

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. Introduction to the Santa Monica Mountains Community Wildfire Protection Plan.....1**
 - 1.1. Plan Purpose 1
 - 1.2. Organization of This Document 1
 - 1.3. Santa Monica Mountains Community Description 3
 - 1.4. Santa Monica Mountains Communities at Risk 6
 - 1.5. Santa Monica Mountains Fire Protection Areas and Agencies 7
 - 1.6. Introduction to Santa Monica Mountains Fire Safe Councils 7
 - 1.7. Fire Safety Objectives 9
 - Minimize Ignitions 9
 - Decrease Fire Intensity Around Homes and Structures 9
 - Decrease Damage to Natural and Human Assets 10
 - Increase Permeability 10
 - Increase Resiliency 10
 - 1.8. Conservation Principles for Community Wildfire Protection in the Santa Monica Mountains 10
 - Some Basic Concepts to Remember for Living with Wildfire in the Santa Monica Mountains 11
 - Conservation Principles 14
- 2. Santa Monica Mountains CWPP Planning Process 1**
 - 2.1. Planning Area Boundaries 1
 - 2.2. Process and Plan Development..... 2
 - 2.2.1. Community Meetings 2
 - 2.2.2. Community Outreach 4
 - 2.2.3. Public Review and Input 5
 - 2.3. CWPP Planning Committee and Working Group 5
- 3. Wildfire: Current Environment and Behavior 1**
 - 3.1. Fire History..... 1
 - 3.1.1. Lightning Fires 1
 - 3.1.2. Pre-Historic Fire History 2
 - 3.1.3. Indigenous Use of Fire 2
 - 3.1.4. European Settlement Fire History 2
 - 3.1.5. Recent Fire History 3
 - 3.2. Fire Behavior Characteristics 5
 - Surface Fires 5
 - Crown Fire 6
 - Fire Intensity 6
 - Heat Per Unit Area 7
 - Fire Severity 7
 - Flame Length 7
 - Rate of Spread 8
 - Residence Time 8
 - 3.3. General Wildfire Environment Descriptions 8
 - 3.3.1. Weather 8
 - 3.3.2. Topography 10
 - 3.3.3. Vegetation and Fuels 11
 - 3.3.4. Hydrology 13
 - 3.3.5. Wildlife 14
 - Sensitive Species 14
 - 3.4. Fire Hazard 15
 - 3.4.1. Hazard Assessment 16
 - 3.5. Fire Regime 16
 - 3.5.1. Condition Class 17

3.6. Wildfire and the Wildland-Urban Interface..... 18

4. Community Fire Safety Starts at Home 1

4.1. From the House Out 3

4.1.1. Fuel-Free Zone 11

4.1.2. Structure Protection Zone 12

4.1.3. Defensible Space Zone..... 17

4.1.4. Wildland Interface Zone 20

4.2. Ready, Set, Go..... 21

4.2.1. Ready: What to Do Before Wildfire 21

4.2.2. Set: What to Do When Wildfire Potential is High—Red Flag Warnings 28

4.2.3. Go: What to Do During Wildfire—Evacuating Safely 34

4.3. After the Fire 40

4.3.1. Assess Your Situation 40

4.3.2. Developing and Implementing a Restoration Plan..... 41

4.3.3. Make a Plan to Be Better Prepared Next Time 43

4.4. Legal Requirements..... 43

4.4.1. California State Laws and Regulations 43

4.4.2. Local and County Regulations 46

5. Fire Ecology and Management of the Santa Monica Mountains Vegetation Types 1

5.1. Grassland 2

5.1.1. Grassland and the Role of Fire..... 3

5.1.2. Grassland Fire Regime 3

5.1.3. Grassland Plant Adaptations to Fire..... 4

5.1.4. Grassland Conservation and Fuel-Management Objectives 4

5.1.5. Grassland Fuel-Management Best Management Practices 5

5.2. Chaparral 5

5.2.1. Chaparral and the Role of Fire 6

5.2.2. Chaparral Fire Regime 7

5.2.3. Chaparral Plant Adaptations to Fire 7

5.2.4. Chaparral Conservation and Fuel-Management Objectives..... 8

5.2.5. Chaparral Fuel-Management Best Management Practices 8

5.3. Coastal Sage Scrub 12

5.3.1. Coastal Sage Scrub and the Role of Fire..... 12

5.3.2. Coastal Sage Scrub Fire Regime 13

5.3.3. Coastal Sage Scrub Plant Adaptations to Fire..... 13

5.3.4. Coastal Sage Scrub Conservation and Fuel-Management Objectives 13

5.3.5. Coastal Sage Scrub Fuel-Management Best Management Practices 14

5.4. Upland Tree Types 14

5.4.1. Upland Tree Types and the Role of Fire 15

5.4.2. Upland Tree Types Fire Regime 15

5.4.3. Upland Tree Types Plant Adaptations to Fire 15

5.4.4. Upland Tree Types Conservation and Fuel-Management Objectives..... 16

5.4.5. Upland Tree Types Fuel-Management Best Management Practices 16

5.5. Riparian Woodlands 17

5.5.1. Riparian Woodlands and the Role of Fire..... 18

5.5.2. Riparian Woodlands Fire Regime 18

5.5.3. Riparian Woodlands Plant Adaptations to Fire..... 18

5.5.4. Riparian Woodlands Conservation and Fuel-Management Objectives 18

5.5.5. Riparian Woodlands Fuel-Management Best Management Practices 18

PUBLIC DRAFT

- 6. Santa Monica Mountains Community Context** 1
 - 6.1. Social and Legal Setting 1
 - 6.1.1. Land Use and Development Trends 1
 - 6.1.2. Community Legal Structure and Jurisdictional Boundaries 2
 - 6.2. Fire Protection Agencies 3
 - 6.2.1. Los Angeles County Fire Department 4
 - 6.2.2. Ventura County Fire Department 5
 - 6.2.3. National Park Service 6
 - 6.2.4. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority 7
 - 6.3. Public Lands 7
 - 6.3.1. Federal Lands 8
 - National Park Service 8
 - United States Navy 10
 - 6.3.2. California State Lands 11
 - California State Parks 11
 - Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy 11
 - University of California Natural Reserve System 12
 - 6.3.3. Nonprofit Agency Lands 13
 - Mountains Restoration Trust 13
 - Nature Trust of the Santa Monica Mountains 13
 - 6.3.4. County Lands 13
 - 6.3.5. Municipal Lands 13
 - City of Malibu 13
 - City of Calabasas 14
 - 6.3.6. Other Local Lands 14
 - Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority 14
 - Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency 15
 - Las Virgenes Municipal Water District 15
 - 6.4. Community Planning Context 15
 - 6.4.1. Los Angeles County: Malibu Local Coastal Program Land Use Plan (1986) 16
 - 6.4.2. Los Angeles County: Santa Monica Mountains North Area Plan 18
 - 6.4.3. Ventura County General Plan 20
 - Lake Sherwood/Hidden Valley Area Plan 23
 - Ventura County Coastal Area Plan 24
 - 6.4.4. Los Angeles County All Hazard Mitigation Plan 24
 - Los Angeles County Fire Plan (or Pre-Fire Management Plan) 25
 - 6.4.5. Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Ventura County 26
 - 6.4.6. Las Virgenes–Malibu Council of Governments Hazard Mitigation Plan 27
 - 6.4.7. City of Malibu General Plan 28
 - 6.4.8. City of Malibu Local Coastal Program, Land Use Plan (2002) 30
 - 6.4.9. Calabasas General Plan 2030 31
 - 6.5. Integrating Fire Safety: The Santa Monica Mountains Fire Safe Alliance 33
- 7. Risk Assessment: Identifying and Evaluating Assets at Risk** 1
 - 7.1. Assets at Risk in the Santa Monica Mountains 1
 - 7.1.1. Homes and Structures 1
 - 7.1.2. General Infrastructure Assets 2
 - 7.1.3. Commercial Assets 5
 - 7.1.4. Schools and Seasonal-Use Facilities 6
 - 7.1.5. Medical Facilities 6
 - 7.1.6. Correctional Facilities 6

PUBLIC DRAFT

7.1.7.	Cultural Assets.....	7
7.1.8.	Natural Assets	7
7.1.9.	Conflicts Between Natural Assets and Human Occupation	8
7.2.	Assessing Risks in the Santa Monica Mountains	9
	Assets at Risk.....	9
	Fire Hazard Severity.....	9
	Risk of Wildfire Occurrence.....	9
	Structural Ignitability.....	9
	Urban Fuels.....	10
	Evacuation Vulnerability.....	10
	Fire Protection Support.....	10
7.3.	Furthering the Risk Assessment of the Santa Monica Mountains.....	11
8.	Santa Monica Mountains CWPP: Action Plan.....	1
8.1.	Creating Fire Safe Communities: Empowering Residents to Take Responsibility	1
8.1.1.	Fire Safe Councils	2
8.2.	Hardening Homes to Survive Wildfire—Reducing Structural Ignitability	3
8.2.1.	Implementing WUI Building Standards.....	3
8.3.	Reducing Urban Fuels	5
8.3.1.	Reducing Fuels Around Homes and Other Structures	5
8.3.2.	Hazard Tree Management Program	7
8.3.3.	Community Chipping Program	8
8.4.	Assessing Risks at the Local Level	8
8.5.	Reducing the Risk of Wildfire.....	9
8.6.	Enhancing Fire Protection	11
8.6.1.	Resources for Fire Protection	11
8.6.2.	Water.....	12
8.6.3.	Roads.....	13
8.6.4.	Signage of Roads and Structures (Addressing).....	14
8.7.	Ensuring Safe and Effective Evacuation	15
8.7.1.	Developing Evacuation Routes and Sites.....	15
8.7.2.	Evacuation Plans for Pets and Large Animals	16
8.8.	Community Emergency Preparedness.....	17
8.8.1.	Emergency Notification and Communications	17
8.8.2.	Residential Emergency Preparedness.....	18
8.9.	Promoting Fire-Safe Education	19
8.9.1.	Fire-Safety Education in Schools.....	19
8.9.2.	Fire-Safety Education for New Residents and Tourists	20
8.10.	Integrating Community Fire Safety into Local Policies	20
8.11.	Integrating Fire Safety and Conservation Efforts.....	21
8.12.	Designation of Wildland-Urban Interface Areas.....	23
8.13.	Designation of Communities at Risk.....	23
8.14.	Facilitating Santa Monica Mountains Fire Safety in the Long Term	24
9.	Facilitating Fire Safety in the Santa Monica Mountains over the Long Term.....	1
9.1.	Monitoring.....	1
9.1.1.	Project Monitoring	2
	Photo Point Monitoring.....	3
9.1.2.	Ecological Monitoring.....	3
9.2.	Project Maintenance	4
9.3.	Updating This Plan.....	4
9.4.	Resources Needed to Support Ongoing Efforts.....	5