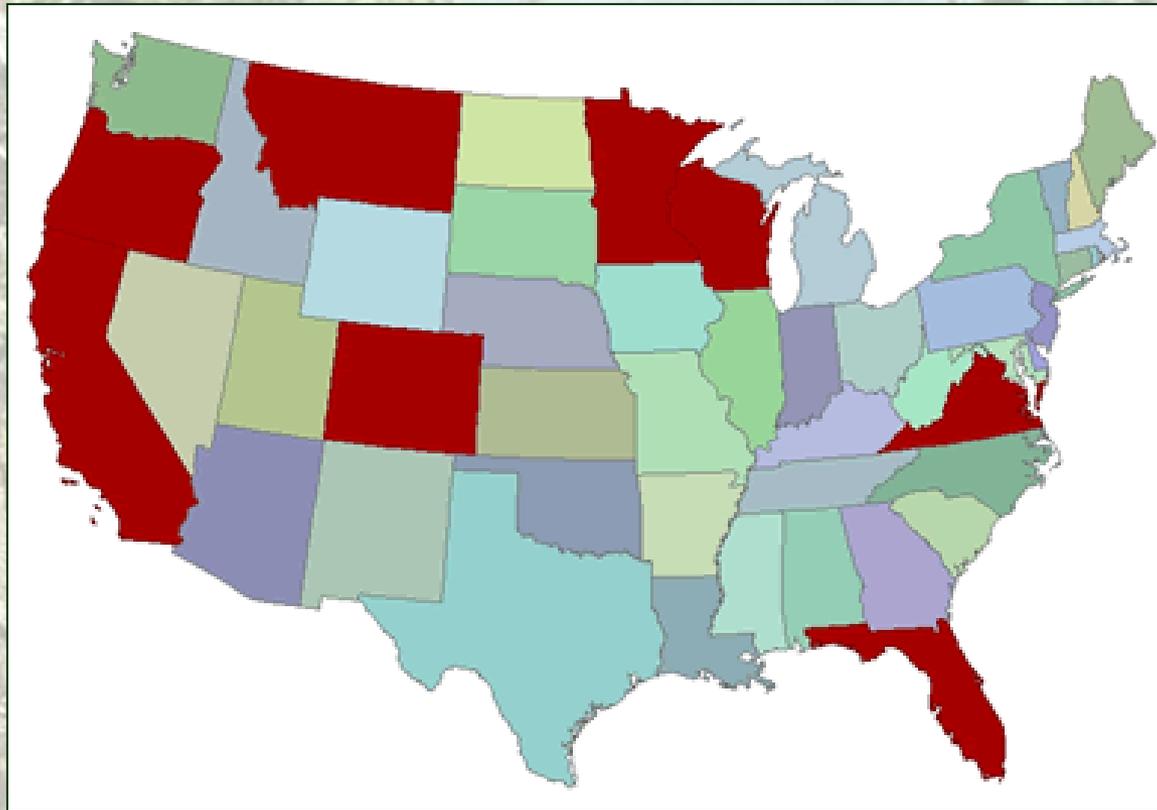


- External Input**
- Advisory Research Team
 - Research Team
 - Literature Review

Scale



Case Study States



Science Delivery/ Knowledge Transfer

Critical Elements in the Development and Implementation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)

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Abstract—Community wildfire protection plans (CWPPs) are implemented in communities across the United States. Researchers found that the success of these plans is associated with factors such as community learning, communication, and relationships.

Introduction

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(Healthy Forests)

Communities across the United States are implementing or planning to implement community wildfire protection plans (CWPPs) as a means of reducing wildfire risk and protecting lives and property, and critical infrastructure. American Foresters 2010 have embraced the idea and have developed CWPPs in New Mexico, How Florida, Minnesota, and CWPPs are developed in areas requiring hazard assessment, and (2) recommend project funded by the case studies to identify communities and fire management agencies, and how the development of CWPPs builds community capacity. We are interested in the contexts in which CWPPs



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Keys to Success in the Development of CWPPs

them into the process. A local spark plug who is well-connected, charismatic, energetic, passionate, and enthusiastic can be critical to a project's success. Agency leadership can provide the initial spark necessary to initiate a project, and provide stability when the project reaches some rough spots.

1. Focus on relationships

Building successful, credible relationships takes a significant amount of time but



the payoff can be tremendous. Building relationships through the CWPP process will not only result in a better plan, but will help build community capacity—carrying over to other projects in other areas.

2. Take advantage of windows of opportunity

The Golden Rule of Communication is to take advantage of windows of opportunity. This is also true for building CWPPs. Something needs to happen in each community to start things rolling—something that brings home the urgency of fuels reduction. When that something happens, you need to be prepared to immediately step in and bring that urgency to bear on your planning activity.

2. Focus on process

Knowledge Transfer: Designing KT into the Project

- **Organized and met with an Advisory Team throughout the project**
- **Included one project team member (Sam Burns) to lead the KT effort.**
- **Organized three regional Knowledge Transfer Workshops**
- **Major products will include lessons from workshops and case studies targeted at users**

Knowledge Transfer:

Challenges of Designing KT into the Project

- Not easy to organize scientists around KT as a project design element
- Different objectives of Project Team
- JFSP Expectations
- Tried to focus on end users and how they acquire information
 - KT is not just the technical how to knowledge but a kind of “audience” analysis as well
 - Who are the end users in terms of background/professional training?

Knowledge Transfer: Some Reflections

- **Who are the end users?**
 - How are they organized?
 - How do they communicate?
- **What constitutes/who produces knowledge?**
 - Knowledge of practice
 - Knowledge as capacity
 - Knowledge as social structure/networks
- **Who “owns” the information from this project and keeps up the knowledge transfer effort?**
 - How do we define and monitor success?
- **Lessons for Joint Fire Science Program**

Project Website: jfsp.fortlewis.edu

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS
Enhancing Collaboration & Building Community Capacity

[Project Info](#) | [Reports](#) | [Member Area](#) | [Important Links](#) | [Critical Resources](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Home](#)

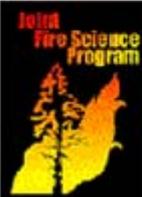
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Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP's) are one of the more important means of reducing risk to communities and ecosystems of catastrophic wildfires. *Enhancing collaboration and building community capacity* are viewed as a means insuring that these plans are responsive to the needs and objectives of communities located in the wildland-urban interface.

This site describes an applied research project that seeks to analyze the lessons learned about collaborative processes among approximately ten CWPP development processes in the United States.

Over the coming months it will also be a means of sharing the lessons discovered during the case studies.

the project
reports
resources
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 *Funded by
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Science Program*