

0	<b>Admin Section</b>			

1	<b>Proposal Cooperator [NV]</b>					
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1	<b>Applicant Information [NV]</b>					
	Applicant:	Nevada Division of Forestry				
	Contact Person:	Barry Stone				
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	Email:	barry.stone@forestry.nv.gov				
Federal Tax Id:	775-684-2570	DUNS#:	88-6000022 / 0481018			

2	<b>Project Information</b>			
	Name of the Project:	Living with Fire Program: 2022 WSFM Grant for Enhanced Service		
	Community Name(s):	All 250 Communities at Risk in Nevada		
	Counties:	All 17 Nevada Counties		
Congressional District:	NV02 NV03			

2	<b>GIS Coordinates</b>			
	Ref. Point Name:	Center of Nevada		
	Lat/Long:	39, -116		
	Description:	Center of Nevada because the project covers the entire state, specifically, all 250 communities at risk.		
	Area Name:	Boundary of Nevada		
	Boundary Lat/Longs:	39, -120; 35, -114; 39, -120; 42, -120; 42, -114		
Description:	Boundary of Nevada because the project covers the entire state, specifically, all 250 communities at risk			

### Applicant Budget [NV]

	Grant	Match		TOTAL
	Funds Requested	Applicant	Non-Federal Contributors	Total Project Cost
<b>3</b>	<b>Personnel / Labor:</b>			
	<b>Fringe Benefits:</b>			
	<b>Travel:</b>			
	<b>Equipment:</b>			
	<b>Supplies:</b>			
	<b>Contractual:</b>	\$277,012		\$307,012
	<b>Other:</b>	\$15,000	\$270,000	\$285,000
	<b>Indirect Costs:</b>	\$7,988		\$7,988
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$270,000</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>

### Budget Narrative

**4** Contractual: (\$277,012) will be sub-awarded to the University of Nevada Reno (UNR) for the Living With Fire (LWF) Program for outreach and education on wildfire awareness to Nevada residents. The Funds will be utilized for salary (\$144,360.85), Fringe Benefits (\$46,628.55), Travel (\$14,470.14), Supplies (\$6,000), and Indirect Costs (\$65,552.46).

Other - (\$15,000) to help fund the State of Nevada, Fire Adaptive Nevada (FAN) program to reach out to local landowners and educate them on the value of defensible space and hazardous fuels reduction, as well as the benefits of becoming a Firewise USA and Ready, Set, Go! community.

Indirect Costs - (\$7,988) calculated at the contracted state rate with the USFS.

### Project Area Description and Challenges

**5** The proposed project is an education/prevention project to target high fire-hazard areas in the WUI throughout Nevada. The USFS National Wildfire Hazard Map shows Nevada's fire risk to homes in the 100th percentile compared to other states. The wildfire consequence is very high in Nevada; if a fire burns in Nevada the risk of losing a home is extreme. Fires also have other large societal impacts in Nevada, including health impacts from poor air quality, economic impacts from loss of recreation and tourism, and impacts to municipal water sources in an already water-poor state. Humans contribute to fire risk in Nevada by causing fires, but also by building homes in fire-prone landscapes. There is a need for high quality educational materials and programs to effectively enhance awareness about wildfire preparedness.

The primary objective of this project is to support the Living With Fire (LWF) program to provide educational materials and opportunities for communities to become more fire adapted.

Challenges: One of the major challenges of this project is to turn educational experiences into long-lasting behavior change in residents and communities across Nevada. We believe we can tackle this through providing hands-on learning through workshops, increasing capacity by training community leaders, and equipping communities with needed knowledge and skills. Another challenge that we face in Nevada is the overall capacity to reach enough communities in the high-fire hazard areas in a funding-poor state. With support for LWF, we can provide the necessary education, facilitation, and community building functions that will help us meet our collective fire adaptation goals.

## Relation to Forest Action Plan AND CWPP

6

Nevada Forest Action Plan (FAP): LWF was a contributing reviewer of the Forest Action Plan and is identified as a key cooperator in the Opportunities and Strategies section. LWF is critical to the implementation of the Nevada and National Cohesive Strategies (Strategy 2-1-2) and is considered the educational partner in the Fire Adapted Nevada Initiative. An overarching goal of the Forest Action Plan is to increase public awareness and involvement in proactive wildfire prevention activities (Goal 2-2) and LWF is listed as a key cooperator in five strategies outlined to achieve this goal. These strategies are focused on providing education and outreach to 1) create ignition resistant homes and communities, 2) support community ownership of wildfire threats and create mitigation plans, 3) deliver fire prevention activities and events, 4) focus on creating fire adapted communities, and 5) implement pre-fire mitigation actions in wildlands that focus on resilient landscapes.

Nevada CWPPs: A critical part of achieving the goals listed in the FAP and National Cohesive Strategy is to help communities create CWPPs and become Firewise recognized communities. LWF helps communities host meetings which are required for the Firewise process and can also help them in their CWPP process through trainings and technology transfer.

## Proposed Activities

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Requested funds will be used to support LWF in providing capacity to work with communities to increase their potential to become fire adapted, which was listed as one of our primary challenges in Box #5,

LWF will focus on lasting community engagement and skill-building to address our additional challenge related to turning knowledge into behavior change. LWF will accomplish these goals through project leadership, meeting facilitation, technology transfer, marketing and public messaging, written and oral communication (\$196,989.40), and through travel to in-person community meetings (\$14,470.14).

LWF will a) focus on engaging with five NEW communities per year, b) lead 6 community workshops focused on CWPP development or grant-writing, c) lead trainings for the professional sector focused on defensible space and home hardening, d) train a volunteer coalition of up to 50 fire stewards to increase capacity in community engagement, e) increase wildfire preparedness in tribal communities and organizations throughout Nevada through respectful stakeholder engagement and capacity building, and f) work with local and state decision makers to increase wildfire awareness in policy settings. LWF will also work broadly on creating new publications (minimum of six total) to educate communities about wildfire preparedness and will distribute 30,000 existing publications. LWF will also collaborate with other agencies and partners on 100 community workshops/presentations per year. Project success will be measured through communities/contacts reached annually, surveying changes in knowledge and intent to act, and long-term data collection focused on assessing changes in behavior and societal impacts.

(\$15,000) will help fund the State of Nevada, Fire Adaptive Nevada (FAN) program to reach out to local landowners and educate them on the value of defensible space and hazardous fuels reduction, as well as the benefits of becoming a Firewise USA and Ready, Set, Go! community. FAN will work collaboratively with LWF who will provide the most up to date educational resource materials on preparing for wildfire. FAN will continue to create the framework for community wildfire resilience by increasing community engagement.

## Landscape Impacts

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Outreach and education completed by LWF staff contribute to larger shared goals and efforts by many partners. LWF is responsible for creating a majority of the educational tools that partner agencies use for educating the public about wildfire preparedness. Notable publications include a Fire Adapted Communities Guide, Home Hardening Guide, Defensible Space Guide, and a Choosing the Right Plants for Nevadas High Fire Hazard ecosystems.

Anticipated impacts to Nevada's wildfire-prone community residents include: a) increased awareness and implementation of fire adapted community activities; b) greater fire adaptation of contiguous communities within region; c) enhancing existing county, state and federal prevention/WUI programs; and e) less losses of human life and property and negative socio-economic impacts from wildfires.

LWF has had documented success in moving communities towards fire adaptation. LWF recently conducted a state- and region-wide evaluation and found that the public understanding of topics including fire adapted communities, wildfire risk, evacuation planning, home retrofitting, community preparedness, and defensible space all significantly increased after experiencing LWF programming. We also surveyed our professional audience (i.e., agency partners and key stakeholders) and over 50% reported LWF increasing their ability to communicate on wildfire preparedness topics. LWF education and recommendations are utilized by local planning agencies to set standards for vegetation management in new developments and has recently been used by the Nevada Insurance Commission to define standards for homeowner incentives related to defensible space.

## Project Collaboration

Fire outreach and education activities are very collaborative. LWF works closely with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF), US Forest Service, and numerous local fire agencies (for example Truckee Meadows Fire and Rescue). Collaborative partners work closely with LWF to create shared interagency recommendations on defensible space, home hardening, and other critical fire-related content. The partner agencies also provide critical review to LWF materials, promote and contribute to local events, and motivate adoption of fire adapted community concepts through the establishment of Firewise USA recognized communities throughout Nevada.

9

BLM (Leverage) contributes to this overall project and the LWF program by providing 50% of the salary for the primary LWF staff, travel, as well as materials and supply costs.

NDF will supply (\$270,000) for match in the form of CPG Fire Overmatch. NDF also supports the Fire Adapted Nevada Initiative with staff time and overhead costs, and this Initiative works directly with LWF to educate communities about wildfire preparedness (Leverage).

Match (\$30,000) to the grant comes in the form of UNR Living With Fire Program Director salary that will be used to administer the program, direct staff, write publications, collaborate with partners, provide leadership, and present to community groups.

## Project Timeline

The proposed project period is 09/2023-08/2026.

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Year 1: Create 2 new publications on defensible space and ember awareness. Distribute 15,000 publications to the public. Lead 1-2 defensible space training for landscape professionals and 1 home hardening presentation for building professionals. Work closely with the Fire Adapted Nevada Initiative to support five communities through community educational events and technical training workshops. Develop a tribal engagement plan for tribes in northwestern Nevada.

Year 2: Create 2 new publications topics will be identified by stakeholder need but will cover wildfire preparedness topics. Lead 3-4 professional trainings. Work with tribes identified in Year 1 in northwestern Nevada on community preparedness planning and at least 2 events. Develop a tribal engagement plan for northeastern Nevada. Work with five Nevada communities on technical training workshops to expedite update of CWPPs and eligibility for grants.

Year 3: Create new publications topics will be identified by stakeholder need. Lead 3-4 professional trainings. Work with tribes in northeastern Nevada on 2 community wildfire preparedness events and continue to support tribes in northwestern Nevada. Develop a tribal engagement plan for southern Nevada and begin working with tribes to increase capacity for fire adaptation. Work with five Nevada communities on technical training workshops to expedite update of CWPPs and eligibility for grants.

## Project Sustainability

Environmental Factors: Fuel types within and around communities at risk grow back at rates depending on type (eg. cheatgrass-annually, most brush types-10 years, woodlands and timber-15 to 20 years). LWF recommendations are adaptable to all types.

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Education: Program delivery by LWF personnel with assistance from program collaborators. The target audience is residents of Nevadas WUI communities, who will be instilled with a FAC knowledge set and culture of action-oriented behaviors through community engagements, presentations, train-the-trainer opportunities and conferences. Education and awareness play an essential role in homeowner implementation of pre-fire activities. As the wildfire threat to communities increases, the need for this well-conceived, coordinated educational program will continue to grow.

Commitment: This project will remain effective and be sustained over time by: a) educated homeowners, who can apply learned wildfire threat reduction techniques in subsequent years; b) LWF partnerships that have existed for decades and will continue; c) Fire Adapted Nevada, which will utilize materials and community engagements to create long-lasting community change; and d) UNR has supported LWF since 1998 and will likely maintain program enhancements through interagency partnerships.

Monitoring: The LWF program will be monitored internally by the Nevada System of Higher Education and externally by NDF and BLM. The LWF Program will continue to be monitored by the collaborators to ensure that the program is sustainable through goal attainment.