

**Jamul Fire Safe Council | 2021**

# **Community Wildfire Protection Plan**



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



## TABLE OF CONTENTS



<b>Preface: What is a Community Wildfire Protection Plan?</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Section I: Snapshot of the Community</b>	<b>5</b>
A. Overview	5
B. Landscape	6
Topography	6
Fire History	6
Key Infrastructure	7
Maps	7
C. Firefighting Resources	8
<b>Section II: Collaboration</b>	<b>9</b>
A. Key partners	9
<b>Section III: Community Engagement &amp; Education</b>	<b>11</b>
A. Priorities	11
B. Completed and / or Ongoing Projects	11

C. Future Projects	13
<b>Section IV: Structural Hardening</b>	<b>14</b>
A. Priorities	14
B. Completed and / or Ongoing Projects	15
C. Future Projects	16
<b>Section V: Defensible Space</b>	<b>17</b>
A. Priorities	17
B. Completed and / or Ongoing Projects	18
C. Future Projects	18
<b>Section VI: Fuels Treatment</b>	<b>19</b>
A. Priorities	19
B. Completed and / or Ongoing Projects	20
C. Future Projects	20
<b>Section VII: Evacuation Planning</b>	<b>21</b>
A. Overview of Ingress and Egress	21
B. Designated Evacuation Corridors and Temporary Safe Refuge Area(s) (TSRA)	22
C. Priorities	22
D. Completed and / or Ongoing Projects	23
E. Future Projects	23
<b>Section VIII: Other Mitigation &amp; Preparedness Projects</b>	<b>25</b>
A. Priorities	25
B. Completed and / or Ongoing Projects	26
C. Future Projects	26
<b>Section IX: Signatures</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Section X: Appendices</b>	<b>29</b>
Appendix A: Meeting Tracking Documents	29
Appendix B: Maps	31
Figure 1: Area Communities Map	31
Figure 2: Fire Hazard Severity Map.....	32
Figure 3: Fire History Map.....	33
Figure 4: Evacuation Map.....	34

## 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 Jamul 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 March 2020, the Jamul Fire Safe Council (JFSC) 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 Jamul, California. Thank you for this project and for letting us use the new template format and making it personal with photographs of our community.

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 JFSC 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 and amateur radio all find a home within our organization. Networking and a cooperative spirit are the rule. Again, thank you for the updated format for 2020.

*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

The community of Jamul is located just northeast of Otay Lakes, east of Rancho San Diego, and east of the community of Dulzura. In all, Jamul covers nearly 16.83 square miles, housing approximately 6,200 people in nearly 1,000 housing units.

Jamul is a small community that enjoys its proximity to hills and rocky terrain and open spaces. It is appreciated as a recreational center for horseback riders, hikers, and bike



riders. Horses and cattle are a common sight. **Jamul /ha:'mu:l/ (Tipai Kumeyaay: meaning "foam or lather."**

The Jamul Fire Safe Council covers the areas in and around Jamul, California. These are considered Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas. Public lands adjacent to or within these areas include the U.S. Forest Service's Cleveland National Forest, and those owned by the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The community falls within the fire coverage area of San Diego

County Fire and CAL FIRE. Jamul Indian Village also contracts with County Fire for fire services, and Jamul FSC completed outreach to Mike Youngblood from the Jamul Indian Village during the development of this plan with no response.

### B. LANDSCAPE

#### TOPOGRAPHY

The region is characterized by steep slopes, rocky terrain, deep canyons, and high hills with large swaths of wildlands between homes and communities. Major topographical



features include McGinty Mountain, Mt. Miguel, Sycuan Peak, Lawson Peak, and Lyons Peak, which is located just south of Cleveland National Forest.

Vegetation is a mosaic of predominantly chaparral shrubs including chamise, ceanothus, manzanita, buckwheat, sage scrub, and grasslands. Riparian systems line several of the valley floors. Some oak woodlands are interspersed throughout the region. The vegetation class is predominantly chaparral with oak woodlands.

Key features of the Jamul areas include valleys and large flat areas of fuel loads that can result in the rapid spread of fire. Winds are common with the dry strong north and east winds (Santa Anas), the deadliest in relation to fire. The usual winds are from the west and south, which also can be a problem as they can be strong at times.

The average elevation in our FSC area is 997 feet.

## FIRE HISTORY

San Diego County has experienced some of the largest wildfires in California, including the 2003 Cedar Fire and the 2007 Harris Fire. In 2020, the Valley Fire burned more than 16,300 acres in the area. The map in Appendix B labelled Figure 3 outlines this area's fire history.

### **Jamul -- Hazard: High to Extreme**

In the Valley Fire, 30 habitable structures and a higher number of outbuildings burned, and many residents were without power for days, mostly of the Lawson Valley area. Many livestock were lost.

Values at risk within the area include:

- Homes, local businesses, and other infrastructure
- Local habitats such as manzanita forests and live oak woodlands
- Sensitive species such as Engelmann 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
- Aesthetics: preserves, open space land trusts, wildlife refuge, viewsapes, etc.
- Historical and cultural resources

Foothills vegetation:

- 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. Local sources indicate that most of the homes in Jamul are over 25 years old. There are some historical homes in the community that date back 100 or more years. These were identified as old ranches.

Jamul is home to a U.S. Post Office, a school district, a U.S. Border Patrol checkpoint, several RV parks, gas stations, shopping centers, Indian Hills Camp, and Jamul Indian Village and Casino.

Major water storage can be found at the Otay, Loveland and Sweetwater reservoirs. In addition, the area has some small lakes and ponds. These provide the area with a potential water supply for firefighting, particularly by air via helicopters.

The proximity of the U.S.-Mexico border creates its own challenges, as fires starting in Mexico sometimes spread across the border. Cooperative fire efforts are encouraged via planning and communications.

Our primary roads, Lyons Valley Road and Skyline Truck Trail, can be used for northeast / southwest traffic to connect with Hwy. 94, which runs east/west. Also, Honey Springs Road can be used for north/south ingress/egress, connecting with Otay Lakes Road for a south exit or Interstate 8 through Japatul Road for a north exit. These roads can, and have been, blocked by natural hazards such as fire and flooding.

## 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 Jamul community (Appendix C). The following maps are visual aids from which the Jamul 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 JFSC 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
- [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service \(San Diego NWR\)](#) – wildland protection of federal lands (12,000 acres) in the Jamul area.

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 Jamul 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 Jamul 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
Jamul 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 CWPP applications, and approve completed applications for submittal to CAL FIRE for final authorization.</li> <li>• 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>• Assists with the development of CWPP and decision-making, community risk and value assessment, development of community protection priorities, and establishment of fuels treatment project areas and methods.</li> <li>• Facilitates planning process and approval of CWPP process and minimum standards. Provides</li> </ul>

	<p>input and expertise on forestry, fire, fuels, and Fire Safe and Firewise concepts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participates in CWPP Review Committee, reviews all CWPP applications, and approves completed applications for submittal for final authorization.</li> <li>• Prepares CWPP maps.</li> </ul>
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides input and expertise on federal lands, fire, fuels, and Fire Safe and Firewise concepts.</li> <li>• Participates in CWPP Review Committee and reviews all CWPP applications.</li> </ul>
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participates in CWPP Review Committee and reviews all CWPP applications.</li> <li>• Encourages collaboration on WUI fuel break planning and implementation on USFWS lands in the greater Jamul area.</li> <li>• Provides 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>• Provides input and expertise on planning and hazard mitigation.</li> <li>• Provides input, advice, programs, grants in support of the FSC.</li> </ul>
Sunrise Powerlink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides input, expertise on planning and support on fuels mitigation projects and direct FSC support.</li> <li>• Provides grant opportunities to eligible homeowners for defensible space and structure hardening, and to the FSC for larger scale community protection projects to improve fire safety and structure protection.</li> </ul>
U.S. Forest Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides input and expertise on federal lands, fire, fuels and Fire Safe and Firewise concepts.</li> <li>• Participates in CWPP Review Committee and reviews all CWPP applications.</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 JFSC supports the following regional and local priorities:

1. Chipping for fuel reduction and abatement
2. Assist 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 (including around power lines)
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 East County, Jamul
11. Continuing to educate residents on the Sempra Energy Sunrise Powerlink grant programs, including structural hardening, defensible space improvements and fire safety items.
12. Purchase Smokey Bear signs for Fire Danger warnings. Community education for fire danger awareness and limitations.
13. Continued partnership with San Diego County Library on Fire Safe Council education programs and meetings.

### B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

The JFSC will provide education and training on all aspects of our authorized projects. A friendly 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:

- **Outreach and education activities and resources:**
  - Training at the monthly meetings.

- Annual training, including a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) class in our community.
- Quarterly training at our fire safety fairs and during our scheduled chipping events.
- Flyers and info sheet handouts during our annual waste community clean-up day event, cooperative events with fire crews, and other community groups, and during smoke alarm installations in our community.
- A website with schedules, educational information, and outreach contacts at <https://jamulfiresafe.org>



- **Community education focus areas:**

- Fuel reduction programs and community-based solutions
- Emergency preparedness, including evacuation planning and options
- Education on personal survival tools, Temporary Safe Refuge Areas in the community
- Assisting homeowners' awareness and understanding of defensible space, structure hardening, and natural fire resistive vegetation landscaping
- Education on improved reflective code compliant road and address signs
- Work with partner agencies to educate community on fuel breaks
- Eucalyptus removal (various sites)
- Hazardous vegetation removal letter of authorization
- Coordinate with USFWS on where WUI fuel breaks can complement/expand efforts from their lands onto adjacent state/private/BLM parcels.
- Residential KnoxBox program.
- Evacuation planning and education.
- Ongoing utility safety programs provided by contractors for SDG&E, AT&T, and cable providers.

- Ongoing fire mitigation program support for Sunrise Powerlink grants where applicable. These are for both defensible space and structural hardening.
- **Fuel breaks**
  - Since the council is new, we are in the process of analyzing opportunities to create fuel breaks. This is pending the ability to secure funding to perform these fuel breaks and after conferring with CAL FIRE and County Fire.

## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

The JFSC will continue to work towards the above projects and education in the future.

We will also continue to enhance our outreach to our Spanish speaking community and get the word out.





## 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 challenges, including proposed methods of improvement and implementation for the community:

- Pursue ongoing home hardening projects and expanded cooperation with home protection techniques.
- Pursue ongoing projects above for home ignition prevention.
- Educate our community on appropriate placement of wood storage piles, away and out of the line from prevailing and Santa Ana wind directions.
- Continue the education of “add no new fuel” to your property. When possible, use non-combustibles instead of wood-based construction, products, or items.
- Continue the education of the critical “first five feet” along the sides of your homes and have no combustibles.
- Home hardening, including on fire resistive and ember resistant vents, and related public education.



## B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

Because this council is new, there are no completed projects currently. We have benchmarked ourselves compared to local existing and highly functioning fire safe councils to determine areas of opportunity in relation to designing projects for future completion.

One of the main considerations is the treatment of Home Hardening, Structure Hardening or Structural Ignitability

In cooperation with the County of San Diego, the JFSC 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 the County of San Diego Fire, the Jamul 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 Sunrise Powerlink 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 JFSC to identify opportunities to reduce hazardous vegetative fuels that could ignite residences and commercial facilities during wildfires. The Natural Resource Conservation Service has already 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
- Educate homeowners about proper storage and disposal of hazardous/flammable materials. This material and education will be provided in both English and Spanish.

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 JFSC will work towards the following efforts in the future:

- Secure and distribute information to our community about current Fire Code
- Incorporate home hardening opportunities into the community training schedule
- Provide information to the community about securing funding from Sunrise Powerlink grant to perform home hardening upgrades.
- Create and maintain 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 JFSC related to defensible space include:

- The creation of defensible space around homes, driveways, and access/egress routes.
- To inspire friends, neighbors, and 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 these areas that our residents and visitors must use while evacuating and escaping danger.

Priorities for our FSC:

- Chipping for fuel reduction and abatement
- Assist with 100' defensible space around structures
- Roadside vegetation management along roads
- Removal or treatment of dead and diseased trees
- Wood splitting as part of fuels management, use local firewood only (containment of potentially contaminated wood)
- Develop program to educate residents about defensible space and natural fire resistive vegetation concepts
- Research and identify resources for maintaining defensible space and vegetation reduction
- Assist seniors and those with access needs in creating defensible space either directly with volunteers or directing them to the [Defensible Space Assistance Program \(DSAP\)](#).
- Perform hazardous brush abatement around homes - reservoirs, tanks, pump stations and distribution facilities.



## B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

The JFSC participated in the following activities to increase defensible space:

- Monthly public meetings to raise awareness on the importance of defensible space.
- Providing information to the community on obtaining resources to maintain a defensible space.
- Sponsored a Community Wildfire Safety Preparedness Faire

The partnerships that exist between the listed organizations and citizens allow the communities of Jamul to reduce hazardous vegetative fuels that could ignite residences and commercial facilities, particularly during Santa Ana wind fire conditions.

Maintaining properties with the appropriate defensible space is a key factor to protecting lives and properties.

In terms of regional & local projects, the JFSC has completed and plans to continue:

- Annual outreach programs set each year for our community.
- Evaluating existing fuel breaks within the community and reporting needs to our cooperators.
- Offering annual fuel reduction and chipping events for each year.
- Setting annual education goals and reaching those set goals with partners.

## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

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

- Defensible space including zones around homes, roadways, driveways
- Community “Add No Fuel” concept in building material, garden planning, patio additions
- Home ember awareness, and prevailing and Santa Ana wind placement of wood piles
- Coordinate with cooperating agencies on where WUI fuel breaks can complement or expand efforts from federal lands onto adjacent state/private parcels.
- Purchase plants and/or hire crews to plant natural fire resistive vegetation in defensible space zone.

## 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 JFSC has designated the following priorities:

- Fuel treatment projects will include the creation of fuel breaks, and community opportunities to dispose of fuels via chipping and dumpster programs.
- Analyzing and supporting projects that minimize or eliminate fuels along the main evaluation roads and coordinating with partners to ensure alternate and secondary routes get cleared as well.
- Roadside vegetation management along roads to meet San Diego County standards.
- Removal or treatment of dead, dying, and diseased trees.
- Continuing our program to educate residents on Semptra Energy Sunrise Powerlink grant programs including structural hardening, defensible space improvements and fire safety items, fuel breaks, CAL FIRE Strategic Plan projects, improvement of safety of community evacuation corridors, and potential Temporary Safe Refuge Areas (TSRA).
- Evaluate secondary north exit out of Lawson Valley.
- Replace vegetation along safety corridors with fire resistive non-invasive landscape.





## B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

None currently due to the recent formation of the FSC. A preliminary data project has been completed through a community survey to identify areas specifically with one-way ingress/egress for potential fuel breaks.

Further analysis is required as well as collaboration with County Fire to scientifically assess and prioritize fuel breaks for our community.

## C. FUTURE PROJECTS

The JFSC has designated the following as future priority projects:

- Review existing fuel breaks in our FSC area and identify the opportunities for new ones.
- Review and propose evacuation corridor proposals as changes to the communities occur.
- Educate residents about proper vegetation management that maintains and/or restores native habitats.
- Discuss and develop a fuels plan to protect our TSRAs.



## 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 Jamul's key ingress and egress, as well as designated evacuation corridors, Temporary Safe Refuge Areas, completed projects, priorities, and future projects.

### A. OVERVIEW OF INGRESS AND EGRESS

#### South

**Highway 94, Campo Road** is primarily a two (2) lane (one in each direction) paved highway mostly situated in an east/west direction. This is the main exit corridor when a fire approaches from the north. Lyons Valley and Honey Springs roads connect with Highway 94 at the south end of Jamul. This will be the closest and sometimes only exit route for residents who live between Vista Sage Lane and Honey Springs Road. Some portions of Highway 94 have turnouts for passing.

Highway 94/Campo Road connects with Otay Lakes Road, allowing drivers to reach Chula Vista heading south. This route also allows drivers to continue east towards Potrero and Tecate, and west to Rancho San Diego.

**Otay Lakes Road** is a two (2) lane paved road, primarily situated in a north/south direction south to Chula Vista. This road goes through some curvy and tight locations and through the Pio Pico RV Campground. This is a primary means of ingress and egress for the southern part of the FSC.

**Proctor Valley Road** starts as a two (2) lane paved road, primarily situated in a north/south direction. It then turns into an unpaved surface road, maintained enough to rely upon as an emergency exit route going south to Chula Vista. This road goes through Proctor Valley and will be improved (paved) by the Village 14 project in the next few years.

#### North

**Lyons Valley Road** is primarily a two (2) lane (one in each direction) paved road mostly positioned in a northeast/southwest direction. This is a primary means of ingress and egress for residents off Lyons Valley Road, connecting with Highway 94 on the south end and Japatul Valley Road on the north end. Lyons Valley Road provides access to

the beginning (south end) of Skyline Truck Trail in front of the Jamul Intermediate School.

**Skyline Truck Trail** is primarily a two (2) lane (one in each direction) paved road mostly positioned in a northeast/southwest direction. This is a primary means of ingress and egress for the northern part of the FSC. The south end leads to Lyons Valley Road towards the 94. The north end leads back to Lyons Valley Road and provides a southeast exit by taking Honey Springs Road, and a northeast exit taking Lyons Valley Road going north via Japatul Road. Ultimately, drivers gain access to Interstate 8, which provides east and west exit routes, and a southwest exit taking Lyons Valley Road going south towards Highway 94.

**Jamul Drive** is a two (2) lane paved road, primarily situated in a northwest/southeast direction. This road goes through some curvy and tight locations connecting Lyons Valley Rd to Steel Canyon.

**Honey Springs Road** is a two (2) lane (one in each direction) paved road primarily lying in a north/south direction east of JFSC's area, connecting to Highway 94 on the south end and Lyons Valley Road on the north end. This would be an alternate exit south for Skyline Truck Trail residents, or a northeast exit for residents east of Jefferson Road and the Jamul Estates.

**Otay Lakes Road** is a two (2) lane (one in each direction) paved road primarily lying in a east/west direction west of JFSC's area, connecting to Highway 94 on the northeast end and Chula Vista/Otay on the southwest end. This would be a **primary** exit southwest for some Jamul residents.

**Jamul Drive** is a two (2) lane (one in each direction) paved road primarily lying in a southeast/northwest direction east of JFSC's area, connecting to Lyons Valley Rd. on the south end and Steele Canyon Dr. on the north end. This would be an **alternate** exit for some residents.

**Proctor Valley Road** is a two (2) lane (one in each direction) County maintained dirt road primarily lying in a southeast/northwest direction west of JFSC's area, connecting to Jamul on the east end and Chula Vista on the west end. This would be a **contingency** exit west for some residents.

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

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

**Primary:** Highway 94 east or west, Lyons Valley Road northeast or southwest, Skyline Truck Trail northeast or southwest, Honey Springs Road north or south, Lawson Valley Rd. to Lyons Valley Road/Skyline Truck Trail west or east. Otay Lakes Rd. away from danger.

**Alternate:** Jamul Dr. to the northwest from Lyons Valley Rd.

**Contingency:** Proctor Valley Rd. to the west

**Emergency:** TSRA's: Jamul Elementary School, Fire Station 36 area, Four Corners, Hollenbeck Canyon Wildlife Area parking lot or any cleared or plowed farmlands and dirt fields as a last resort.

### C. Priorities

The following are key priorities to maintaining evacuation access for residents and visitors of Jamul:

- Clear fuels along evacuation corridors.
- Identify one-way in/one-way out scenarios.
- Identify location of existing fuel breaks and the need for new ones.
- Inform the residents and engage the community to create evacuation planning awareness.
- Identify fuel reduction project needs in and around TSRA areas. Collaborate with animal and pet service groups:
  - Our Fire Safe Council supports animal and pet education, preparedness, and evacuation programs, utilizing guidance from 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 CERT Neighborhood Evacuation Teams, Community Volunteers assisting in Education, Planning and Evacuation preparedness for neighbors, seniors, those with access needs and children.

## D. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

Since the council is new, the only completed project at this time has been the identification and layout of primary, secondary, contingency, and emergency TSRAs.

## E. FUTURE PROJECTS

The following are future priorities for the JFSC:

- 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 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 planning. 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.
- Continue to encourage code compliant water tanks and associated non-combustible piping standpipes.
- 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

None currently, due to the newly formed FSC. 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.
- Power Outage Support Program: In collaboration with SDG&E, offer all residents education and support during planned and unplanned power outages.
- Authorized FSC Programs: 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

Our Jamul Fire Safe Council always adjusts and remains open to future projects in our effort to keep our communities Fire Safe. Some future projects include:

- Green Waste Disposal Sites: Pursue green-waste and/or vegetation reduction transfer station in East County, Campo and/or Barrett.
- 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: Installation of community education boards and displays in and around our community.
- Community Water Supply:
  - Installation and maintenance of emergency water supply firefighting storage tanks. One at every County or public property, at each community at major intersections of Highway 94.
  - In collaboration with the County, private owners, and County Fire, develop a corridor of water supply tanks (2 x 10,000 gallon) at each major intersection and in every community along the Hwy 94 corridor. Mark clearly and maintain with FSC assistance. Support water supply alternatives within our community.
- Amateur Radio Program: In collaboration with the Community Based Amateur Radio groups, we support having a liaison in the amateur radio community, 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 Jamul:


- 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



\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the  
Fire Safe Council Submitting this CWPP


X

DocuSigned by:  
  
1986474A9FB9451


\_\_\_\_\_  
Participating Fire Agency representative  
(State, Local, or Tribal)

## 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:  
  
X B01F933586B04F8...  
Don Butz, President  
Fire Safe Council of San Diego County

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:  
  
X 69A84432E235429  
Tony Mecham, Unit Chief  
CAL FIRE San Diego Unit

## 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 Jamul, through a series of community meetings. The Jamul Fire Safe Council members who contributed to the document include the following:

#### **Community Representatives**

#### **Agency Representatives**

#### **Meetings Dates**

This CWPP was developed for the Jamul community, through a series of community meetings.

#### **Meeting Tracking Documents**

Jamul Fire Safe Council

#### **Members contributing to this document:**

Mr. Jeremy Adams

Mr. Cesar Sterling

Mrs. Carole Pierce

Mr. Kyle Brangwynne

Mrs. Kim Jones Arnold

Mrs. Jackie Chapman

Mr. Steven Wallace

Mr. Leonard Manos

#### **Fire Representatives:**

Battalion Chief Pat Walker, County Fire/CAL FIRE

Battalion Chief Cal Hendrie, County Fire/CAL FIRE

Chief Daniel O'Connor, USFWS

Chief Jason Winbigler, BLM

Fire Captain Brett Bruno, County Fire/CAL FIRE

Captain Rex Hambly, BLM

Mr. Bob Uribe, County Fire

**Meeting Dates:**

July 1, 2020 Initial CWPP planning meeting, JFSC (New Format)

September 2, 2020 Follow up, Update document meeting CWPP

November 4, 2020 CWPP clean-up, review.

November 18, 2020 Community presentation on JFSC CWPP

**Jamul Fire Safe Council Photo Credits**

Mrs. Kim Jones Arnold

Mrs. Patricia Sterling

Mr. Leonard Manos



APPENDIX B: MAPS

FIGURE 1: AREA COMMUNITIES MAP

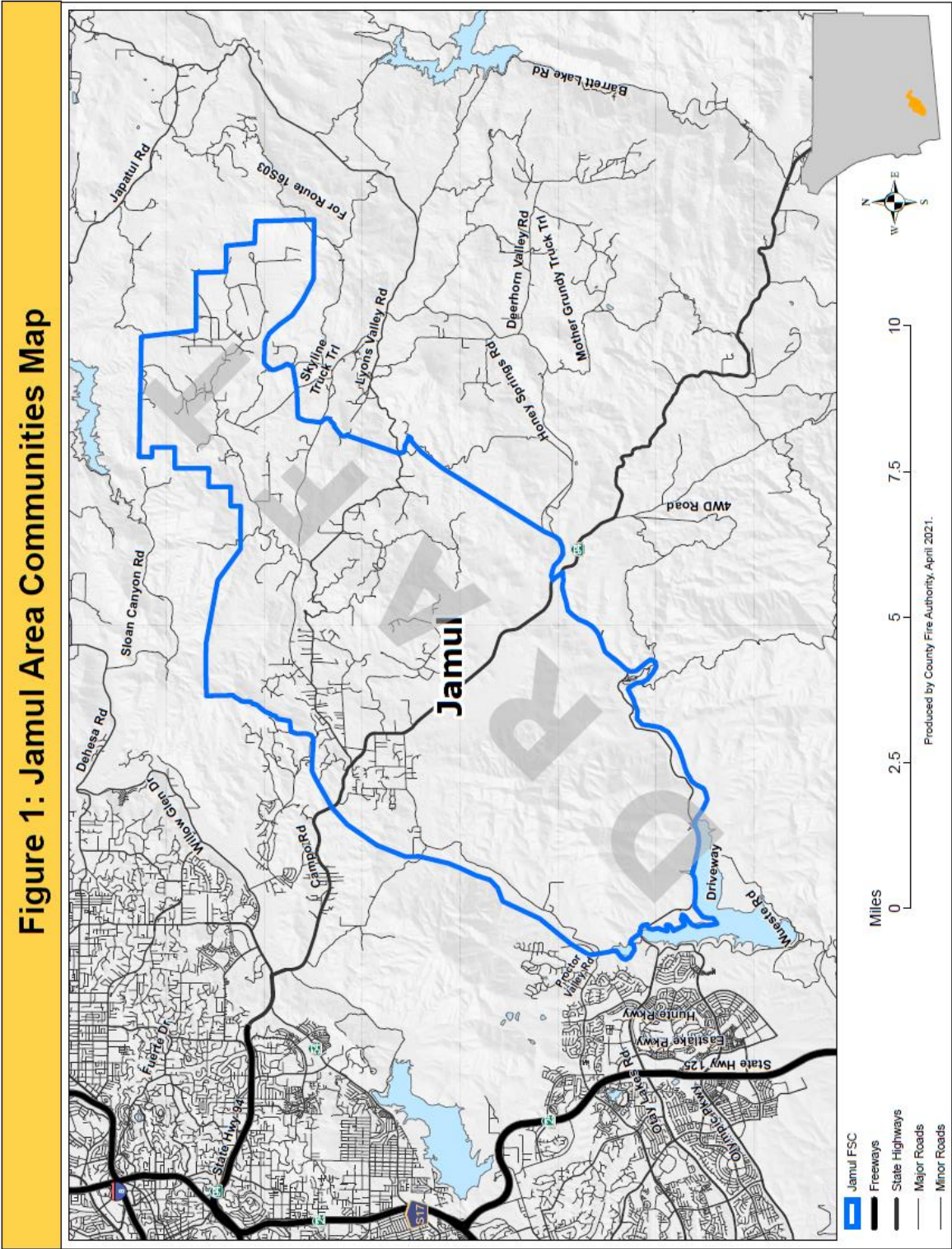




FIGURE 2: FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY MAP

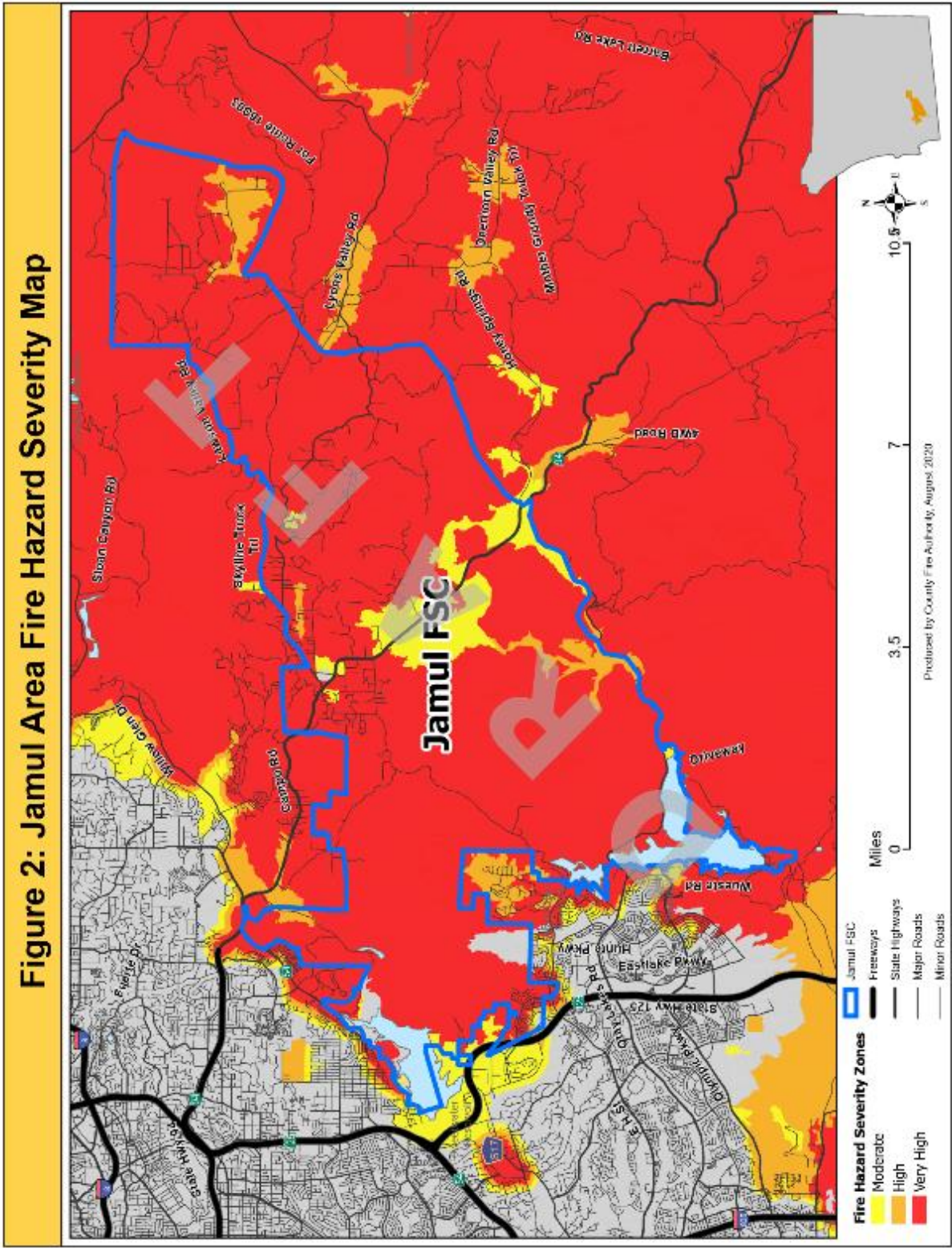


FIGURE 3: FIRE HISTORY MAP

