

**Yuba IRWMP – YWPFSC-06**  
**Project Short Form<sup>1</sup>**

Please fill out the following information to the best of your ability/knowledge. Contact Keri Rinne with questions: [keri.rinne@gmail.com](mailto:keri.rinne@gmail.com)

**PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION**

Lead Agency/Organization	Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council
Name of Primary Contact(s)	Allison Thomson
Mailing Address	PO Box 966 Marysville, CA 95901
Email Address	<a href="mailto:allison@yubafiresafe.org">allison@yubafiresafe.org</a>
Phone (###) ###-####	(530) 645-2236
Project Partners/Collaborators	
YWA Liaison	JoAnna Lessard

**GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION**

<b>Project Title</b>	Yuba Foothills Home Resilience Program
<b>Project Total Budget</b> (Attach detailed budget, if available)	\$550,000 first year, \$500,000 per year after first year
<b>Budget Breakdown</b>	Planning/Design Budget: \$50,000 Implementation Budget: \$375,000 per year
<b>Project Funding Match, if any</b>	\$125,000 per year
<b>Total Project Funding Need</b>	\$425,000 first year, \$375,000 per year after first year
<b>Project Location</b> (Attach map if available)	Yuba Foothills
<b>Watershed/subwatershed</b>	Yuba
<b>Groundwater Basin</b> (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> North Yuba Subbasin <input type="checkbox"/> South Yuba Subbasin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
<b>Supports Yuba Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Measurable Objective(s) Benefit</b> (Answer If 'Yes' above) (check <i>all</i> that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Chronic lowering of groundwater levels <input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of groundwater storage <input type="checkbox"/> Degraded water quality <input type="checkbox"/> Land subsidence <input type="checkbox"/> Depletions of interconnected surface waters
<b>Project Priority</b> (Select one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
<b>Project Type</b> (check <i>all</i> that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Conceptual <input type="checkbox"/> Feasibility Study <input type="checkbox"/> Study/Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/Design <input type="checkbox"/> Permitting <input type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Construction

<sup>1</sup> Completed Project Short Forms should be sent via email to Keri Rinne at [keri.rinne@gmail.com](mailto:keri.rinne@gmail.com)

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Management Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstration/Pilot Project
<b>Legal Authority</b>	

**Please select the *status* of the CEQA/NEPA/Permitting for this project:**

<b>CEQA</b> (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Study <input type="checkbox"/> EIR <input type="checkbox"/> Determination <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown if Required
<b>NEPA</b> (Select one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> EIS <input type="checkbox"/> Record of Decision <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown if Required
<b>Permitting</b> (Select one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not started <input type="checkbox"/> Identified <input type="checkbox"/> Consultations Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Application Submitted <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown if Required

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Write a narrative briefly describing the project components and/or characteristics (Suggest ~ 300 words).

Comprehensive and successful wildfire mitigation requires a multi-faceted strategy to reduce catastrophic fire risk, which impacts community wellbeing, water supply, water quality, wildlife habitats, and local economies. The Home Resilience Program is targeted to address a set of critical components, which are often ad hoc, and which many homeowners struggle to complete: improving the survivability of structures in the case of wildfire.

To address this ongoing, critical need for a holistic approach to wildfire mitigation, we have developed a tiered approach to supporting residents to complete activities that benefit not only individuals but the region at large. The project elements below are interrelated efforts that overall lead to a more fire-resilient landscape and decreased fire risk. These elements are difficult to fund with short-term grants, and thus are usually a bottleneck in achieving inclusive fire and forest management across a landscape in a manner that truly benefits communities. By addressing the following elements together within a single program, we aim to empower residents with varying levels of need to complete wildfire risk reduction activities on private land at a scale necessary to achieve meaningful improvements in forest resilience in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI):

- 1) Special Needs Assistance: 100% financial and logistical assistance to implement defensible space and home hardening upgrades for special needs residents (verified low-income, disabled, and elderly residents);
- 2) Residential Cost Share: 50% cost share reimbursements to help additional residents purchase materials or hire local contractors to implement defensible space and home hardening upgrades;
- 3) Resident-Implementation: The Residential Chipping Program will support residents who complete defensible space work on their own properties by chipping residual wood waste;
- 4) Volunteer Workdays: A series of community workdays to assist additional special needs residents and aspiring or active FireWise USA Sites, creating a culture of shared responsibility in wildfire risk reduction; workdays will also be supported by the Residential Chipping Program to dispose of wood waste.

**PROJECT RATIONALE/ISSUES STATEMENT**

Briefly describe the need for the project and the desired outcomes/deliverables (Suggest ~ 200 words). Include an explanation of benefits and how they would be evaluated.

The Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council (YWPFSC) works on all aspects of forest health—within communities, along roadways, and on lands with a patchwork of ownership. We have seen that homeowners are an essential element of partnerships, and without specific mechanisms to involve them in landscape management, we miss opportunities to improve forest health on many parcels across the watershed.

YWPFSC's Home Resilience Program will build resilience and reduce wildfire risk in the low-income communities and ecosystems of the Yuba Foothills, an area that is designated Very High and High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. This program expands the effectiveness of multiple successful yet underfunded community mitigation programs hosted by YWPFSC in past years. Despite short-term successes, working with homeowners is most successful when implemented in an ongoing manner, building on the momentum and efficiencies of scale. This approach to forest health and public safety requires the dedicated time and effort of staff who know the communities in which they work and have established relationships of trust and understanding. It is clear that the primary gap in addressing forest health on private property is not the will to complete the work, nor the interest in improving public safety and habitats, it is sustainable funding.

Specific outcomes of the Home Resilience Program include:

- YWPFSC outreach efforts and program management are improved, thus building local engagement and participation in the Home Resilience Program (# staff hours per month supporting Home Resilience Program outreach and coordination)
- Strategic vegetation clearance for defensible space and home hardening upgrades completed in local communities across multiple levels of need (# special needs residences treated, # cost share reimbursements, # workday host sites treated, and # properties utilizing the residential chipping program per year)
- Community workdays successfully build awareness and a culture of proactive wildfire preparedness by engaging a growing volunteer base (# workdays, # volunteers, and # volunteer hours per year)

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Task based budget
- Map of project location

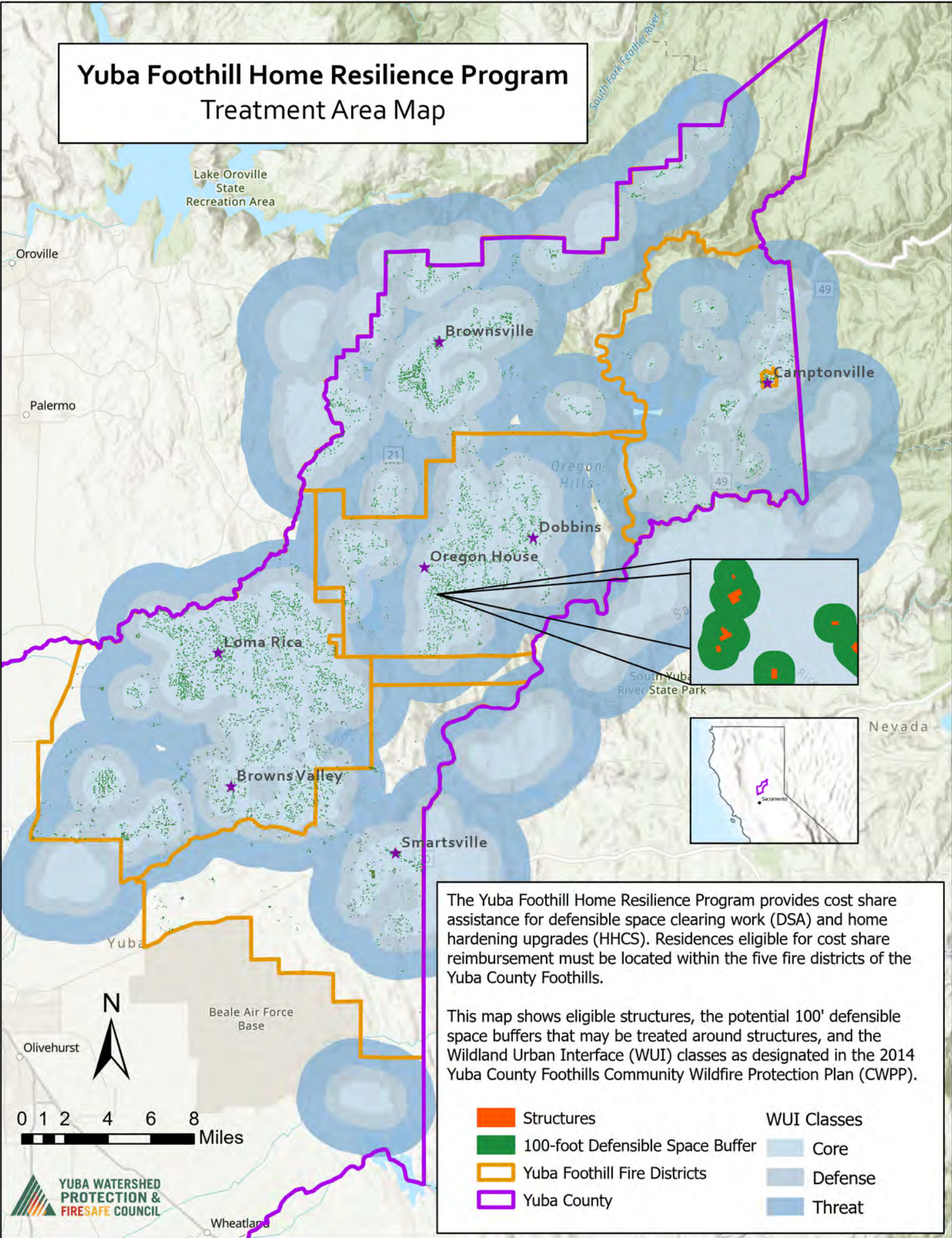


**Yuba Foothills Home Resilience Program**

**Project Budget:**

Fiscal Year (July 1-June 30)	Task	Short Description	Budget
<b>FY2023-24</b>	<b>1 – Planning</b>	YWPFSC staff and contractor(s) will complete CEQA requirements, plan program details, and seek out additional funding sources to sustain the Home Resilience Program beyond 2024	\$50,000
<b>FY2023-24, FY2024-25</b>	<b>2 – Special Needs Defensible Space &amp; Home Hardening Assistance Programs</b>	100% financial and logistical assistance to implement defensible space and home hardening upgrades for special needs residents (verified low-income, disabled, and elderly residents)	\$166,000
<b>FY2023-24, FY2024-25</b>	<b>3 – Defensible Space and Home Hardening Cost Share Programs</b>	50% cost share reimbursements to help additional residents purchase materials or hire local contractors to implement defensible space and home hardening upgrades	\$116,000
<b>FY2023-24, FY2024-25</b>	<b>4 – Residential Chipping Program</b>	The Residential Chipping Program will support residents who complete defensible space work on their own properties by chipping residual wood waste	\$45,000
<b>FY2023-24, FY2024-25</b>	<b>5 – Volunteer Workday Program</b>	A series of community workdays to assist additional special needs residents and aspiring or active FireWise USA Sites, creating a culture of shared responsibility in wildfire risk reduction; workdays will also be supported by the Residential Chipping Program to dispose of wood waste.	\$48,000
	<b>Match</b>	Match is provided by 1) Defensible Space and Home Hardening Cost Share Program recipients at a minimum of 50%; 2) volunteer in-kind match will be tracked during community workdays at the current California Volunteer Rate	\$125,000
		<b>Total Project Budget, Year 1</b>	<i>\$550,000</i>
		<b>Total Project Funding Need, Year 1</b>	<i>\$425,000</i>
		<b>Total Project Funding Need per year after Year 1</b>	<i>\$375,000</i>

# Yuba Foothill Home Resilience Program Treatment Area Map



The Yuba Foothill Home Resilience Program provides cost share assistance for defensible space clearing work (DSA) and home hardening upgrades (HHCS). Residences eligible for cost share reimbursement must be located within the five fire districts of the Yuba County Foothills.

This map shows eligible structures, the potential 100' defensible space buffers that may be treated around structures, and the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) classes as designated in the 2014 Yuba County Foothills Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

- |   |                                  |   |             |
|---|----------------------------------|---|-------------|
|  | Structures                       |  | WUI Classes |
|  | 100-foot Defensible Space Buffer |  | Core        |
|  | Yuba Foothill Fire Districts     |  | Defense     |
|  | Yuba County                      |  | Threat      |