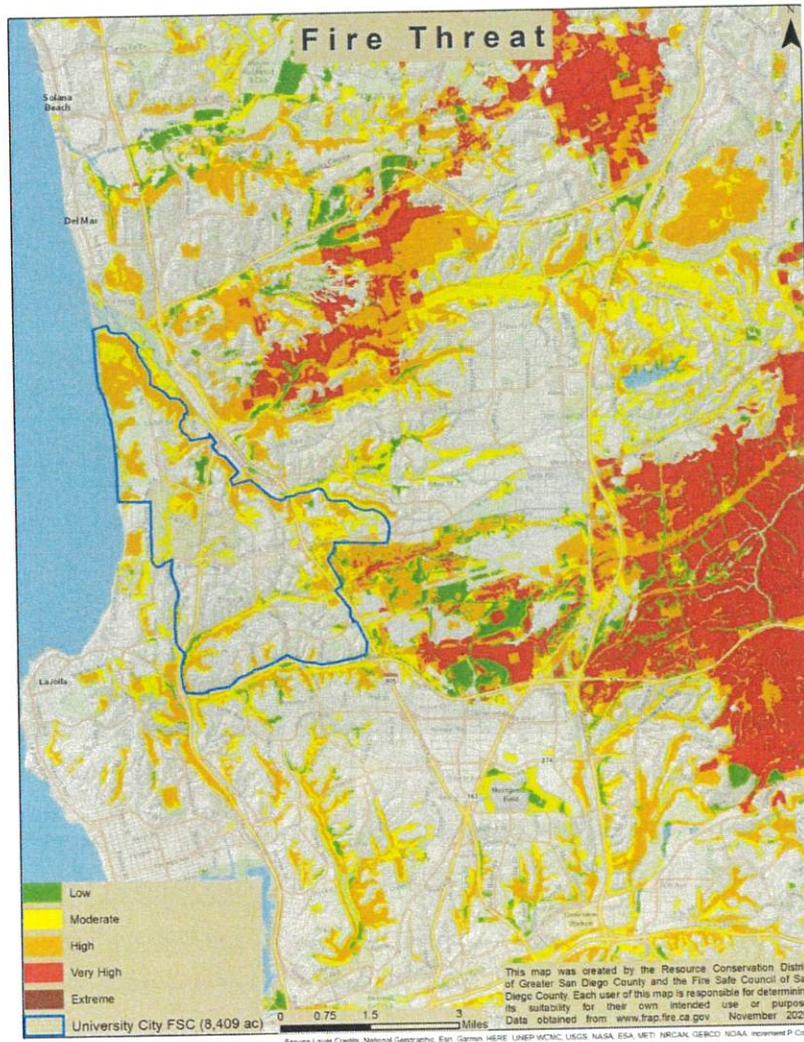


University City Fire Safe Council | 2021 Community Wildfire Protection Plan



University City Fire Safe Council

About Us: <https://www.ucfiresafecouncil.com/>

News: <https://www.universitycitynews.org/category/sdfd>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UniversityCityFireSafeCouncil>

History: <https://www.universitycitynews.org/fire-safe-council-university-city/>

Contact Us: UCFireSafeCouncil@gmail.com



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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 University City Fire Safe Council area (which mirrors the boundaries of the University City Community Planning Group) is located in the north-central portion of San Diego, California, approximately 10 miles north of Downtown. (Maps available in Appendix B.) The Fire Safe Council area is 8,409 acres within the City of San Diego and is connected to the region via Interstate 5 (I-5), Interstate 805 (I-805), and State Route 52 (SR-52). The southern boundary of the Fire Safe Council area is San Clemente Canyon (SR-52). Marine Corp Air Station (MCAS) Miramar is federal land to the east of Interstate 805. Rose Canyon divides the Fire Safe Council area into north and south areas. The Fire Safe Council area includes the Torrey Pines State Natural Preserve and the Torrey Pines Golf Course in the northwest portion of the community overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

The southern area of the University City Fire Safe Council area is predominantly single-family homes; the area north of Rose Canyon is home to multi-family dwellings and HOA communities, the University of California at San Diego (UCSD), research and development facilities, and multi-story, high-rise corporate and residential buildings. Nearly all the residential structures within the Fire Safe Council area were permitted and built before July 2008. These residential buildings were built before the City of San Diego updated and published building codes and defensible space guidelines in 2008. The Blue Line Trolley travels north and south adjacent to Interstate 5, through the UCSD campus and terminates at Westfield UTC Mall on Genesee Avenue at Nobel Drive. The Trolley connects the Fire Safe Council area with the Santa Fe Depot in downtown San Diego; service begins in late 2021. The LOSSAN (Los Angeles to San Diego) double track train system travels through Rose Canyon. The eastern portion of the Fire Safe Council area is an Aircraft Accident Potential Zone due to proximity to MCAS Miramar.

In addition to UC San Diego, the University City Fire Safe Council area is home to six public schools, several private schools, two libraries, three large community parks, and several neighborhood parks. Standley Park on Governor Drive is home to two swimming pools. The estimated total population of University City Fire Safe Council area in 2019 was 72,854 residents, according to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). The household population is estimated at 61,264 and the population in group quarters (UCSD student housing, apartments, and other group housing facilities) is estimated at 11,590. The community includes several age-55-and-older residential communities.

B. LANDSCAPE

- TOPOGRAPHY

The University City Fire Safe Council area contains several Multi-Habitat Planning Areas (MHPA) in the northeast portion of the community and in areas closely aligned with Rose Canyon, Torrey Pines State Natural Preserve, and the Torrey Pines Golf Course. (Maps in Appendix B.) The MHPA is the City's planned habitat preserve within the Multiple Species

Schools and Educational Institutions:

- University of California San Diego (UCSD)
- University City High School
- Standley Middle School
- Curie Elementary School
- Doyle Elementary School
- Spreckels Elementary School
- The Preuss School
- La Jolla Country Day School
- Fusion Academy
- Mission Bay Montessori

Recreational Facilities and Parks:

- Standley Park and Recreation Center
- Doyle Park and Recreation Center
- Nobel Athletic Fields and Recreation Center
- Jewish Community Center
- Rose Canyon Open Space Park
- Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve
- Torrey Pines Golf Course
- Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA)

- **MAPS (REFER TO APPENDIX B):**

Using technology and local expertise, the sponsors of this CWPP have included a series of maps depicting the site and situation of the University City Fire Safe Council area. The following maps are visual aids from which the Fire Safe Council and community members can assess and make recommendations.

1. Area Community – Fire Safe Council Boundary
2. Fire Hazard Severity – Fire Threat
3. Fire History (1910-2020)
4. Evacuation (Main Roads / Egress Routes)
5. (Fuels Treatment Projects) Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA)

C. FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES

The San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and the Miramar Fire Department maintain websites with Fire Prevention, Preparation, and Safety information for the community. Fire stations serving the University City Fire Safe Council area include:

- SDFD - Fire Station 35, 4285 Eastgate Mall, San Diego, CA, 92037
- SDFD - Fire Station 50, 7177 Shoreline Drive, San Diego, CA 92122
- SDFD - Fire Station 27, 5064 Clairemont Drive, San Diego, CA 92117
- SDFD - Fire Station 9, 7870 Ardath Lane, San Diego, CA 92037
- Federal - Miramar Fire Station 61, 7224 Mitscher Way, San Diego, CA 92145

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

To provide ongoing community education to ensure that residents are aware of critical fire prevention and preparedness information as described in the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide and on their website.

B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

In alignment with the City of San Diego Municipal Codes and using information and resources publicly available on the City of San Diego and Fire-Rescue Department website and related pages, the Fire Safe Council builds Fire Safe prevention and preparedness through:

- Monthly articles in University City News print newsletter
- Website and Facebook posts
- Community information items at local community meetings
- Public meetings about the Fire Safe Council and fire safe practices

C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Outreach at community events
- Display boards and/or exhibits at public libraries

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

To encourage property owners and residents to use guidance provided by the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide and the Brush Management and Weed Abatement program (as posted on their website) to create and maintain defensible space.

B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

In alignment with the City of San Diego Municipal Codes and using information and resources publicly available on the City of San Diego and Fire-Rescue Department website and related pages, the Fire Safe Council provides information about Defensible Space through:

- Articles in University City News print newsletter
- Website posts and Facebook posts
- Community information items at local community meetings
- Public meetings about the Fire Safe Council and fire safe practices

C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Encourage residents to use the City of San Diego's Get-It-Done app to report Tree & Vegetation issues as well as other safety and maintenance issues as posted on the City of San Diego website
- Provide information about the Fire Hazard Advisor brush management complaint process as posted on the City of San Diego website
- Provide information and Brush Management schedule related to the Open Space Parks Brush Management Program as posted on the City of San Diego website

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. This section provides an overview of the University City Fire Safe Council area's potential roads out of the community (egress routes), information about evacuation planning in the City of San Diego, Temporary Safe Refuge Areas, priorities, completed projects, and future projects.

A. OVERVIEW OF INGRESS AND EGRESS

As mentioned in Section I, the University City Fire Safe Council area is 8,409 acres within the City of San Diego and is connected to the region via Interstate 5 (I-5), Interstate 805 (I-805), and State Route 52 (SR-52). (Refer to maps in Appendix B).

At the individual level, evacuation planning in the University City Fire Safe Council area may be a challenge because many streets in residential and commercial areas are dead-ends and there is only one way in or out. Where possible, each individual community member should plan ahead and identify at least two routes out of their neighborhood and out of the community (a Primary and an Alternative route).

At the neighborhood level, evacuation planning may be a challenge because Genesee Avenue is the only local north / south route through the community and is frequently under construction and subject to traffic congestion; Regents Road is not a through street as it does not cross Rose Canyon; and Governor Drive does not cross or connect to Interstate 5.

Some of the identified egress routes out of University City that could be used as primary, alternate, contingency and emergency (PACE) routes, depending on fire emergency conditions, are listed in this section and are displayed on the maps included in Appendix B.

- Interstate 5; North-South Federal Freeway. 4-5 lanes each way. Begins at Mexican Border and continues north to Canadian Border.
- Genesee Avenue; City North-South Major Street. 2-3 lanes each way. Begins south at State Route 163, travels north through Clairemont and University City, becomes a Primary Arterial north of Nobel Drive before merging with Torrey Pines Road just north of the intersection with Interstate 5 in northern University City.
- Interstate 805; North-South Federal Freeway. 4-5 lanes each way. Begins at the Mexican Border and terminates where it merges with Interstate-5 in northern part of community.
- Regents Road north of Rose Canyon; City North-South Major Street. 2 lanes each way. Begins at north at Genesee Ave, heads south and terminates just south of Arriba Street.
- Regents Road south of Rose Canyon; City North-South Major Street. 2 lanes each way. Begins south of State Route 52, heads north and terminates just north of Lahitte Court.

such as temporary safe refuge areas, sheltering, staging of supplies, distribution of emergency supplies, pet sheltering, feeding sites, etc. There is no pre-planned map or lists of evacuation or overnight sheltering sites. Safe evacuation sites are determined during an assessment of the emergency incident by the authorities in partnership with the Red Cross.

C. PRIORITIES

To encourage residents to use the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Action Guide to create their own wildfire prevention, protection and evacuation plans.

To encourage residents to use public service applications developed by the San Diego County Office of Emergency Service such as the SD Emergency and AlertSanDiego apps for emergency preparedness and response alerts.

D. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

In alignment with the City of San Diego Municipal Codes and using information and resources publicly available from the City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, the San Diego County Office of Emergency Services (OES), the American Red Cross Southern California Region, Ready San Diego, and related agencies, the Fire Safe Council provides information related to Evacuation Planning and Emergency Response through:

- Articles in University City News print newsletter
- Website posts and Facebook posts
- Community information items at local community meetings
- Public meetings about the Fire Safe Council and fire safe practices

E. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Research, support, and promote the use of agency guides for fire prevention, protection and evacuation planning
- Research, support, and promote the use of public service mobile apps for emergency preparedness and response alerts

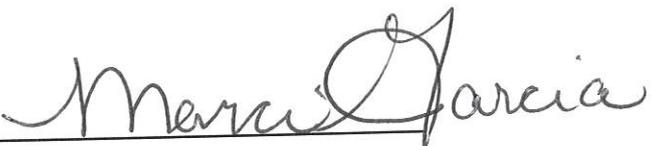
SECTION IX: SIGNATURES

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 signoffs.

This Community Wildfire Protection Plan, as developed by the University City Fire Safe Council:

- 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 reduce ignitability of structures 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 Diane Ahern (05/20/2021)
President of the
Fire Safe Council Submitting this CWPP


X Marisa Garcia
Participating Fire Agency representative
(State, Local, or Tribal)

SECTION X: APPENDICES

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

APPENDIX A: MEETING TRACKING DOCUMENTATION

This CWPP was developed for the community in the University City Fire Safe Council area through a series of community meetings. Due to COVID-related restrictions, some research required to complete this CWPP was conducted via email and/or phone and/or agency websites. Some of those who contributed time and talent and expertise to the preparation of the CWPP and who assisted the University City Fire Safe Council include the following:

University City Fire Safe Council: Diane Ahern (president), Louis Rodolico (vice president/treasurer), Jemma Samala (secretary), William Beck, Laura Cartier, Tom Cartier, Gigi Esguerra, Jack Friery, Greg Hom, Merle Langston, and Sue Rye

Community Representatives: Barry Bernstein (UCCA) and Chris Nielsen (UCPG)

Agency Representatives: Marci Garcia (SDFD), Melanie Bognuda (SDPD), Kristin Camper (MCAS Miramar/Miramar Fire), Britney Munoz (SDCFSC/RCD), Kaitlyn Willoughby (SD City Council District 1), and Melissa Altman (American Red Cross)

Meeting Dates: Due to COVID-related restrictions, all meetings were conducted using online meeting software and/or email and/or telephone.

- 12/23/2020 - UC Fire Safe Council met with Kaitlyn Willoughby from Council District 1
- 1/14/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council hosted a Community Information Session with SD Fire Rescue, MCAS Miramar Fire, SD County Fire Safe Council, Council District 1
- 1/27/2021 – UC Fire Safe Council attended SD County Fire Safe Council CWPP Workshop 1
- 1/28/2021 – UC Fire Safe Council attended UCPC (Parks Council) to provide Public Comment
- 1/29/2021 – UC Fire Safe Council attended a community leaders forum hosted by Council District 1 to provide Public Comment
- 2/3/2021 – UC Fire Safe Council coordinated phone call meeting with SD Police Department regarding evacuation planning
- 2/9/2021 – UC Fire Safe Council attended UCPG (Planning Group) to provide Public Comment
- 2/10/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended SD County Fire Safe Council CWPP Workshop 2
- 2/10/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council attended UCCA (Community Association) to provide Public Comment
- 2/12/2021 – UC Fire Safe Council met with San Diego Fire-Rescue personnel regarding CWPP and evacuation planning
- 2/15/2021 - UC Fire Safe Council CWPP Subcommittee meeting

APPENDIX B: MAPS

FIGURE 1: AREA COMMUNITY – FIRE SAFE COUNCIL BOUNDARY (2020) - RCD

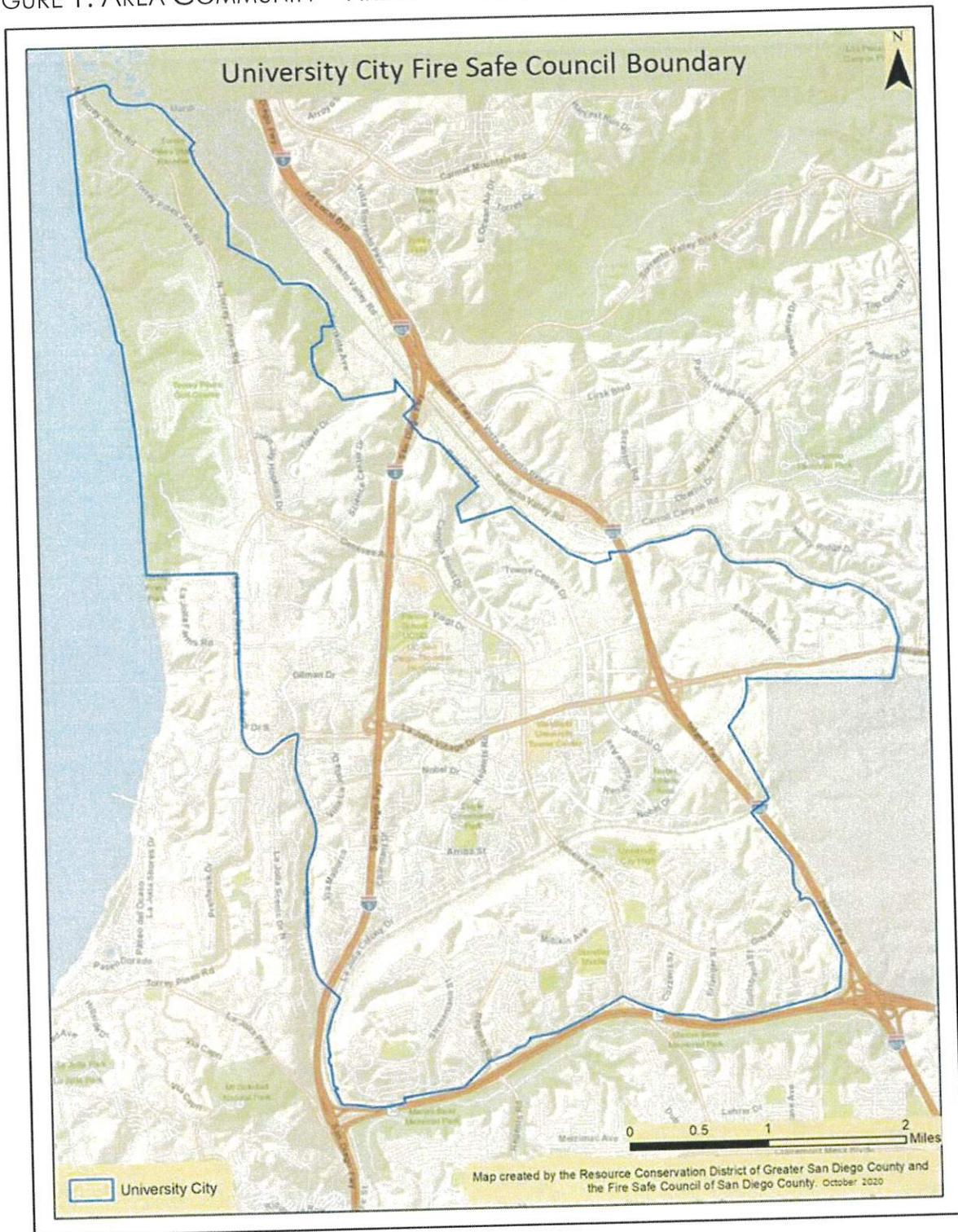


FIGURE 2.2- FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY – FIRE THREAT (2021) – SDFD AND UCFSC

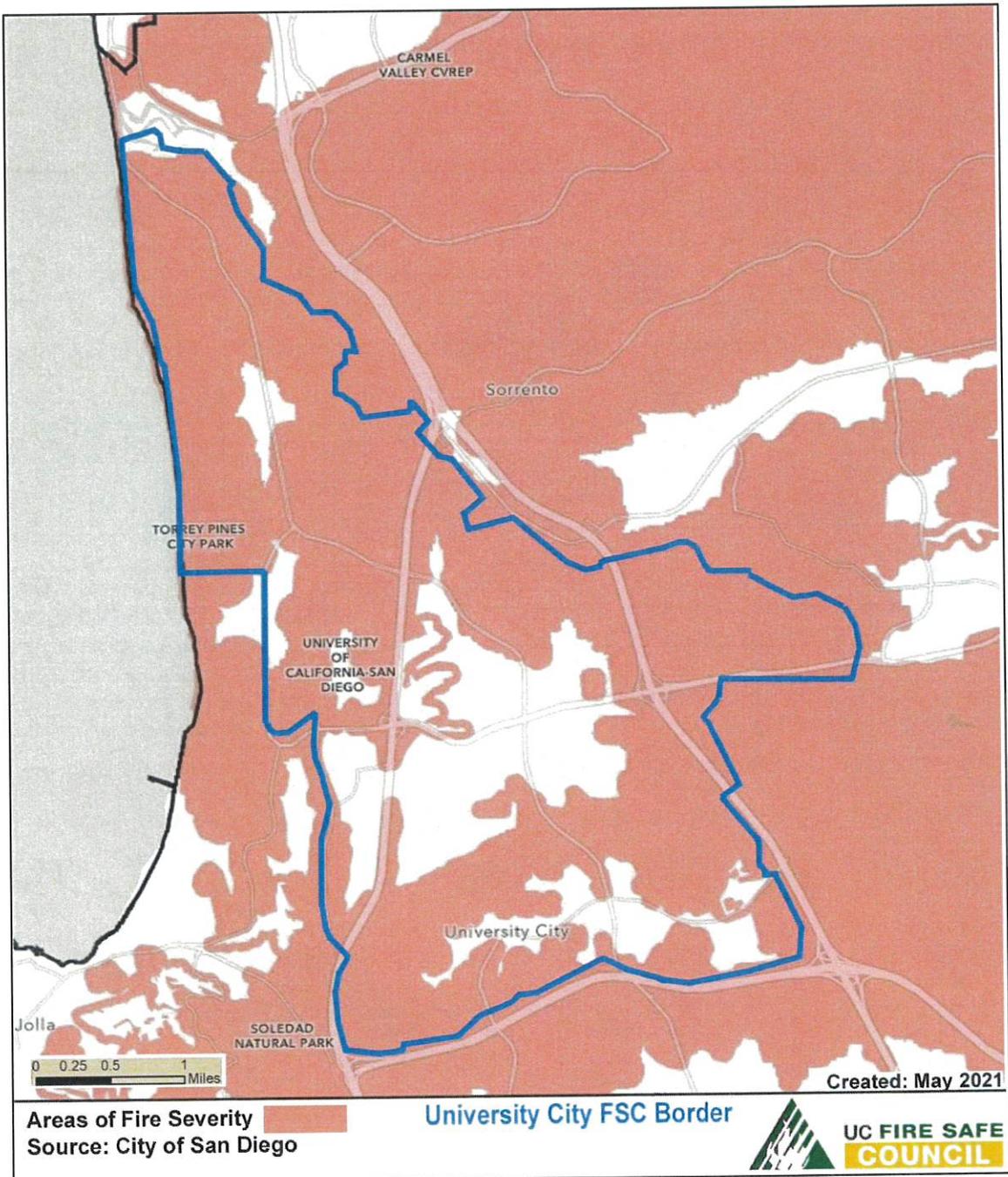


FIGURE 3.2: COUNTY BURN HISTORY 2000-2020 – RCD

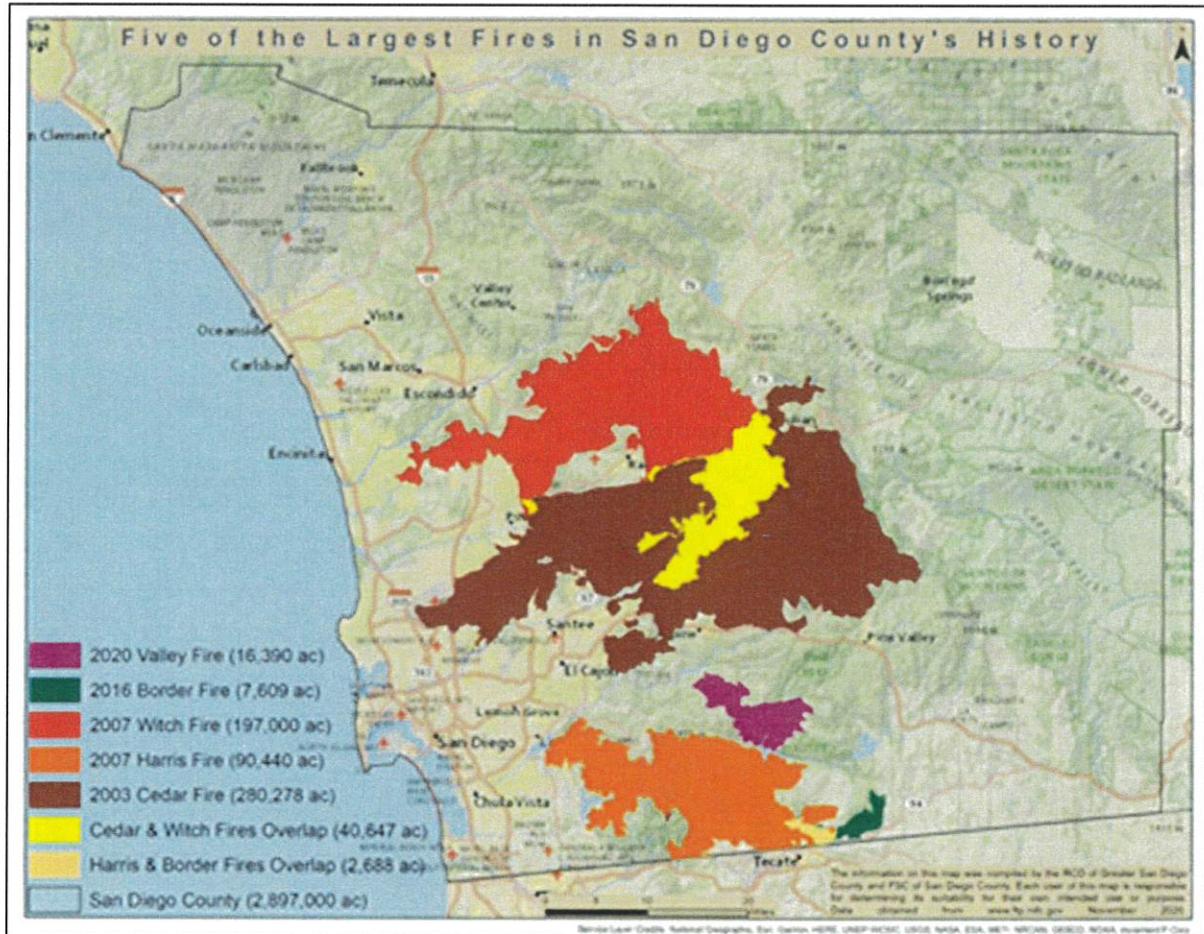


Figure 5.3: Fuels Treatment (Project Constraints) – Multi-Habitat Planning Area (MHPA) Habitat Preservation by Percent (2021) – SD Planning Dept, SanGIS and UCFS

