

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS

Enhancing Collaboration & Building Community Capacity

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- **Objective 1**

Develop a framework for monitoring CWPP processes and outcomes; apply and evaluate the framework.

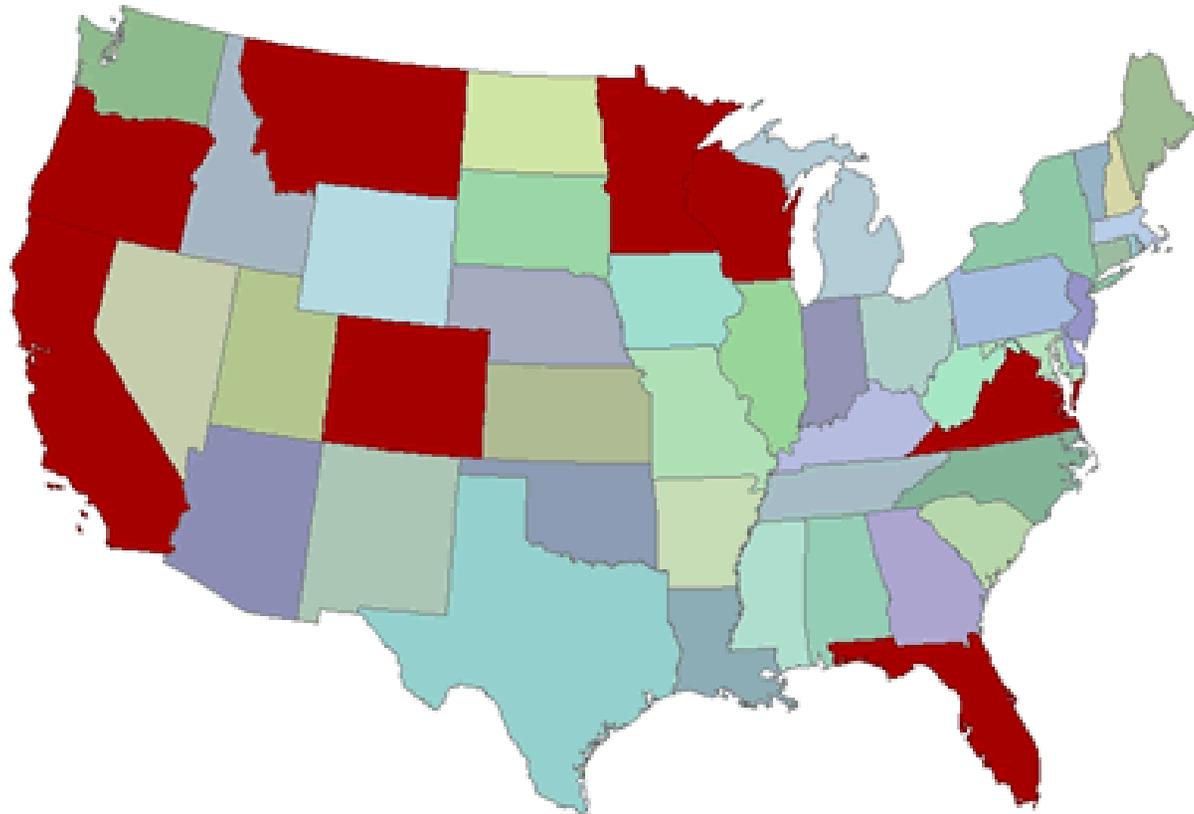
- **Objective 2**

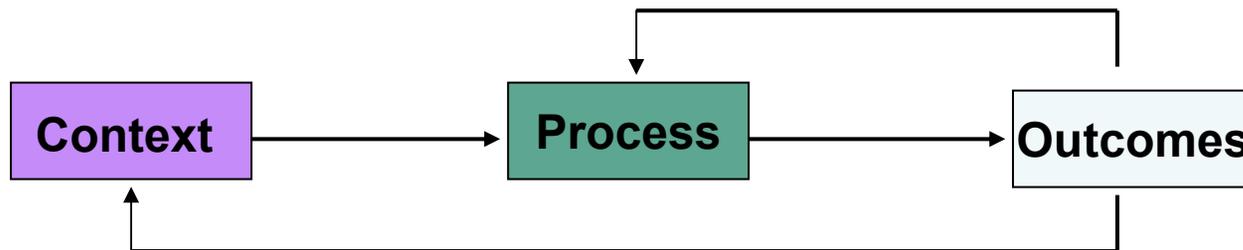
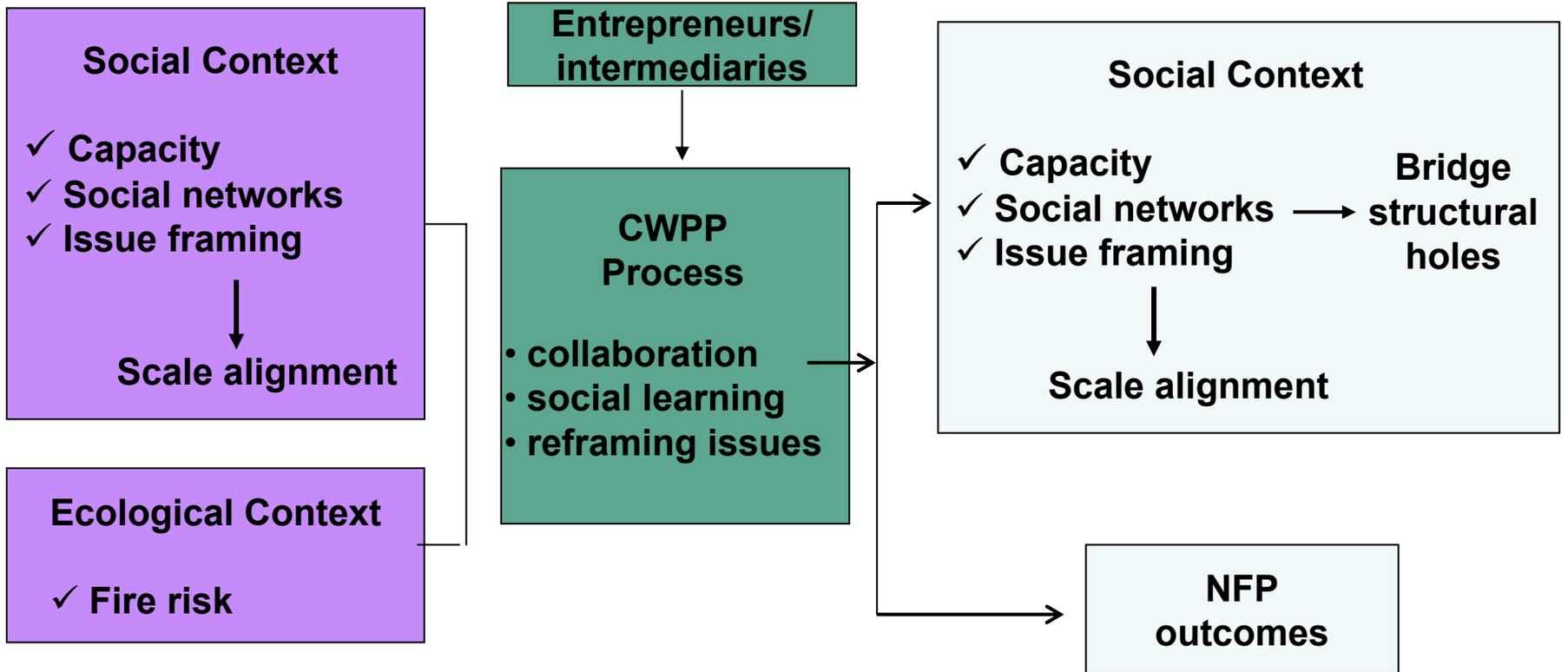
Examine the local social context for CWPPs, focusing on the factors that are important to enhancing collaboration and building and maintaining social capacity.

- **Objective 3**

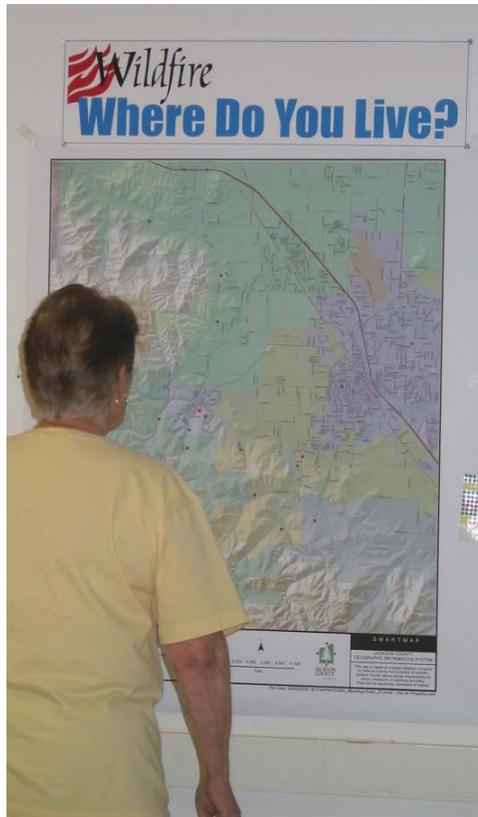
Develop and implement a technology and knowledge transfer program that provides important results, in a timely manner, throughout the life of the project.

Case Studies





Some very preliminary “findings”



- CWPPs are conceived at different scales.
 - Most are developed at the county level as strategic (integrated) plans across agencies although some include community-level plans.

- A drawback of HFRA was that it did not designate a leadership agency.
 - This lack of clear direction does allow flexibility for leadership to emerge at the scale where capacity is greatest.

- CWPPs rely on many intermediaries and community based organizations to pull together residents and community meetings; and to implement fuel reduction in neighborhoods.
- Counties and agencies provide funding and data; federal agencies vary in their participation.
- Contractors play an important role as coordinators for many plans.

Classification	Total Fuel Break Distance	
	Fire-Resistant Roof	Non-Resistant Roof
Low	No Req.	No Req.
Moderate	30'	30'
High	30'	50'
Extreme + High Densities	50'	100'

	Fire-Resistant Roof	Non-Resistant Roof	Defensible Space
Grass	30'	100'	+40%
Shrubs	100'	200'	100'
Trees	30'	100'	200'

Josephine County Article 76
 Primary Fuel Break = 100' +
 8' Slope Secondary Safety Zone
 0-14% 0'
 14-14% 50'
 20-24% 75'
 25-34% 100'
 35%+ 150'

PPA 144
 Defensible Space = 30' +
 J. Cohen
 Zones 110-200'
 after zone.

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- CWPPs are the new kid on a block already crowded by various wildfire mitigation planning efforts
 - NFP supported previous fuel reduction and preparedness planning.
 - The location of planning was opportunistic – municipalities and counties with existing capacity and human resources did community-level plans.
- Because HFRA provides no additional dollars for planning, states are coming up with strategies for creating new planning processes and funding sources with the expectation that they will receive funding for implementation.

- Some stakeholders are concerned that HFRA fuel reduction will be at the expense of forest restoration or jeopardize forest health.
- Some earlier fire planning processes focused on fire dependent ecosystems and forest restoration strategies; we see less of this framing in CWPPs.
 - Available data, models, and maps seem to drive how problems are framed and what options are available.



- In most cases, there has been collaboration across jurisdictions and among agency representatives with observed benefits.
 - County representatives and/or fire chiefs often participate as an important local voice.
 - But collaboration with communities and within local communities (municipalities, grassroots, and homeowner groups) has rarely happened within the CWPP process.

The notable exception has been in cases where established community based organizations have created collaborative “spaces” and community capacity.



Remaining Questions

- Is there an appropriate scale? Do planning, implementation and monitoring best occur at different scales? Across scales?
- Are there appropriate problem frames for wildfire risk in and around communities? What might be appropriate processes for eliciting and deliberating different problem frames and social values? What role do leaders and data play in framing?
- Does a CWPP come with more institutional support than earlier plans? Is there promise that the plans will get the support necessary for implementation?
- Do you see the CWPP process as less opportunistic than NFP-supported plans? Are more low-capacity communities are being reached?
- What are the needed capacities and essential components for moving to the next step, from strategic plans to sustainable implementation?

Questions for our discussion

- Does HFRA provide new standing for communities (or counties)? Do CWPPs provide new opportunities for community based organizations and for building community capacity?
- What context or outcome measures might be useful – for monitoring or for policy? How can we best demonstrate the social and ecological value (or barriers)?
- What form of information sharing with communities and practitioners would be most effective?