



ERATH COUNTY

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Public Meeting

July 28th and 29th

Meeting purpose:

Learn about wildfire risks in Erath County, explore ways to reduce those risks, and provide input that will help shape the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

Scan QR codes to stay informed on the CWPP and CWDG Progress

Erath County CWPP Website



Erath County CWPP Facebook



Meeting Focus & Action Items

Why we are here

American Conservation Foundation (ACF), is a Texas-based non-profit **committed** to the conservation, sustainable management, and protection of natural and community resources. ACF has **entered into a Memorandum of Agreement** with Erath County to develop a CWPP and prepare for the next CWDG implementation funding cycle. The first Working Group meeting should clarify local priorities, needed data, project ideas, and outreach steps.

Primary discussion points

1

Public Engagement

How to reach residents, landowners, municipalities, and rural communities

2

Fire Response Capabilities

What resources, gaps, response constraints, and coordination needs exist.

3

Risk Assessments

What local data and lived experience should inform risk mapping and priorities.

4

Mitigation Action Plan

Which projects are practical, fundable, and locally supported.

5

CWDG FY26 Application

How the CWPP can support implementation funding requests.

What is a Community Wildfire Protection Plan?

A shared foundation for local wildfire preparedness.

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a locally driven planning document that helps a county or community identify wildfire risk, set mitigation priorities, and guide practical actions before a wildfire occurs. The Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 encourages communities to develop CWPPs to reduce wildland fire risk and support healthier ecosystems.

For Erath County, the CWPP will also help position local partners for implementation funding by defining projects that are clearly linked to risk, community values, and locally supported mitigation needs.



Understand Risk

Identify wildfire hazards, vulnerable areas, and values at risk.



Set Priorities

Focus attention on the locations and actions with the greatest local benefit.



Support Action

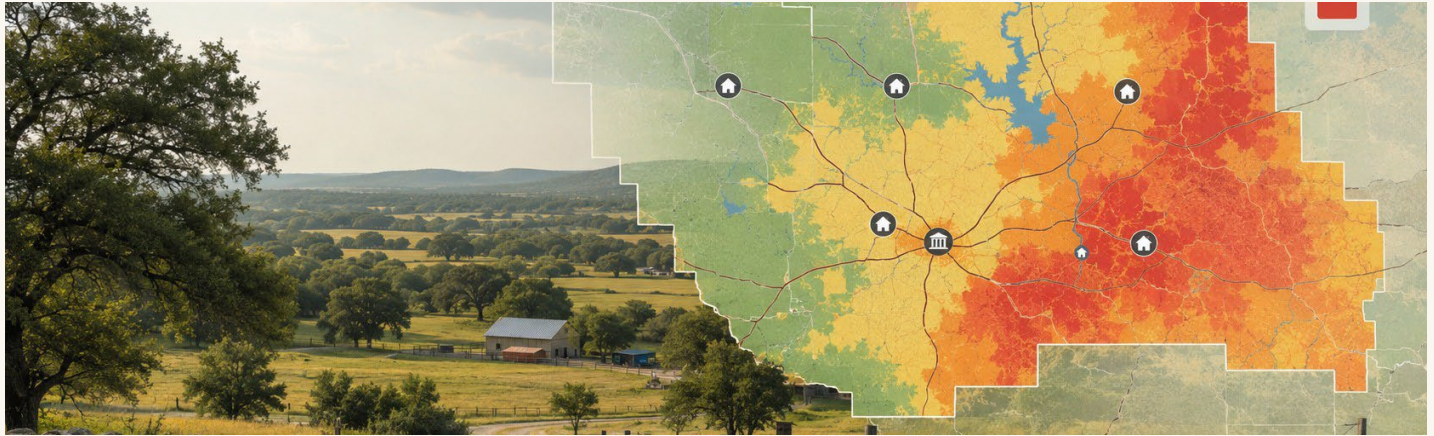
Create a practical roadmap for projects, outreach, coordination, and funding.

Why this matters in Erath County

- Rural communities, ranches, agricultural lands, grasslands, oak woodlands, brushy areas, and wooded drainages can influence wildfire behavior.
- Rapid residential growth is expanding the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI), increasing wildfire risk to homes and communities.
- Scattered homes, barns, fences, equipment, roads, gates, and water sources can affect evacuation, response, and recovery.
- The CWPP is still in development; Working Group input will help make it locally relevant and actionable.

Risk Assessment: What Information Do We Need?

Connecting mapped hazards with local experience.



Wildfire risk assessment blends data + local knowledge.



Hazards & fuels

- Vegetation/fuel types
- Slope and exposure
- Fire history and ignition patterns
- Drought and weather context



Values at risk

- Homes and subdivisions
- Ranches, barns, livestock areas
- Critical facilities and water sources
- Natural and cultural resources

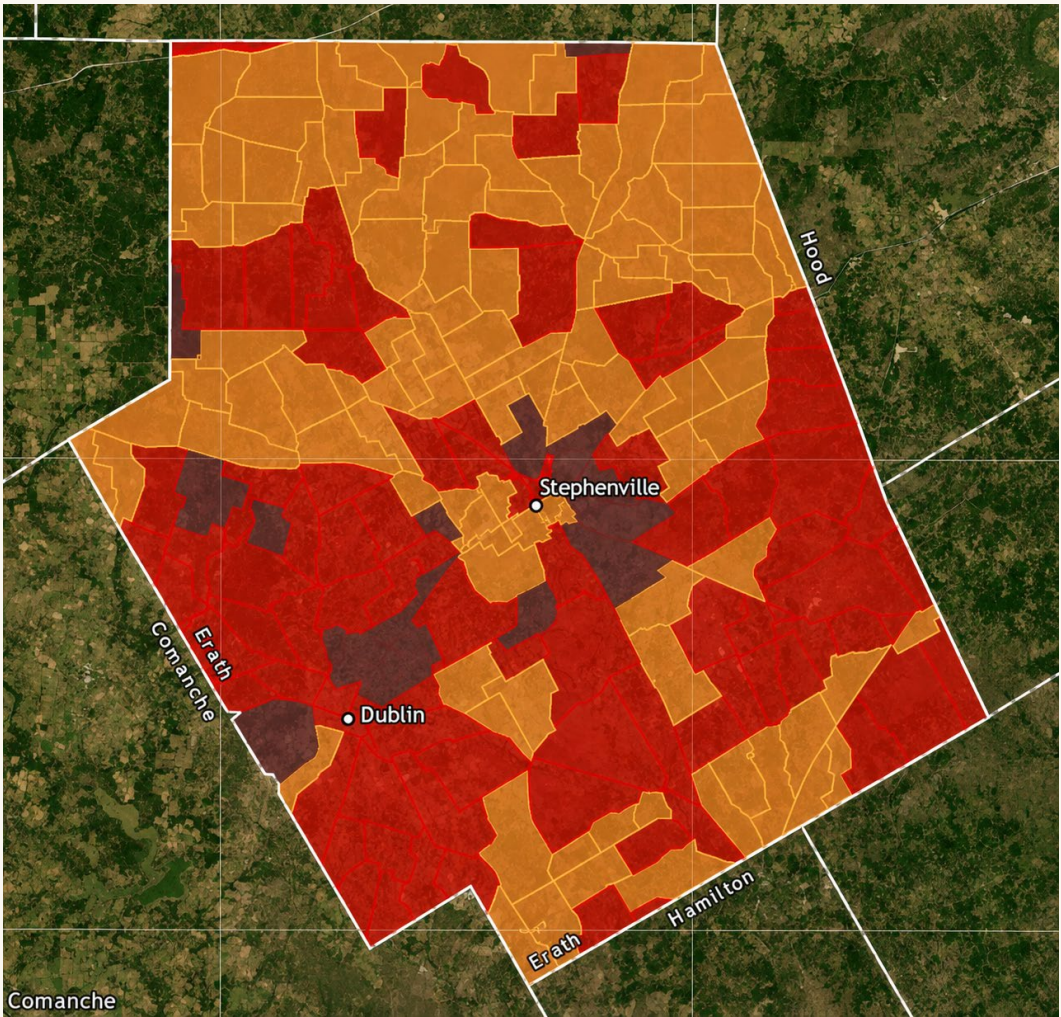


Response considerations

- Roads and gates
- Evacuation constraints
- Water supply and access
- Department coverage and mutual aid

Erath County Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are conducted in the TXWRAP Portal to identify risks and inform wildlife mitigation planning.



Legend

- High**
Total Hazard Rating Score
- Low**
Suppression Rating Score
- High**
Surrounding Environment Rating Score
- Moderate**
Structures Rating Score



All assessments are completed within the TXWRAP Portal.

Data-driven insights help communities prioritize mitigation strategies and improve overall resilience.

Location
Lat/Long & Community

Community Size
63.22 acres

Homes
20

Structure Type
Fixed

Fire Protection District
Hamilton Volunteer Fire Department

Assessment Date
05/27/2026

Assessed By
Casey Childers

CWDG Implementation Funding Opportunity

Why project identification matters early in the CWPP process.

Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG)

CWDG supports at-risk communities with CWPP development/revision and implementation projects described in an adopted CWPP less than 10 years old. The program prioritizes communities with high or very high wildfire hazard potential, low-income communities, and communities impacted by a severe disaster.



**Up to
\$10M**

Implementation projects described in a qualifying application.



**Priority
scoring**

High/very high hazard, low-income, disaster-impacted communities.



**Cost share
waiver**

May be available for qualifying underserved/low-income communities.



**FY26 / final
round focus**

Meeting materials identify FY26 as the target funding cycle with a 90-day application window.

Sources: USDA Forest Service CWDG Program; Texas A&M Forest Service CWDG page; Meeting 1 kickoff deck.