

Yuba IRWMP – Project Short Form¹

Please fill out the following information to the best of your ability/knowledge. Once the project has been received, and a preliminary review completed, the project team will work with you to develop additional information.

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	allison@yubafiresafe.org
Phone (###) ###-####	(530) 913-4058
Project Partners/Collaborators	Camptonville Community Partnership
YWA Liaison	JoAnna Lessard

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title	Yuba County Foothills Firewise USA
Project Total Budget (Attach detailed budget, if available)	\$210,000
Budget Breakdown	Planning/Design Budget: Implementation Budget: \$210,000
Project Funding Match , if any	
Total Project Funding Need	\$210,000
Project Location (Attach map if available)	Eastern Yuba County (within five rural fire districts; see attached map)
City/Community	Loma Rica, Browns Valley, Smartsville, Oregon House, Dobbins, Brownsville, Challenge, Camptonville, Rackerby, Forbestown
Watershed/subwatershed	Yuba (90%) and Feather River (10%) watersheds
Groundwater Basin	
Funding Area	SRFA or MC
Project Priority (Select one)	High/Medium/Low
Project Type (highlight in gray <i>all</i> that apply)	Conceptual Feasibility Study Study/Assessment Planning Engineering/Design Permitting CEQA/NEPA Facility Construction Restoration Monitoring Best Management Practices Acquisition Demonstration/Pilot Project

¹ Completed Project Short Forms should be sent via email to Keri Rinne at keri.rinne@gmail.com

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

CEQA (Select one)	Exempt - Not Started - Initial Study - EIR – Determination - Unknown if Required
NEPA (Select one)	Exempt - Not Started - Environmental Assessment - EIS – Record of Decision - Unknown if Required
Permitting (Select one)	Not Required - Not started – Identified – Consultations Complete – Application Submitted – Complete – Unknown if Required

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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

Firewise USA is national program administered by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) that provides a framework that communities can follow to build long term resilience to wildfire. Following this framework leads neighborhoods from 8 to 2500 households in size (known as Firewise Sites) to national recognition and eligibility for a growing number of benefits including discounts on fire insurance premiums, in addition to a long-term Action Plan to build and maintain wildfire resilience. Firewise Sites work together to maintain defensible space, share knowledge, and build a culture of wildfire preparedness and resilience.

Neighboring counties such as Nevada County have created very successful Firewise programs, led by the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County and an active network of volunteers. Developing a similar program that meets the needs of Yuba County residents and builds individual engagement in wildfire preparedness is a top priority for the Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council (YWPFSC).

With the help of a YWA grant in 2019 and a small group of volunteers, YWPFSC has worked to encourage the development of Firewise Sites and thereby improve the wildfire resistance of our communities. Continuing to grow the capacity of this program is essential to address the urgent nature of wildfire risk in the Yuba Foothill communities. As the program grows, YWPFSC will continue to lead overall coordination and technical assistance, and will work with partner organizations and Community Leaders from each of our five fire districts to provide outreach and coordination support to individual Firewise Sites throughout the Site development process. Camptonville Community Partnership’s Yuba Emergency Preparedness (YEP) project will be the pilot Community Leader for the Camptonville area and will develop procedures and templates for outreach and engagement that can be replicated in other communities.

PROJECT RATIONALE/ISSUES STATEMENT

Briefly describe the need for the project and the desired outcomes/deliverables (maximum of 200 words).

Now more than ever, the Yuba County Foothills are faced with the growing risk of climate change and catastrophic wildfire. Across the region, the wildland urban interface (WUI) includes 9,000 residential and commercial structures scattered across a 254,000 acre landscape of mixed forest types, much of which is rated very high fire hazard severity. In the last two years alone, over 51 homes have been destroyed by wildfires in Yuba County. The neighboring Caldor, Dixie, North Complex, and many other fires that consumed vast landscapes and communities emphasize the local need to quickly build community wildfire resilience. Empowering the community by developing Firewise Sites is one tool to address this need.

Currently, the Forbestown Firewise Community, which straddles the border with Butte County, is the only Firewise Site in Yuba County. YWPFSC aims to change this by engaging communities and residents in the Firewise USA program, and providing tools and assistance to guide residents through the Site development process. The Yuba Foothills hold the potential for tens or even hundreds of Firewise Sites that are actively working together to build community resilience to wildfire. Building this network of local-scale Sites will ultimately provide wildfire resilience on a regional scale.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Task based budget
- Map of project location



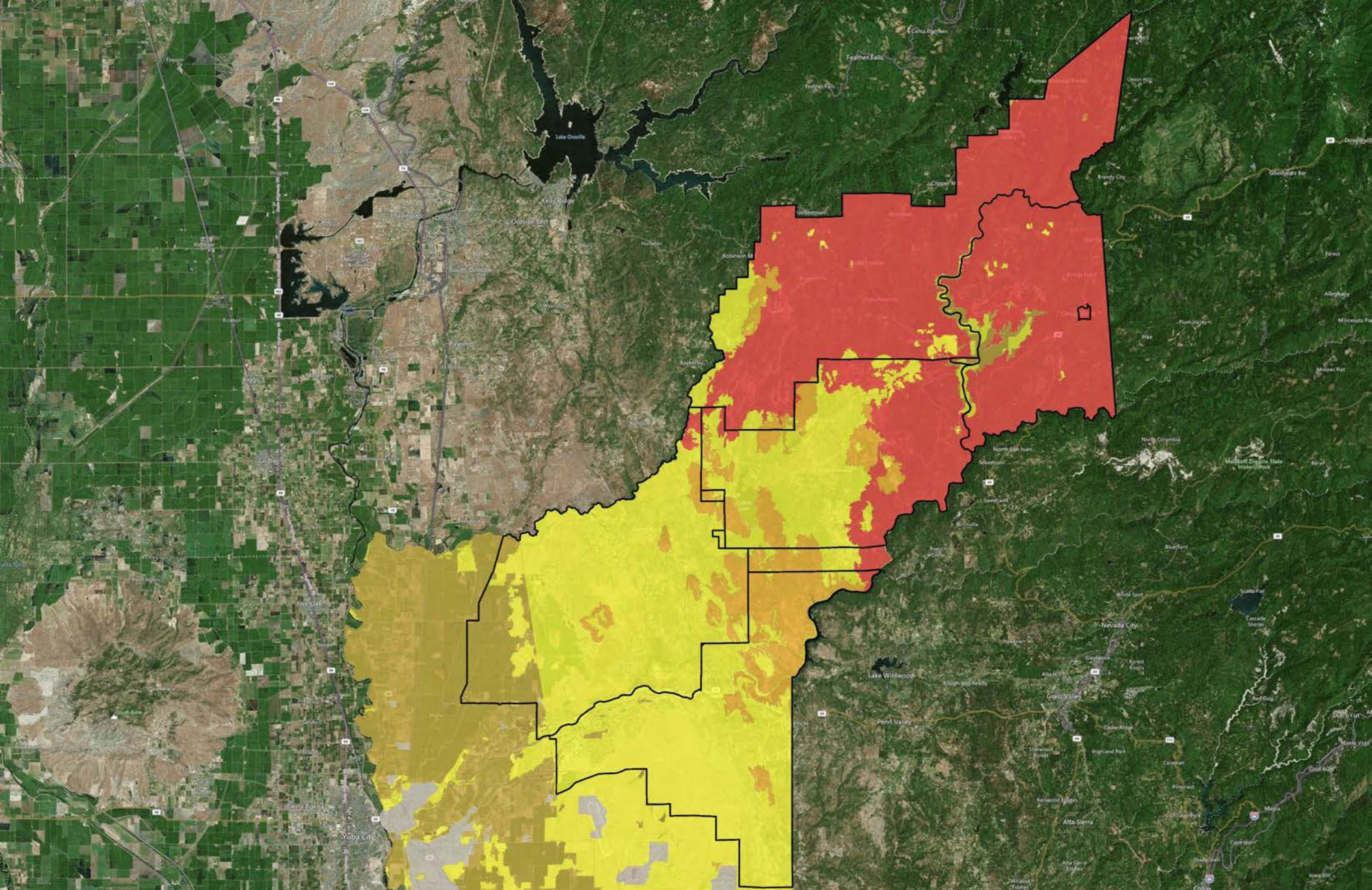
Yuba County Foothills Firewise USA Program

Budget

#	Task	Budget
1	Wildfire Mitigation Review Program – YWPFSC*	\$7,500
2	Yuba Youth Take Action Program – YWPFSC*	\$7,500
3	Outreach – YWPFSC & CCP	\$15,000
4	Community Engagement & Coordination – CCP	\$80,000
5	Community Hazard & Risk Assessments, GIS Mapping – YWPFSC to hire consultants**	\$80,000
6	Overall Program Coordination – YWPFSC	\$20,000
	TOTAL	\$210,000

*previously funded by 2019 YWA grant

** \$30,000 previously funded by 2019 YWA grant



FRAP Fire Hazard Severity

- Very High Fire Hazard
- High Fire Hazard
- Moderate Fire Hazard
- Non-Wildland/Non-Urban
- Urban Unzoned

Yuba County Fire Districts



Fire Hazard Severity

Yuba County Foothills

2021



5.00 miles

