

**Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council | 2021**

# **Community Wildfire Protection Plan**



**S a n D i e g o C o u n t y**



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## PREFACE: WHAT IS A COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN?

Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) are blueprints for preparedness at the neighborhood level. They organize a community's efforts to protect itself against wildfire, and empower citizens to move in a cohesive, common direction. Among the key goals of the Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council (FSC) CWPP, which was developed collaboratively by citizens, and federal, state, and local management agencies, are to:

- Align with the San Diego County Fire and CAL FIRE's cohesive pre-fire strategy, which includes educating homeowners and building understanding of wildland fire, ensuring defensible space clearing and structure hardening, safeguarding communities through fuels treatment, and protecting evacuation corridors
- Identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatment
- Recommend the types and methods of treatment that will protect the community
- Recommend measures to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan

Formed in January 2003, the Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council (CWFSC) is a community-based group of volunteers dedicated to an all-inclusive team. This team is focused on fire safety, wildfire, and home fire and preparedness programs, as authorized by our many partnerships and collaborators.

Our core efforts are in education, home hardening and safety, defensible space, fuels projects and other mitigation and safety projects in and around our community. The work of the Fire Safe Council of San Diego County (FSCSDC) is greatly appreciated and valued. The FSCSDC team, including the leadership and fantastic support group, are a constant source of assistance and information. We thank them.

This CWPP is a step forward in making our efforts easier to appreciate, review and utilize for our community and others seeking our work in and around Cuyamaca Woods, California.

The inclusion of the evacuation portion with evacuation corridors and Temporary Safe Refuge Areas (TSRAs) is a milestone in the joint effort to keep our most valuable resource safe: people.

The final portion of this CWPP recognizes the additional efforts of FSC's to partner and complete service-related projects, when seen as an overall effort in assisting our fire agency partners, and our residents.

The CWFSC has always taken an all-inclusive, comprehensive approach to community preparedness, action, and resilience. The FSC is at the core of many facets of community interests. Those involved with Fire Safe Councils, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), animal services, senior services, Red Cross, and amateur radio all find a home within our organization. Networking and a cooperative spirit are the rule.



*Note: The CWPP is not to be construed as indicative of project “activity” as defined under the “Community Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act, Chapter Three, Projects Subject to CEQA.” Any actual project activities undertaken that meet this definition of project activity and are undertaken by the CWPP participants or agencies listed shall meet with local, state, and federal environmental compliance requirements.*



## SECTION I: SNAPSHOT OF THE COMMUNITY

Each community in San Diego County has a unique history and identity. Below is a description of what sets this area apart, including its landscape, preparedness, and firefighting resources.

### A. OVERVIEW

Cuyamaca Woods (CW) is a 583-acre, off-grid, residential community comprising approximately 65 homes on 201 parcels. The community is located in unincorporated San Diego County, in the mountains 40 miles northeast of the City of San Diego. CW is located off Engineers Road, three to five miles northwest of Lake Cuyamaca, and six miles south of Julian. It is bordered by Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on the east, and tribal reservation lands on the northwest and private lands to the south. The elevation is 4,000 to 4,600 feet. All roads in the community are privately owned and branch off of Engineers Road, which is a county-maintained road. The community roads are all dead-ended. Engineers Road connects to the east to Highway 79, and to the west to Boulder Creek Road.

An important feature of CW is that it is off-grid. The community operates self-sufficiently when it comes to energy and water production. Community-based North Peak Mutual Water Company provides water to some 50 percent of the parcels, while others use wells. Every homes in CW have water tanks, including fire department connection, for fire protection purposes. The community does have landline phone service, and some areas have cell phone service. In recent years, cell phone service has improved and many of the residents have terminated their landline phone service.

The Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council covers an area adjacent to Julian and Cuyamaca Lake, which are Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas. Public lands adjacent to or within these areas include the U.S. Forest Service's Cleveland National Forest, those owned by the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Rancho Cuyamaca State Park. The community falls within the fire coverage area of San Diego County Fire and CAL FIRE.

### B. LANDSCAPE

#### TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of Cuyamaca Woods is comprised of steeply sloped mountain sides. The community is west of, and lower than, adjacent North Peak. Primary vegetation consists of oak trees, pine trees, manzanita and ceanothus. Roadside vegetation along Engineers Road frequently consists of dense chaparral. Both the oak trees and the pine trees have been damaged by borers and drought. The gold-spotted oak borer has caused substantial oak death in the last decade.

Cuyamaca Woods experiences high wind conditions, primarily Santa Ana winds, as well as extremes of heat in the summer and snow and freezing conditions in the winter.

The average elevation in our FSC area is 4,300 feet.

## FIRE HISTORY

The Greater Julian area, of which the Cuyamaca Woods Community is a part, is fire-prone. Notably, the Cedar Fire of 2003 devastated the community. Started by a hunter setting a signal fire, the Cedar Fire originated west of Cuyamaca Woods and rampaged westward, spurred by strong Santa Ana winds. The residents of Cuyamaca Woods evacuated. Three days after the fire began, on October 28, the Santa Ana winds subsided and coastal winds turned the fire back toward the east. As it moved eastward, the Cedar Fire reached Cuyamaca Woods, and neighboring communities of Pine Hills, Harrison Park, Julian Estates, and Lake Cuyamaca among others, as well as Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. In Cuyamaca Woods, 51 of the then existing 71 homes were destroyed. Altogether, more than 500 homes surrounding the town of Julian were destroyed.

The Witch Creek Fire in 2007 burned just west of Cuyamaca Woods.

Values at risk within the area include:

- Homes
- Local habitats such as chaparral and oak woodlands
- Sensitive species such as Engelmann Oak and Live Oak trees
- Mixed chaparral and sage scrub habitat that host sensitive local flora and fauna
- Watershed function: public and private water system integrity and local aquifers
- Historical and cultural resources

Mountain vegetation:

- Pine trees
- Manzanita
- Mixed chaparral
- Chamise chaparral
- Mountain chaparral
- Grassland/meadows
- Oak woodland
- Riparian scrub
- Buckwheat scrub

## KEY INFRASTRUCTURE

Homes and other structures are scattered throughout the region, two-thirds of which have been built or rebuilt since the 2003 Cedar Fire. The community consists entirely of private property; there are no public facilities. A private water utility is the only business in the area.

The North Peak Mutual Water Company provides water to about 50 percent of the properties in Cuyamaca Woods. The company owns and operates three wells, each with pump houses and generators. The company also owns two water storage tanks, including one above ground, and one below ground. The system has above ground hydrants and serves 90 shareholder water meters.

The community's primary roads, Engineers Road and State Route 79, can be used for both everyday access and during emergencies and evacuations. These roads can, and have been, blocked by natural hazards such as fire, snow, flooding, and fallen rocks and trees.

## MAPS

With assistance from San Diego County Fire and using technology and local expertise, the sponsors of this CWPP have included a series of maps depicting the site and situation of the Cuyamaca Woods community (Appendix C). The following maps are visual aids from which the Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council and community members can assess and make recommendations.

1. Area Communities
2. Fire Hazard Severity
3. Fire History (1910-2010)
4. Evacuation
5. Fuel Treatment Projects (optional)

## C. FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES

Everyone plays a role in protecting the CWFSC communities from wildfire. Below are the primary agencies responsible for firefighting and community emergency response in the community:

- [San Diego County Fire](#) – structure and emergency medical service (EMS)
- [CAL FIRE](#) – wildland protection on public lands, BLM property and state parks
- [U.S. Forest Service \(Cleveland National Forest\)](#) – wildland protection of federal lands

Along with the volunteers of this FSC, there are Community Emergency Response Team members active locally. Additional volunteers are involved with: Ham Radio, Red Cross

programs, County Animal Rescue Team, County Sheriff's Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol, and other efforts within the communities served by the Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council.

This FSC supports our community members as a cooperative, organized, and authorized effort to further emergency preparedness and training.

Additional resources can be provided by faith-based groups and spontaneous volunteers.

## SECTION II: COLLABORATION

Strong working relationships are critical in ensuring that our communities are well-prepared. This section describes those key partners and their roles in developing this CWPP.

### A. KEY PARTNERS

The Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council led the development of this CWPP, with guidance and support from several partners. The development team included representatives from the agencies described in the table below.

Organization/Name	Roles / Responsibilities
Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide local information and expertise. This may include community risk and value assessment, development of community protection priorities, and establishment of fuels treatment project areas and methods.</li></ul>
Fire Safe Council (FSC) of San Diego County/Resource Conservation District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Programmatic administration, management, and support.</li><li>• Lead CWPP development process, community risk and value assessment, development of community protection priorities, and establishment of fuels treatment project areas and methods.</li><li>• Assist with maps for community Fire Safe Councils.</li><li>• Lead CWPP Review Committee, review all CWPPs, and approve completed CWPPs for submittal to County Fire/CAL FIRE for final authorization.</li><li>• Provide educational outreach and support for pre-wildfire disaster planning, defensible space, fuel reduction, and hazard assessment.</li></ul>



County Fire/CAL FIRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop CWPPs, community protection priorities and fuels treatment project areas and methods and provide community risk and value assessment.</li> <li>• Facilitate planning process and approval of CWPP process and minimum standards. Provide input and expertise on forestry, fire, fuels, evacuation options, and Fire Safe and Firewise concepts.</li> <li>• Participate in CWPP Review Committee, reviews all CWPP applications, and approves completed applications for submittal for final authorization.</li> <li>• Prepare CWPP maps.</li> </ul>
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide input and expertise on federal lands, fire, fuels, and Fire Safe and Firewise concepts.</li> <li>• Participate in CWPP Review Committee and reviews all CWPP applications.</li> </ul>
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in CWPP Review Committee and reviews all CWPP applications.</li> <li>• Encourage collaboration on Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fuel break planning and implementation on USFWS lands in the greater Cuyamaca Woods area.</li> <li>• Provide input, expertise on planning and support on fuels mitigation projects, and direct FSC support.</li> </ul>
San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide input and expertise on planning and hazard mitigation.</li> <li>• Provide input, advice, programs, grants in support of the FSC.</li> </ul>
County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide input, expertise on planning and hazard mitigation.</li> </ul>
U.S. Forest Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide input and expertise on federal lands, fire, fuels and Fire Safe and Firewise concepts.</li> <li>• Participate in CWPP Review Committee and reviews all CWPP applications.</li> </ul>

California State Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide local information and expertise for CDPR lands management activities related to vegetation management, fuels reduction, and healthy fire resilient ecosystems as a landowner adjacent to the Cuyamaca Woods community. Provides law enforcement support for the San Diego County Sheriff's Office.</li></ul>
San Diego County Sheriff's Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides local information and expertise for County Sheriff's jurisdictional region . Provides input and expertise for emergency evacuation planning .</li></ul>

## SECTION III: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

Understanding wildfire risk is a key building block in preventing the loss of property and life. This section discusses efforts to build awareness, starting with the individual.

### A. PRIORITIES

The CWFSC supports the following regional and local priorities:

1. Chipping for fuel reduction and abatement
2. Assistance with 100' of defensible space around structures
3. Roadside vegetation management along roads
4. Removal or treatment of dead, dying, and diseased trees
5. Wood splitting as part of fuels management, using local firewood only (containment of potentially contaminated wood)
6. Develop program to educate residents about defensible space and natural fire resistive vegetation concepts
7. Research and identify resources for maintaining defensible space and vegetation reduction
8. Assist seniors and disabled residents in creating defensible space
9. Perform hazardous brush abatement around homes – reservoirs, tanks, pump stations and distribution facilities
10. Pursuit of green-waste and/or vegetation reduction transfer station in the area
11. Continuing to educate residents on the available grant programs, including those related to structural hardening, defensible space improvements and fire safety

### B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

The CWFSC provides education and training on all aspects of our authorized projects. A team of community members has worked together to identify and create projects related to home hardening, defensible space, fuel reduction programs and outreach, including the following:

- Encouraging participation in meetings and events
- Hosting a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) class in our community.
- Hosting a fire landscaping expert for a community presentation

- Writing articles and posting fire safety and event information in our quarterly community newsletter
- Delivering our Cuyamaca Woods Evacuation Plan booklet to all residents.
- Providing flyers and information sheet handouts to the public during our annual community picnic. Inviting local fire personnel to the picnic to meet and interact with our community.
- Sponsoring with our Property Owners Assoc. (POA) the annual calendar photo contest. The calendar includes fire safety tips.
- Marching in the Julian 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, and handing out Smokey Bear fire safety pencils.
- Maintaining a website with schedules, educational information, and outreach contacts at <https://www.cuyamacawoodsfsc.org/>

## B. Future Projects

The CWFSC will continue to work towards the above projects and education.

# SECTION IV: STRUCTURAL HARDENING

Long before a wildfire sparks, there are numerous steps that residents can take to protect their homes and other structures. This section describes some of those efforts.

## A. PRIORITIES

The following is a description of structural hardening-related priorities, including proposed methods of improvement and implementation for the community. This includes:

- Pursuing ongoing home hardening projects, home ignition prevention projects and expanded cooperation with home protection techniques
- Educating our community on appropriate placement of wood storage piles, away and out of the line of prevailing and Santa Ana winds
- Continuing public education on “adding no new fuel” to your property. When possible, encouraging the use of non-combustibles instead of wood-based construction, products, or items.
- Continuing the education of the critical “first five feet” along the sides of your homes and having no combustibles in this area.
- Home hardening, including on fire resistive and ember resistant vents, and related public education.

## B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

One of the main considerations is the treatment of home hardening, structural hardening or structural ignitability

In cooperation with the County of San Diego, the CWFSC will support and promote fire safe activities and educate residents in ways to increase structure hardening by reducing structure ignitability/flammability. Communicating the new requirements of the County of San Diego Building and Fire Code is a good area of opportunity to start providing the information to the community.

In cooperation with San Diego County Fire, the Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council will support and promote natural fire resistive vegetation concepts.

The FSC will support and educate citizens in ways to increase structural hardening by meeting County of San Diego Building and Fire Code requirements. We will encourage home hardening within our community, including promoting the use of grants where available and collaborating with our community in utilizing this valuable resource.

The partnership that exists between the listed organizations (federal, state, local and tribal) allows the CWFSC to identify opportunities to reduce hazardous vegetative fuels that could ignite residences and commercial facilities during wildfires. The Natural Resources Conservation Service has declared the removal of dead, dying, and diseased trees an "exigency" task. Maintaining properties with the appropriate defensible space and utilizing fire-resistant building materials are key factors to protecting lives and property in the WUI.

Additionally, the following actions were identified as steps the community can take to increase structural hardening:

- Retrofitting homes to meet natural fire resistive vegetation and structural hardening standards, making it more difficult for fire to ignite homes or businesses
- Community education regarding increasing structural hardening, enhancing wildfire readiness, proper defensible space, yard maintenance and other natural fire resistive vegetation practices
- Educating homeowners about proper storage and disposal of hazardous/flammable materials.

The following actions were identified as steps the community can take to further prepare for wildfire:

- Home hardening for ember resistant home vents, education, and grants
- Home hardening for fire resistive siding and materials, education, and grants

- Home hardening for ember resistive techniques education
- WUI training classes
- Ongoing information handouts and community events

## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

The CWFSC will work toward the following efforts in the future:

- Directing residents to the proper source for the current Fire Code.
- Providing information to the community about securing funding from grants to perform home hardening upgrades.
- Creating and maintaining a list of qualified/licensed vegetation management and/or fire resistive building construction contractors for our community.



## SECTION V: DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Creating a buffer between buildings and the grass, trees, shrubs, and other wildland areas surrounding it are essential to improving survivability. This section looks at efforts to build this key layer of protection.

### A. PRIORITIES

Key priorities for the CWFSC related to defensible space include:

- Creating defensible space around homes, driveways, and access/egress routes
- Encouraging community members to keep areas where our fire crews must drive, access, and work free from fire threats. Likewise, this work will also help protect areas that our residents and visitors must use while evacuating and escaping danger



- Chipping for fuel reduction and abatement
- Conducting roadside vegetation management along roads
- Providing the community with opportunities to dispose of fuels via chipping and dumpster programs
- Assisting seniors and those with access needs in creating defensible space either directly with volunteers or directing them to the [Defensible](#)

[Space Assistance Program \(DSAP\)](#)

### B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

The CWFSC hosts two Community Clean-up Days a year. As part of this, we rent two large dumpsters and a chipper. We promote and encourage our neighbors to remove all the “stuff” around their homes and within the 100’ defensible space.

Annually we have applied for and received a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) grant for clearing the Immediate Zone: zero to five feet around the house.

## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

The CWFSC will continue to work toward the above and below efforts, with a goal of expanding outreach within our community. Efforts will include:

- Building defensible space including zones around homes, roadways, driveways
- Encouraging the community add no fuel concept in building material, garden planning, patio additions
- Raising awareness of the dangers of home embers, placement of wood piles and prevailing and Santa Ana wind
- Coordinating with cooperating agencies on where WUI fuel breaks can complement or expand efforts from federal lands onto adjacent state/private parcels



## SECTION VI: FUELS TREATMENT

Fuels are combustible materials such as grasses, leaves, plants, shrubs, and trees that feed flames. This section describes efforts to treat and manage these materials in the community.

### A. PRIORITIES

The CWFSC has designated the following priorities:

- Providing opportunities for the community to dispose of fuels via chipping and dumpster programs.
- Analyzing and supporting projects that minimize or eliminate fuels along the main evacuation roads and coordinating with partners to ensure alternate and secondary routes get cleared as well.
- Roadside vegetation management.
- Removal or treatment of dead, dying, and diseased trees.

### B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

The CWFSC received a State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund (SRAFPF) Grant of \$48,000 to remove dead trees within 20' of our roads. The work was performed in 2016 and 2017. Thirty-six dead trees were cut down, small branches chipped, and larger pieces cut into logs for community heating use.

In 2017, we received a grant from the California Conservation Corps (CCC) worth \$76,000 to clear brush in the easements of our roads. The work covered our entire neighborhood.

### C. FUTURE PROJECTS

The CWFSC has designated the following as future priority projects:

- Exploring the possibility of creating a fuel break in or adjacent to our FSC area. Further analysis is required, as well as collaboration with County Fire to assess and prioritize fuel breaks for our area.
- Reviewing and proposing evacuation corridor proposals as changes to the communities occur.
- Educating residents about proper vegetation management that maintains and/or restores native habitats.

## SECTION VII: EVACUATION PLANNING

Identifying key corridors in and out of a community – as well as Temporary Safe Refuge Areas – is essential to being prepared for evacuation. This section provides an overview of the PACE system (primary, alternate, contingency, and emergency) used to plan ahead.

Evacuation planning is a dynamic process subject to the nuances of each community. Below is an overview of Cuyamaca Woods' key entry and exit points, as well as designated evacuation corridors, Temporary Safe Refuge Areas, completed projects, priorities, and future projects.

### A. OVERVIEW OF INGRESS AND EGRESS

#### Main evacuation roads

**Engineers Rd.** is primarily a two (2) lane (one in each direction) paved highway mostly situated in an east/west direction. This is the community's main exit corridor. This will be the closest and sometimes only exit route for residents.

**Boulder Creek Rd.** starts as a two (2) lane paved road, primarily situated in a north/south direction. The road transitions into Eagle Peak Rd. and then Pine Hills Rd. en route north to SR-78.

**SR-79** is primarily a two (2) lane (one in each direction) paved road, mostly positioned in a north/south direction. It is a primary means of ingress and egress for residents in the Cuyamaca, Julian and Laguna areas.

### B. DESIGNATED EVACUATION CORRIDORS AND TEMPORARY SAFE REFUGE AREA(S) (TSRA)

Using the PACE system, the CWFSC community has these options designated for use during emergencies (see Appendix B for maps)

**Primary:** Engineers Rd. east or west, away from danger towards SR-79 or Boulder Creek Rd.

**Alternate:** None

**Contingency:** None



**Emergency:** TSRAs: (Jess Martin Park, Julian High School, Julian Elementary School, Williams Ranch gravel pit, ) clear open parking lots or any cleared or plowed farmlands and dirt fields as a last resort.

## C. PRIORITIES

The following are key priorities for maintaining evacuation access for residents and visitors of Cuyamaca Woods:

- Clear fuels along evacuation corridors
- Identify one-way in/one-way out scenarios
- Identify locations of existing fuel breaks and the need for new ones
- Inform and engage the community on evacuation planning to build and readiness
- Identify fuel reduction project needs in and around TSRA areas. Collaborate with animal and pet service groups, including through:
  - Our Fire Safe Council supports animal and pet-owner education on emergency preparedness, and evacuation programs, utilizing guidance from the San Diego County Department of Animal Services (DAS). The website for DAS:  
[https://www.sddac.com/content/sdc/das/adopt/care/pet\\_disaster\\_plan.html](https://www.sddac.com/content/sdc/das/adopt/care/pet_disaster_plan.html)  
We recommend that everyone prepares for an emergency by gathering necessary supplies ahead of time and practicing your family disaster plan. For most of us, pets are part of our family, so we need an emergency plan to protect them as well.
  - Support the Community Neighbors Helping Neighbors, NET programs
  - Our Fire Safe Council supports Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Neighborhood Evacuation Teams, Community Volunteers assisting in Education, Planning and Evacuation preparedness for neighbors, seniors, and those with access needs and children.
  - American Red Cross education, preparedness and response projects.
  - San Diego County Office of Emergency Services preparedness education and programs

## D. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

An Evacuation brochure was developed by this FSC and is available for [download](#) on the [CWFSC website](#). This brochure identifies and displays the layout of primary, secondary, contingency, and emergency TSRAs.

Thanks to a private donation, the FSC printed copies of the evacuation plan and distributed it to all residents and property owners.

We installed “NO OUTLET” and directional signage on community roads.

## E. FUTURE PROJECTS

The following are future priorities for CWFSC evacuation planning related projects:

- Identify existing fuel breaks and the need for new ones
- Engage our community to gain additional FSC participation
- Work with the community to identify the greatest evacuation-related needs
- Expand our cooperative efforts to work with organized groups such as CERT and Animal Services as described below.
- Promote the below messaging:

**CAL FIRE’s “If you become trapped by a wildfire” education CAL FIRE Ready Set Go! Program**

**In your home:**

Stay calm and keep your family together.

Call 911 to advise officials.

Have a water supply ready.

Keep doors and windows closed but unlocked.

Stay inside your house, away from exterior walls and windows.

**In your car:**

Stay calm and park away from vegetation.

Call 911 to advise officials.

Close all windows and vents.

Cover mouth with dry cloth to protect airway.

Cover yourself with a wool blanket or jacket.

Lay on vehicle floor and stay in the car until the fire passes.

**On foot:**



Stay calm and find an area clear of vegetation, a ditch, or a depression on level ground.

Call 911 to advise officials.

Lay face down and cover up your body.

Cover mouth with a dry cloth to protect airway.

**Call 911 for all emergencies or if unable to self-evacuate.**

Report new fires. If you are elderly, infirm, and physically unable to assist yourself and cannot evacuate, notify 911. Pre-planning for evacuation should include friends, family and neighbors who can assist you during an emergency. If you cannot self-evacuate, call 911.

Individuals within our communities are encouraged to plan, prepare, and practice a personal and specific household evacuation plan. Personal plans should indicate PACE planning for their location, noting the TSRAs for evacuation survivability.

## SECTION VIII: OTHER MITIGATION & PREPAREDNESS PROJECTS

There are countless ways that communities can act to protect themselves ahead of wildfires. This section details additional past, current, and future efforts underway that were not previously mentioned.



### A. PRIORITIES

The following actions were identified as steps the community can take to further prepare for wildfire:

- Standardize address and street signs
- Use non-combustible address signage with reflective lettering, including color-coded signage indicating water availability. Blue signifies a water supply for fire crews, and green indicates no available water supply
- Create and maintain a list of qualified/licensed vegetation

management and/or fire resistive building construction contractors for each Fire Safe Council.

- Smoke Alarm Program: in collaboration with the Red Cross, the Burn Institute, and San Diego County Fire, offer all residents a free smoke alarm, including installation.
- Residential KnoxBox Program: in collaboration with San Diego County Fire, promote program that offers qualifying residents Residential KnoxBoxes, including installation, at no cost.
- Animal Support Program: in collaboration with the San Diego County Animal Services, provide resources on pet and animal preparedness and evacuation.
- Senior and Elderly support: in collaboration with Sheriff's Department, County Fire, and HHSA.

## B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

We have received numerous grants from SDG&E that have been used for various projects over the years including road signage, chipping, and community cleanup activities.

Some of the projects for consideration are:



- Community Clean-Up Days: Work with both private companies and County recycling staff to assist our community with yard waste and debris removal.
- Authorized FSC Programs: Offer in collaboration with San Diego County Fire and OES.
- Grant Support: Work with homeowners, property owners to assist with funding grants for our FSC projects.
- Wildland Urban Interface Workshops: Host and coordinate support for community education for WUI workshops in and around our community.

## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

CWFSC always adjusts and remains open to future projects in an effort to keep our communities Fire Safe. Some future projects could include:

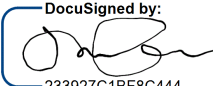
- Green Waste Disposal Sites: Pursue green-waste and/or vegetation reduction transfer station nearby.
- Smokey Bear Fire Danger Signs: Purchase and install Smokey Bear signs for fire danger warnings. Community education for fire danger awareness and limitations. Red Flagpole with a red flag.
- Community Info Boards: Install community education boards and displays in and around our community.
- Community Water Supply: In collaboration with the County, private owners, support water supply alternatives within our community.
- Amateur Radio Program: In collaboration with the Community Based Amateur Radio groups, support having a liaison to the amateur radio community, including providing education, and support for communications alternatives.

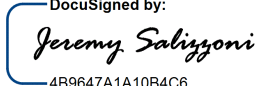
## SECTION IX: SIGNATURES

This plan must be approved by the following key parties: the local Fire Safe Council president, the Chief of the primary responding fire agency and Chair of the CWPP Review Committee. This section includes these sign-offs.

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan, as developed for Cuyamaca Woods:

- Was collaboratively developed and meets the intent of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) in emphasizing the need for agencies to work collaboratively with communities in developing hazardous fuel reduction projects, and places priority on treatment areas identified by communities themselves in a CWPP. Interested parties and federal land management agencies in the vicinity of this CWPP have been consulted.
- Identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment that will protect areas within this CWPP.
- Recommends measures to increase structural hardening throughout the area addressed by the plan.
- Is intended for use as a planning and assessment tool only, utilizing a compilation of community issues/goals and projected fire mitigation strategies. The CWPP is not to be construed as indicative of project “activity” as defined under the “Community Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act, Chapter Three, Projects Subject to CEQA.” Per the Community Guide, Section 3.1.1, “CEQA only applies to public agency decisions to approve, or actions to carry out, a discretionary project.” Any actual project activities meeting this definition of project activity and undertaken by the CWPP participants or agencies listed shall meet with local, state, and federal environmental compliance requirements.
- Assists and encourages compliance with current County and State fire code standards.

X  DocuSigned by:  
233927C1B5F8C444...  
President of the

X  DocuSigned by:  
Jeremy Salizzoni  
4B9647A1A10B4C6  
Participating Fire Agency representative

## **SAN DIEGO COUNTY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PREVENTION PLANS REVIEW COMMITTEE:**

This CWPP was reviewed and recommended for approval by the San Diego Community Wildfire Protection Plan Review Committee as demonstrated by the signature below.

DocuSigned by:  
*Donald H. Butz*  
X B01F933586B04F8...  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Butz, President

The CAL FIRE Unit Chief has final signing authority on CWPPs in San Diego County. The signature below attests that the standards listed in the section above and the content of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan are proposed to be met and mutually accepted.

DocuSigned by:  
*Tony Mecham*  
X 60A84432E235420...  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Mecham, Unit Chief

## SECTION X: APPENDICES

This section includes important additional information that complements other portions of the plan.

### APPENDIX A: MEETING TRACKING DOCUMENTS

This CWPP was developed for the community of Cuyamaca Woods, through a series of community meetings. CWFSC members contributing to this document included:

Mr. John Groth

Ms. Lisa Maxwell

Mr. Bill Stowers

Ms. Terri Groth

Mr. Matt Arsena

Mr. Steve Nankervis

Ms. Colleen Manzer

Ms. Susan A. Carter

### Fire Representatives

Staff from County Fire Cuyamaca Fire Station #51	34520 Engineers Road, Julian
Staff from USFS Pine Hills Station #33	Boulder Creek Rd at Engineers Rd
Staff from County Fire Julian Fire Station	1587 Hwy 78, Julian
Bob Uribe, San Diego County Fire	5510 Overland Ave. San Diego

### Meeting Dates:

December 11, 2017 - Fire Safe Council Workshop Meeting, Lakeside Fire Station

Cuyamaca Woods FSC Meetings: April 28, 2018; July 28, 2018; January 26, 2019



February 13, 2019 - Initial CWPP Planning Meeting, San Diego County Fire Office

February 26, 2019 - Meeting at Julian/Cuyamaca FS #56 with Chief Van Bibber

April 23, 2019 - Consultation with Lisa Gonzales-Kramer, California State Parks, Colorado Desert District.

Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council Photo Credits: John Groth and Terri Groth

## APPENDIX B: MAPS

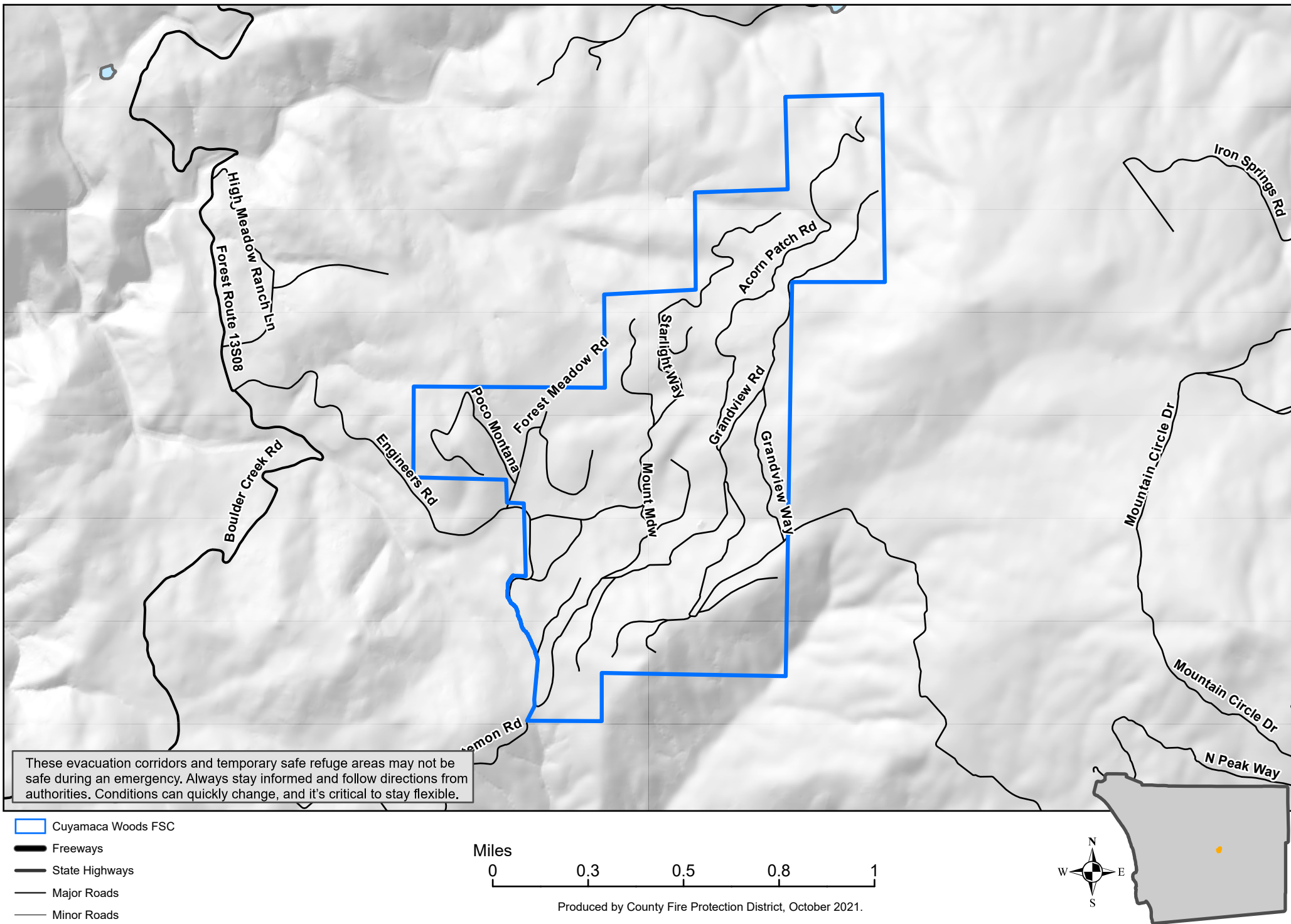
FIGURE 1: AREA COMMUNITIES MAP

FIGURE 2: FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY MAP

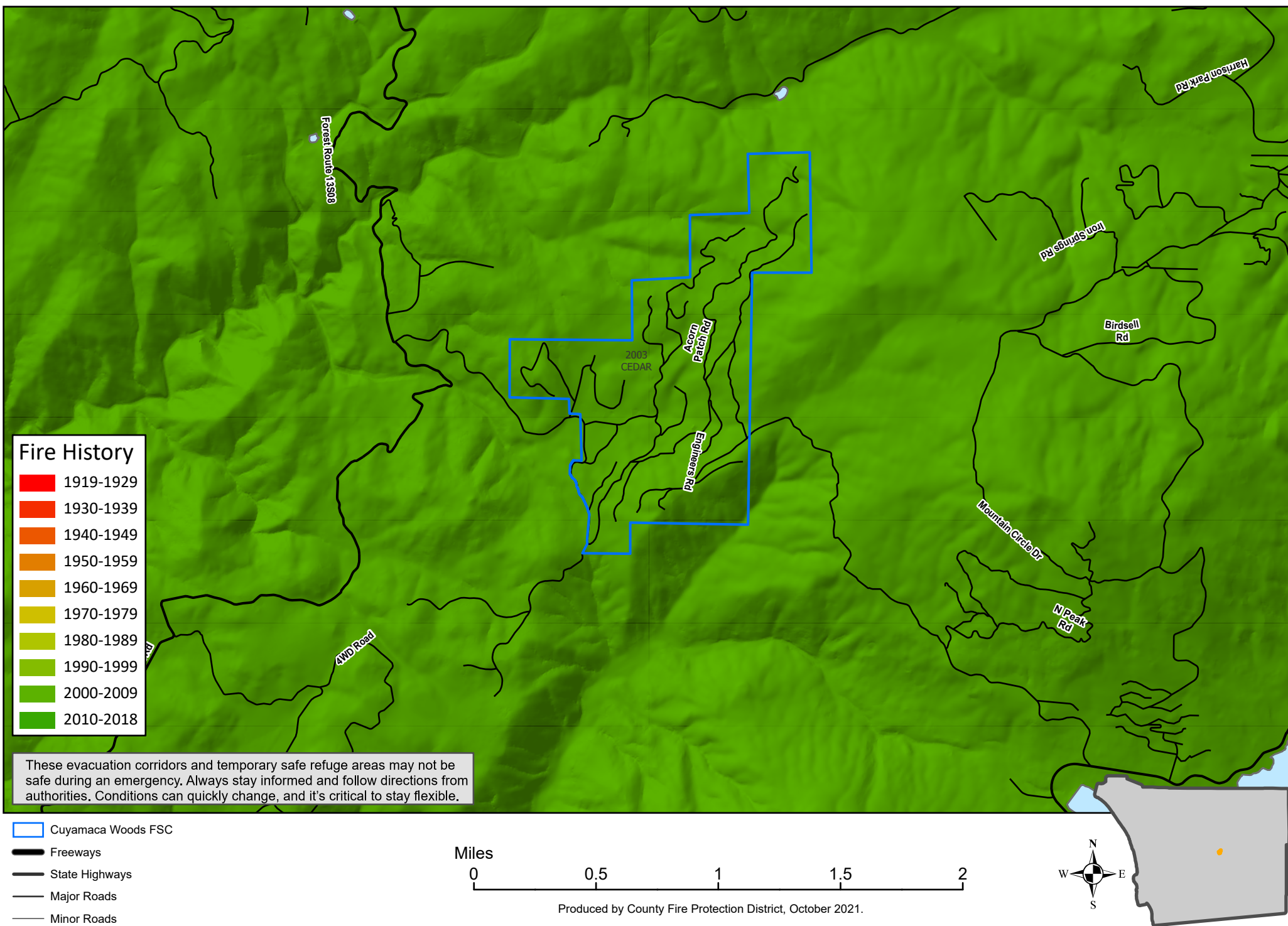
FIGURE 3: FIRE HISTORY MAP

FIGURE 4: EVACUATION MAP

# Figure 1: Cuyamaca Woods Area Communities Map

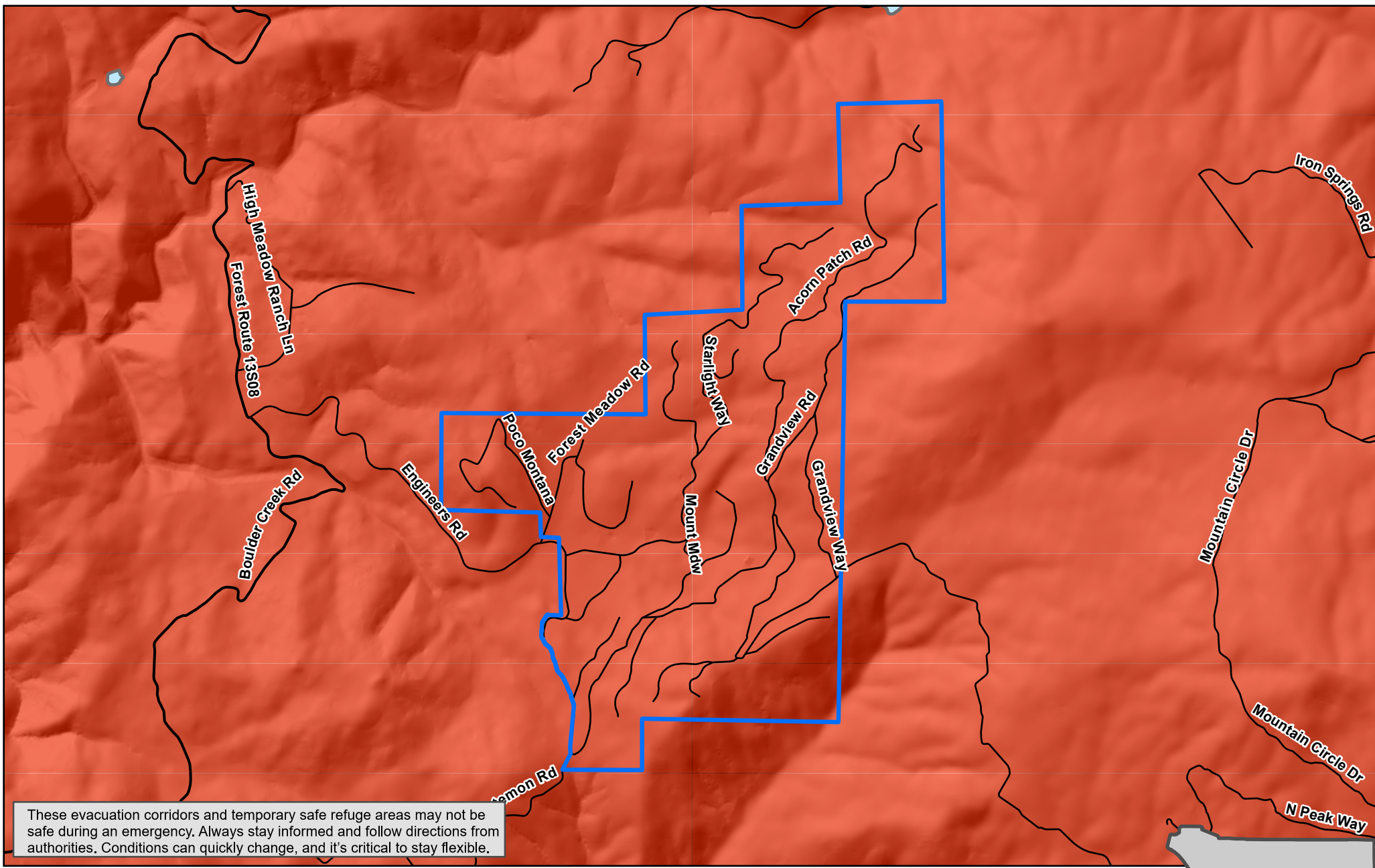


## Figure 3: Cuyamaca Woods Fire History Map





## Figure 2: Cuyamaca Woods Fire Hazard Severity Map



### Fire Hazard Severity Zones

- Moderate
- High
- Very High

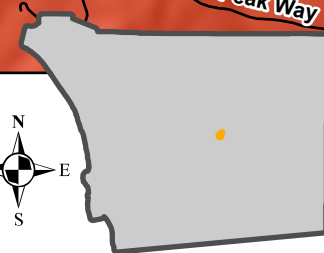
Cuyamaca Woods FSC

- Freeways
- State Highways
- Major Roads
- Minor Roads

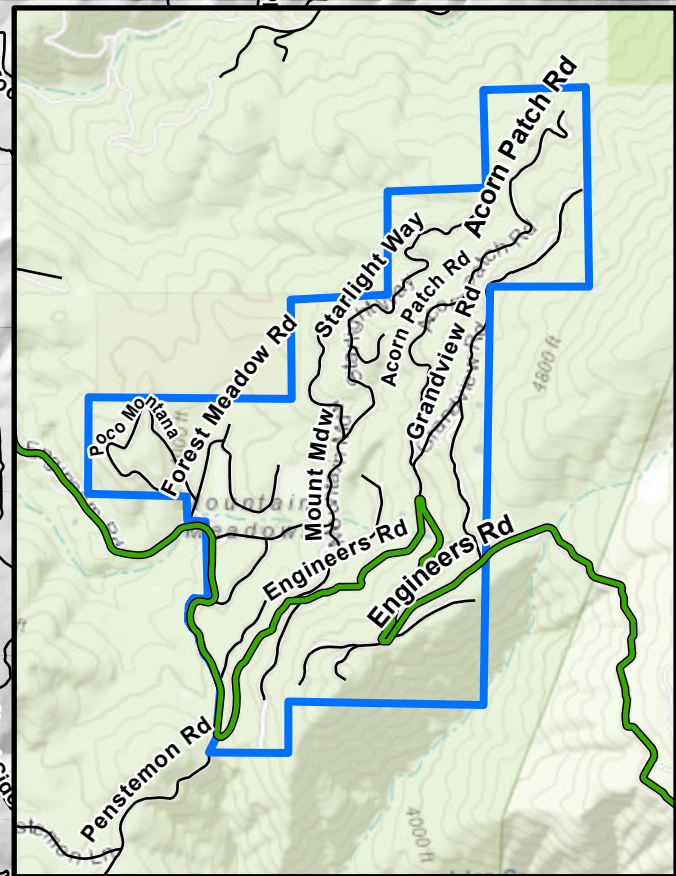
Miles

0 0.3 0.5 0.8 1

Produced by County Fire Protection District, October 2021.







	Primary		Temporary Safe Refuge Areas
	Alternate		Cuyamaca Woods FSC
	Contingency		

These evacuation corridors and temporary safe refuge areas may not be safe during an emergency. Always stay informed and follow directions from authorities. Conditions can quickly change, and it's critical to stay flexible.

