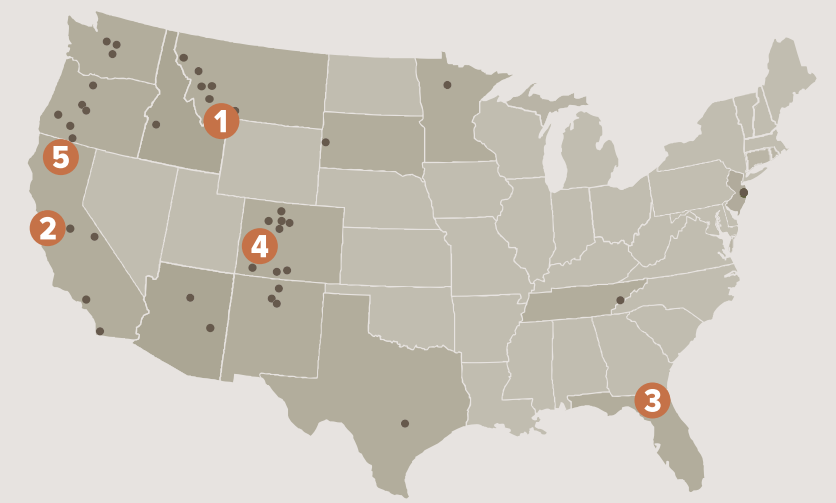


Community Examples

CPAW COMMUNITIES



“The research and reports that Headwaters Economics has prepared have been instrumental for us in demonstrating clear evidence for why adoption of wildfire codes is necessary.”

Cathie Pagano,
Gunnison County Assistant County Manager
for Community & Economic Development

FEATURED COMMUNITY EXAMPLES

1 BIG SKY, MT:

CPAW is partnering with Big Sky’s Fire Department and Chamber of Commerce to develop strategies and materials focusing on mitigation measures and wildfire preparedness for the many absentee and second-home owners in Big Sky. Engaging tourists and part-time residents has been a long-term challenge for the community.

2 WOODSIDE, CA:

Home-to-home ignition is a significant concern for densely developed neighborhoods in Woodside and Portola Valley, CA. CPAW is researching solutions and providing recommendations addressing home and property risk reduction, neighborhood design, infrastructure planning, and evacuation. CPAW is also helping partners explore local revenue opportunities for long-term funding.

3 BAKER COUNTY, FL:

Baker County has become a more fire-adapted community since adopting CPAW’s 2020 recommendations. It has updated language in the county Comprehensive Plan and adopted codes and requirements for fire protection in new developments. Integrating wildfire mitigation standards into broader county standards has fostered interdepartmental collaboration.

4 GUNNISON COUNTY, CO:

Gunnison County is considering updating building codes to strengthen wildfire hazard mitigation requirements in areas with high wildfire risk. New codes would address landscaping and home-hardening to lower the county’s wildfire risk. Local wildfire hazard maps would be updated. County commissioners will hold public hearings in Fall 2022.

5 REDDING, CA:

The City of Redding is conducting public outreach regarding potential changes to building codes and land use regulations, based on 2019 CPAW recommendations. Potential changes address wildfire-resistant building materials, defensible space standards, and subdivision and development codes that incorporate wildfire risk-reduction measures.



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Research & Outreach



FIRETOPIA RESOURCE LIBRARY

Planning a community with wildfire in mind requires integrating risk-reduction strategies into the design, layout, and development of homes and neighborhoods. This interactive online library shares strategies for adapting communities to increasing wildfire risk.



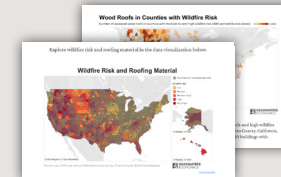
'OWN YOUR ZONE' HANDOUT

This simple, one-page handout for homeowners illustrates how to protect the exterior of a home from wildfire. A dozen safety activities such as clearing decks and enclosing eaves are prioritized by effectiveness and cost.



CALIFORNIA HOME COST STUDY

Constructing a wildfire-resistant home is critical in light of rising wildfire risks. This study compares the costs of constructing a home in California at three levels of wildfire resistance. Findings shed light on economic barriers and opportunities in creating fire-adapted communities.



REPLACING WOOD ROOFS DATA

Data reveals that replacing wood roofs in areas with wildfire risk will cost at least \$6 billion nationwide. An interactive map shows where the risk is highest. This report suggests that funding is needed to help communities retrofit infrastructure to prepare for wildfire.



HOME CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP

Construction industry leaders, wildfire personnel, researchers, land management agencies, and local government staff convened in Park County, MT, to identify, discuss, and develop collaborative strategies for building wildfire-resistant homes in high-risk areas. New relationships were built between the construction industry and wildfire science community.

By the numbers: (Sept 2021 - present)



30 presentations
reaching audiences
of more than 1,750



64 media stories
featuring CPAW
and related research



16,000 pageviews
on the CPAW website



1,000 custom wildfire risk
reports generated



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What's Next?



REBUILDING FOR WILDFIRE RESISTANCE: A HOMEOWNER'S STORY

CPAW is producing a short film documenting a homeowner's experience surviving a wildfire and rebuilding his home to better resist wildfires.



SUGGESTING POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

In partnership with Columbia University, CPAW is interviewing wildfire experts and formulating recommendations for cost-effective wildfire policies that reduce risks to communities.



REFRAMING THE APPROACH TO WILDFIRE

In collaboration with leading wildfire risk scientists, CPAW is publishing an article describing the theoretical foundations of wildfire management and outlining new ideas to better align management with increasing wildfire risks and community impacts.



RETROFITTING COSTS FOR WILDFIRE RESISTANCE

CPAW is researching and analyzing the costs of retrofitting homes to higher wildfire resistance. Results will highlight cost-effective mitigation strategies and help state and federal policymakers determine funding needed to subsidize homeowners.



BUILDING INDUSTRY GUIDE TO WILDFIRE-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION

CPAW is partnering with leaders in the construction industry to develop a guide describing best practices and recommended building materials for enhanced wildfire-resistant construction.



COMMUNITY WILDFIRE DEFENSE GRANT (CWDG) SUPPORT AND OUTREACH

CPAW and Headwaters Economics are customizing tools and resources to provide communities with easily accessible data required on applications to the Forest Service's CWDG grant program. CPAW will also promote awareness of and participation in the CWDG program.



CPAW is a program of Headwaters Economics. It is funded by grants from the U.S. Forest Service and private foundations and is an equal opportunity employer.

Patricia Hernandez | Executive Director | patty@headwaterseconomics.org | 406.599.7425
Kimiko Barrett, Ph.D. | Lead Wildfire Researcher | kimi@headwaterseconomics.org | 406.224.1837



cpaw.headwaterseconomics.org