



Community Wildfire Protection Plan Kickoff Meeting

August 12, 2026

Agenda

ACF Involvement

Potential Stakeholders

CWPP Development Process

CWDG FY26 Application

Eligible Project Examples

ACF Involvement

American Conservation Foundation (ACF)

- Texas-based non-profit organization
- Entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Lampasas County on **May 12th**

Purpose

- To **develop** a **CWPP** and apply for Implementation funding for the next funding cycle of the Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) program
- ACF will administer the CWDG grant if awarded

Potential Stakeholders

Local knowledge is the backbone of the CWPP

Local City and County Officials

Policy, local priorities, public communication

Volunteer Fire Departments

Response capabilities, access issues, local fire history

Texas Department of Emergency management

Preparedness, evacuation, communications

Texas A&M Forest Service

Technical guidance and CWPP review expectations

Landowners & Ag. Producers

Ranch roads, gates, livestock, fuels, values at risk

Other Partners

Utilities, schools, water providers, regional planning

CWPP Development Process



Timeline



Public Engagement & Stakeholders



Risk Assessments



Mitigation Strategies and Action Plan



Fire Response Capabilities/Equipment



CWDG FY26 Application

LAMPASAS COUNTY CWPP

Introduction	
Community Background	
Website & Facebook Page	
Fire Environment	
Risk Assessments	
Establishing Working Group	
Mitigation Strategies: CA - Public Education CC & EH : Haz. Fuels Red. Inc. Prescribed Fire Defensible Space Inc. Local Cap Emergency Communication Water & Resources BA- Zoning & Regulation	
Action Plan	
Maintenance Strategy	
Working Group Meetings	
Glossary	
Appendices	
Public Meeting	
Draft Due	
Internal Review	
External Review	
Post It	
Address Comments	
Submit to TXFS	
Proclamm. to Adopt	
Signing Ceremony	

Federal Mitigation Funding Sources

Agency	Program/ Grant	Notes
U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service	Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG)	Supports CWPP development, updates, and implementation of projects identified in an approved CWPP. Potential Lampasas County uses include fuels reduction, defensible space, home-hardening outreach, chipping events, community cleanup, and mitigation projects in High Risk communities.
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Fire Management Assistance Grants	Available to states, local, and tribal governments for mitigation, management, and control of fires on public or private forest or grasslands that threaten destruction that could constitute a major disaster.
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)	Supports hazard mitigation projects that reduce risks from natural hazards, including wildfire. Potential uses include infrastructure resilience, emergency communication, evacuation planning, and community mitigation projects.
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	Provides post-disaster funding for long-term hazard mitigation projects. Potential wildfire uses may include defensible space, warning systems, evacuation improvements, and protection of critical facilities.
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Assistance to Firefighters Grant	Provides funding to fire departments and EMS organizations for equipment, protective gear, training, and other firefighter safety needs. This may support Lampasas County VFD capacity.
U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	Provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers and non-industrial forest managers. Potential uses include brush management, prescribed burning, firebreaks, and other hazardous-fuels reduction practices.
U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency	Conservation Reserve Program	Supports conservation practices on eligible agricultural lands. Land management practices may support wildfire mitigation objectives where applicable.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Emergency Response for Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities – Build Wildfire Resilience	https://www.epa.gov/waterutilityresponse/build-wildfire-resilience
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation

State Mitigation Funding Sources

Agency	Program/ Grant	Notes
Texas A&M Forest Service	Mitigation and Prevention Programs	https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/grants-financial-assistance/
Texas A&M Forest Service	Prescribed Fire Grant Programs	https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/grants-financial-assistance/landowner-grants/prescribed-fire-grants/
Texas A&M Forest Service	Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program	https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/rural-vfd-assistance-program/
Texas Division of Emergency Management	Hazard Mitigation Assistance Coordination	https://tdem.texas.gov
Texas Department of Agriculture / Prescribed Burning Board	Certified and Insured Prescribed Burn Manager Program	https://www.texasagriculture.gov
Texas A&M Forest Service	Mitigation and Prevention Programs	https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/grants-financial-assistance/
Texas A&M Forest Service	Prescribed Fire Grant Programs	https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/grants-financial-assistance/landowner-grants/prescribed-fire-grants/
Texas A&M Forest Service	Texas A&M Forest Service Mitigation and Prevention Prescribed Fire Grant Programs	https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/grants-financial-assistance/landowner-grants/prescribed-fire-grants/

CWDG FY26 Implementation Application



UP TO
\$10M
per CWDG application

NOFO: Summer 2026

90-day application window

Lampasas County Eligibility



Yes. Lampasas County, TX, is considered “at risk.” It has a higher Wildfire Risk to Homes than 84.5% of counties in the nation. (Source: Wildfire Risk to Communities, Version 2. 2024. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/48143>)

Why Lampasas County Qualifies



“At Risk” County



Severe Disaster
Affected



High Wildfire
Potential

CWDG FY26 Application: Lampasas + Mills

Wildfire does not stop at county lines

Bundling Lampasas County with neighboring Mills County can help demonstrate a larger, coordinated landscape strategy.

Cross-Boundary Fuel Continuity

Larger landscape improvement across both counties to treat corridors and landscapes where fuels and fire spread beyond county boundaries

Regional Communication

Improves communication between agencies and fire departments

Consistent Mitigation Priorities

Aligns wildfire preparedness and mitigation efforts across county lines.

Grant Competitiveness

Bundling creates a more competitive CWDG application & shows a larger landscape benefit and structure for CWDG implementation

Eligible Project Examples

Planning Projects



Contract support to assist a community with developing building codes, zoning ordinances, or land use planning



Tabletop or functional exercises to test effectiveness of community wildfire planning



Training in the use of proven effective mitigation practices, such as the Forest Service's mitigation best practices



Direct staff support to assist in creation of a local or regional mitigation partnership

Educational Outreach Programs



Firewise USA and other outreach programs to communities and property owners



Fire education presentations like Project Learning Tree



Individual Property Inspections and/or Assessments by the Forest Service

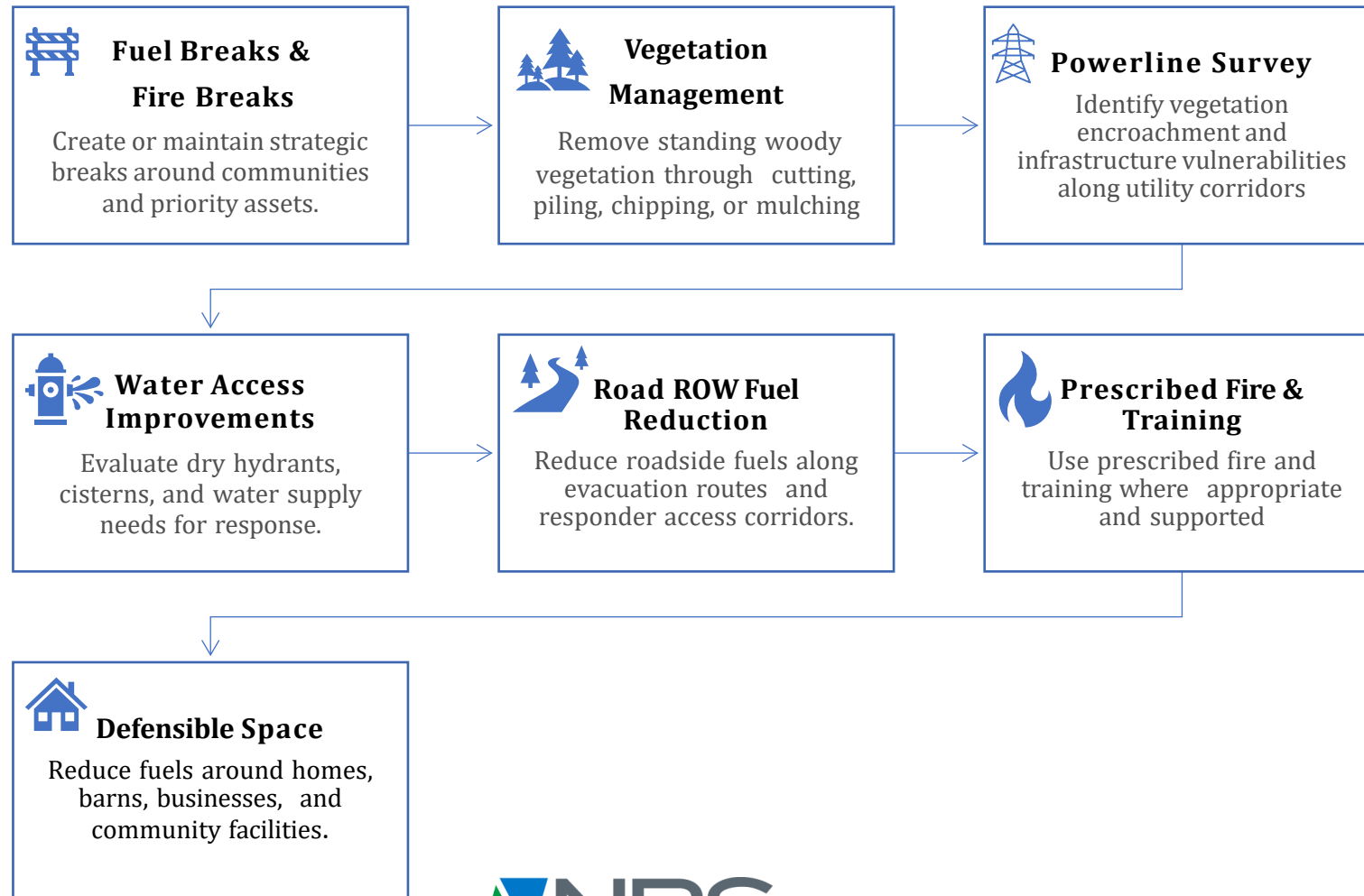


Implementation of WUI Structure/Parcel/Community Fire Hazard Mitigation Methodology (HMM) for community hazard reduction

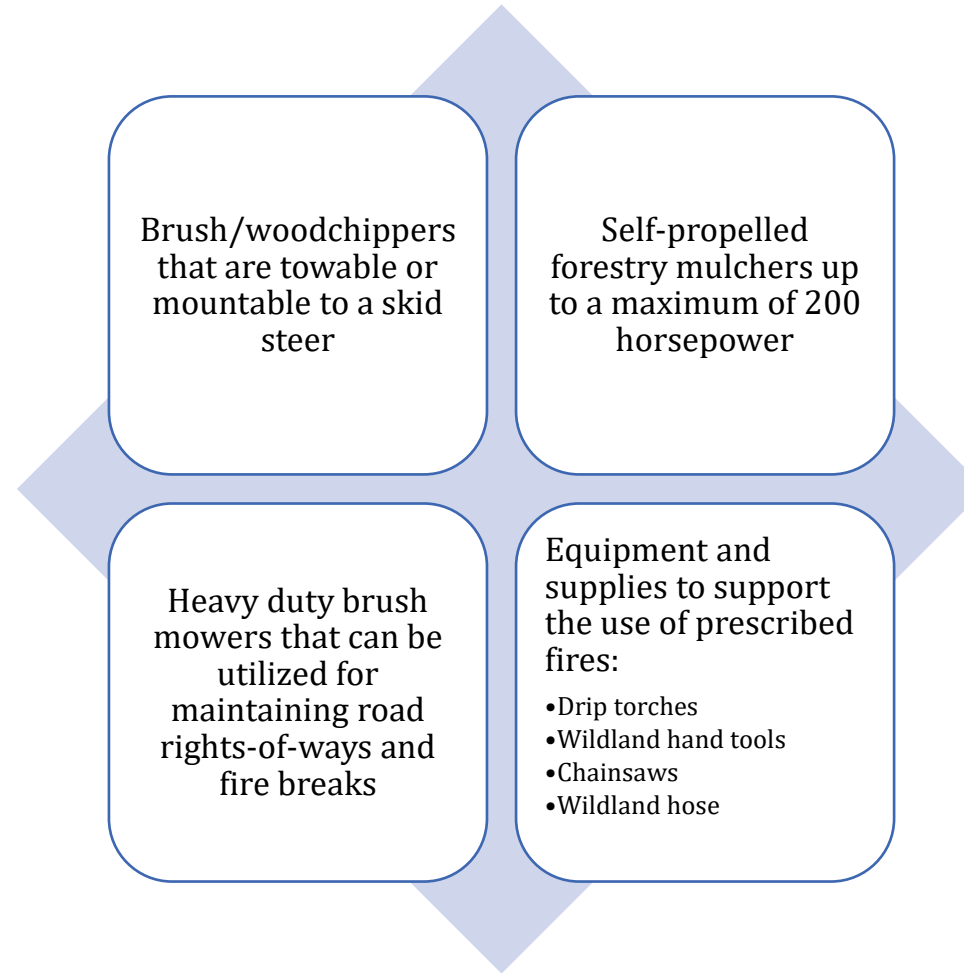


Adoption, implementation, enforcement, and training of National Fire Protection Association, International Code Council, or similar codes

Hazardous Fuels and Wildfire Reduction Projects



CWDG Eligible Equipment



Identifying Wildfire Mitigation Needs

- What wildfire mitigation projects or needs should be considered for Lampasas County?
 - Of these projects how would you rank or prioritize them to meet Lampasas County's needs?
- What locations come to mind that would be ideal candidate areas for potential projects?
 - Are there known wildfire hazards or recurring problem areas that should be addressed?
 - Are there areas that would have the biggest benefit for the county?
- What equipment or resource needs should be considered?
- What types of constraints do you see that will hinder implementation of these projects?
 - Participation?
 - Coordination?
 - Funding?
 - Equipment?

Working Group Follow up Questions

- Can CWDG funds be used to purchase a bulldozer for constructing firebreaks?
 - Equipment attachments have been approved for some hazardous fuel's reduction/restoration projects.
 - No current guidance was identified confirming that the purchase of a bulldozer or skid steer would be eligible
 - Equipment needs can still be documented in the CWPP and considered for other funding opportunities
- Can CWDG funds be used to offset ongoing water charges?
 - No, CWDG funds projects rather than ongoing operational water costs.
 - Water-related infrastructure or equipment that may be eligible includes:
 - Installation of dry hydrants
 - Installation of cisterns
 - Portable wildfire pumps for prescribed fire projects
 - Portable folding water tanks for prescribed fire projects

Working Group Follow up Questions

- What types of communication equipment are eligible for purchase with CWDG funds?
 - Current guidance does not clearly identify which types of communication equipment are eligible.
 - However, equipment designed specifically for fire suppression is identified as ineligible.
 - Additional clarification will be requested during CWDG informational webinars following release of the new NOFO.
- Can CWDG funds be used to support county road and bridge equipment that is utilized for wildfire prevention?
 - Fuel may be eligible as an operating cost when directly associated with implementation of a specific CWPP wildfire prevention project.
 - Current guidance does not specifically address maintenance or repair of existing county equipment for use on a CWPP project.
- Can county water trucks be purchased if they are used for wildfire prevention or suppression activities?
 - There have been no CWDGs that have funded the purchase of water trucks.

Action Items

Brainstorm

- Fire Response Capabilities
- Possible Projects
- Are there other organizations, agencies, landowners, or partners who may have potential projects that would align with the CWPP?

Finalize Working Group Meeting Dates

Public Outreach

- Public Meetings: 2 planned - Are there any other public organization meetings going on that we could come to speak at?

Questions and Discussion

Have additional project ideas or feedback after today's meeting?

Stay Connected:

Scan QR Code to go to the [Lampasas County CWPP](#) | [American Conservation Foundation](#)



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Thank you.

August 12, 2026