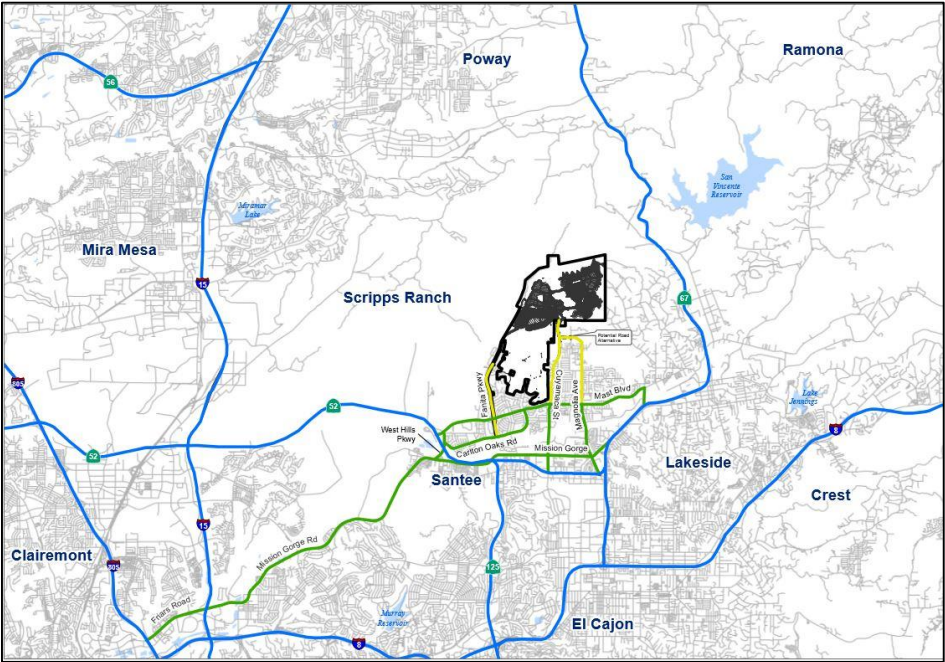


Appendix P2. Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan

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**Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan
for the
Fanita Ranch Community**



Prepared for:

Fanita Ranch Community

Prepared by:

DUDEK

605 Third Street
Encinitas, California 92024

MAY 2020

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

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Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

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- A “Ready, Set, Go!” Personal Wildland Fire Action Guide
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Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

1 QUICK REFERENCE - WILDLAND FIRE EVACUATION PLAN

NOTE: Pages 1 through 6 are the focus of the homeowner evacuation educational outreach efforts. These pages will be available on the community's Homeowners Association (HOA) Website and provided to each homeowner at change of property ownership. The remainder of this evacuation plan provides more detailed analysis and background information including this plan's consistency with standard San Diego County Office of Emergency Services evacuation planning.

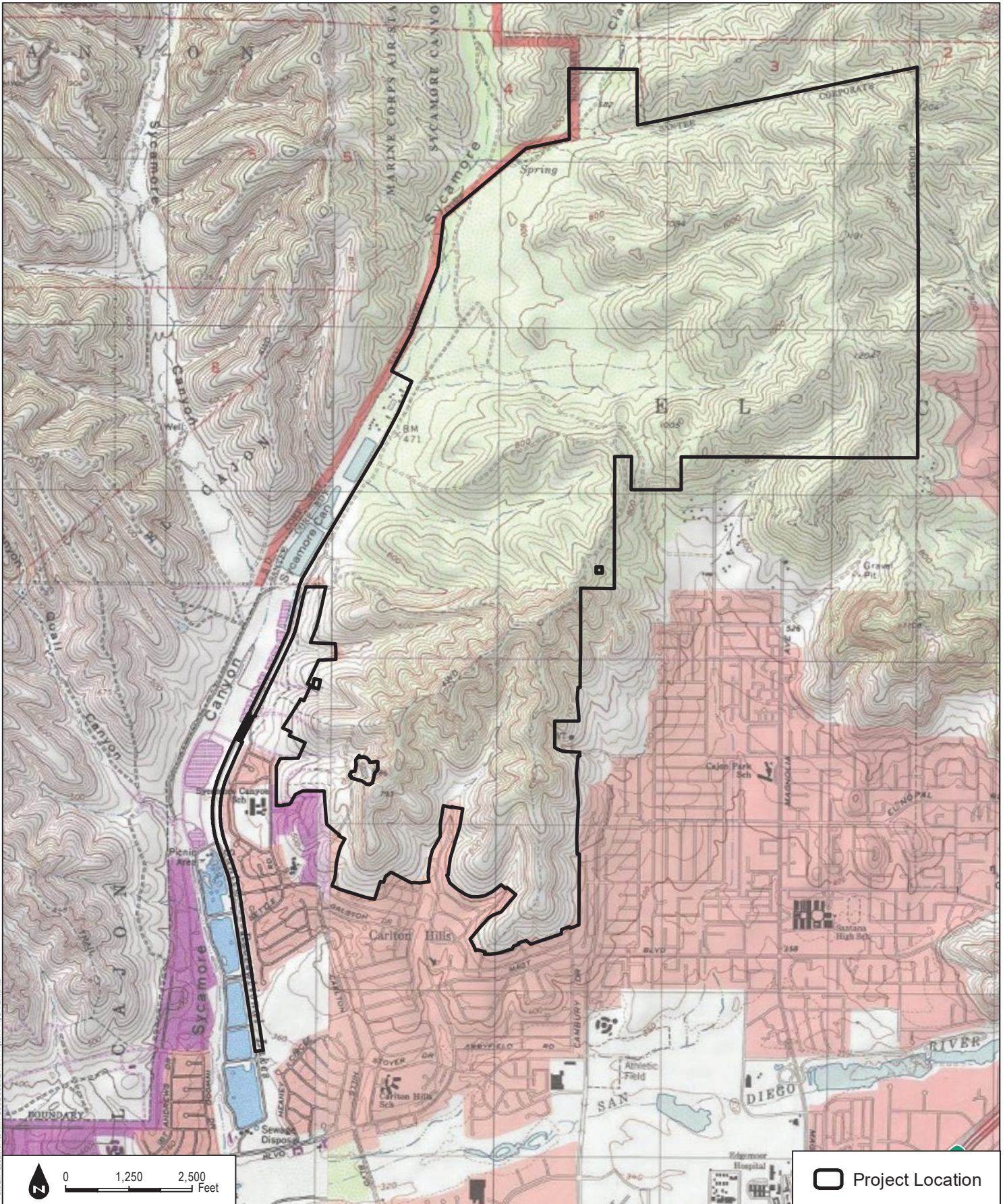
Figure 1 is the Fanita Ranch community map and Figure 2 displays the Emergency Evacuation Routes available to the Fanita Ranch Community. The exhibit highlights the community's interior roads along with primary access points and primary roads and major traffic corridors leading to off-site areas.

The available evacuation routes for the residents and guests of the Fanita Ranch project are (See Figure 2):

1. **Egress to the south via Fanita Parkway** – This is one of the primary Fanita Ranch access road and connects with Mast Boulevard and Carlton Oaks Road, both of which offers travel options to the west and east into Santee or onto State Route (SR) 52 and SR-67. During an evacuation, it would be anticipated that roughly the western 50% of the Fanita Commons and Orchard Village and the northern 50% of the Vineyard Village would utilize this road to exit the site (this may vary significantly based on the type of evacuation event and law enforcement directives).
2. **Egress to the south via Cuyamaca Street or Magnolia Avenue** – Both of these are additional primary access roads, which connect to Mast Boulevard, Mission Gorge Road, and SR 52. Mast Boulevard allows travel to the west and east into the Cities of Santee and Lakeside and connects with SR 52 and 67. Mission Gorge road runs parallel with SR 52, continuing southwest through Santee, eventually connecting with Interstate 15 (I-15) and Interstate 805 (I-805). Evacuation traffic from the eastern 50% of the Fanita Commons and Orchard Village and roughly 75% of the Vineyard Village would be anticipated to utilize these routes for evacuation (this may vary significantly based on the type of evacuation event and law enforcement directives). Evacuating traffic would potentially have the option of continuing south on Cuyamaca or Magnolia once south of the Project's boundaries. Note that the Magnolia Avenue connection will be constructed by the 1500th certificate of occupancy. The available evacuation routes prior to the Magnolia connection (Fanita Parkway and Cuyamaca Street) would meet the 2019 California Fire Code, Appendix D and the Santee Fire Code requirement for multiple access points, and therefore, are considered adequate for emergency purposes for the interim period until the 1500th certificate of occupancy.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

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SOURCE: SOURCE: USGS 7.5-Minute Series San Vicente Reservoir, Poway, El Cajon, & La Mesa Quadrangles

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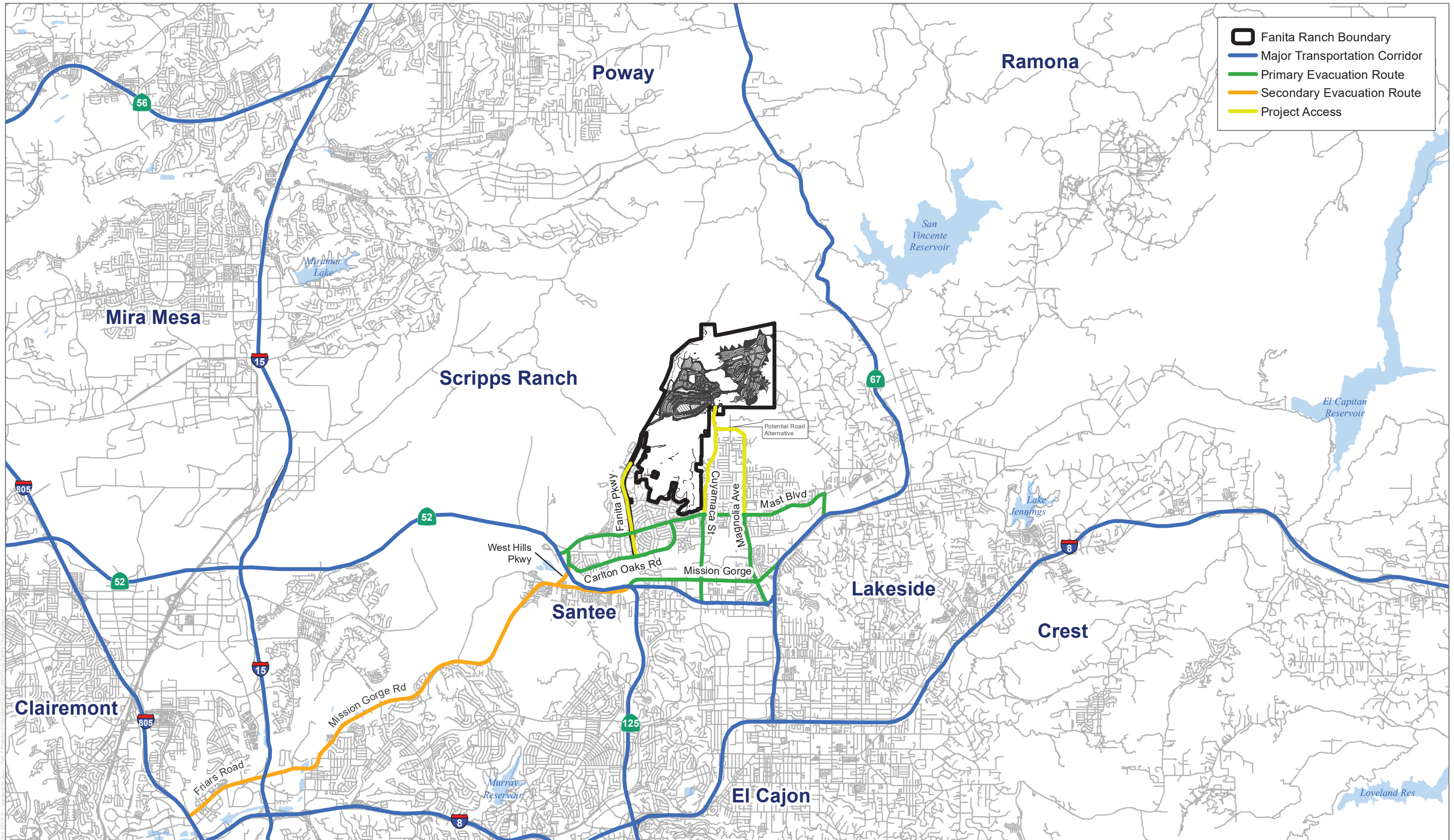
FANITA RANCH FIRE PROTECTION PLAN

FIGURE 1
Vicinity Map

Date: 2/25/2019 11:51:10 AM Project: Fanita Ranch Fire Protection Plan File Path: Z:\Projects\101101\MAPS\DOCUMENTS\FPP\FPP_02_Vicinity.mxd

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

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- Fanita Ranch Boundary
- Major Transportation Corridor
- Primary Evacuation Route
- Secondary Evacuation Route
- Project Access

SOURCE: SANDAG, 2017; HUNSAKER 2018



FIGURE 2

Fire Evacuation Plan

Fanita Ranch Conceptual Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan

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Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

1.1 Nearest Medical Facilities

Sharp Grossmont Hospital

5555 Grossmont Center Drive
La Mesa, California 91942

Directions:

- Mast Blvd west to SR 52 (east)
- SR 125 south to I-8 west
- Jackson Dr. exit
- Straight at light to Murray Dr. (right)
- Left on Grossmont Center Dr.
- Right on Healthcare Dr.

Alternate route

- I-15 north to Ted Williams Parkway – eastbound
- Left on Pomerado Road (northbound)
- Hospital is on your right

Alvarado Hospital

6655 Alvarado Road
San Diego, California 92120

Directions:

- Mast Blvd west to SR 52 east
- SR 125 south to I-8 west
- Exit 70th St./Lake Murray Blvd
- Left to Lake Murray Blvd.
- Left on Lake Murray Blvd.
- Right on Alvarado Rd.
- Hospital on Left

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

See also Santee Urgent Care facilities:

AFC Urgent Care
10538 Mission Gorge Road, Suite 100
Santee, California 92071

U.S. HealthWorks Medical Group
9745 Prospect Avenue, Suite 100
Santee, California 92071

1.2 Register to Receive Emergency Alerts

The Fanita Ranch community residents are strongly advised to register their land lines, mobile phone numbers and email addresses with Reverse 9-1-1, AlertSanDiego system (<http://www.readysandiego.org/AlertSanDiego/>). In the event of a disaster, the San Diego County Dispatch Center has the ability to activate the system at any time to relay important instructions. The City of Santee is close to several local media markets and these media outlets will also be a good source of information, via television and radio, on what the emergency is and how residents should respond.

1.3 Get Involved in Community Readiness

Fanita Ranch residents are encouraged to form a volunteer Neighborhood Emergency Response Team with Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) experience (https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/oes/community/oes_jl_CERT.html). In addition, the community HOA will organize annual evacuation public outreach, engage directly with organizations such as Fire Safe Council of San Diego County, as well as maintain a fire safe page on the community Web page, including this Emergency Evacuation Plan and links to important citizen preparedness information.

This evacuation plan is prepared specifically for the Fanita Ranch Community and focuses on wildland fire evacuations, although many of the concepts and protocols will be applicable to other emergency situations. Ultimately, this plan will be used by the Fanita Ranch HOA to educate community residents as to their evacuation approach during wildfires and other similar emergencies. It is important for the Fanita Ranch residents to understand the importance of being prepared, so if/when the time comes where evacuation is necessary, they will be able to calmly implement their evacuation plan. Some actions the community residents can do in advance include:

- Follow the “Ready, Set, Go!” model developed for wildfire evacuations.
 - Create an escape plan from the residence, as well as an escape route once outside of the home.
 - Create a car emergency kit, including cell phone charger, flashlight, jumper cables, water, food.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

- Gather important paperwork, including birth and marriage certificates, account documents, passports, Social Security cards, and any other important documents.
- As time allows, make sure to secure your home by locking all doors and windows, and unplugging electrical equipment, such as appliances and electronics.

Sample emergency preparedness resources available to the Fanita Ranch residents are provided in Appendix A (“Ready, Set, Go!” Individual Action Plan) and Appendices B-1 through B-4 (Family Disaster Checklists and Communications Plans), and residents are encouraged to become familiar with the concepts detailed at the following Websites:

1. “Ready, Set, Go!” Personal Action plan:
<https://www.fire.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/RSG-Booklet.pdf>
2. Red Cross Emergency Planning:
<http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/make-a-plan>
3. Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness:
<https://www.ready.gov/hazardous-materials-incidents>
4. Building a disaster kit:
<http://www.redcross.org/get-help/prepare-for-emergencies/be-red-cross-ready/get-a-kit>
5. Making a Plan Checklist:
<https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>
6. Family Communication Plan:
https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1440449346150-1ff18127345615d8b7e1effb4752b668/Family_Comm_Plan_508_20150820.pdf

1.4 Evacuation Plan Purpose and Limitations

It must be recognized that wildfire and other emergencies are often fluid events and that the need for evacuations are typically determined by on-scene first responders or by a collaboration between first responders and designated emergency response teams, including Office of Emergency Services and the Incident Command (IC) established for larger emergency events. As such, and consistent with all emergency evacuation plans, this Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan is to be considered a tool that supports existing pre-plans and provides for citizens who are familiar with the evacuation protocol, but is subservient to emergency event-specific directives provided by agencies managing the event.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

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Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

2 BACKGROUND

This Fanita Ranch Evacuation Plan has been prepared for a wildland fire threatening the community based on the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization and County of San Diego Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) – Evacuation Annex.

To establish a framework for implementing well-coordinated evacuations, the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services (OES) developed an Evacuation Annex Q as part of the Area EOP (San Diego County 2014). Large-scale evacuations are complex, multi-jurisdictional efforts that require coordination between many agencies and organizations. Emergency services and other public safety organizations play key roles in ensuring that an evacuation is effective, efficient, and safe. San Diego County OES is charged with emergency management and is responsible for maintaining situational awareness of threats that may necessitate a citizen evacuation. OES coordinates with cities during emergency events.

Evacuation is a process by which people are moved from a place where there is immediate or anticipated danger, to a safer place, and offered temporary shelter facilities. When the threat passes, evacuees are able to return to their normal activities, or to make suitable alternative arrangements.

Evacuation during a wildfire is not necessarily directed by the fire agency, except in specific areas where fire personnel may enact evacuations on-scene. The SDSO Department, California Highway Patrol (CHP), and other cooperating law enforcement agencies have primary responsibility for evacuations. These agencies work closely within the Unified Incident Command System, with the County Office of Emergency Services, and responding fire department personnel who assess fire behavior and spread, which should ultimately guide evacuation decisions. To that end, SDSO, Santee Fire Department (SFD), Public Works, Planning, Emergency Services Departments, and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), amongst others, have worked with a County Pre-Fire Mitigation Task Force to address wildland fire evacuation planning for San Diego County.

Every evacuation scenario will include some level of unique challenges, constraints, and fluid conditions that require interpretation, fast decision making, and alternatives. For example, one roadway incident that results in blockage of evacuating vehicles may require short-term or long-term changes to the evacuation process. Risk is considered high when evacuees are evacuating late, and fire encroachment is imminent. Risk is considered highest when occurring during a short-notice evacuation, and fire encroachment is imminent. This hypothetical scenario highlights the importance of continuing to train responding agencies, model various scenarios, educate the public, and take a very conservative approach to evacuation decision timelines as well as providing contingency plans.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

Equally as important, the evacuation procedures should be regularly updated with lessons learned from actual evacuation events, as they were following the 2003, 2007, 2014, 2016, and 2017 San Diego County fires. The authors of this Evacuation Plan recommend that occasional updates are provided, especially following lessons learned from actual incidents, as new technologies become available that would aid in the evacuation process, and as changing landscapes and development patterns occur within and adjacent the Fanita Ranch project that may impact how evacuation is accomplished. At the time of this plan's preparation, there is no encompassing emergency evacuation plan for the SFD.

As demonstrated during large and localized evacuations occurring throughout San Diego County over the last 15 years, an important component to successful evacuation is early assessment of the situation and early notification via managed evacuation declarations. San Diego County utilizes early warning and informational programs to help meet these important factors. Among the methods available to citizens for emergency information are: radio, television, social media/internet, neighborhood patrol car public address notifications, and Reverse 9-1-1.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

3 SAN DIEGO COUNTY EVACUATION PLANNING SUMMARY

This Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan incorporates concepts and protocols practiced throughout San Diego County. The San Diego County Evacuation Annex Q (2014) follows basic protocols set forth in the County's Operation Area Emergency Operations Plan and the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement, which dictate who is responsible for an evacuation effort and how regional resources will be requested and coordinated.

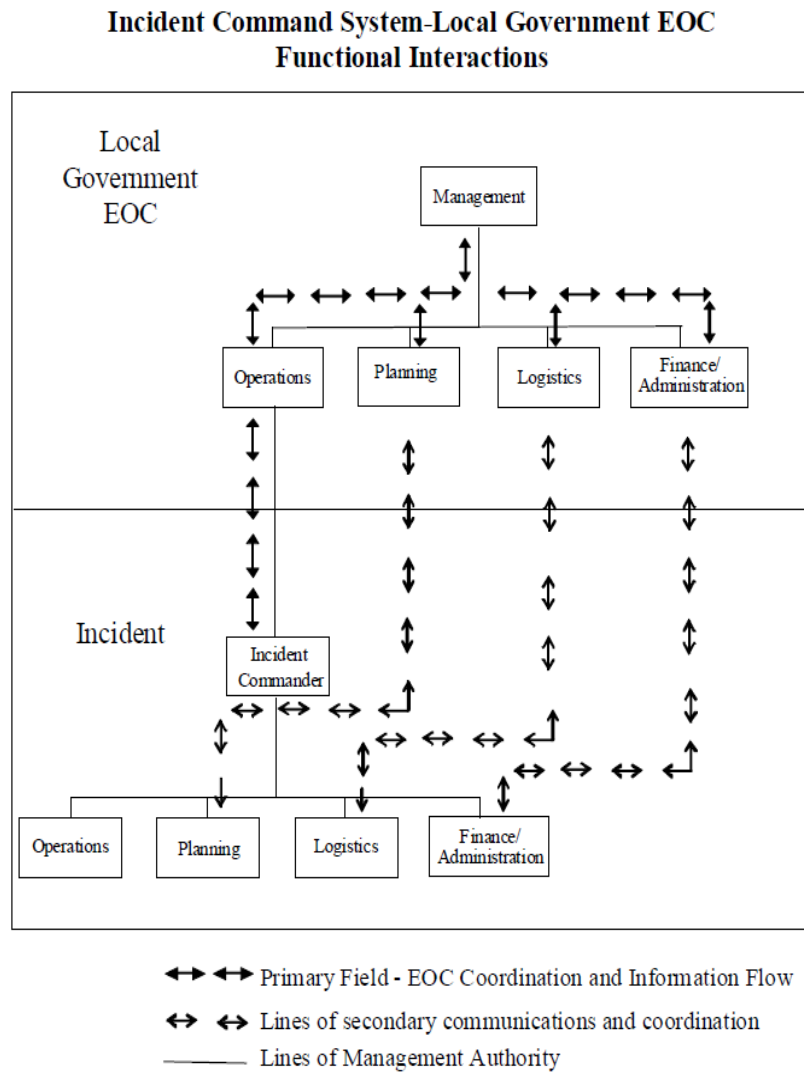
First responders are responsible for determining initial protective actions before EOCs and emergency management personnel have an opportunity to convene and gain situational awareness. Initial protective actions are shared/communicated to local EOCs and necessary support agencies as soon as possible to ensure an effective, coordinated evacuation. Figure 3 summarizes the functional interactions of local government EOC under the Incident Command System.

During an evacuation effort, the designated County Evacuation Coordinator is the Sheriff, who is also the Law Enforcement Coordinator. The Evacuation Coordinator will be assisted by other law enforcement and support agencies. Law enforcement agencies, highway/road/street departments, and public and private transportation providers will conduct evacuation operations. Procurement, regulation, and allocation of resources will be accomplished by those designated. Evacuation operations will be conducted by the following agencies:

- County of San Diego Sheriff's Department
- Fire and Rescue
- County Health and Human Services Agency
- Department of Animal Services,
- Department of Planning and Development Services
- Department of Environmental Health
- Department of General Services
- Department of Public Works
- Department of Agriculture, Weights, and Measures
- Department of Parks and Recreation

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

Figure 3. Incident Command System-Local Government EOC Functional Interactions



Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

The following information has been largely taken verbatim from the San Diego County Evacuation Annex:

3.1 Evacuation Objectives

The overall objectives of emergency evacuation operations and notifications are to:

- Expedite the movement of persons from hazardous areas;
- Institute access control measures to prevent unauthorized persons from entering vacated, or partially vacated areas;
- Provide for evacuation to appropriate transportation points, evacuation points, and shelters;
- Provide adequate means of transportation for persons with disabilities, the elderly, other persons with access and functional needs, and persons without vehicles;
- Provide for the procurement, allocation, and use of necessary transportation and law enforcement resources by means of mutual aid or other agreements;
- Control evacuation traffic;
- Account for the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals prior to, during, and following a major disaster or emergency;
- Provide initial notification, ongoing, and re-entry communications to the public through the Joint Information Center (JIC); and
- Assure the safe re-entry of the evacuated persons.

The SDSO is the lead agency for evacuations of the unincorporated areas of San Diego County, including the SFD and the Fanita Ranch project. The SDSO, as part of a Unified Command, assesses and evaluates the need for evacuations, and orders evacuations according to established procedures. Additionally, as part of the Unified Command, the SDSO identifies available and appropriate evacuation routes and coordinate evacuation traffic management with the (Caltrans), the CHP, other supporting agencies, and jurisdictions.

The decision to evacuate an area is not made lightly and there is a significant impact to public safety and the economy. The following process describes how emergency evacuation decisions are coordinated, allowing emergency managers and other supporting response organizations to make collaborative decisions.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

3.2 Evacuation Coordination Process

1. If the emergency only impacts a local jurisdiction, the decision to evacuate will be made at the local jurisdiction level with regional collaboration considerations.
 - a. Based on the information gathered, local jurisdictions will generally make the determination on whether to evacuate communities as the need arises, on a case-by-case scenario basis.
 - b. The decision to evacuate will depend entirely upon the nature, scope, and severity of the emergency; the number of people affected; and what actions are necessary to protect the public.
 - c. Local jurisdictions may activate their Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and conduct evacuations according to procedures outline in their Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).
 - d. The EOC may make recommendations on whether a jurisdiction should evacuate and may help coordinate the evacuation effort.
 - e. The Evacuation Annex is automatically activated when an incident occurs requiring an evacuation effort that impacts two or more jurisdictions.
 - f. The EOC will coordinate with fire, law enforcement, public health, and other relevant support agencies to obtain recommendations on protective actions.
 - g. The EOC will coordinate with jurisdictional emergency management personnel and other public safety personnel. The Policy Group within the EOC will coordinate will other officials from jurisdictions within the San Diego County Operational Area (OA) to identify command decisions, including:
 - i. Gaining regional situational awareness
 - ii. Determining response status
 - iii. Reviewing status of initial protective actions
 - iv. Considering additional protective actions
 - v. Evaluating public information needs
 - vi. Determining next steps
 - vii. Establishing a regular time to share updates
 - h. The EOC will coordinate emergency public information to citizens in accordance with established procedures.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

- i. The EOC may support coordinating the evacuation response according to the EOP, including:
 - i. Providing transportation for those who need assistance
 - ii. Provide support for people with disabilities and other access and functional needs
 - iii. Coordinate and communicate with the private sector, community groups, and faith based organizations to utilize their services and resources available to support the response
 - iv. Providing shelter for evacuees

3.3 Evacuation Response Operations

An evacuation of any area requires significant coordination among numerous public, private, and community/non-profit organizations. Wildfire evacuations will typically allow time for responders to conduct evacuation notification in advance of an immediate threat to life safety; giving residents time to gather belongings and make arrangements for evacuation. On the other hand, other threats, including wildfires igniting nearby, may occur with little or no notice and certain evacuation response operations will not be feasible (for example, establishing contra flow requires between 24 to 72 hours to be implemented; a no-notice event will not allow for contra flow to be established). Evacuation assistance of specific segments of the population may also not be feasible.

3.3.1 Evacuation Points and Shelters

When the SDSO implements an evacuation order, they coordinate with the responding fire agency, the EOC, and others to decide on a location to use as a Temporary Evacuation Point (TEP). The SDSO Dispatch Center will utilize the AlertSanDiego system to direct evacuees to the established TEP or shelter. These evacuation points will serve as temporary safe zones for evacuees and will provide basic needs such as food, water, and restrooms. If there are residents unable to evacuate and need transportation assistance to get to a TEP or shelter, the SDSO may establish transportation points to collect and transport people without transportation resources to evacuation points. These points should be large, well known sites such as shopping centers, libraries, and schools. Transportation should be accessible to all populations, including people with disabilities and other access and functional needs.

If there are residents unable to evacuate and need transportation assistance to get to a TEP or shelter, the OES may establish transportation points to collect and transport people without transportation resources to evacuation points. These points should be large, well-known sites such as shopping centers, libraries, and schools. Transportation should be accessible to all populations, including people with disabilities and other access and functional needs.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

Animal Evacuations

The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006 amends the Stafford Act, and requires evacuation plans to take into account the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals, prior to, during, and following a major disaster or emergency.

The San Diego County Department of Animal Services (DAS) has plans in place to transport and shelter pets in a disaster under Annex O of the OA EOP, including the Animal Control Mutual Aid Agreement. Animal Control Officers, the San Diego Humane Society, and private animal care shelters will assist in the rescue, transport, and sheltering of small and large animals. In addition, potential volunteer resources and private groups should be identified and tracked in WebEOC. Only non-emergency resources and personnel, such as public and private animal services agencies, will be used to rescue and transport animals during an evacuation effort.

In most cases, DAS and the OA EOC will coordinate and attempt to co-locate animal shelters with people shelters.

3.3.2 Shelter in Place

Sheltering-in-place is the practice of going or remaining indoors during or following an emergency event. This procedure is recommended if there is little time for the public to react to an incident and it is safer for the public to stay indoors for a short time rather than travel outdoors. Sheltering-in-place also has many advantages because it can be implemented immediately, allowing people to remain in their familiar surroundings, and providing individuals with everyday necessities such as telephone, radio, television, food, and clothing. However, the amount of time people can stay sheltered-in-place is dependent upon availability of food, water, medical care, utilities, and access to accurate and reliable information.

The decision on whether to evacuate or shelter-in-place is carefully considered with the timing and nature of the incident (San Diego County 2014). Sheltering-in-place is the preferred method of protection for people that are not directly impacted or in the direct path of a hazard. This will reduce congestion and transportation demand on the major transportation routes for those that have been directed to evacuate by police or fire personnel. Like most new master planned communities incorporating ignition resistant construction, wide fuel modification zones, and providing defensibility throughout, responding fire and law enforcement personnel will be able to direct residents to temporarily refuge in their homes at Fanita Ranch, in the rare situation where that alternative is determined to be safer than evacuating.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

4 FANITA RANCH EVACUATION ROAD NETWORK

Wildfire emergencies that would be most likely to include an evacuation of Fanita Ranch would be large wildfires approaching from the north, east, or west. These fires are often wind driven and occur during declared Red Flag Warning periods where low humidity and high winds facilitate fire ignition and spread. If a fire starts in the backcountry (East San Diego County) and is fanned by these fire weather conditions, an early evacuation of the area may occur as many as several or more hours prior to actual threatening conditions. Fires occurring on typical weather days, even fires igniting off the SR 52, have been very successfully controlled at small sizes within minutes of ignition and would not typically trigger a need to evacuate the project. Partial evacuation of some neighborhoods could be an option in these cases.

If a wildfire ignited closer to the Fanita Ranch community during weather that facilitates fire spread, where multiple hours are not available for evacuation, a different evacuation approach would need to be explored. Because it is preferred to evacuate long before a wildfire is near, and in fact, history indicates that most human fatalities from wildfires are due to late evacuations when evacuees are overtaken on roads, it is prudent to consider a contingency option. For example, if a wildfire is anticipated to encroach upon the community in a timeframe that is shorter than would be required to evacuate all residents, then options available to responding fire and law enforcement personnel should include 1) partial relocation where residents in perimeter homes on the north /west/east edges are temporarily relocated to internal areas or to the Fanita Commons Village Center, 2) Individual neighborhood relocations where residents are temporarily relocated to the Fanita Commons Village Center or south to the Cities of Lakeside or El Cajon, 3) temporary refuge where residents are instructed to remain in their homes while firefighters perform their structure protection function. This approach is consistent with San Diego County's (2014) Evacuation approach which states "*Due to the nature of the threats requiring an evacuation, there may be insufficient time to perform an early evacuation of the area and shelter-in-place instructions may need to be provided*". Although not a designated shelter-in-place community, the structures in Fanita Ranch include the same level of ignition resistance and landscape maintenance and are defensible and designed to require minimal resources for protection, which enables these contingency options that may not be available to other City of Santee communities.

The Fanita Ranch roads will be consistent with other new communities in their ability to effectively handle average daily trips generated by the project. However, as evidenced by mass evacuations in San Diego County and elsewhere, even with roadways that are designed to the code requirements, it may not be possible, or necessary to move large numbers of persons at the same time. Road infrastructure throughout the United States, and including San Diego County is not designed to accommodate a short-notice, mass evacuation (FEMA 2008). The need for evacuation plans, pre-planning, and tiered or targeted and staggered evacuations becomes very important for improving evacuation effectiveness.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

Among the most important factors for successful evacuations in urban settings is control of intersections downstream of the evacuation area. If intersections are controlled by law enforcement, barricades, signal control, or other means, potential backups and slowed evacuations can be minimized. Another important aspect of successful evacuation is a managed and phased evacuation declaration. Evacuating in phases, based on vulnerability, location, or other factors, enables the subsequent traffic surges on major roadway to be smoothed over a longer time frame and can be planned to result in traffic levels that flow better than when mass evacuations include large evacuation areas at the same time. This plan defers to Law Enforcement and OES to appropriately phase evacuations and to consider the vulnerability of communities when making decisions. For example, the Fanita Ranch Community will offer its residents a high level of fire safety on site (refer to the Fanita Ranch Fire Protection Plan prepared by Dudek 2020) along with options for firefighter safety zones and temporary on-site refuge as a contingency, as discussed further in this plan.

The Fanita Ranch planned community interior road network and the existing regional road system that it interconnects provide multi-directional primary and secondary emergency evacuation routes consistent with, or exceeding, most communities in this area. Consistent with County of San Diego evacuation planning annex (2014), major ground transportation corridors in the area will be used as primary evacuation routes during an evacuation effort. The road systems were evaluated to determine the best routes for fire response equipment and “probable” evacuation routes for relocating people to designated safety areas. The primary roadways that would be used for evacuation from Fanita Ranch are Fanita Parkway, Cuyamaca Street and Magnolia Avenue. These roads provide access to major traffic corridors including indirectly to SR 52 to the south, southwest and southeast, SR 67 to the east and northeast, I-125 to the south, and I-15 to the west.

During an emergency evacuation from the Fanita Ranch community, the primary and secondary roadways may be providing citizen egress while responding emergency vehicles are inbound. Because the roadways are all designed to meet or exceed County of San Diego Consolidated Fire Code requirements, including project approved unobstructed travel lanes, adequate parking, 28-foot inside radius, grade maximums, signals at intersections, and extremely wide roadside fuel modification zones, potential conflicts that could reduce the roadway efficiency are minimized, allowing for smooth evacuations.

The community’s primary evacuation routes are accessed through a series of internal neighborhood roadways, which connect with the primary ingress/egress roads that intersect off-site primary and major evacuation routes. Based on the existing road network, the community can evacuate to the north (once off-site), south, east and west depending on the nature of the emergency.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

There are at least two ingress/egress routes for Fanita Ranch (Figure 2):

- Southwest corner of the community – Fanita Parkway, the project’s primary access, provides access to Mast Boulevard and Carlton Oaks Road and then to SR 52 onramp.
- South central portion of the community – Cuyamaca Street provides access to Mast Boulevard, Mission Gorge Road, and the SR 52 onramp.
 - East/southeastern portion of the community – Magnolia Avenue offers access to Mast Boulevard, Mission Gorge Road, and the SR 52 onramp. Both Mast Boulevard and Mission Gorge Road connect to SR 52 to the west and SR 67 to the east.

Depending on the nature of the emergency requiring evacuation, it is anticipated that the majority of the community traffic would exit the project via Cuyamaca Street or Magnolia Avenue. These are the most direct routes for the Fanita Ranch Community. Fanita Parkway may be used by the western portion of the Fanita Parkway Community, depending on the time available for evacuation and the need for additional movement via the southerly route. In a typical evacuation that allows several hours or more time (as experienced for most areas during the 2003, 2007, 2014, 2016, and 2017 wildfires), all traffic may be directed to the south and out Cuyamaca Street and/or Magnolia Avenue. If less time is available, fire and law enforcement officials may direct some neighborhoods to temporarily shelter in their homes.

4.1 Evacuation Route Determination

Fire and law enforcement official will identify evacuation points before evacuation routes are announced to the public. Evacuation routes are determined based on the location and extent of the incident and include as many pre-designated transportation routes as possible.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

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Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

5 FANITA RANCH RESIDENT FIRE/EVACUATION AWARENESS

The Fanita Ranch Community HOA will be active in its outreach to residents regarding fire safety and general evacuation procedures. There are aspects of fire safety and evacuation that require a significant level of awareness by the residents and emergency services in order to reduce and/or avoid problems with an effective evacuation. Mitigating potential impediments to successful evacuations requires focused and repeated information through a strong educational outreach program. The Fanita Ranch HOA will engage residents and SFD through a variety of methods.

This emergency evacuation plan will be provided to each homeowner/HOA member as well as being accessible on the HOA Website. Annual reminder notices will be provided to each homeowner encouraging them to review the plan and be familiar with community evacuation protocols. The HOA will coordinate with SFD to hold an annual fire safety and evacuation preparedness informational meeting. Representatives of SFD will be invited to attend and important fire and evacuation information reviewed. One focus of these meetings and of the HOA's annual message will be on the importance of each resident to prepare and be familiar with their own "Ready, Set, Go!" evacuation plan. The "Ready, Set, Go!" program is defined at: http://www.readysandiego.org/Resources/wildfire_preparedness_guide.pdf and information about preparing an individual Action Plan is provided in Appendix A.

The focus of the "Ready, Set, Go!" program is on public awareness and preparedness, especially for those living in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas. The program is designed to incorporate the local fire protection agency as part of the training and education process in order to insure that evacuation preparedness information is disseminated to those subject to the potential impact from a wildfire. There are three components to the program:

"READY" – Preparing for the Fire Threat: Take personal responsibility and prepare long before the threat of a wildfire so you and your home are ready when a wildfire occurs. Create defensible space by clearing brush away from your home as detailed in the Fanita Ranch FPP (Dudek 2020). Use only fire-resistant landscaping and maintain the ignition resistance of your home. Assemble emergency supplies and belongings in a safe spot. Confirm you are registered for Reverse 9-1-1 and AlertSanDiego alert system. Make sure all residents residing within the home understand the plan, procedures and escape routes.

"SET" – Situational Awareness When a Fire Starts: If a wildfire occurs and there is potential for it to threaten Fanita Ranch, pack your vehicle with your emergency items. Stay aware of the latest news from local media, County of San Diego (<http://www.sdcountyemergency.com/updates/>), and SFD for updated information on the fire. If you are uncomfortable, leave the area.

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“GO!” – Leave Early! Following your Action Plan provides you with knowledge of the situation and how you will approach evacuation. Leaving early, well before a wildfire is threatening your community, provides you with the least delay and results in a situation where, if a majority of neighbors also leave early, firefighters are now able to better maneuver, protect and defend structures, evacuate other residents who couldn't leave early, and focus on citizen safety.

“READY! SET! GO!” is predicated on the fact that being unprepared and attempting to flee an impending fire late (such as when the fire is physically close to your community) is dangerous and exacerbates an already confusing situation. This Fanita Ranch Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan provides key information that can be integrated into the individual Action Plans, including the best available routes for them to use in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Situation awareness requires a reliable information source. One of the most effective public notification methods is Reverse 9-1-1. The San Diego OES operates the reverse 9-1-1 notification system that provides a recorded message over land line telephone systems relating to evacuation notices. In addition, the (OES) operates a program known as “AlertSanDiego” that has the capability to send emergency notifications over both land lines as well as to cell phones and via text messages. It is up to individual residents to register their cell phones for “AlertSanDiego”. The registration of cell phones can be done on line at www.ReadySanDiego.com. The Fanita Ranch HOA will strongly encourage all residents to register telephone numbers.

As part of the Fanita Ranch resident fire awareness and evacuation readiness program, information will be delivered in a variety of methods. The HOA will be responsible to provide and distribute to each homeowner a complete copy of the project's Fire Protection Plan and this Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan, including materials from the READY! SET! GO! Program. The HOA is also responsible for insuring the distribution of copies of the aforementioned materials to those individuals that purchase properties for re-sales and to the management of non-residential properties. Management of the commercial properties will be responsible for the dissemination of the Evacuation Plan information to their employees.

As part of the approval of this project, it shall be binding on the HOA to actively participate as a partner with the SFD to assist with the coordination and distribution of fire safety information they develop.

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6 FANITA RANCH EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Wolshon and Marchive (2007) simulated traffic flow conditions in the wildland urban interface (WUI) under a range of evacuation notice lead times and housing densities. To safely evacuate more people, they recommended that emergency managers (1) provide more lead time to evacuees and (2) control traffic levels during evacuations so that fewer vehicles are trying to exit at the same time.

Wildfire emergency response procedures will vary depending on the type of wildfire and the available time in which decision makers (IC, SFD, SDSO, and/or County Office of Emergency Management) can assess the situation and determine the best course of action. Based on the community, its road network, and the related fire environment, the primary type of evacuation envisioned is an orderly, pre-planned evacuation process where people are evacuated from the Fanita Ranch community to urban areas further from an encroaching wildfire (likely to urban areas south west or north) well before fire threatens. This type of evacuation must include a conservative approach to evacuating, i.e., when ignitions occur and weather is such that fires may spread rapidly, evacuations should be triggered on a conservative threshold. This threshold must include time allowances for unforeseen, but possible, events that could slow the evacuation process.

Evacuation is considered by many to offer the highest level of life protection to the public, but it can result in evacuees being placed in harm's way if the time available for evacuation is insufficient (Cova et al. 2011). An example of this type of evacuation which is highly undesirable from a public safety perspective is an evacuation that occurs when fire ignites close to vulnerable communities. Fanita Ranch is not considered a vulnerable community due to the level of fire protection provided this community. However there are vulnerable communities within Santee. This type of situation is inherently dangerous because there is generally a higher threat to persons who are in a vehicle on a road when fire is burning in the immediate area. Conditions may become so poor, that the vehicle drives off the road or crashes into another vehicle, and flames and heat overcome the occupants. This scenario occurred in San Diego County during the 2003 Cedar Fire and in the 2017 northern California wildfires. This type of evacuation must be considered a very undesirable situation by law and fire officials in all but the rarest situations where late evacuation may be safer than seeking temporary refuge in a structure (such as when there are no nearby structures, the structure(s) is/are already on fire, or when there is no other form of refuge).

The third potential type of evacuation is a hybrid of the first two. In cases where evacuation is in process and changing conditions result in a situation that is considered less safe to continue evacuation, it may be advisable to direct evacuees to pre-planned temporary refuge locations, including their own home if it is ignition resistant and defensible, such as those at Fanita Ranch. As with the second type of evacuation discussed above, this situation is considered highly undesirable, but the evacuation pre-planning must consider these potential scenarios and prepare decision makers at the IC level and at the field level for enacting a contingency to evacuation when conditions dictate.

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Indications from past fires and related evacuations in San Diego County and throughout Southern California, which have experienced large wildfires, are that evacuations are largely successful, even with a generally unprepared populace. It then stands to reason that an informed and prepared populace would minimize the potential evacuation issues and related risk to levels considered acceptable from a community perspective.

Evacuation orders or notifications are often triggered based on established and pre-determined buffers. These buffers are often hard or soft lines on a map and are based on topography, fuel, moisture content of the fuels and wind direction. Evacuations are initiated when a wildfire reaches or crosses one of these pre-determined buffers. Evacuations can also be very fluid. The IC, law enforcement and County OES would jointly enact evacuations based on fire behavior.

6.1 Fanita Ranch Evacuation Baseline

For purposes of this Evacuation Plan, the first and most logical choice for all of the residents and guests within the boundaries of the Fanita Ranch Community is to adhere to the principals and practices of the “READY! SET! GO!” Program previously mentioned in this document. As part of this program, it is imperative that each household develop a plan that is clearly understood by all family members and participates in the educational and training programs sponsored by the Fanita Ranch HOA and the SFD. In addition, it is imperative that the “READY! SET! GO!” information be reviewed on a routine basis along with the accompanying maps illustrating evacuation routes, temporary evacuation points and pre-identified safety zones. It must be kept in mind that conditions may arise that will dictate a different evacuation route than the roads used on a daily basis.

Residents are urged to evacuate as soon as they are notified to do so or earlier if they feel uncomfortable and it is safe to do so. Directions on evacuation routes will be provided in most cases, but when not provided, Fanita Ranch residents will proceed according to known available routes away from the encroaching fire.

The available evacuation routes for the residents and guests of Fanita Ranch project are (See Figure 2):

1. **Egress to the south via Fanita Parkway** – This is one of the primary Fanita Ranch access road and connects with Mast Boulevard and Carlton Oaks Road, both of which offers travel options to the west and east into Santee or onto SR 52 and SR 67.
2. **Egress to the south via Cuyamaca Street or Magnolia Avenue** – Both of these are additional primary access roads, which connect to Mast Boulevard, Mission Gorge Road, and SR 52. Mast Boulevard allows travel to the west and east into Santee and Lakeside and connects with SR 52 and SR 67. Mission Gorge road runs parallel with SR 52, continuing southwest through Santee, eventually connecting with I-15 and I-805. Note: this evacuation plan will require adjustment and continued coordination by the Fanita Ranch HOA and/or

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

developer and SFD/SDSO during each of the construction phases. With each phase, the evacuation routes may be subject to changes with the addition of both primary and secondary evacuation routes.

6.2 Civilian and Firefighter Evacuation Contingency

As of this document's preparation, no community in California has been directed to shelter in place during a wildland fire. Even the communities in Rancho Santa Fe, California which are designed and touted as shelter-in-place communities, were evacuated during the 2007 Witch Creek Fire. This is not to say that people have not successfully sheltered in place during wildfire, where there are numerous examples of people sheltering in their homes, in hardened structures, in community buildings, in swimming pools, and in cleared or ignition resistant landscape open air areas. The preference for Fanita Ranch will always be early evacuation following the "Ready, Set, Go!" model, but there exists the potential for unforeseen civilian evacuation issues, and having a contingency plan will provide direction in these situations that may result in saved lives.

Potential problems during wildfire evacuation from Fanita Ranch include:

- Fires that prevent safe passage along planned evacuation routes
- Inadequate time to safely evacuate
- Fire evacuations during peak traffic conditions or when large events are occurring
- Blocked traffic due to accidents or fallen tree(s) or power pole(s)
- The need to move individuals who are unable to evacuate

It is recommended that SDSO, SPD and SFD conduct concerted pre-planning efforts focusing on evacuation contingency planning for civilian populations when it is considered safer to temporarily seek a safer refuge than evacuation.

6.2.1 Safety Zones

The International Fire Service Training Association (IFTSA; Fundamentals of Wildland Fire Fighting, 3rd Edition) defines Safety Zones as areas mostly devoid of fuel, which are large enough to assure that flames and/or dangerous levels of radiant heat will not reach the personnel occupying them. Areas of bare ground, burned over areas, paved areas, and bodies of water can all be used as safety zones. The size of the area needed for a safety zone is determined by fuel types, its location on slopes and its relation to topographic features (chutes and saddles) as well as observed fire behavior. Safety zones should never be located in topographic saddles, chutes or gullies. High winds, steep slopes or heavy fuel loads may increase the area needed for a Safety Zone.

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The National Wildland Fire Coordinating Groups (NWFCG), Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology provides the following definitions for Safety Zone and Escape routes:

Safety Zone. An area cleared of flammable materials used for escape in the event the line is outflanked or in case a spot fire causes fuels outside the control line to render the line unsafe. In firing operations, crews progress so as to maintain a safety zone close at hand allowing the fuels inside the control line to be consumed before going ahead. Safety zones may also be constructed as integral parts of fuelbreaks; they are greatly enlarged areas which can be used with relative safety by firefighters and their equipment in the event of blowup in the vicinity.

According to NWFCG, Safety Zone(s):

- Must be survivable without a fire shelter
- Can include moving back into a clean burn
- May take advantage of natural features (rock areas, water, meadows)
- Can include Constructed sites (clear-cuts, roads, helispots)
- Are scouted for size and hazards
- Consider the topographic location (larger if upslope)
- Should be larger if downwind
- Should not include heavy fuels
- May need to be adjusted based on site specific fire behavior

The definition for a safety zone includes provisions for separation distance between the firefighter and the flames of at least four times the maximum continuous flame height. Distance separation is the radius from the center of the safety zone to the nearest fuels. For example, considering worst case 66-foot tall flame lengths that may be possible adjacent this site (Dudek 2020), then a 264-foot separation would be required, and potentially more if there were site-specific features that would result in more aggressive fire behavior. In order to provide 264 feet in all directions, a minimum 5.0 acres is considered necessary for a safety zone to be considered appropriate for one 3 person engine crew during an extreme weather fire.

If one considers the ignition resistant and maintained landscaping within each of the Fanita Ranch neighborhoods, along with the adjacent 100 to 150 feet wide fuel modification zones and Chapter 7A of California Building Code compliant structures, some neighborhood interior roads would provide Safety Zones available to responding firefighters. The neighborhoods as Safety Zones can

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

be part of SFD's and County's pre-planning efforts, although during the fire, the identified safety zones may not be feasible due to distance, location, fire behavior, etc.

Identification of potential safety zones will require additional focused study by SFD and other fire and law enforcement agencies.

6.2.2 Temporary Firefighter Refuge Areas

Firescope California (Firefighting Resources of Southern California Organized for Potential Emergencies) was formed by legislative action to form a partnership between all facets of local, rural, and metropolitan fire departments, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), and federal fire agencies. Firescope defines a contingency plan when it is not possible to retreat to a safety zone. This contingency includes establishment of firefighter Temporary Refuge Areas (TRA), which are defined as:

A preplanned area where firefighters can immediately take refuge for temporary shelter and short-term relief without using a fire shelter (fire resistant tent) in the event that emergency egress to an established Safety Zone is compromised.

Examples of a TRA may include the lee side of a structure, inside of a structure, large lawn or parking areas, or cab of fire engine, amongst others. Differences between a TRA and a Safety Zone is that TRA's are closer to the immediate firefighting area, are considered a contingency to being able to get to a Safety Zone, do not include a requirement for a large area set back four times the flame lengths of adjacent fuels, and cannot be feasibly pre-planned until firefighters arrive on-scene and size up the situation.

Firescope appropriately notes that although Safety Zones and viable Escape Routes shall always be identified in the WUI environment, they may not be immediately available should the fire behavior increase unexpectedly. Often a TRA is more accessible in the WUI environment. A TRA will provide temporary shelter and short-term relief from an approaching fire without the use of a fire shelter and allow the responders to develop an alternate plan to safely survive the increase in fire behavior.

TRAs are pre-planned areas (planned shortly after firefighters arrive on scene) where firefighters may take refuge and temporary shelter for short-term thermal relief, without using a fire shelter in the event that escape routes to an established safety zone are compromised. The major difference between a TRA and a safety zone is that a TRA requires another planned tactical action, i.e., TRAs cannot be considered the final action, but must include self-defense and a move out of the area when the fire threat subsides. A TRA should be available and identified on site at a defended structure. TRAs are NOT a substitute for a Safety Zone. TRA pre-planning is difficult, at best because they are very site and fire behavior specific. For the Fanita Ranch Community, TRAs

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would likely include navigating into any of the neighborhoods where 100- to 150-foot wide fuel modification zones provide defensible space and maintained landscapes are provided, along with ignition resistant residences and wide roads that offer numerous opportunities for TRA.

The entire Fanita Ranch community, but especially the interior areas of neighborhoods, are considered TRAs. This is an important concept because it offers last-resort, temporary refuge of firefighters, and in a worst-case condition, residents. This approach would be consistent with Firescope California (2013) which indicates that firefighters must determine if a safe evacuation is appropriate and if not, to identify safe refuge for those who cannot be evacuated, including civilians.

Each of the site's residences that can be considered for TRA include the following features:

- Ignition Resistant Construction
- 100- to 150-foot wide Fuel Modification Zone around perimeter of project
- Annual inspections by 3rd party fuel modification zone inspectors
- Wide roadways with fire hydrants
- Maintained landscapes and roadside fuel modification
- Ember resistant vents
- Interior fire sprinklers

Because there is the possibility that evacuation of the project may be less safe than temporarily refuging on-site, such as during a fast-moving, wind driven fire that ignites off SR 52 or SR 67, including temporary refuge within residences or elsewhere on site is considered a contingency plan for Fanita Ranch. This concept is considered a component of the "Ready, Set, Go!" model as it provides a broader level of "readiness" should the ability to execute an early evacuation be negated by fire, road congestion, or other unforeseen issues. This approach would be considered a last-resort contingency during wildfire with the primary focus being on early evacuation. The decision for evacuation or temporarily refuging on site will be made by responding law enforcement and/or fire personnel.

6.3 Social Aspects of Wildfire Evacuation

Orderly movement of people is the result of planning, training, education, and awareness, all of which are promoted in San Diego County and by SFD. Evacuation has been the standard term used for emergency movement of people and implies imminent or threatening danger. The term in this Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan, and under the "Ready, Set, Go!" concept, indicates that there is a perceived threat to persons and movement out of the area is necessary, but will occur according to a pre-planned and practiced protocol, reducing the potential for panic.

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Citizen reactions may vary during an evacuation event, although several studies indicate that orderly movement during wildfire and other emergencies is not typically unmanageable. Evacuation can be made even less problematic through diligent public education and emergency personnel training and familiarity. Social science research literature indicates that reactions to warnings follow certain behavior patterns that are defined by people's perceptions (Aguirre 1994, Drabek 1991, Fitzpatrick and Mileti 1994, Gordon 2006, Collins 2004) and are not unpredictable. In summary, warnings received from credible sources by people who are aware (or have been made aware) of the potential risk, have the effect of an orderly decision process that typically results in successful evacuation. This success is heightened when evacuations are not foreign to residents (Quarentelli and Dynes 1977; Lindell and Perry 2004) as will occur within the Fanita Ranch project. Further, in all but the rarest circumstances, evacuees will be receiving information from credible sources during an evacuation. Further, it would be anticipated that law enforcement and/or fire personnel would be on site to help direct traffic and would be viewed by evacuees as knowledgeable and credible. The importance of training these personnel cannot be understated and annual education and training regarding fire safety and evacuation events will be essential for successful future evacuations.

6.3.1 Evacuation of Special Populations

Vogt (1990 and 1991) defines special populations as those groups of people who, because of their special situations or needs, require different planning strategies from those of the general population. Special needs populations include those in institutions or special facilities, those with disabilities in homes, those who need care, children, and others who cannot provide for their own evacuation if necessitated. The special needs population is concentrated in facilities, but is also widespread in terms of facility locations and those who live in residences. Special needs populations in Fanita Ranch include the hearing or visually impaired, foreign speaking, visitors passing through the area, temporary visitors such as day workers, and the non-ambulatory confined to residences either temporarily or permanently.

Tourists and temporary visitors may not have knowledge of the area's fire hazard, they may not know how to react in a fire emergency, and they may not understand what they are being told to do. Conversely, this segment of the population would typically be easier to evacuate quickly as they have no possession or pets that they would need to prepare. They can get in their cars and be directed out of the area.

The reasons why special needs populations may fail to respond to warnings to take protective actions is that they may require special transportation while others require different types of warnings or technologies to receive a warning. Some groups must rely on care-givers to hear the warning and respond.

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan for Fanita Ranch Community

Fanita Ranch Approach:

The Fanita Ranch community will provide information to residents regarding notifying County OES and Health and Human Services of special needs residents so that accommodations for their notification (Accessible AlertSanDiego, CERT programs, or other), transportation or other special requirements can be provided during an emergency evacuation. Visitors and guests to the Fanita Ranch will be advised of their options during an emergency by law enforcement or fire officials, residents whom they are visiting, commercial vendor staff, or HOA representatives, as appropriate.

6.3.2 Animal Evacuations

Animal evacuations present a host of challenges that may affect the overall successful movement of people and their possessions out of harm's way. For example, livestock owners do not always have the means to load and trailer their livestock out of the area. Further, most wildfire evacuation relief shelters or commercial lodging facilities do not allow people to bring in pets or other animals. Sorensen and Vogt (2006) indicate that an issue receiving increasing attention is what evacuees do with pets or other animals such as livestock when they leave their homes and whether having pets or animals impacts their decision to evacuate.

The Fanita Ranch project will not accommodate livestock within residential areas (but will allow livestock in Agricultural Overlay areas. Household pets will be a common occurrence.

Fanita Ranch Approach

- Develop a strong outreach program for pet owners so they understand their responsibilities and that they will not likely be allowed re-entry once evacuated.
- Develop a registration for owners of animals who cannot evacuate them without assistance so that volunteer organizations or individuals, can provide resources.

6.3.3 Re-Entry Procedures

An important component of evacuations is the citizen re-entry process. Guidance and procedures to ensure a coordinated, safe, and orderly re-entry into impacted communities following an incident is provided in the County of San Diego Re-Entry Protocol.

Re-entry will be initiated by the Incident Commander/Unified Command of the Incident Management Team, with the support of the Director of Emergency Services, the OA EOC Director, and the Operations Section Chief at the OA EOC. In most cases the OA EOC will remain activated until full re-entry is complete. In the event that the OA EOC has been deactivated, the Incident Commander or the Liaison Officer of the Incident Management Team will initiate re-entry procedures.

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The Incident Commander will designate a Re-Entry Coordinator and the Operations Section Chief of the OA EOC will coordinate with and support the re-entry coordinator. The Re-Entry Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the re-entry procedures with all involved agencies and ensuring effective communication. Priorities for re-entry include:

The impacted areas must be thoroughly investigated to ensure it is safe for residents to return and normal operations have been restored. This assessment will include verification that:

The public will be notified of the re-entry status through the notification measures previously mentioned in this annex, including www.SDCountyEmergency.com, SDEmergency App for smart phones, emergency broadcast radio, television, press releases, informational phone lines such as 2-1-1, community briefings, and informational updates at shelters.

Once evacuees are permitted to return, it is important that procedures are established to properly identify residents and critical support personnel, as well as ensure the legitimacy of contractors, insurance adjustors, and other personnel. Re-entry points should be staffed by law enforcement personnel.

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7 LIMITATIONS

This Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan has been developed based on wildfire and evacuation standards and the San Diego County Evacuation Annex Q (San Diego County 2014) and is specifically intended as a guide for evacuations for the Fanita Ranch Community. This plan provides basic evacuation information that will familiarize Fanita Ranch residents with the evacuation route options that may be available to them during an emergency. However, because emergencies requiring evacuation have many variables and must be evaluated on a case by case basis, this plan shall be subservient to real-time law enforcement and fire personnel/ agencies' decision making and direction during an emergency requiring evacuation.

This Evacuation Plan promotes the “Ready, Set, Go!” model, adopted by County OES, CAL FIRE, and many fire agencies statewide, including SFD. The goal is to raise agency and citizen awareness of potential evacuation issues and get a majority of the public “Ready” by taking a proactive stance on preparedness, training drills, and visitor education, and evacuation planning efforts. The Fanita Ranch populace will be “Set” by closely monitoring the situation whenever fire weather occurs and/or when wildland fire occurs, and elevating pre-planned protocol activities and situation awareness. Lastly, officials will implement the plan and mandate that populations “Go” by executing pre-planned evacuation procedures, considering proposed evacuation trigger thresholds, in a conservative manner, i.e., evacuation will occur based on conservative decision points, as proposed in this evacuation plan or when directed by fire and law enforcement personnel, whichever is more conservative. The preferred alternative will always be early evacuation. However, there may be instances when evacuation is not possible, is considered less safe, or is not an option based on changing conditions. For example, should a fire occur and make evacuation from the project ill advised, a contingency plan for residents is available. This contingency would include moving people to pre-designated temporary refuge areas, including Fanita Ranch residences and other structures, until it is safe to evacuate or the threat has been mitigated.

Ultimately, it is the intent of this Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan to guide the implementation of evacuation procedure recommendations such that the process of evacuating people from the Fanita Ranch project is facilitated in an efficient manner and according to a pre-defined evacuation protocol as well as providing a contingency option of temporarily refuging, if evacuation is considered less safe. The Fanita Ranch residents will be aware of this evacuation plan as the HOA will post it on its website and provide reminders to residents on at least an annual basis. This educational outreach will result in a populace that understands the potential for evacuations and the routes and options that may be presented to them.

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During extreme fire weather conditions, there are no guarantees that a given structure will not burn or that evacuations will be successful all of the time. Wildfires may occur in the area that could damage property or harm persons. However, successful implementation of the recommendations outlined in this Evacuation Plan will provide for an informed populace regarding evacuations. The Fanita Ranch community is designed specifically to be resistant to wildfire ignition and perform as a fire adapted project, offering fire and law officials with additional options for resident safety than are available from less defensible communities.

This Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan does not provide a guarantee that all persons will be safe at all times because of the recommendations proposed. There are many variables that may influence overall safety. This Plan provides a summary for implementation of standard evacuation protocols, suggested roadway enhancements, and public outreach, which should result in reduced wildfire related risk and hazard. Even then, fire can compromise the procedures through various, unpredictable ways. The goal is to reduce the likelihood that the system is compromised through implementation of the elements of this Plan and regular occurring program maintenance and updates.

It is recommended that the evacuation process is carried out with a conservative approach to fire safety. This approach must include maintaining the Fanita Ranch fuel modification landscape, infrastructural, and ignition resistant construction components according to the appropriate standards and embracing a “Ready, Set, Go!” stance on evacuation. Accordingly, evacuation of the wildfire areas should occur according to pre-established evacuation decision points, or as soon as they receive notice to evacuate, which may vary depending on many environmental and other factors. Fire is a dynamic and somewhat unpredictable occurrence and it is important for anyone living at the wildland-urban interface to educate themselves on practices that will improve safety.

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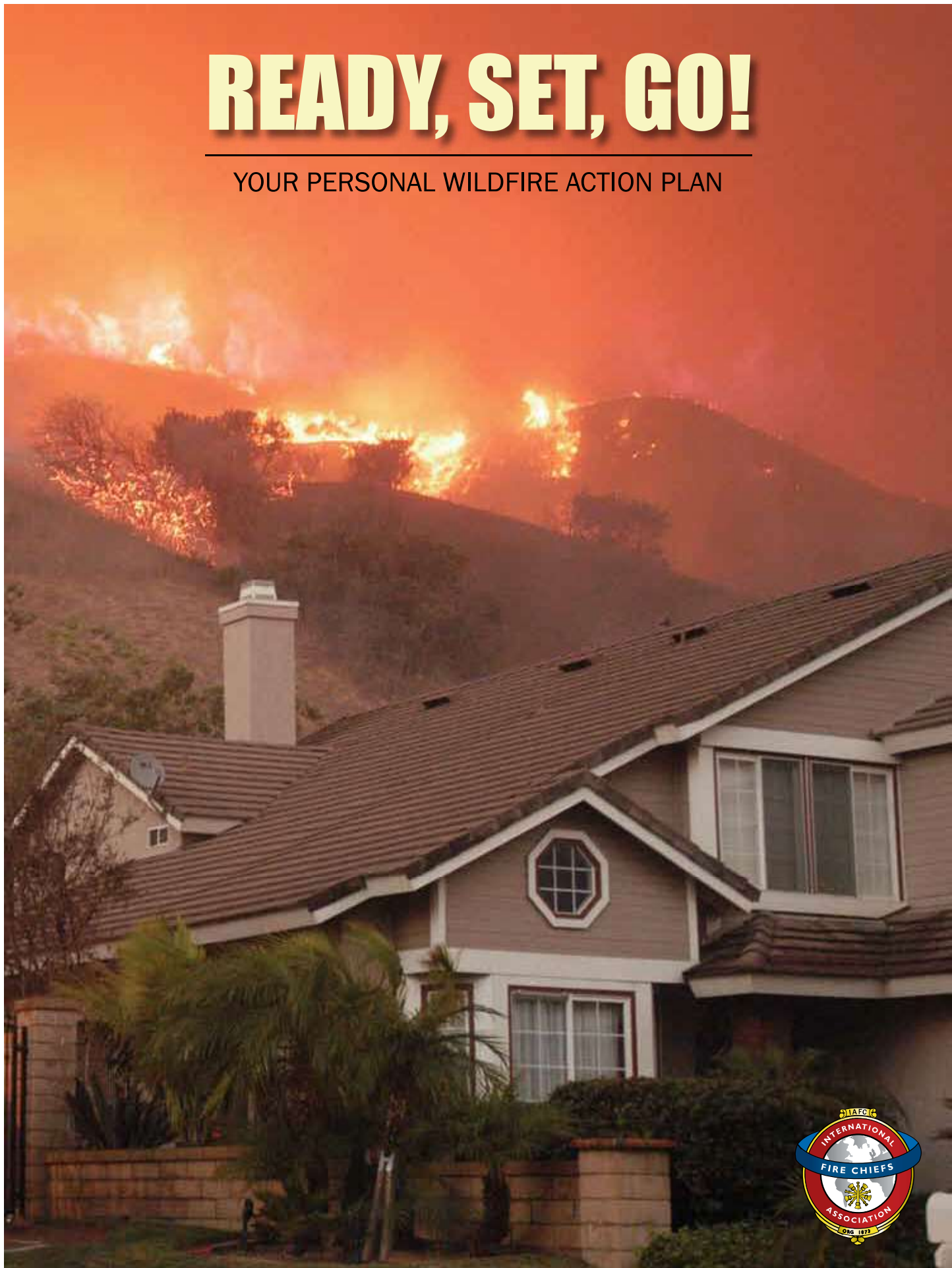
APPENDIX A

“Ready, Set, Go!”

Personal Wildland Fire Action Guide

READY, SET, GO!

YOUR PERSONAL WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN



READY, SET, GO!

Wildfire Action Plan

Saving Lives and Property
through Advance Planning



The fire season is now a year-round reality in many areas, requiring firefighters and residents to be on heightened alert for the threat of wildfire throughout the year.

Each year, wildfires consume hundreds of homes in the Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI). Studies show that as many as 80 percent of the homes lost to wildfires could have been saved if their owners had only followed a few simple fire-safe practices. In addition, wildfire-related deaths occur because people wait too late to leave their home.

Your fire department takes every precaution to help protect you and your property from wildfire. However, the reality is that in a major wildfire, there will simply not be enough fire engines or firefighters to defend every home.

Successfully preparing for a wildfire requires **you** to take personal responsibility for protecting yourself, your family and your property. In this publication, we hope to give you the tips and tools you need to prepare and be successful.

Fire is, and always has been, a natural occurrence in the wildland. Our brush-covered hills, canyons and forests burned periodically long before we built homes there. Wildfires, fueled by a build-up of dry vegetation and driven by seasonal hot, dry winds, are extremely dangerous and impossible to control. However, many residents have built their homes and landscaped without fully understanding the impact a fire could have on them, and few have adequately prepared their families for a quick evacuation.

It's not a question of **if** but **when** the next major wildfire will occur. That's why the most important person in protecting your life and property is not the firefighter, but you. Through advance planning and preparation, we can all be ready for wildfire. We hope you find the tips in the next pages helpful in creating heightened awareness and a more fire-safe environment for you and your family.

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Living in the Wildland Urban Interface and the Ember Zone

Ready, Set, Go! begins with a house that firefighters can defend.

Defensible space works!

If you live next to a natural area, the Wildland Urban Interface, you must provide firefighters with the defensible space they need to protect your home. The buffer zone you create by removing weeds, brush and other vegetation helps to keep the fire away from your home and reduces the risks from flying embers.



A home within one mile of a natural area is in the Ember Zone. Wind-driven embers can attack your home. You and your home must be prepared well before a fire occurs. Ember fires can destroy homes or neighborhoods far from the actual flame front of the wildfire.



What is Defensible Space?



Defensible space is the required space between a structure and the wildland area that, under normal conditions, creates a sufficient buffer to slow or halt the spread of wildfire to a structure. It protects the home from igniting due to direct flame or radiant heat. Defensible space is essential for structure survivability during wildfire conditions.

ZONE ONE

Zone One extends 30 feet out from buildings, structures, decks, etc.

- Remove all dead or dying vegetation.
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from structures and other trees.
- Remove leaf litter (dry leaves/pine needles) from yard, roof and rain gutters.
- Relocate woodpiles or other combustible materials into Zone Two.
- Remove combustible material and vegetation from around and under decks.
- Remove or prune vegetation near windows.
- Remove “ladder fuels” (low-level vegetation that allows the fire to spread from the ground to the tree canopy). Create a separation between low-level vegetation and tree branches. This can be done by reducing the height of low-level vegetation and/or trimming low tree branches.

ZONE TWO

Zone Two extends 30 to 100 feet out from buildings, structures and decks. You can minimize the chance of fire jumping from plant to plant by removing dead material and removing and/or thinning vegetation. The minimum spacing between vegetation is three times the dimension of the plant.

- Remove “ladder fuels.”
- Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees.

What is a Hardened Home?

Construction materials and the quality of the defensible space surrounding it are what gives a home the best chance to survive a wildfire. Embers from a wildfire will find the weak link in your home's fire protection scheme and gain the upper hand because of a small, overlooked or seemingly inconsequential factor. However, there are measures you can take to safeguard your home from wildfire. While you may not be able to accomplish all the measures listed below, each will increase your home's, and possibly your family's, safety and survival during a wildfire.



ROOFS

Roofs are the most vulnerable surface where embers land because they can lodge and start a fire. Roof valleys, open ends of barrel tiles and rain gutters are all points of entry.

EAVES

Embers can gather under open eaves and ignite exposed wood or other combustible material.

VENTS

Embers can enter the attic or other concealed spaces and ignite combustible materials. Vents in eaves and cornices are particularly vulnerable, as are any unscreened vents.

WALLS

Combustible siding or other combustible or overlapping materials provide surfaces or crevices for embers to nestle and ignite.

WINDOWS and DOORS

Embers can enter gaps in doors, including garage doors. Plants or combustible storage near windows can be ignited from embers and generate heat that can break windows and/or melt combustible frames.

BALCONIES and DECKS

Embers can collect in or on combustible surfaces or the undersides of decks and balconies, ignite the material and enter the home through walls or windows.

To harden your home even further, consider protecting your homes with a residential fire sprinkler system. In addition to extinguishing a fire started by an ember that enters your home, it also protects you and your family year-round from any fire that may start in your home.

Tour a Wildfire Ready Home

Home Site and Yard: Ensure you have at least a 100-foot radius of defensible space (cleared vegetation) around your home. Note that even more clearance may be needed for homes in severe hazard areas. This means looking past what you own to determine the impact a common slope or neighbors' yard will have on your property during a wildfire.

Cut dry weeds and grass before noon when temperatures are cooler to reduce the chance of sparking a fire.

Landscape with fire-resistant plants that have a high moisture content and are low-growing.

Keep woodpiles, propane tanks and combustible materials away from your home and other structures such as garages, barns and sheds.

Ensure that trees are far away from power lines.

Inside: Keep working fire extinguishers on hand. Install smoke alarms on each level of your home and near bedrooms. Test them monthly and change the batteries twice a year.

Address: Make sure your address is clearly visible from the road.

Roof: Your roof is the most vulnerable part of your home because it can easily catch fire from wind-blown embers. Homes with wood-shake or shingle roofs are at high risk of being destroyed during a wildfire.

Build your roof or re-roof with fire-resistant materials such as composition, metal or tile. Block any spaces between roof decking and covering to prevent ember intrusion.

Clear pine needles, leaves and other debris from your roof and gutters.

Cut any tree branches within ten feet of your roof.

Vents: Vents on homes are particularly vulnerable to flying embers.

All vent openings should be covered with 1/8-inch or smaller metal mesh. Do not use fiberglass or plastic mesh because they can melt and burn.

Attic vents in eaves or cornices should be baffled or otherwise protected to prevent ember intrusion (mesh is not enough).

Windows: Heat from a wildfire can cause windows to break even before the home ignites. This allows burning embers to enter and start internal fires. Single-paned and large windows are particularly vulnerable.

Install dual-paned windows with the exterior pane of tempered glass to reduce the chance of breakage in a fire.

Limit the size and number of windows in your home that face large areas of vegetation.

Walls: Wood products, such as boards, panels or shingles, are common siding materials. However, they are combustible and not good choices for fire-prone areas.

Build or remodel with fire-resistant building materials, such as brick, cement, masonry or stucco.

Be sure to extend materials from foundation to roof.

Garage: Have a fire extinguisher and tools such as a shovel, rake, bucket and hoe available for fire emergencies.

Install a solid door with self-closing hinges between living areas and the garage. Install weather stripping around and under door to prevent ember intrusion.

Store all combustibles and flammable liquids away from ignition sources.

Driveways and Access Roads: Driveways should be designed to allow fire and emergency vehicles and equipment to reach your house.

Access roads should have a minimum 10-foot clearance on either side of the traveled section of the roadway and should allow for two-way traffic.

Ensure that all gates open inward and are wide enough to accommodate emergency equipment.

Trim trees and shrubs overhanging the road to a minimum of 13 1/2 feet to allow emergency vehicles to pass.

Non-Combustible Fencing: Make sure to use non-combustible fencing to protect your home during a wildfire.

Non-Combustible Boxed In Eaves: Box in eaves with non-combustible materials to prevent accumulation of embers.

Raingutters: Screen or enclose rain gutters to prevent accumulation of plant debris.

Water Supply: Have multiple garden hoses that are long enough to reach any area of your home and other structures on your property.

If you have a pool or well, consider a pump.

Deck/Patio Cover: Use heavy timber or non-flammable construction material for decks.

Enclose the underside of balconies and decks with fire-resistant materials to prevent embers from blowing underneath.

Keep your deck clear of combustible items, such as baskets, dried flower arrangements and other debris.

The decking surface must be ignition resistant if it's within 10 feet of the home.

Chimney: Cover your chimney and stovepipe outlets with a non-flammable screen of 1/4-inch wire mesh or smaller to prevent embers from escaping and igniting a fire.

Make sure that your chimney is at least 10 feet away from any tree branches.



READY, SET, GO!

Create Your Own Wildfire Action Plan

Now that you've done everything you can to protect your house, it's time to prepare your family. Your **Wildfire Action Plan** must be prepared with all members of your household well in advance of a fire.

Use these checklists to help you prepare your Wildfire Action Plan. Each family's plan will be different, depending on their situation.

Once you finish your plan, rehearse it regularly with your family and keep it in a safe and accessible place for quick implementation.

GET READY

Prepare Your Family



- Create a **Family Disaster Plan** that includes meeting locations and communication plans and rehearse it regularly. Include in your plan the evacuation of large animals such as horses.
- Have fire extinguishers on hand and train your family how to use them.
- Ensure that your family knows where your gas, electric and water main shut-off controls are and how to use them.
- Plan several different evacuation routes.
- Designate an emergency meeting location outside the fire hazard area.
- Assemble an emergency supply kit as recommended by the American Red Cross.
- Appoint an out-of-area friend or relative as a point of contact so you can communicate with family members who have relocated.
- Maintain a list of emergency contact numbers posted near your phone and in your emergency supply kit.
- Keep an extra emergency supply kit in your car in case you can't get to your home because of fire.
- Have a portable radio or scanner so you can stay updated on the fire.

GET SET

As the Fire Approaches

- Evacuate as soon as you are set!
- Alert family and neighbors.
- Dress in appropriate clothing (i.e., clothing made from natural fibers, such as cotton, and work boots). Have goggles and a dry bandana or particle mask handy.
- Ensure that you have your emergency supply kit on hand that includes all necessary items, such as a battery powered radio, spare batteries, emergency contact numbers, and ample drinking water.
- Stay tuned to your TV or local radio stations for updates, or check the fire department Web site.
- Remain close to your house, drink plenty of water and keep an eye on your family and pets until you are ready to leave.

INSIDE CHECKLIST

- Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked.
- Remove flammable window shades and curtains and close metal shutters.
- Remove lightweight curtains.
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
- Shut off gas at the meter. Turn off pilot lights.
- Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your house under smoky conditions.
- Shut off the air conditioning.



OUTSIDE CHECKLIST

- Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside (e.g., patio furniture, children's toys, door mats, etc.) or place them in your pool.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running - they can waste critical water pressure.
- Leave exterior lights on.
- Back your car into the driveway. Shut doors and roll up windows.
- Have a ladder available.
- Patrol your property and extinguish all small fires until you leave.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals if time permits.

IF YOU ARE TRAPPED: SURVIVAL TIPS

- Shelter away from outside walls.
- Bring garden hoses inside house so embers don't destroy them.
- Patrol inside your home for spot fires and extinguish them.
- Wear long sleeves and long pants made of natural fibers such as cotton.
- Stay hydrated.
- Ensure you can exit the home if it catches fire (remember if it's hot inside the house, it is four to five times hotter outside).
- Fill sinks and tubs for an emergency water supply.
- Place wet towels under doors to keep smoke and embers out.
- After the fire has passed, check your roof and extinguish any fires, sparks or embers.
- Check inside the attic for hidden embers.
- Patrol your property and extinguish small fires.
- If there are fires that you can not extinguish with a small amount of water or in a short period of time, call 9-1-1.

Go! | *Early!*

By leaving early, you give your family the best chance of surviving a wildfire. You also help firefighters by keeping roads clear of congestion, enabling them to move more freely and do their job.

WHEN TO LEAVE

Leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. Don't wait to be told by authorities to leave. In an intense wildfire, they may not have time to knock on every door. If you are advised to leave, don't hesitate!

WHERE TO GO

Leave to a predetermined location (it should be a low-risk area, such as a well-prepared neighbor or relative's house, a Red Cross shelter or evacuation center, motel, etc.)

HOW TO GET THERE

Have several travel routes in case one route is blocked by the fire or by emergency vehicles and equipment. Choose an escape route away from the fire.

WHAT TO TAKE

Take your emergency supply kit containing your family and pet's necessary items.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

The American Red Cross recommends every family have an emergency supply kit assembled long before a wildfire or other emergency occurs. Use the checklist below to help assemble yours. For more information on emergency supplies, visit the American Red Cross Web site at www.redcross.org.

- Three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day).
- Non-perishable food for all family members and pets (three-day supply).
- First aid kit.
- Flashlight, battery-powered radio, and extra batteries.
- An extra set of car keys, credit cards, cash or traveler's checks.
- Sanitation supplies.
- Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses.
- Important family documents and contact numbers.
- Map marked with evacuation routes.
- Prescriptions or special medications.
- Family photos and other irreplaceable items.
- Easily carried valuables.
- Personal computers (information on hard drives and disks).
- Chargers for cell phones, laptops, etc.

Note: Keep a pair of old shoes and a flashlight handy in case of a sudden evacuation at night.



Write up your Wildfire Action Plan and post it in a location where every member of your family can see it. Rehearse it with your family.

My Personal Wildfire Action Plan

During High Fire Danger days in your area, monitor your local media for information on brush fires and be ready to implement your plan. Hot, dry and windy conditions create the perfect environment for a wildfire.

Important Phone Numbers:

Out-of-State Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Work: _____

School: _____

Other: _____

Evacuation Routes: _____

Where to go: _____

Location of Emergency Supply Kit: _____

Notes: _____



International Association of Fire Chiefs
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Fairfax, VA 22033
(703) 273-0911
www.iafc.org/ReadySetGo



READY, SET, GO!

Residential Safety Checklist Tips To Improve Family and Property Survival During A Wildfire

Home	Yes	No
1. Does your home have a metal, composition, or tile (or other non-combustible) roof with capped ends and covered fascia?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are the rain gutters and roof free of leaves, needles and branches?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are all vent openings screened with $\frac{1}{8}$ inch (or smaller) mesh metal screen?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are approved spark arrestors on chimneys?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Does the house have non-combustible siding material?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Are the eaves "boxed in" and the decks enclosed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Are the windows made of at least double-paned or tempered glass?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Are the decks, porches and other similar areas made of non-combustible material and free of easily combustible material (e.g. plastic furniture)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Is all firewood at least 30 feet from the house?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Defensible Space	Yes	No
1. Is dead vegetation cleared to the recommended defensible space area? (Consider adding distance due to slope of property.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Is there separation between shrubs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are ladder fuels removed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Is there a clean and green area extending at least 30 feet from the house?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Is there a non-combustible area within five feet of the house?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is there separation between trees and crowns?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Emergency Access	Yes	No
1. Is the home address visible from the street?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Is the home address made of fire-resistant materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are street signs present at every intersection leading to the house?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are street signs made of fire-resistant materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Is flammable vegetation within 10 feet of the driveway cleared and are overhanging obstructions removed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. If a long driveway is present, does it have a suitable turnaround area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



APPENDICES
B-1 THROUGH B-4
*Family Emergency Readiness
Information and Planning Aids*



Additional Items to Consider Adding to an Emergency Supply Kit:

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- Cash or traveler's checks and change
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from www.ready.gov
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper – When diluted nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.
- Fire Extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children



Ready

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.®



Emergency Supply List



FEMA

www.ready.gov



Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:

Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation

Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food

Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both

Flashlight and extra batteries

First aid kit

Whistle to signal for help

Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place

Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation

Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities

Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)

Local maps

Through its *Ready Campaign*, the Federal Emergency Management Agency educates and empowers Americans to take some simple steps to prepare for and respond to potential emergencies, including natural disasters and terrorist attacks. *Ready* asks individuals to do three key things: get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, and be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses.

All Americans should have some basic supplies on hand in order to survive for at least three days if an emergency occurs. Following is a listing of some basic items that every emergency supply kit should include. However, it is important that individuals review this list and consider where they live and the unique needs of their family in order to create an emergency supply kit that will meet these needs. Individuals should also consider having at least two emergency supply kits, one full kit at home and smaller portable kits in their workplace, vehicle or other places they spend time.



FEMA

Federal Emergency Management Agency
Washington, DC 20472



BE SMART. TAKE PART. CREATE YOUR FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN

Join with others to prepare for emergencies and participate in America's PrepareAthon! | ready.gov/prepare

Creating your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* starts with one simple question: "What if?"

"What if something happens and I'm not with my family?" "Will I be able to reach them?" "How will I know they are safe?" "How can I let them know I'm OK?" During a disaster, you will need to send and receive information from your family.

Communication networks, such as mobile phones and computers, could be unreliable during disasters, and electricity could be disrupted. Planning in advance will help ensure that all the members of your household—including children and people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, as well as outside caregivers—know how to reach each other and where to meet up in an emergency. Planning starts with three easy steps:



1. COLLECT.

Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family and other important people/offices, such as medical facilities, doctors, schools, or service providers.



2. SHARE.

Make sure everyone carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet. If you complete your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* online at ready.gov/make-a-plan, you can print it onto a wallet-sized card. You should also post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator or family bulletin board.



3. PRACTICE.

Have regular household meetings to review and practice your plan.

**TEXT
IS
BEST!**

If you are using a mobile phone, a text message may get through when a phone call will not. This is because a text message requires far less bandwidth than a phone call. Text messages may also save and then send automatically as soon as capacity becomes available.

The following sections will guide you through the process to create and practice your *Family Emergency Communication Plan*.



HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Write down phone numbers and email addresses for everyone in your household. Having this important information written down will help you reconnect with others in case you don't have your mobile device or computer with you or if the battery runs down. If you have a household member(s) who is Deaf or hard of hearing, or who has a speech disability and uses traditional or video relay service (VRS), include information on how to connect through relay services on a landline phone, mobile device, or computer.

SCHOOL, CHILDCARE, CAREGIVER, AND WORKPLACE EMERGENCY PLANS

Because a disaster can strike during school or work hours, you need to know their emergency response plans and how to stay informed. Discuss these plans with children, and let them know who could pick them up in an emergency. Make sure your household members with phones are signed up for alerts and warnings from their school, workplace, and/or local government. To find out more about how to sign up, see *Be Smart. Know Your Alerts and Warnings* at <http://1.usa.gov/1BDloze>. For children without mobile phones, make sure they know to follow instructions from a responsible adult, such as a teacher or principal.

OUT-OF-TOWN CONTACT

It is also important to identify someone outside of your community or State who can act as a central point of contact to help your household reconnect. In a disaster, it may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town because local phone lines can be jammed.

EMERGENCY MEETING PLACES

Decide on safe, familiar places where your family can go for protection or to reunite. Make sure these locations are accessible for household members with disabilities or access and functional needs. If you have pets or service animals, think about animal-friendly locations. Identify the following places:

- Indoor:* If you live in an area where tornadoes, hurricanes, or other high-wind storms can happen, make sure everyone knows where to go for protection. This could be a small, interior, windowless room, such as a closet or bathroom, on the lowest level of a sturdy building, or a tornado safe room or storm shelter.
- In your neighborhood:* This is a place in your neighborhood where your household members will meet if there is a fire or other emergency and you need to leave your home. The meeting place could be a big tree, a mailbox at the end of the driveway, or a neighbor's house.
- Outside of your neighborhood:* This is a place where your family will meet if a disaster happens when you're not at home and you can't get back to your home. This could be a library, community center, house of worship, or family friend's home.

- Outside of your town or city:* Having an out-of-town meeting place can help you reunite if a disaster happens and:

- You cannot get home or to your out-of-neighborhood meeting place; or
- Your family is not together and your community is instructed to evacuate the area.

This meeting place could be the home of a relative or family friend. Make sure everyone knows the address of the meeting place and discuss ways you would get there.

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND INFORMATION

You should also write down phone numbers for emergency services, utilities, service providers, medical providers, veterinarians, insurance companies, and other services.



- Make copies of your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* for each member of the household to carry in his or her wallet, backpack, or purse. Post a copy in a central place at home. Regularly check to make sure your household members are carrying their plan with them.
- Enter household and emergency contact information into all household members' mobile phones or devices.
- Store at least one emergency contact under the name "In Case of Emergency" or "ICE" for all mobile phones and devices. This will help someone identify your emergency contact if needed. Inform your emergency contact of any medical issues or other requirements you may have.
- Create a group list on all mobile phones and devices of the people you would need to communicate with if there was an emergency or disaster.
- Make sure all household members and your out-of-town contact know how to text if they have a mobile phone or device, or know alternative ways to communicate if they are unable to text.
- Read *Be Smart. Know Your Alerts and Warnings* at <http://1.usa.gov/1BDloze> and sign up to receive emergency information.



Once you have completed your *Family Emergency Communication Plan*, made copies for all the members of your household, and discussed it, it's time to practice!

Here are some ideas for practicing your plan:

- Practice texting and calling. Have each person practice sending a text message or calling your out-of-town contact and sending a group text to your mobile phone group list.
- Discuss what information you should send by text. You will want to let others know you are safe and where you are. Short messages like "I'm OK. At library" are good.

- Talk about who will be the lead person to send out information about the designated meeting place for the household.
- Practice gathering all household members at your indoor and neighborhood emergency meeting places. Talk about how each person would get to the identified out-of-neighborhood and out-of-town meeting places. Discuss all modes of transportation, such as public transportation, rail, and para-transit for all family members, including people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs.
- Regularly have conversations with household members and friends about the plan, such as whom and how to text or call, and where to go.
- To show why it's important to keep phone numbers written down, challenge your household members to recite important phone numbers from memory—now ask them to think about doing this in the event of an emergency.
- Make sure everyone, including children, knows how and when to call 911 for help. You should only call 911 when there is a life-threatening emergency.
- Review, update, and practice your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* at least once a year, or whenever any of your information changes.

To help start the conversation or remind your family why you are taking steps to prepare and practice, you may want to watch the 4-minute video, *It Started Like Any Other Day*, about families who have experienced disaster, at www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_omgt3MEBs. Click on the closed captioning (CC) icon on the lower right to turn on the captioning.

After you practice, talk about how it went. What worked well? What can be improved? What information, if any, needs to be updated? If you make updates, remember to print new copies of the plan for everyone.

OTHER IMPORTANT TIPS FOR COMMUNICATING IN DISASTERS¹

- Text is best when using a mobile phone, but if you make a phone call, keep it brief and convey only vital information to emergency personnel and/or family or household members. This will minimize network congestion, free up space on the network for emergency communications, and conserve battery power. Wait 10 seconds before redialing a number. If you redial too quickly, the data from the handset to the cell sites do not have enough time to clear before you've re-sent the same data. This contributes to a clogged network.
- Conserve your mobile phone battery by reducing the brightness of your screen, placing your phone in airplane mode, and closing apps you do not need. Limit watching videos and playing video games to help reduce network congestion.
- Keep charged batteries, a car phone charger, and a solar charger available for backup power for your mobile phone, teletypewriters (TTYs), amplified phones, and caption phones. If you charge your phone in your car, be sure the car is in a well-ventilated area (e.g., not in a closed garage) to avoid life-threatening carbon monoxide poisoning.

¹ Federal Communications Commission, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. (n.d.) *Tips for communicating in an emergency*. Retrieved from <http://transition.fcc.gov/pshs/emergency-information/tips.html>

- If driving, do not text, read texts, or make a call without a hands-free device.
- Maintain a household landline and analog phone (with battery backup if it has a cordless receiver) that can be used when mobile phone service is unavailable. Those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities and use devices and services that depend on digital technology (e.g., VRS, Internet Protocol [IP] Relay, or captioning) should have an analog phone (e.g., TTY, amplified phone, or caption phone) with battery backup in case Internet or mobile service is down.
- If you evacuate and have a call-forwarding feature on your home phone, forward your home phone number to your mobile phone number.
- Use the Internet to communicate by email, Twitter, Facebook, and other social media networks. These communication channels allow you to share information quickly with a widespread audience or to find out if loved ones are OK. The Internet can also be used for telephone calls through Voice over Internet Protocol. For those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities, you can make calls through your IP Relay provider.
- If you do not have a mobile phone, keep a prepaid phone card to use if needed during or after a disaster.
- Use a pay phone if available. It may have less congestion because these phones don't rely on electricity or mobile networks. In some public places, you may be able to find a TTY that can be used by those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities.

America's PrepareAthon! is a grassroots campaign for action to get more people prepared for emergencies. Make your actions count at ready.gov/prepare.

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Access Alerts and Warnings



Test Communication Plans



Assemble or Update Supplies



Drill or Practice Emergency Response



Participate in a Class, Training, or Discussion



Plan with Neighbors



Conduct an Exercise



Make Property Safer



Document and Insure Property



Safeguard Documents

FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Home #:

Address:.....

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media:

Email:

Important medical or other information:

.....

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media:

Email:

Important medical or other information:

.....

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media:

Email:

Important medical or other information:

.....

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media:

Email:

Important medical or other information:

.....

SCHOOL, CHILDCARE, CAREGIVER, AND WORKPLACE EMERGENCY PLANS

Name:

Address:.....

Emergency/Hotline #:

Website:

Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

**SCHOOL,
CHILDCARE,
CAREGIVER, AND
WORKPLACE
EMERGENCY PLANS**

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Address:.....
Emergency/Hotline #:
Website:
Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

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Emergency/Hotline #:
Website:
Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

Name:
Address:.....
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**IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY
(ICE) CONTACT**

Name: Mobile #:
Home #: Email:
Address:

**OUT-OF-TOWN
CONTACT**

Name: Mobile #:
Home #: Email:
Address:

**EMERGENCY
MEETING PLACES**

Indoor:
Instructions:
Neighborhood:
Instructions:

Out-of-Neighborhood:
Address:.....
Instructions:

Out-of-Town:
Address:.....
Instructions:

**IMPORTANT
NUMBERS OR
INFORMATION**

Police: Dial 911 or #:

Fire: Dial 911 or #:

Poison Control: #:

Doctor: #:

Doctor: #:

Pediatrician: #:

Dentist: #:

Hospital/Clinic: #:

Pharmacy: #:

Medical Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Medical Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Homeowner/Rental Insurance:

#:

Policy #:

Flood Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Veterinarian: #:

Kennel: #:

Electric Company: #:

Gas Company: #:

Water Company: #:

Alternate/Accessible Transportation:

#:

Other: #:

Other: #:

Other: #:





BE SMART. TAKE PART. CREATE YOUR FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN

Join with others to prepare for emergencies and participate in America's PrepareAthon! | ready.gov/prepare

Creating your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* starts with one simple question: "What if?"

"What if something happens and I'm not with my family?" "Will I be able to reach them?" "How will I know they are safe?" "How can I let them know I'm OK?" During a disaster, you will need to send and receive information from your family.

Communication networks, such as mobile phones and computers, could be unreliable during disasters, and electricity could be disrupted. Planning in advance will help ensure that all the members of your household—including children and people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, as well as outside caregivers—know how to reach each other and where to meet up in an emergency. Planning starts with three easy steps:



1. COLLECT.

Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family and other important people/offices, such as medical facilities, doctors, schools, or service providers.



2. SHARE.

Make sure everyone carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet. If you complete your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* online at ready.gov/make-a-plan, you can print it onto a wallet-sized card. You should also post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator or family bulletin board.



3. PRACTICE.

Have regular household meetings to review and practice your plan.

**TEXT
IS
BEST!**

If you are using a mobile phone, a text message may get through when a phone call will not. This is because a text message requires far less bandwidth than a phone call. Text messages may also save and then send automatically as soon as capacity becomes available.

The following sections will guide you through the process to create and practice your *Family Emergency Communication Plan*.



HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Write down phone numbers and email addresses for everyone in your household. Having this important information written down will help you reconnect with others in case you don't have your mobile device or computer with you or if the battery runs down. If you have a household member(s) who is Deaf or hard of hearing, or who has a speech disability and uses traditional or video relay service (VRS), include information on how to connect through relay services on a landline phone, mobile device, or computer.

SCHOOL, CHILDCARE, CAREGIVER, AND WORKPLACE EMERGENCY PLANS

Because a disaster can strike during school or work hours, you need to know their emergency response plans and how to stay informed. Discuss these plans with children, and let them know who could pick them up in an emergency. Make sure your household members with phones are signed up for alerts and warnings from their school, workplace, and/or local government. To find out more about how to sign up, see *Be Smart. Know Your Alerts and Warnings* at <http://1.usa.gov/1BDloze>. For children without mobile phones, make sure they know to follow instructions from a responsible adult, such as a teacher or principal.

OUT-OF-TOWN CONTACT

It is also important to identify someone outside of your community or State who can act as a central point of contact to help your household reconnect. In a disaster, it may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town because local phone lines can be jammed.

EMERGENCY MEETING PLACES

Decide on safe, familiar places where your family can go for protection or to reunite. Make sure these locations are accessible for household members with disabilities or access and functional needs. If you have pets or service animals, think about animal-friendly locations. Identify the following places:

- Indoor:* If you live in an area where tornadoes, hurricanes, or other high-wind storms can happen, make sure everyone knows where to go for protection. This could be a small, interior, windowless room, such as a closet or bathroom, on the lowest level of a sturdy building, or a tornado safe room or storm shelter.
- In your neighborhood:* This is a place in your neighborhood where your household members will meet if there is a fire or other emergency and you need to leave your home. The meeting place could be a big tree, a mailbox at the end of the driveway, or a neighbor's house.
- Outside of your neighborhood:* This is a place where your family will meet if a disaster happens when you're not at home and you can't get back to your home. This could be a library, community center, house of worship, or family friend's home.

- Outside of your town or city:* Having an out-of-town meeting place can help you reunite if a disaster happens and:
 - You cannot get home or to your out-of-neighborhood meeting place; or
 - Your family is not together and your community is instructed to evacuate the area.

This meeting place could be the home of a relative or family friend. Make sure everyone knows the address of the meeting place and discuss ways you would get there.

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND INFORMATION

You should also write down phone numbers for emergency services, utilities, service providers, medical providers, veterinarians, insurance companies, and other services.



- Make copies of your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* for each member of the household to carry in his or her wallet, backpack, or purse. Post a copy in a central place at home. Regularly check to make sure your household members are carrying their plan with them.
- Enter household and emergency contact information into all household members' mobile phones or devices.
- Store at least one emergency contact under the name "In Case of Emergency" or "ICE" for all mobile phones and devices. This will help someone identify your emergency contact if needed. Inform your emergency contact of any medical issues or other requirements you may have.
- Create a group list on all mobile phones and devices of the people you would need to communicate with if there was an emergency or disaster.
- Make sure all household members and your out-of-town contact know how to text if they have a mobile phone or device, or know alternative ways to communicate if they are unable to text.
- Read *Be Smart. Know Your Alerts and Warnings* at <http://1.usa.gov/1BDloze> and sign up to receive emergency information.



Once you have completed your *Family Emergency Communication Plan*, made copies for all the members of your household, and discussed it, it's time to practice!

Here are some ideas for practicing your plan:

- Practice texting and calling. Have each person practice sending a text message or calling your out-of-town contact and sending a group text to your mobile phone group list.
- Discuss what information you should send by text. You will want to let others know you are safe and where you are. Short messages like "I'm OK. At library" are good.

- Talk about who will be the lead person to send out information about the designated meeting place for the household.
- Practice gathering all household members at your indoor and neighborhood emergency meeting places. Talk about how each person would get to the identified out-of-neighborhood and out-of-town meeting places. Discuss all modes of transportation, such as public transportation, rail, and para-transit for all family members, including people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs.
- Regularly have conversations with household members and friends about the plan, such as whom and how to text or call, and where to go.
- To show why it's important to keep phone numbers written down, challenge your household members to recite important phone numbers from memory—now ask them to think about doing this in the event of an emergency.
- Make sure everyone, including children, knows how and when to call 911 for help. You should only call 911 when there is a life-threatening emergency.
- Review, update, and practice your *Family Emergency Communication Plan* at least once a year, or whenever any of your information changes.

To help start the conversation or remind your family why you are taking steps to prepare and practice, you may want to watch the 4-minute video, *It Started Like Any Other Day*, about families who have experienced disaster, at www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_omgt3MEBs. Click on the closed captioning (CC) icon on the lower right to turn on the captioning.

After you practice, talk about how it went. What worked well? What can be improved? What information, if any, needs to be updated? If you make updates, remember to print new copies of the plan for everyone.

OTHER IMPORTANT TIPS FOR COMMUNICATING IN DISASTERS¹

- Text is best when using a mobile phone, but if you make a phone call, keep it brief and convey only vital information to emergency personnel and/or family or household members. This will minimize network congestion, free up space on the network for emergency communications, and conserve battery power. Wait 10 seconds before redialing a number. If you redial too quickly, the data from the handset to the cell sites do not have enough time to clear before you've re-sent the same data. This contributes to a clogged network.
- Conserve your mobile phone battery by reducing the brightness of your screen, placing your phone in airplane mode, and closing apps you do not need. Limit watching videos and playing video games to help reduce network congestion.
- Keep charged batteries, a car phone charger, and a solar charger available for backup power for your mobile phone, teletypewriters (TTYs), amplified phones, and caption phones. If you charge your phone in your car, be sure the car is in a well-ventilated area (e.g., not in a closed garage) to avoid life-threatening carbon monoxide poisoning.

¹ Federal Communications Commission, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. (n.d.) *Tips for communicating in an emergency*. Retrieved from <http://transition.fcc.gov/pshs/emergency-information/tips.html>

- If driving, do not text, read texts, or make a call without a hands-free device.
- Maintain a household landline and analog phone (with battery backup if it has a cordless receiver) that can be used when mobile phone service is unavailable. Those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities and use devices and services that depend on digital technology (e.g., VRS, Internet Protocol [IP] Relay, or captioning) should have an analog phone (e.g., TTY, amplified phone, or caption phone) with battery backup in case Internet or mobile service is down.
- If you evacuate and have a call-forwarding feature on your home phone, forward your home phone number to your mobile phone number.
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Document and Insure Property



Safeguard Documents

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HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Home #:

Address:.....

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media:

Email:

Important medical or other information:

.....

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media:

Email:

Important medical or other information:

.....

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media:

Email:

Important medical or other information:

.....

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media:

Email:

Important medical or other information:

.....

SCHOOL, CHILDCARE, CAREGIVER, AND WORKPLACE EMERGENCY PLANS

Name:

Address:.....

Emergency/Hotline #:

Website:

Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

**SCHOOL,
CHILDCARE,
CAREGIVER, AND
WORKPLACE
EMERGENCY PLANS**

Name:
Address:.....
Emergency/Hotline #:
Website:
Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

Name:
Address:.....
Emergency/Hotline #:
Website:
Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

Name:
Address:.....
Emergency/Hotline #:
Website:
Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

**IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY
(ICE) CONTACT**

Name: Mobile #:
Home #: Email:
Address:

**OUT-OF-TOWN
CONTACT**

Name: Mobile #:
Home #: Email:
Address:

**EMERGENCY
MEETING PLACES**

Indoor:
Instructions:
Neighborhood:
Instructions:

Out-of-Neighborhood:
Address:.....
Instructions:

Out-of-Town:
Address:.....
Instructions:

**IMPORTANT
NUMBERS OR
INFORMATION**

Police: Dial 911 or #:

Fire: Dial 911 or #:

Poison Control: #:

Doctor: #:

Doctor: #:

Pediatrician: #:

Dentist: #:

Hospital/Clinic: #:

Pharmacy: #:

Medical Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Medical Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Homeowner/Rental Insurance:

#:

Policy #:

Flood Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Veterinarian: #:

Kennel: #:

Electric Company: #:

Gas Company: #:

Water Company: #:

Alternate/Accessible Transportation:

#:

Other: #:

Other: #:

Other: #:





Write your family's name above

Family Emergency Communication Plan

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Home #:

Address:

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media: Email:

Important medical or other information:

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media: Email:

Important medical or other information:

FOLD HERE

Name: Mobile #:

Other # or social media: Email:

Important medical or other information:

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Other # or social media: Email:

Important medical or other information:

FOLD HERE

SCHOOL, CHILDCARE, CAREGIVER, AND WORKPLACE EMERGENCY PLANS

Name:

Address:

Emergency/Hotline #: Website:

Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

Name:

Address:

Emergency/Hotline #: Website:

Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

Name:

Address:

Emergency/Hotline #: Website:

Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (ICE) CONTACT

Name: Mobile #:

Home #: Email:

Address:

OUT-OF-TOWN CONTACT

Name: Mobile #:

Home #: Email:

Address:

EMERGENCY MEETING PLACES

Indoor:

Instructions:

Neighborhood:

Instructions:

Out-of-Neighborhood:

Address:

Instructions:

Out-of-Town:

Address:

Instructions:

IMPORTANT NUMBERS OR INFORMATION

Police: Dial 911 or #:

Fire: Dial 911 or #:

Poison Control: #:

Doctor: #:

Doctor: #:

Pediatrician: #:

Dentist: #:

Medical Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Medical Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Hospital/Clinic: #:

Pharmacy: #:

Homeowner/Rental Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Flood Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Veterinarian: #:

Kennel: #:

Electric Company: #:

Gas Company: #:

Water Company: #:

Alternate/Accessible Transportation: #:

Other:

Other:



Write your family's name above

Family Emergency Communication Plan

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

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Important medical or other information:

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Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:

FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (ICE) CONTACT

Name: Mobile #:

Home #: Email:

Address:

OUT-OF-TOWN CONTACT

Name: Mobile #:

Home #: Email:

Address:

EMERGENCY MEETING PLACES

Indoor:

Instructions:

Neighborhood:

Instructions:

Out-of-Neighborhood:

Address:

Instructions:

Out-of-Town:

Address:

Instructions:

IMPORTANT NUMBERS OR INFORMATION

Police: Dial 911 or #:

Fire: Dial 911 or #:

Poison Control: #:

Doctor: #:

Doctor: #:

Pediatrician: #:

Dentist: #:

Medical Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Medical Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Hospital/Clinic: #:

Pharmacy: #:

Homeowner/Rental Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Flood Insurance: #:

Policy #:

Veterinarian: #:

Kennel: #:

Electric Company: #:

Gas Company: #:

Water Company: #:

Alternate/Accessible Transportation: #:

Other:

Other:



Family Disaster Plan

Family Last Name(s) or Household Address:

Date:

Family Member/Household Contact Info (If needed, additional space is provided in #10 below):

Name

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email:

<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Pet(s) Info:

Name:

Type:

Color:

Registration #:

<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Plan of Action

1. The disasters most likely to affect our household are:

2. What are the escape routes from our home?

3. If separated during an emergency, what is our meeting place near our home?

4. If we cannot return home or are asked to evacuate, what is our meeting place outside of our neighborhood?

What is our route to get there and an alternate route, if the first route is impassible?

5. In the event our household is separated or unable to communicate with each other, our emergency contact outside of our immediate area is:

Name

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email:

After a disaster, let your friends and family know you are okay by registering at "Safe and Well" at <https://safeandwell.communityos.org/cms/> or by calling 1-800-733-2767. You can also give them a call, send a quick text or update your status on social networking sites.

6. If at school/daycare, our child(ren) will be evacuated to:

Child's Name:

Evacuation Site (address and contact info):

7. Our plan for people in our household with a disability or special need is:

Person's Name:

Plan:

8. During certain emergencies local authorities may direct us to "shelter in place" in our home. An accessible, safe room where we can go, seal windows, vents and doors and listen to emergency broadcasts for instructions, is:

9. Family Member Responsibilities in the Event of a Disaster

Task	Description	Family Member Responsible
Disaster Kit*	Stock the disaster kit and take it if evacuation is necessary. Include items you might want to take to an evacuation shelter. Remember to include medications and eye glasses.	
Be informed	Maintain access to NOAA or local radio, TV, email or text alerts for important and current information about disasters.	
Family Medical Information	Make sure the household medical information is taken with us if evacuation is necessary.	
Financial Information	Obtain copies of bank statements and cash in the event ATMs and credit cards do not work due to power outages. Bring copies of utility bills as proof of residence in applying for assistance.	
Pet Information	Evacuate our pet(s), keep a phone list of pet-friendly motels and animal shelters, and assemble and take the pet disaster kit.	
Sharing and Maintaining the Plan	Share the completed plan with those who need to know. Meet with household members every 6 months or as needs change to update household plan.	

*What supplies and records should go in your disaster kit? Visit www.redcross.org

10. Other information, if not able to be included above.

Congratulations on completing your family disaster plan! Please tell others: "We've made a family disaster plan and you can, too, with help from the American Red Cross."

Get the facts about what you should do if an emergency or disaster occurs at www.redcross.org



Family Disaster Plan

Family Last Name(s) or Household Address:

Date:

Family Member/Household Contact Info (If needed, additional space is provided in #10 below):

Name

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email:

Pet(s) Info:

Name:

Type:

Color:

Registration #:

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