

# A Survey on Wildfire Management Issues Related to Homeowners and National Forest Lands

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**CIRCLE THE NUMBER THAT BEST FITS HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT EACH OF THE STATEMENTS:**

4. Prescribed fire should only be used once the usable wood material is removed through thinning (for example, fuel wood gathering, small-scale timber operations).

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6                      7  
strongly                                                                                                                                                                                               
disagree                                                                                                                                                                                               
strongly  
agree

5. If lives and structures are not threatened, the U.S. Forest Service should let wildfires burn as needed.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6                      7  
strongly                                                                                                                                                                                               
disagree                                                                                                                                                                                               
strongly  
agree

6. Prescribed fire should **not** be used as a treatment because of the potential health (e.g. respiratory) problems from smoke.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6                      7  
strongly                                                                                                                                                                                               
disagree                                                                                                                                                                                               
strongly  
agree

**B) Effectiveness of the Current U.S. Forest Service at Managing Public Lands for the Risk of Wildfire**

1. How effective is the current U.S. Forest Service at managing public lands to reduce the risk of wildfire?

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6                      7  
not at all                                                                                                                                                                                               
effective                                                                                                                                                                                               
very  
effective

2. How effective is the current U.S. Forest Service at implementing mechanical removal programs (for example, commercial logging) on national forest lands?

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6                      7  
not at all                                                                                                                                                                                               
effective                                                                                                                                                                                               
very  
effective

3. How effective is the current U.S. Forest Service at implementing thinning projects (for example, for fuel wood and small scale logging operations) on national forest lands?

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6                      7  
not at all                                                                                                                                                                                               
effective                                                                                                                                                                                               
very  
effective

4. How effective is the current U.S. Forest Service at implementing prescribed or managed fire programs on national forest lands?

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6                      7  
not at all                                                                                                                                                                                               
effective                                                                                                                                                                                               
very  
effective





\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please specify \_\_\_\_\_)

**WRITE THE NUMBER THAT BEST FITS HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT EACH OF THE STATEMENTS:**

For each source checked above, how helpful was the information on a scale from **1=not at all helpful** to **7=very helpful**? If you do not have any experience with a group, please leave it blank.

<b>6. Information Source</b>	<b>How helpful?</b>
U.S. Forest Service (Firewise Community info, educational brochures)	_____
Other federal land management agencies (BLM, Park Service, etc.)	_____
State Forestry	_____
County/City Fire Department	_____
Local and State Law Enforcement	_____
Media reports (TV, newspaper, radio)	_____
Neighbors and/or friends	_____
Environmental organizations	_____
Other (please specify _____)	_____

**Sections F, G, and H apply only to those homeowners who live or have property close to National Forest lands. Otherwise, you should go directly to Section I of the survey on page 11.**

In the next section, we are interested in knowing what types of defensible space actions you and your family have taken on your property. **Check the answer that best fits with what you have done on your property.**

**F) Defensible Space Actions on Private Property**

1. What is your likelihood of doing the following actions to your property?

- a. Creating a minimum 30-foot defensible space around your home:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Already done
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do in next month
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do in next 3-6 months
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do next year
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)
  
- b. Planting low-growing, fire resistant plants around your home:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Already done
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do in next month
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do in next 3-6 months
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do next year
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)
  
- c. Putting a fire resistant roof on your home:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Already done
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do in next month
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do in next 3-6 months
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do next year
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)
  
- d. Putting fire resistant undersides to any decks and balconies on your home:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Already done
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do in next month
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Will do in next 3-6 months

- Will do next year
- Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)

**CHECK THE CHOICE THAT BEST FITS WHAT YOU HAVE DONE OR INTEND TO DO:**

- e. Removing any dead branches from your home's roof and around the chimney:
  - Already done
  - Will do in next month
  - Will do in next 3-6 months
  - Will do next year
  - Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)
  
- f. Making sure that your home is easily identifiable and accessible from a main road by emergency vehicles:
  - Already done
  - Will do in next month
  - Will do in next 3-6 months
  - Will do next year
  - Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)
  
- g. Making sure that all the trees on your property are planted away from structures:
  - Already done
  - Will do in next month
  - Will do in next 3-6 months
  - Will do next year
  - Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)
  
- h. Making sure that all the trees on your property are planted away from overhead utility lines:
  - Already done
  - Will do in next month
  - Will do in next 3-6 months
  - Will do next year
  - Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)
  
- i. Working with neighbors to prune and clear common areas with heavy vegetation:
  - Already done
  - Will do in next month
  - Will do in next 3-6 months
  - Will do next year
  - Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)
  
- j. Stacking firewood and scrap wood piles at least 30 feet from any structure:
  - Already done
  - Will do in next month
  - Will do in next 3-6 months
  - Will do next year
  - Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)
  
- k. Contacting your local fire department to get a personal fire safety inspection of your home and property:
  - Already done
  - Will do in next month
  - Will do in next 3-6 months
  - Will do next year
  - Probably will not do (Why not? \_\_\_\_\_)



**G) Effectiveness of Risk Reduction Actions**

How effective are the following actions at reducing the risk of wildfire from impacting your property and lives? Using the scale below, insert an X in the column that best fits with how effective you believe each action is at reducing the risk of wildfire.

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Not at all Effective						Very Effective
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
a.	Creating a 30-foot defensible space around your home:							
b.	Planting low-growing, fire resistant plants around your home:							
c.	Putting a fire resistant roof on your home:							
d.	Putting fire resistant undersides to any decks & balconies on your home:							
e.	Removing any dead branches from your home's roof and around the chimney:							
f.	Making sure that your home is easily identifiable and accessible from a main road:							
g.	Making sure that all trees on your property are planted away from structures:							
h.	Making sure that all the trees on your property are planted away from overhead utility lines:							
i.	Working with neighbors to prune and clear heavy vegetation on common areas:							
j.	Stacking firewood and scrap wood piles at least 30 feet away from any structure:							
k.	Contacting the local fire department to get a fire safety inspection of your home and property:							

4. By doing any of the above actions on your property, how effective can you be at preventing wildfires from impacting your personal property and your life?

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6                      7  
 not at all                      very  
 effective                      effective

**H) Confidence in Ability to Undertake Defensive Actions**

How confident do you feel in your ability to conduct any of these defensible actions on your property in an effort to reduce the risks of wildfire impacting you and your property? Using the scale below, insert an X in the column that best fits with how confident you feel in your ability to undertake each of these actions in an effort to reduce the risk of wildfire.

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Not at all						Very
		Confident						Confident
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
a.	Creating a 30-foot defensible space around your home:							
b.	Planting low-growing, fire resistant plants around your home:							
c.	Putting a fire resistant roof on your home:							
d.	Putting fire resistant undersides to any decks & balconies on your home:							
e.	Removing any dead branches from your home's roof and around the chimney:							
f.	Making sure that your home is easily identifiable and accessible from a main road:							
g.	Making sure that all trees on your property are planted away from structures:							
h.	Making sure that all the trees on your property are planted away from overhead utility lines:							
i.	Working with neighbors to prune and clear heavy vegetation on common areas:							
j.	Stacking firewood and scrap wood piles at least 30 feet away from any structure:							
k.	Contacting the local fire department to get a fire safety inspection of your home and property:							

2. How **confident do you feel in your ability** to protect your property and yourself from the risk of wildfire?

1            2            3            4            5            6            7  
 not at all            very  
 confident            confident

3. What would you say is the biggest impediment or constraint to taking some action to protect your property from the impact of wildfire? Please specify:

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4. What convinced you to take defensible space action on your property? Please check all that apply.

- Major fire event
- Suggestions by local government (for example, local fire department)
- Suggestions by federal government
- Insurance incentive
- Aesthetics
- Creating a healthy forest
- Improving wildlife habitat
- Getting rid of dead or dying trees (for example, from bug infestations)
- Reducing wildfire risks
- Have not taken any action
- Other — please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**I) For the following questions, please check the appropriate category or fill in the appropriate information.**

1. Where is your **primary residence**? \_\_\_\_\_  
(city and state)

2. Please identify your age group:

18-25 _____	45-54 _____
26-34 _____	55-64 _____
35-44 _____	65 and over _____

3. Please identify your gender:    \_\_\_\_\_ Male            \_\_\_\_\_ Female

4. What is your highest level of education completed?

Some high school _____	High school _____
Some college _____	College degree _____
Postgraduate work _____	Graduate degree _____
Other (please specify _____)	

5. If you have a home near the forest, how many months per year do you live in your home near the forest? \_\_\_\_\_ # of months

6. If you have a home near the forest, how close is your **home** to the closest National Forest or Grassland?

_____ less than 1 mile	_____ 21 to 50 miles
_____ 1 to 10 miles	_____ more than 50 miles
_____ 11 to 20 miles	_____ Other (please specify _____)

7. Please check the category which best fits your household income level per year:

Less than \$15,000 _____	\$35,000 - \$49,999 _____
\$15,000 - \$24,999 _____	\$50,000 - \$74,999 _____
\$25,000 - \$34,999 _____	\$75,000 - over _____

8. Please identify the zip code for your **primary residence**: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Please identify the zip code for your **residence near the forest**: \_\_\_\_\_

10. With which racial/ethnic group do you most closely identify?

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| _____ African American/Black | _____ Mexican American  |
| _____ Central American       | _____ Native American/First Nation (Please Specify:<br>Nation/Tribe/Pueblo _____) |
| _____ Chinese American       | _____ Vietnamese American   |
| _____ Cuban American         | _____ White American/Caucasian  |
| _____ Hispanic American      | _____ Other Ethnic/Racial Group (Specify<br>_____)                                |
| _____ Japanese American      |   |
| _____ Korean American        |   |

10a. Please mark the appropriate statement concerning Hispanic or Latino ethnicity:

\_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic or Latino                      \_\_\_\_\_ Not Hispanic or Latino

11. If you were born outside the U.S., how many years have you lived in the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_ (# of years)

12. What is the **primary** language you speak at home?

English \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish \_\_\_\_\_ Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

13. How many times have you visited National Forests in the past 12 months? \_\_\_\_\_

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

**If you have any questions or comments about the survey or topics related to what was covered in this survey, you are welcome to put that information in this section. If you would like us to respond to any questions that you may have please include your name and address/contact email so that we can respond.**

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_