



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program Webinar for Applicants

(Updated 08/03/2023)

Today's Agenda

- Overview of Program Changes from Round 1
- CWDG Program Overview
- CWDG Application Eligibility
- CWDG Application
- CWDG Application and Portal Information
- Grants and Agreements
- National Tools
- Timeline

Overview of Program Changes from Round 1

Grant Application Portal

All four Notice for Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) are using the <https://cwdg.forestrygrants.org/> portal for application submittal

- For Round 2, the NOFOs are advertised in grants.gov as required
- NOFOs then point applicants to apply in the cwdg.forestrygrants.org portal, which is where applicants will find the actual application form
- Applicants are required to submit UEI # and certify they have an active SAM.gov registration

Low Income Communities

Applicants for Round 2 now have access to community-level data for low-income, verses county-level used in Round 1

- A significant concern was the inability to analyze income status at a scale smaller than county-level
- Round 2 data is available for county, Tribe, and community income levels
- Low-income is now based upon having a median household income less than 80% in comparison to the state, as well as national, median incomes, verses only state level incomes used during Round 1 (mitigating bias against states with a lower overall income)
- The Wildfire Risk to Communities project team developed a new, easy-to-use web tool that provides CWDG eligibility and scoring data for all U.S. communities, counties, and Tribal areas. The tool will make it easier for underserved and lower-capacity communities to find the necessary data required to apply for grants.

<https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool>

Underserved Communities

The determination of underserved community for Round 2 will migrate from the Social Vulnerability Index to the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool

- CEJST was still in development during Round 1
- This conversion will comply with EO #13985
- The Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool uses datasets that are indicators of burdens in eight categories: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development. The tool uses this information to identify communities that are experiencing these burdens. These are the communities that are disadvantaged because they are overburdened and underserved

Underserved Communities

- **Communities that meet the Low-Income definition are also considered underserved and therefore eligible for the match waiver**
- In addition, the NOFO is updated to include waivers for Tribes, Pacific Islands and the USVI
- As reference, Executive Order 13985: "Advancing racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government": The term "underserved communities" refers to populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life...

Application Period

Application period will be open for 90 days

- To allow applicants more time to develop proposals, the application period for Round 2 will be 90 days, verses 60 days used in Round 1
- The Application Period opened July 31st and will close October 31st, 2023

Prioritization of CWPPs

The CWDG workgroup suggested dedicating a minimum amount of Round 2 funding to target applications requesting the creation of CWPPs, or revisions to existing CWPPs, so long as they meet a minimum score.

- Only 3.4% of funding in Round 1 went to applicants requesting the development or enhancement of CWPPs
- To apply for CWDG, Communities must have a CWPP to apply project funding however, not every community has a CWPP creating disparity in funding opportunities
- Feedback from Multiple applicants and states asked for priority for the development of CWPPs during the early years of the CWDG funding. By doing so, these communities can do follow-up submissions for project implementation before the depletion of CWDG funding opportunities
- Minimum score TBD based upon an analysis of applications and scores

Use of Two Scoring Rubrics

Separate scoring rubrics are developed for CWPPs verses Projects

- Separate scoring rubrics are in place for CWPPs verses implementation projects allowing for better clarification to both applicants and reviewers regarding the information needed to answer questions

CWDG Program Overview

Authorizing Legislation

Infrastructure, Investment and Jobs Act, Section 40803(f) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture, through the USDA Forest Service, to establish a program, which shall be separate from the program established under section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133), under which the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the States, shall award grants to at-risk communities, including Indian Tribes —

- (A) to develop or revise a community wildfire protection plan; and
- (B) to carry out projects described in a community wildfire protection plan that is not more than 10 years old

Program Purpose

- The CWDG is intended to help communities in the wildland urban interface (WUI) implement the three goals of the [National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy](#) (Cohesive Strategy):
 - **Resilient Landscapes:** Landscapes, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries, are resilient to fire, insect, disease, invasive species and climate change disturbances, in accordance with management objectives
 - **Fire Adapted Communities:** Human populations and infrastructure are as prepared as possible to receive, respond to, and recover from wildland fire
 - **Safe, Effective, Risk-based Wildfire Response:** All jurisdictions participate in making and implementing safe, effective, efficient risk-based wildfire management decisions

Program Administration

- Grants are offered on a competitive basis through Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) posted on www.grants.gov
 - One NOFO per each of the three regional state forestry organizations (West, Northeast/Midwest, and Southeast)
 - One NOFO for Tribes
- All applications will be submitted on <https://cwdg.forestrygrants.org/>

Program Administration (continued)

- A grant review panel will be convened in each of the state forestry organization regions to review, score, and rank grant applications received within their respective state forestry organization regions
- USDA Forest Service (USFS) will organize a grant review panel to review, score, and rank the grant applications received from Tribes
- Normalization process
 - Normalization is a process where raw scores undergo a statistical adjustment so that scores from different reviewers can be compared on a common scale.

Funding

- Minimum and Maximum Funding Levels
 - There is no *minimum* Federal funding limit for projects under CWDG
 - The *maximum* amount of Federal funding awarded to any one community or Tribal entity:
 - \$250,000 for creating or updating a Community Wildfire Protection Plan
 - \$10 million for a project described within a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP can be no more than 10 years old / 2013 or newer)

Funding (continued)

- Required Matching Funds:
 - Proposals to develop or update a CWPP, required match is 10%
 - Proposals to implement projects described in a CWPP, required match is 25%
 - Underserved communities are eligible to request a match waiver, as well as Tribes, Pacific Island Territories, and the USVI

Additional Process Elements

- **Lead Agency or Organization:**
 - All applications must identify the lead agency or organization
 - The lead agency may pass funds to other partners performing work as relevant
- **Grant Timeframes:** Projects must be completed within five (5) years
- **Reporting:**
 - Quarterly Financial reports
 - Annual Project Performance reports
 - Performance report shall include a spatial data component

CWDG Application Eligibility

Applicant Eligibility

- Eligibility
 - At-risk Community
 - Two options listed in NOFOs to determine if community is an “at-risk community”
- The following entities are eligible to submit a project proposal for funding:
 - Units of local governments representing communities located in an area at risk of wildfires
 - Indian Tribes
 - Alaska Native Corporations
 - Non-profit organizations such as homeowner associations that assist communities
 - State forestry agencies
- For-profit entities are not eligible to apply for a grant under this program.
- Other considerations
 - Applying for multiple communities
 - Grant management by non-profits or other organizations

Eligible Lands

- Eligible applicants may apply for grant funding for a project proposal to be conducted on lands with the following ownership types, as long as the project proposal directly reduces wildfire risk to a community:
 - Private lands
 - Local government
 - Homeowner associations
 - State government
 - Tribal/Alaska Native Corporation (includes Trust lands)
- Federal lands are not eligible for this funding opportunity, with the exception of federal Tribal trust lands

Priority Projects

- Priority will be given to project proposals that:
 - Are located in an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential, and/or
 - Benefit a low-income community, and/or
 - Are located in a community impacted by a severe disaster within the previous 10 years
- Supporting documentation or link to documentation must be provided

Project Objectives

- Projects must advance objectives and priorities identified in a CWPP not more than 10 years old (2013 or newer)
- A project must be designed to achieve one or more of the following objectives:
 - Assist a community with planning to address management of wildfire risk
 - Assist a community with mitigation measures or actions to reduce wildfire risk

Multiple Community Applications

- **Separate Projects in separate Communities:**
 - A separate narrative form and included budget will need to be filled out for each community for purposes of determining eligibility, prioritization, and ranking of the separate projects
- **Single Project in multiple communities:**
 - For an application consisting of a single project that spans multiple communities, the project can be applied for and described within the same application and narrative form

Project Types

- CWPP Development or Revision
- CWPP Implementation
 - Planning (Codes, smoke readiness, etc.)
 - Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation Education/Outreach
 - Reduce Hazardous Fuels / Restore Fire-adapted Ecosystems

See NOFO's for examples of Eligible and Ineligible project types

CWPP Development or Revision

Eligible Projects

- Creation of a CWPP or development of a wildfire section for a hazard mitigation plan.
- Update of an existing CWPP/hazard mitigation plan (Existing plan must be over five (5) years old (older than 2018))

Ineligible Projects

- Creation and/or update of Forest Stewardship Plans

Eligible “Planning” Project Examples

- Contract support to assist a community with developing building codes, zoning ordinances, or land use planning
- Direct staff funding support to assist a community with developing building codes, zoning ordinances, or land use planning
- Tabletop or functional exercises to test effectiveness of community wildfire planning
- Plan and address public health and safety effects of smoke and mitigation from wildfire and projects that use prescribed fire (“Smoke Ready” efforts)
- Direct staff support for community wildfire mitigation leadership/coordination
- Training in the use of proven effective mitigation practices, such as the Forest Service’s mitigation best practices
- Direct staff support to assist in creation of a local or regional mitigation partnership

Ineligible “Planning” Project Examples

- GIS and database systems unless in support of a CWPP, wildfire risk reduction planning or fuels mitigation initiative or project
- Creation and/or update of Forest Stewardship Plans
- Economic development projects
- Small business start-up funding
- Research and development projects

Eligible “Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation Education/Outreach” Project Examples

- Firewise USA© or similar programs outreach to communities and property owners
- Fire education presentations such as Project Learning Tree
- Property inspections and/or assessments
- Training to conduct property inspections and/or assessments
- Implementation of WUI Structure / Parcel / Community Fire Hazard Mitigation Methodology (HMM) for community hazard reduction
- Training for Traditional Ecological Knowledge of fire, Cultural Burning, Identification and protection of culturally significant plants, sacred site protection

Ineligible “Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation Education/Outreach” Project Example

- Printing of paper-based materials without an organized outreach/education program

Eligible “Hazardous Fuels Reduction / Fire-adapted Ecosystems Restoration” Project Examples

- Defensible space around homes, businesses, and other structures
- Development, creation, and/or maintenance of fuel breaks and fire breaks, including shaded fuel breaks
- Fuels reduction beyond defensible space adjacent to at-risk communities
- Removal of standing woody vegetation by cutting, piling and burning
- Removal of standing woody vegetation by cutting and chipping

Eligible “Hazardous Fuels Reduction / Fire-adapted Ecosystems Restoration” Project Examples (continued)

- Removal of standing woody vegetation using a mechanical mulcher or masticator type equipment mounted on mobile equipment
- Reduction of hazardous fuels through the application of prescribed fire
- Vegetation management (pruning, mowing, chemical treatment, grazing), including rights-of-ways for roads
- Maintenance of fuels projects. Up to two (2) maintenance treatments allowed per project during the grant term

Eligible “Hazardous Fuels Reduction / Fire-adapted Ecosystems Restoration” Project Examples (continued)

- Monitoring components of projects for effectiveness (must have established baseline)
- Prescribed fire training, including training on smoke management associated with prescribed fires
- Design and installation of dry hydrants and cisterns
- Purchase of equipment for brush/fuel disposal, such as air curtain burner/trench burner (be aware of permitting requirements for these devices, which are an eligible cost)

Eligible “Hazardous Fuels Reduction / Fire-adapted Ecosystems Restoration” Project Examples (continued)

- Purchase of mechanical equipment that meets, or does not exceed, the following requirements:
 - Brush/woodchippers that are towable or mountable to a skid steer, compact track loader or tractor with a maximum chipping capacity of no more than 15 inches
 - Self-propelled forestry mulchers up to a maximum 200 horsepower
 - Forestry mulcher attachments designed for skid steers, compact track loaders, excavators or crawler dozers
 - Heavy duty brush mowers that can be utilized for maintaining road rights-of-ways and fire breaks
 - Trailers necessary to transport equipment that is determined eligible in this section, including box-type trailers to store and transport prescribed fire equipment

Eligible “Hazardous Fuels Reduction / Fire-adapted Ecosystems Restoration” Project Examples (continued)

- Purchase of the following equipment and supplies to support the use of prescribed fire:
 - Personal protection equipment, including fire shelters and N95 filtering face respirators
 - Drip torches
 - Wildland hand tools
 - Backpack blowers
 - Chainsaws
 - Portable wildfire pumps
 - Wildland hose
 - Portable folding water tanks
 - Cache of air filtration units for use by at-risk individuals in the public

Ineligible “Hazardous Fuels Reduction / Fire-adapted Ecosystems Restoration” Project Examples

- Capital improvements including construction/infrastructure (building remodel, bridges, road construction, water system development). Dry hydrants are eligible for funding.
- Home hardening, including but not limited to:
 - Roof upgrades or replacements
 - Fire resistant siding
 - Metal gutters and vents
- Fire suppression training (unless course is a requirement for prescribed fire qualifications)
- Fire suppression equipment and apparatus
- Drones

Other Considerations

- If there is an implementation project that is not covered in a CWPP, such as developing a smoke ready program for your community, consider updating your CWPP this year and applying for a grant for that project next year. The examples listed previously may help you recognize any gaps in your existing CWPP.
- You can apply for an implementation grant for projects already identified in your CWPP, and apply for a CWPP update grant separately (if assistance is needed), in the same year.

CWDG Application

Submitting Applications

- Notice of Funding Opportunities are posted on grants.gov:
 - Tribes NOFO: USDA-FS-2023-CWDG-TRIBES
 - Southern NOFO: USDA-FS-2023-CWDG-SGSF
 - Northeast/Midwest NOFO: USDA-FS-2023-CWDG-NEMW
 - West NOFO: USDA-FS-2023-CWDG-CWSF
- Applications will be submitted through cwdg.forestrygrants.org
 - Reach out to your point of contact listed in the NOFOs for an application link
- Tribal entities may submit applications via any NOFO
- Both CWPP and Project Implementation use the same application (but have separate scoring rubrics)

GIS Coordinates

- Please include enough coordinates/description to be able to represent the general area of the impact of the project for which you are applying
- For point-based projects, please include a reference point and description
- For fuel treatments, please include enough coordinates to ascertain a general boundary of the area being treated. If unsure of boundaries, please include a reference point and the planned acreage to be treated under the description
- For CWPP development, please include a description of the planning area and type (municipality boundary, fire response district, township, etc.)

GIS Coordinates: Ref. Point Name:

Lat/Long:

Description:

Area Name:

Boundary Lat/Longs:

Description:

Scoring Criteria and Prioritization Factors

- There are two separate rubrics; one for CWPP Development or Revision and one for Project Implementation
- NOFOs contain each of the scoring rubrics
- Total Points and scoring criteria remain the same as Round 1:
 - Project Description (0-10 points)
 - Project Budget Explanation (0-10 points)
 - Accomplishments (0-10 points)
 - Collaboration (0-10 points)
 - Landscape Impacts (0-10 points)
 - Project Sustainability (0-10 points)
 - Low-Income Community (10 points or 0 points)
 - Severe Disaster Impact (10 points or 0 points)
 - Wildfire Hazard Potential (20 points or 0 points)

Project Description (10 points)

- Clearly define the scope of the project, what the project proposes to accomplish, why it is important, and how it supports the Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and relevant State Forest Action Plan (or equivalent Tribal plan).
- Provide a comprehensive but succinct overview of the proposed project that includes basic details of who is doing what, where, and why this is important.
- Explain how the project is described in a CWPP (or acceptable alternative as described in the NOFO).
- Specify if benefits to traditionally under-served or marginalized audiences are a component of the work.

Project Description (10 points)

CWPP Criteria Scoring Rubric

CWPP Criteria Scoring Rubric			
Criteria	High Score	Medium Score	Low Score
1. Project Description	7-10 points	3-6 points	0-2 points
	<p>The community has clearly articulated the purpose and need for revising or creating a new CWPP. They have outlined a process, identified key players, and have articulated the ability to get it completed within their timeline.</p> <p>They have referenced how revising or creating a new CWPP will help them meet the intent of the Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and relevant State Forest Action Plan or equivalent Tribal plan.</p>	<p>The community has indicated that they understand the critical need for a CWPP or CWPP revision and have partially outlined the process but appear to have not clearly outlined how they plan to fully get the document written, may still need to identify partners and establish timelines.</p> <p>Mentions Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and/or relevant State Forest Action Plan or equivalent Tribal plan, but only cursory.</p>	<p>The community has communicated that they understand the critical need for a CWPP or CWPP revision, yet the application fails to clearly establish any processes, identified partners, or mentioned any timelines.</p> <p>No linkage to Cohesive Strategy or State Forest Action Plan or Tribal equivalent.</p>

Project Description (10 points)

Project Criteria Scoring Rubric

Criteria	<i>High Score</i>	<i>Medium Score</i>	<i>Low Score</i>
1. Project Description	<p>7-10 points</p> <p>The community has clearly articulated the purpose and need for the project(s) within a CWPP that is not more than 10 years old. They have outlined a process, identified key players, and a timeline, and have articulated the ability to complete the project within their timeline.</p> <p>They have referenced how the project will meet the intent of the Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and relevant State Forest Action Plan or equivalent Tribal plan.</p>	<p>3-6 points</p> <p>Project(s) are within a CWPP that is not more than 10 years old, and the community has indicated that they understand the critical benefits to the community and have partially outlined the process they will utilize to get started but appear to have not clearly outlined how they plan to fully implement, may still need to identify partners and establish timelines.</p> <p>Mentions Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and/or relevant State Forest Action Plan or equivalent Tribal plan only cursory.</p>	<p>0-2 points</p> <p>Project(s) are within a CWPP that is not more than 10 years old, and the community mentions that they understand the critical need of the mitigation project, yet the application fails to clearly establish any processes, identified partners, or mentioned any timelines.</p> <p>No linkage to Cohesive Strategy or State Forest Action Plan or equivalent Tribal plan.</p>

Applicant Budget (10 points)

- Clearly explain how the budget will be spent by line item, sources of match, and how expenditures are applicable and relevant to the goals and objectives of the project.
- The budget narrative must describe how the grant funds will be spent with specific detail for each grant expenditure.
- It must describe how expenditures are applicable and relevant to the goals and objectives of the project.
- A project proposal must also show how the applicant will meet matching requirements or qualify for a waiver. If qualified for a waiver, you do not need to show funding in the match column.

Applicant Budget				
	Grant Funds Requested	Match		Total Project Cost
		Applicant	Non-Federal Contributors	
Personnel/Labor:				\$ 0.00
Fringe Benefits:				\$ 0.00
Travel:				\$ 0.00
Equipment:				\$ 0.00
Supplies:				\$ 0.00
Contractual:				\$ 0.00
Other:				\$ 0.00
Indirect Costs:				\$ 0.00
TOTAL:	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Accomplishments (10 points)

- A proposal must clearly define how a project will be accomplished, timelines and milestones, as well as measures and metrics
- Examples include:
 - a. How the selected objectives will lead to measurable outcomes for community wildfire risk reduction
 - b. How the applicant will measure progress towards those outcomes (such as, acres treated to reduce hazardous fuels, change in fire regime)
 - c. The proposed metrics for measuring progress, which must be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and timely

Accomplishments - *Measurable Outcomes*

- A sample Measurable Outcomes table is available in the application pdf form to guide applicants on the types of accomplishments to describe in the accomplishments narrative
- For projects selected for funding, reporting accomplishments will be required for the annual performance reports
- You may also list additional specific measurable results that show how the Federal investment will lead to outcomes on the landscape
- *In the accomplishments narrative section, describe less quantifiable return on investments*

Collaboration (10 points)

- The application should clearly define collaborative elements including support from partners, agencies, landowners, and communities
- A project proposal must identify partners that will be actively engaged in carrying out the project and add value to project planning and implementation, with a description of each partner's role
- Collaboration may be qualitative in nature, and the contribution of a partner may be more than the number of partners

Landscape Impacts (10 points)

The application should clearly define:

- The scale of the project including relationships with past, present, or future projects that, when combined, offer more benefits than when taken individually
- The overall landscape that the project influences, in addition to the defined project area, should be clearly described, as well as the land ownerships within the area
- Specify areas targeted for planning or mitigation
- Clearly describe each proposed activity and include details on where they will be occurring
- Include the approximate number of structures that will benefit from the proposed action

Project Sustainability (10 points)

- The application should clearly define how or if the project will sustain itself after the grant period is over
- Any steps or plans that will be carried out to continue the project benefits beyond the life of the grant should be described, as well as who or what organizations will be responsible

Low-Income Community(10 points)

- The application should clearly demonstrate and document whether the project benefits a low-income community, as defined.

CWPP Criteria Scoring Rubric

7. Low-Income Community	10 points	Not applicable	0 points
	Some or part of the community to be covered under the CWPP or revision is located in a low-income community as defined.		All of the areas to be covered by the CWPP or revision are located outside the footprint of a low-income community, as defined, or is not documented.

Project Criteria Scoring Rubric

7. Low-Income Community	10 points	Not applicable	0 points
	All, or part of a project area is located in a low-income community as defined.		All of a project is located outside the footprint of a low-income community, as defined, or is not documented.

Affected by a Severe Disaster (10 points)

The application should clearly demonstrate and document:

- Whether the project benefits a community that has been impacted by a severe disaster within the previous ten (10) years
- Clearly exhibit how the severe disaster increased wildfire risk and/or hazard and was of a scale and scope to have had landscape impacts (refer to definition in the NOFO)
- Simply listing a disaster will not suffice, you must explain how this disaster has impacted the community's wildfire risk and hazard (not all disasters will qualify for points if it cannot be shown they have influenced the community's risk or hazard)

Examples of Severe Disaster

- **Examples of how a Severe Disaster may impact an area resulting in increased risk or hazard associated with wildfire:**
- Ice storm, windstorm, hurricane, or similar event causing severe vegetation damage resulting in accumulation of dead and downed fuels, leading to increased risk associated with wildfire.
- Flood, landslide, or other event damage impacting transportation infrastructure, resulting in restricted egress, longer evacuation times for communities.
- Past wildfires contributing to conditions which result in more rapid and/or more intense fire behavior:
 - Increased grass and light fuel loading leading to increased rates of spread.
 - Species change to invasives with increased fire behavior.
 - Increased dead / heavy fuel loading due to heavy mortality in previous fires leading to higher intensity fires.
- Past wildfire damage to wildfire response infrastructure, such as communication networks, fire detection systems, air quality monitoring systems.
- Past wildfires reducing watershed capacity (through soil impermeability, lack of cover for snow holding, etc), increasing potential for drought related effects resulting in increased fire risk / fire behavior.
- Forest health related issues, such as insect outbreaks or disease, leading to increased risk of high severity wildfire.

Area of Wildfire Hazard Potential (20 points)

- The application should clearly demonstrate and document whether the project is located in an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential as defined by a local, state, Tribal, regional, or national wildfire hazard potential assessment

CWPP Criteria Scoring Rubric

9. High/Very High Wildfire Hazard Potential	20 points All or part of the area to be covered by a CWPP or CWPP revision is located within an area of high or very high wildfire hazard potential and is properly documented.	Not applicable	0 points Area to be covered by a CWPP or revision is located outside any area with high or very high wildfire hazard potential or is not documented properly.
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Project Criteria Scoring Rubric

9. High/Very High Wildfire Hazard Potential	20 points All or part of the area to be covered by the project(s) is/are located within an area of high or very high wildfire hazard potential and is properly documented.	Not applicable	0 points Area to be covered by the project(s) is/are located outside any area with high or very high wildfire hazard potential or is not documented properly.
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What Factors Influence High Scores

Detailed narratives including the following:

- How project will impact community immediately
- How project will impact community long term
- Plan for how funds will be spent
- Examples of prior incidents that the project would have been applicable
- Timeline / Project Plan looking forward
- Described how agency will partner with others
- Uses examples of prior and current partnerships

What Factors Influence Low Scores

- Lack of detail in descriptions
- Short narratives
- Does not define where money will be spent
- Does not use examples when listing accomplishments / collaboration
- Lacking clear plan for sustainability
- Does not include examples of landscape impacts and how the project will change the effects

CWDG Application and Portal Information

CWDG Application Process

- Contact your state/island/territory point of contact
- Request an application link
- UEI# and active sams.gov registration

Application Link



[Home](#) [Detail Sections](#) [Accounts](#)

Login: California/CSS

Proposal :: AK / Incomplete

Proposal Link: <proposal/496b83689db96ced54d1c8859765ecf014374284064dbc9d6abe2cc0ae4>

Actions :: [Proposals](#)

FY 2022 USDA Forest Service Community Wildfire Defense Grant Application	File Name			Update
	State: AK	Keyword:		
	Region:	Priority:		Id:
	Administration Information			
	Funds Requested:			
	Match:			
	Score:	Ranking:	Project Funding:	

Admin Section and Applicant Section

FY 2023 USDA Forest Service Community Wildfire Defense Grant Application		File Name		Update
		State: AK	Keyword:	
		Region:	Priority:	Id:
		Administration Information		
		Funds Requested:		
		Match:		
Score:	Ranking:	Project Funding:		

Proposal Cooperator [AK]		Update	
1	Cooperator Organization:	Community/Cooperator Organization	
	Contact Person:	Community/Cooperator Contact	
	Address:		
	City:	State:	ZIP Code:
	Phone: 000-000-0000	Email:	123@youremail.com

Applicant Information [AK]		Update	
1	Applicant:		
	Contact Person:		
	Address:		
	City:	State:	ZIP Code:
	Phone (work/cell):	Fax:	
	Email:		
	Federal Tax ID:	UEI:	

0 Points. 5000 Characters including spaces.

UEI# and Sams.gov Expiration Date

0 Points. 3000 Characters including spaces.

Provide the expiration date for your sams.gov Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number registration. Note: The UEI# and an active sams.gov registration are needed to apply for the grant.

UEI # and Sams.gov Expiration Date	Update

2

Project Information

Project Information		Update
3	Name of the Project:	TEST
	Community Name(s):	
	Counties:	
	Congressional District:	

GIS Coordinates	
3	Ref. Point Name:
	Lat/Long:
	Description:
	Ref. Point Name:
	Lat/Long:
	Description:
	Area Name:
	Boundary Lat/Longs:
	Description:
	Area Name:
	Boundary Lat/Longs:
	Description:

Brief Project Overview and Purpose

0 Points. 3000 Characters including spaces.

Provide a brief overview and purpose statement for the project, addressing the overall intent of this program to assist communities with planning and mitigating their risk against wildfire.

Brief Project Overview and Purpose	Update

4

Grant Component Type

0 Points. 3000 Characters including spaces.

Respond with the grant component type that applies to the application: (please select only one per application) 1.) Creating or Updating a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) that is more than five (5) years old. 2.) Project described in a CWPP that is less than ten (10) years old. Include the Name and Date of the CWPP. (See NOFO for CWPP alternative requirements such as Hazard Mitigation Plans)

	Grant Component Type	Update
5		

At-Risk Community

0 Points. 3000 Characters including spaces.

Please respond yes or no if the community is considered "at-risk" (please refer to the definition within the NOFO). Provide a web link to the verification source. (Note: At-Risk is a basic eligibility requirement of this grant opportunity. If the answer to this question is "no," do not proceed with the application process.)

Is your community considered "at-risk"	Update
<p>6</p>	

Roofing Code/ Ordinance

0 Points. 3000 Characters including spaces.

Do you currently have, or will you adopt prior to grant award, an ordinance or regulation that requires that roofs for new building construction, as well as the reroofing or replacement of a roof on existing buildings, adheres to standards that are similar to, or more stringent than, the roof construction standards established by the National Fire Protection Association or applicable model building code established by the International Code Council (this is not a requirement for eligibility but determines the source of funds).

Roofing Code/Ordinance	Update

7

Grant Waiver

--

0 Points. 1000 Characters including spaces.

Are you planning on applying for a grant match waiver based on the project serving an underserved community? Please respond yes or no. If yes, include sufficient supporting documentation in your waiver request to demonstrate that the community is disadvantaged by either using the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) or by meeting the Low-Income definition.

	Grant Waiver	Update
8		

Project Description

10 Points. 9000 Characters including spaces.

Clearly define the scope of the project, what the project proposes to accomplish, why it is important, and how it supports the Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and relevant State Forest Action Plan (or equivalent Tribal plan). Provide a comprehensive but succinct overview of the proposed project that includes basic details of who is doing what, where, and why this is important. Explain how the project is described in a CWPP (or acceptable alternative as described in the NOFO). Specify if benefits to traditionally underserved or marginalized audiences are a component of the work.

Project Description	Update

Applicant Budget

Applicant Budget [AK]				Update
	Grant	Match		TOTAL
	Funds Requested	Applicant	Non-Federal Contributors	Total Project Cost
10	Personnel / Labor:			
	Fringe Benefits:			
	Travel:			
	Equipment:			
	Supplies:			
	Contractual:			
	Other:			
	Indirect Costs:			
	TOTAL:			

Project Budget Explanation

10 Points. 5000 Characters including spaces.

Provide any additional remarks needed to clarify your budget request. Clearly explain how the budget will be spent by line item, sources of match, and how expenditures are applicable and relevant to the goals and objectives of the project. The budget narrative must describe how the grant funds will be spent with specific detail for each grant expenditure. It must describe how expenditures are applicable and relevant to the goals and objectives of the project. A project proposal must also show how the applicant will meet matching requirements or qualify for a waiver. If qualified for a waiver, you do not need to show funding in the match column.

Project Budget Explanation	Update

Accomplishments

10 Points. 8000 Characters including spaces.

Clearly define how the project will be accomplished, including at least one of the quantitative accomplishment measures provided in the measurable outcomes table. Identify measurable outcomes and timelines (are the proposed activities clear and achievable, goals defined, outcomes measurable, # of acres treated, # of education/outreach programs, planning/assessment efforts clearly described, etc.). Include metrics for measuring progress towards the accomplishment(s). Describe any applicable less quantifiable return on investments.

Accomplishments	Update

Collaboration

10 Points. 8000 Characters including spaces.

The application should clearly define collaborative elements, including support from partners, agencies, landowners, and communities. A project proposal must identify partners that will be actively engaged in carrying out the project and add value to project planning and implementation, with a description of each partners role. Collaboration may be qualitative in nature, and the contribution of a partner may be more than the number of partners involved. 1.) Identify partners that have demonstrated a commitment and add value towards planning and carrying out the project. 2.) Describe what these partners and collaborators contribute. 3.) Demonstrate residual positive benefits as a result of collaboration related to capacity, skills, knowledge, infrastructure, or a replicable approach, among others.

Collaboration	Update

Landscape Impacts

10 Points. 8000 Characters including spaces.

Clearly define the scale of the project, including relationships with past, present, or future projects that, when combined, offer more benefits than when taken individually. Describe the overall landscape and land ownership that the project influences in addition to the defined project area. Specify areas targeted for planning or mitigation. Clearly describe each proposed activity and include details on where they will be occurring. Include the approximate number of structures that will benefit from the proposed action.

Landscape Impacts	Update

Project Sustainability

10 Points. 8000 Characters including spaces.

Clearly define how or if the project will sustain itself after the grant period is over. Describe any plans or steps that will be taken to continue the project benefits beyond the life of the grant as well as who or what organizations are responsible.

Project Sustainability	Update

Low-Income Community

10 Points. 3000 Characters including spaces.

Does this project benefit a low-income community as defined in the NOFO? Please respond yes or no. Provide a description and web link to the verification source.

	Does this project benefit a low-income community?	Update
1 6		

Severe Disaster Impact

10 Points. 3000 Characters including spaces.

Has this community been impacted by a severe disaster within the previous 10 years? Please respond yes or no. Provide a description and web link to the verification source. Clearly demonstrate and document whether the project benefits a community that has been impacted by a severe disaster within the previous ten (10) years, and clearly exhibit how the severe disaster increased wildfire risk and/or hazard and was of a scale and scope to have had landscape impacts (please see full definition later in this NOFO). Note: simply listing a disaster will not suffice; you must explain how this disaster has impacted the community's wildfire risk and hazard (not all disasters will qualify for points if it cannot be shown they have influenced the community's risk or hazard).

	Has this community been impacted by a severe disaster?	Update
1 7		

Wildfire Hazard Potential

20 Points. 3000 Characters including spaces.

Please respond yes or no, if this project is located within an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential as defined by a state, regional, tribal, territorial, or national wildfire hazard potential assessment. Provide a description and web link to the verification source.

	Does the project location have wildfire hazard potential?	Update
1 8		

Review & Submit



Home Detail Sections Accounts

Login: Halie

Application :: AK / Test

Ready to Submit

Actions :: Applications :: Review Assignments

FY 2023 USDA Forest Service Community Wildfire Defense Grant Application	File Name		Update
	State: AK	Keyword: Test	
	Region:	Priority:	Id:
	Administration Information		
	Funds Requested:		\$200
	Match:		\$200
	Score:	Ranking:	Project Funding: \$400

1	Proposal Cooperator [AK]				Update
	Cooperator Organization:	Test			
	Contact Person:	Test			
	Address:	123			
	City:	Test	State: Test	ZIP Code: 123	
	Phone:	123	Email:	hmiyazawa@westernforesters.org	

	Applicant Information [AK]				Update
--	-----------------------------------	--	--	--	------------------------

Grants & Agreements

Grants & Agreements

- Budget details
- Cost share/match
- Equipment
- Buy American
- Davis-Bacon wages for construction
- Roads
- Subawards – requirements and reporting
- Sam.gov and risk

Grants & Agreements Access Branch Support

Goal:

- Provide pre and post award technical and administrative assistance to external partners
- Develop tools, resources and programs to improve access to Forest Service funding opportunities for traditionally underrepresented communities

Grants & Agreements Access Branch Support

Team:

- Melissa Aulisio, Branch Chief
- Rebecca Buxton, Outreach Collaboration Specialist
- Aaron Stout, Grants Management Specialist
- Robin Taylor Davenport, Outreach Collaboration Specialist
- Heather Mansukhani, Access Coordinator
- Vi Ta, Program Analyst

Contact:

- Access Mailbox: accessga@usda.gov
- Booking site for external partners: [consultation site](#)

CWDG Application: National Tools

Submitting Applications – CWDG Tool

An easy-to-use, online dashboard provides data to include in your CWDG application.

www.wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool

- ✓ Immediate information about eligibility status
- ✓ Populates key criteria (wildfire risk, low-income, and severe disaster declarations)
- ✓ Cost-share waiver eligibility
- ✓ GIS coordinates
- ✓ Copy and paste options to easily populate your application

CWDG Tool Video



How to use the
**Community Wildfire
Defense Grants Tool**

CWDG Online Tool – Step 1: Search



The screenshot shows the 'Community Wildfire Defense Grants' search interface. At the top left is the USDA Forest Service logo. To its right is the title 'Community Wildfire Defense Grants' and the subtitle 'Find eligibility and scoring information for your community.' Below this is a search bar containing the text 'Idaho C'. A red arrow points to the search results dropdown menu, which lists 'Idaho City, ID' and 'Idaho County, ID'. Below the search bar are three sections: 'About Community Wildfire Defense Grants', 'About the data on this website', and a footer with copyright and disclaimer information.

 **Community Wildfire Defense Grants**
Find eligibility and scoring information for your community.

🔍 Idaho C

- 🏠 Idaho City, ID
- 🏛️ Idaho County, ID

About Community Wildfire Defense Grants

The U.S. Forest Service’s Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) program is intended to help at-risk communities and Tribes plan for and reduce the risk of wildfire. The program, which was authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, prioritizes at-risk communities in areas identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential, that are low-income, or that have been impacted by a severe disaster that increases the risk of wildfire. [Read more](#) about the CWDG program.

About the data on this website

The data on this website were assembled for the CWDG program by Headwaters Economics and the Wildfire Risk to Communities team. This information is intended to help communities complete grant applications and for reviewers to score applications. Complete methodology for this dataset can be [found here](#).

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USDA FOREST SERVICE

CWDG Online Tool – Step 2: Eligibility



Community Wildfire Defense Grants

Find eligibility and scoring information for your community.

Idaho County, ID



Idaho County, ID, is eligible to apply for Community Wildfire Defense Grants.

Notice of Funding Opportunity

Use the copy button in each section below to copy and paste information into your application.

Eligibility



Yes. Idaho County, ID, is considered "at risk." It has a higher Wildfire Risk to Homes than 98.7% of counties in the nation.

(Source: Wildfire Risk to Communities. Scott JH, Gilbertson-Day JW, Moran C, Dillon GK, Short KC, & Vogler KC. (2020). Wildfire Risk to Communities: Spatial datasets of landscape-wide wildfire risk components for the United States. Fort Collins, CO: Forest Service Research Data Archive. Updated 25 November 2020. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)

More information

CWDG Online Tool – Step 2: Eligibility



Community Wildfire Defense Grants

Find eligibility and scoring information for your community.

Meeker County, MN



Meeker County, MN, may be eligible to apply for Community Wildfire Defense Grants.

Notice of Funding Opportunity

Use the copy button in each section below to copy and paste information into your application.

Eligibility



Meeker County, MN, does not have moderate or higher wildfire risk according to national datasets. It may still be eligible for CWDG grants using state or local risk data. Find additional wildfire risk data:

- State and local agencies
- [Wildfire Hazard Explorer](#)
- [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)
(Look for "Projected wildfire risk" under the "Climate Change" section)

More information



CWDG Online Tool – Step 2: Eligibility



Community Wildfire Defense Grants

Find eligibility and scoring information for your community.

Meeker County, MN



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- [Wildfire Hazard Explorer](#)
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(Look for "Projected wildfire risk" under the "Climate Change" section)

More information



CWDG Online Tool – Step 2: Eligibility

✓ **Idaho County, ID**, is eligible to apply for Community Wildfire Defense Grants.

○ Notice of Funding Opportunity

Use the copy button in each section below to copy and paste information into your application.

Eligibility

Eligibility



Yes. Idaho County, ID, is considered “at risk.” It has a higher Wildfire Risk to Homes than 98.7% of counties in the nation.

(Source: Wildfire Risk to Communities. Scott JH, Gilbertson-Day JW, Moran C, Dillon GK, Short KC, & Vogler KC. (2020). Wildfire Risk to Communities: Spatial datasets of landscape-wide wildfire risk components for the United States. Fort Collins, CO: Forest Service Research Data Archive. Updated 25 November 2020. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)



○ More information ^

To be considered “at risk” and eligible for Community Wildfire Defense Grants, a community must have at least moderate wildfire risk. This is defined as having ≥40th percentile Wildfire Risk to Homes, as compared to the state or nation, or having ≥67th percentile Wildfire Hazard Potential as compared to the state or nation. This tool will provide the highest qualifying variable from the national dataset, [Wildfire Risk to Communities](#). You can also use state or local wildfire risk data to demonstrate eligibility.



CWDG Online Tool – Step 2: Eligibility

✓ **Idaho County, ID**, is eligible to apply for Community Wildfire Defense Grants.

○ Notice of Funding Opportunity

Use the copy button in each section below to copy and paste information into your application.

Eligibility

Eligibility



Yes. Idaho County, ID, is considered “at risk.” It has a higher Wildfire Risk to Homes than 98.7% of counties in the nation.

(Source: Wildfire Risk to Communities. Scott JH, Gilbertson-Day JW, Moran C, Dillon GK, Short KC, & Vogler KC. (2020). Wildfire Risk to Communities: Spatial datasets of landscape-wide wildfire risk components for the United States. Fort Collins, CO: Forest Service Research Data Archive. Updated 25 November 2020. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)







○ More information ^

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CWDG Online Tool – Step 3: GIS Coordinates


GIS Coordinates

 Latitude  Longitude 

[ⓘ More information](#) 


CWDG Online Tool – Step 4: Scoring (Low-Income)

Scoring

 **Low-Income County** 10 points

Yes. Idaho County, ID, meets the "low income" criteria. It has a median household income of \$47,508. In order to qualify in Idaho, locations must have a median household income less than \$55,217, which is 80% of the national median household income.


(Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2021). American Community Survey. Washington, DC. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)

[More information](#) 

The CWDG application allocates 10 points to projects that benefit a low-income community. "Low-income" is defined as having a median household income less than 80% of the state's median household income.


...or

Scoring

 **Low-Income County** 10 points



No. Meeker County, MN, does not meet the "low income" criteria. It has a median household income of \$67,099. In order to qualify in Minnesota, locations must have a median household income less than \$62,165, which is 80% of Minnesota's median household income.

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2021). American Community Survey. Washington, DC. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/27093>)



[More information](#) 

CWDG Online Tool – Step 4: Scoring (Low-Income)



Scoring

 **Low-Income County** 10 points 

Yes. Idaho County, ID, meets the "low income" criteria. It has a median household income of \$47,508. In order to qualify in Idaho, locations must have a median household income less than \$55,217, which is 80% of the national median household income.
(Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2021). American Community Survey. Washington, DC. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)



 More information 

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



...or

Scoring

 **Low-Income County** 10 points 

No. Meeker County, MN, does not meet the "low income" criteria. It has a median household income of \$67,099. In order to qualify in Minnesota, locations must have a median household income less than \$62,165, which is 80% of Minnesota's median household income.
(Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2021). American Community Survey. Washington, DC. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/27093>)

 More information 

CWDG Online Tool – Step 4: Scoring (Severe Disasters)



Severe Disaster Impacts 10 points

Use the table below to find severe disaster(s). Explain in your application how previous disasters have impacted wildfire risk in your project area. The FEMA identification link will provide more information about each disaster.

Declaration Title	Location	Year	Incident Type	FEMA Identification
Covid-19	Idaho (County)	2020	Biological	EM-3467-ID
Covid-19 Pandemic	Idaho (County)	2020	Biological	DR-4534-ID
Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, And Mudslides	Idaho (County)	2019	Flood	DR-4443-ID
Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, And Mudslides	Idaho (County)	2017	Flood	DR-4313-ID
Clearwater Lawyer Branch Fire Complex	Idaho (County)	2015	Fire	FM-5099-ID
Tepee Springs Fire	Idaho (County)	2015	Fire	FM-5110-ID

There may be unmatched disasters for your location; [click here to download spreadsheet.](#)

(Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency. (2023). Disaster Declarations Summary. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)



More information



CWDG Online Tool – Step 4: Scoring (Severe Disasters)



Severe Disaster Impacts 10 points

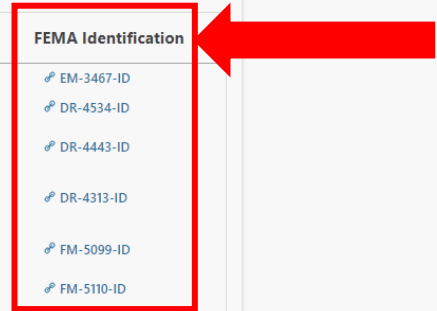
Use the table below to find severe disaster(s). Explain in your application how previous disasters have impacted wildfire risk in your project area. The FEMA identification link will provide more information about each disaster.

Declaration Title	Location	Year	Incident Type	FEMA Identification
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Covid-19 Pandemic	Idaho (County)	2020	Biological	DR-4534-ID
Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, And Mudslides	Idaho (County)	2019	Flood	DR-4443-ID
Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, And Mudslides	Idaho (County)	2017	Flood	DR-4313-ID
Clearwater Lawyer Branch Fire Complex	Idaho (County)	2015	Fire	FM-5099-ID
Tepee Springs Fire	Idaho (County)	2015	Fire	FM-5110-ID

There may be unmatched disasters for your location; [click here to download spreadsheet.](#)

(Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency. (2023). Disaster Declarations Summary. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)

More information





Severe Disaster Impacts 10 points

Use the table below to find severe disaster(s). Explain in your application how previous disasters have impacted wildfire risk in your project area. The FEMA identification link will provide more information about each disaster.

Declaration Title	Location	Year	Incident Type	FEMA Identification
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Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, And Mudslides	Idaho (County)	2019	Flood	DR-4443-ID
Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, And Mudslides	Idaho (County)	2017	Flood	DR-4313-ID
Clearwater Lawyer Branch Fire Complex	Idaho (County)	2015	Fire	FM-5099-ID
Tepee Springs Fire	Idaho (County)	2015	Fire	FM-5110-ID

There may be unmatched disasters for your location; [click here to download spreadsheet.](#)

(Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency. (2023). Disaster Declarations Summary. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)



More information



The CWDG application allocates 10 points to communities that have been impacted by a severe disaster in the previous 10 years. The application must demonstrate how the disaster increased wildfire risk and was of a scale and scope to have had landscape impacts.

Previous disasters may affect wildfire risk in different ways. Your application will need to explain how previous disasters increased wildfire risk in your project area. For example:

Wildfires. Depending on the severity of past wildfires, risk may actually decrease because the vegetative fuels are consumed. In some cases, however, risk can increase after a wildfire because of a short-term increase in fine fuels. After a wildfire, nonnative vegetation can grow and is often less fire-resistant.

Drought. Drought can increase wildfire risk by reducing fuel moisture. Human-caused ignitions are more likely to lead to wildfires during droughts.

Floods, storms, and wind. Following severe storms, downed trees and vegetation increase the continuity and accumulation of fuels and flammable debris and, therefore, wildfire risk. Excessive precipitation can cause more vegetation to grow, which can become fuel for wildfire when it dries out later in the season. Flooding and storms can damage roads, bridges, municipal water systems, and other critical infrastructure needed to respond to wildfires.



CWDG Online Tool – Step 4: Scoring (Wildfire Hazard)



Wildfire Hazard Potential 20 points

Yes. Idaho County, ID, meets the "wildfire hazard potential" criteria and has a higher wildfire risk to homes than 98.7% of counties in the nation.

(Source: Wildfire Risk to Communities. Scott JH, Gilbertson-Day JW, Moran C, Dillon GK, Short KC, & Vogler KC. (2020). Wildfire Risk to Communities: Spatial datasets of landscape-wide wildfire risk components for the United States. Fort Collins, CO: Forest Service Research Data Archive. Updated 25 November 2020. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)

More information

...or



Wildfire Hazard Potential 20 points

Meeker County, MN, does not have high or very high wildfire hazard potential according to national datasets. It may still qualify using state or local risk data.

Find additional wildfire risk data:

- State and local agencies
- [Wildfire Hazard Explorer](#)
- [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)

Look for "Projected wildfire risk" under the section called "Climate change"

More information

CWDG Online Tool – Step 5: Cost-Share Waiver

Cost-Share Waiver



Idaho County, ID, is considered an underserved community and eligible to apply for a cost-share waiver. It is identified as "disadvantaged" in the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool.

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2021). American Community Survey. Washington, DC. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/16049>)

More information

Cost-Share Waiver



Mineral County, CO, is considered an underserved county and is eligible to apply for a cost-share waiver. It has a median household income of \$55,556. In order to qualify in Colorado, locations must have a median household income less than \$64,147, which is 80% of Colorado's median household income.

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2021). American Community Survey. Washington, DC. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/8079>)

More information

...Or

Cost-Share Waiver



Meeker County, MN, is not considered an underserved county and is not eligible to apply for a cost-share waiver. It is not identified as "disadvantaged" in the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool and does not meet the low-income criteria.

(Source: Council on Environmental Quality. (2022). Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, version 1.0; and U.S. Census Bureau. (2021). American Community Survey. Washington, DC. As reported by the CWDG Data Tool, <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool/27093>)

More information

www.wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool



Community Wildfire Defense Grants

Find eligibility and scoring information for your community.



About Community Wildfire Defense Grants

The U.S. Forest Service's Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) program is intended to help at-risk communities and Tribes plan for and reduce the risk of wildfire. The program, which was authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, prioritizes at-risk communities in areas identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential, that are low-income, or that have been impacted by a severe disaster that increases the risk of wildfire. [Read more](#) about the CWDG program.

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USDA FOREST SERVICE

National Tools

- CWDG Tool: <https://wildfirerisk.org/cwdg-tool>
- Council of Environmental Quality Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool:
<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#3/33.47/-97.5>
- **Updated and approved tools will be posted on CWDG website:** [Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program | US Forest Service \(usda.gov\)](#)
 - FAQ's
 - Samples of high/low scoring questions
 - Webinar Recordings

Proposed Timeline of CWDG Program

- 8/4/23 - 8/15/23 – Applicant Webinars (4)
- 8/30/23 - 10/31/23 - Bi-Weekly Office Hours
- 10/31/23 – Close application period
- 12/01/23 – Have round 2 applications verified
- 01/31/24 – Have round 2 applications scored
- 02/16/24 – Final list of scored and ranked applications

Questions?