State of Utah

Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan

For the Wildland - Urban Interface

Town of Alta, Utah



April 15, 2019



Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands
1594 W North Temple, PO Box 145703, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5703

Alta Wildfire Preparedness Plan

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Declaration and Concurrence Page

This list needs to be customized to the individual plan. Provide the names and affiliations of all cooperators. This page will then be signed after all cooperators have reviewed the plan <u>and concur with its contents</u>.

	Community Member/Landowner
NAME	Affiliation
SIGNATURE	DATE
	Community Member/Landowner
NAME	AFFILIATION
SIGNATURE	DATE
	Community Member/Landowner
NAME	AFFILIATION
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INTRODUCTION

Over 600 of Utah's communities have been classified as "at risk" of wildfire. The safety of the citizens of any community and the protection of private property and community infrastructure is a shared responsibility between the citizens; the owner, developer or association; and the local, county, state and federal governments. The primary responsibility, however, remains with the local government and the citizen/owner.

The purpose of wildfire preparedness planning is to...

- Motivate and empower local government, communities, and property owners to organize, plan, and take action on issues impacting the safety and resilience of values at risk
- Enhance levels of fire resilience and protection to the communities and infrastructure
- · Identify the threat of wildland fires in the area
- Identify strategies to reduce the risks to structures, infrastructure and commerce in the community during a wildfire
- Identify wildfire hazards, education, and mitigation actions needed to reduce risk
- Transfer practical knowledge through collaboration between stakeholders toward common goals and objectives

Outcomes of wildfire preparedness planning...

- Facilitate organization of sustainable efforts to guide planning and implementation of actions:
 - 1. Fire adapted communities 2. Resilient landscapes 3. Safe and effective fire response
- Improve community safety through:
 - ✓ Coordination and collaboration
 - ✓ Public awareness and education
- ✓ Firefighter training
- ✓ Fuel modification
- ✓ Improved fire response capabilities
- ✓ Fire prevention
- Development of longterm strategies

RESOURCES

For resources to complete a wildfire preparedness plan for your community, consider organizations such as the following:

- ✓ Local / Primary fire protection provider
- ✓ Local Resource, Conservation and Development Districts
- ✓ Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands
- ✓ Utah State Fire Marshal (Dept. of Public Safety)
- ✓ Utah Division of Emergency Management
- ✓ Utah Living With Fire
- ✓ Local fire agencies

- ✓ Local emergency management services
- ✓ USDA Forest Service
- ✓ U.S. Department of Interior Agencies
- Utah Resource Conservation Districts
- ✓ Utah Soil Conservation Districts

STATEMENT OF LIABILITY

The activities suggested by this template, associated checklist and guidance document, the assessments and recommendations of fire officials, and the plans and projects outlined by the community wildfire council, are made in good faith according to information available at this time. The Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands assumes no liability and makes no guarantees regarding the level of success users of this plan will experience. Wildfire still occurs, despite efforts to prevent it or contain it; the intention of all decisions and actions made under this plan is to reduce the potential for, and the consequences of, wildfire.

Last revised March 2016

This document provides the outline for and specifies the information recommended for inclusion in a wildfire preparedness plan. Completed Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans should be submitted to the local Area Manager or Fire Management Officer with the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands for final concurrence.

Alta Wildfire Preparedness Plan

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PLANNING OVERVIEW

Briefly describe the overall planning process that took place to complete this plan. Be sure to include a timeline of the events/meetings, the organizations and partners that participated, a description of why this planning process was initiated, and the overall intended outcome of the process, and how outcomes were accomplished. This is much like the information described above (purpose and outcome) but tailored to your community. If desired, please acknowledge any individuals or organizations that were essential to accomplishing the final plan.

- 1. Chris-Katie G met in August, scheduled first public meeting
- 2. Chris, Katie, Jay, and Riley met in September.
- 3. First community CWPP meeting, October 2, 2018
- 4. UFA-TOA-FFSL community tour, October 25, 2018
- **5.** UFA-TOA CWPP meeting re: community assessment, goals sections, January 23, 2019
- 6. Presentation to Alta Town Council, 4/15/19

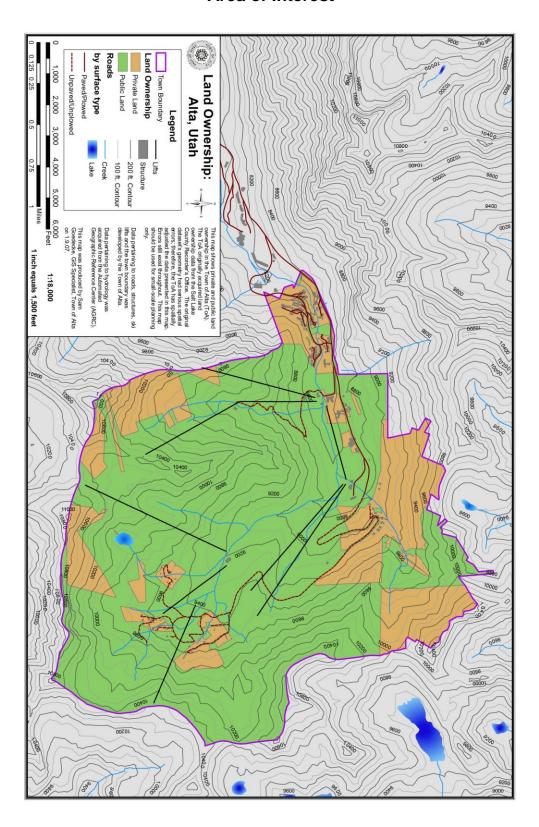
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PLAN OVERVIEW MAP Area of Interest



PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

Briefly describe surrounding lands and the partners involved in coordinating the fuels treatments identified in the CWPP. This section can be added to as new projects and partners are developed. Community buy-in and desires to support and move these projects forward is critical to overall success.

Examples -

The Town of Alta exists amidst a complex arrangement of jurisdictions from every level of government, including local, state, and federal entities. Much of the land within the town's boundaries is owned and managed by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Salt Lake Ranger District, and nearly all this federal land is within a special use permit held by Alta Ski Area. The southern border of Alta is the Salt Lake County-Utah County line, and it is also the boundary between the Salt Lake Ranger District and the Pleasant Grove Ranger District of the Forest. Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities and Salt Lake Valley Health Department have jurisdiction under state law to manage watershed protection and water quality in Alta. The Town of Alta provides law enforcement locally, although Unified Police Department of Greater Salt Lake patrols greater Little Cottonwood Canyon. Unified Fire Authority provides fire protection services.

PART I COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Community Legal Structure

List the government entities associated with the community – city, town, unincorporated community, special service district, homeowner association(s), other.

Organization	Contact Person	Phone Number	E-mail
TOA	Chris Cawley	801-742-6010	Ccawley@townofalta.com
UWCNF, SLRD	Bekee Hotze, District Ranger	801-733-2675	rhotze@fs.fed.us
UFA	Chief Jay Torgersen, Alta Liason/Dominic Burchett, Wildland Bureau Chief	801-743-7200	jtorgersen@unifiedfire.org
SLCDPU	Patrick Nelson, Watershed Manager	801-483-6900	pnelson@slcgov.com

Population					
Approximate number of homes	80				
Approximate number of lots	30 remaining undeveloped lots, not incl. Albion				
	Basin				
Approximate number of commercial	10 major commercial facilities				
entities					
Approximate number of full-time residents	383 per 2010 Census				
Approximated number of part-time	More than 500 seasonal residents, up to 1000				
residents	lodging guests				

Notes/comments: In mid-May on a weeknight, there are likely fewer than 50 people sleeping in Alta. On a weekend during peak ski season, there could be over 1500 people sleeping in Alta.

Restricting Covenants, Ordinances, etc. (Attach as appendix) For example, home association bylaws may have requirements regarding building construction materials or vegetation removal, or regarding access in a gated community.						
Source	Details					
Town of Alta Code	Weeds removal, 4-1-5; Requirements for Preservation or Replacement. 9-3-3: "in order to obtain approval to remove mature trees, a person must show that the failure to remove a mature tree will constitute extreme hardship"					

Access

Directions to community

Utah State Route 210 (SR-210), otherwise known as Little Cottonwood Canyon Road, is the sole vehicle access to Alta, and it is also the only way out of the canyon. Certain neighborhoods are inaccessible by automobile between November and June, or longer.

All-weather access

Access to Alta via SR 210 is frequently compromised throughout the winter season due to avalanche hazard and poor roadway conditions. Access can also be compromised by flooding, debris flows, wildfire, hazmat incidents, or automobile crashes.

Seasonal access

Some residential properties in the Grizzly Gulch area, and some ski area facilities, are inaccessible to wheeled vehicles during winter and much of spring due to deep snow cover. Many such properties are accessible via snowcat groomed road grades. Some seasonal cabins in upper Albion Basin are not accessible via snowcat groomed road grades.

Roads									
	None	Some	All	Adequate	Inadequate	% Pavemen t	% gravel	% dirt	
Road signs				х		60	40		
present									
Will support		X		х				·	
normal flow of									
traffic									
Are loop roads		X							

Are dead-end	X							
roads								
Turnaround	X		х					
space available								
at end of road								
for emergency								
equipment								
(based on								
turning radius								
listed in the								
guidance								
document)								
<i>Notes/comments:</i>	Notes/comments:							
			Driveways					
			Adequate	Inadequate	No	Few	Most	All
Most driveways w	vidth and heigh	t	x				X	
clearance, road grades and								
vegetation appearance are								
Individual homeowners have posted						X		
their name and address								
<i>Notes/comments:</i>								

Structures									
	None	Few	Some	Many	Most	All			
Wood frame construction			X						
Have wood decks or porches		X							
Have wood, shake or shingle roofs		X							
Are visible from the main subdivision road					х				
Notes/comments:									

Bridges, Gate, Culverts, other						
	No	Some	All			
Bridges support emergency equipment			x			

Gate provides easy access to emergency		X
equipment		
Culverts are easily crossed by emergency		X
equipment		
Notes/comments:		

Utilities						
	Below ground	Above ground	Provided by	Phone number	% marked with a flag or other highly visible means	% utilized
Telephone service	X		Century Link, Syringa	877-837-5738, 800-454-7214		
Electrical service	Х	Х	RMP	888-221-7070		
Are there homes utilizing propane?		21				
Are there homes utilizing natural gas?	59		Dominion	801-324-5111		
Notes/comments: Cellular providers with equipment stations in Alta including Verizon, AT&T, T-						

List locations of propane tanks above ground: Address, lat/long, etc. Owner Size Albion Basin: 40°34′39.3″N 111°36′47.4″W Albion Basin, West Grizzly, 21 West Grizzly: 40°35'35.6"N 111°37'43.6"W and 3 Backyard gas grills? R.A.X. Hellgate, Blackjack, Mt, Blackjack Cliffs GaxEx: 40°34′52.1″N 111°38′36.2″W 1000 G Hellgate Cliffs GazEx: 40°35'30.4"N 111°39'01.3"W Baldy propane Mt. Baldy OBell'x: 40°34'02.3"N 111°37'57.9"W tanks;

Mobile, and Sprint.

	O'bell-x
	removed
	out-of-
	season
Notes/comments:	

Primary Water Sources				
Approximate % home	s using central water system	75		
Approximate %homes using individual wells		25		
Approximate % home	s having additional private	21 seasonal cabins, 1 SF home		
water source	-			
Water provided by	Town of Alta system provides wat	er under	Phone	801-742-3522:
	SLC contract. SLCO Service Area	#3		Town of Alta
	provides water to some West Alta			Office
	properties, also under SLC contract.			
	Seasonal cabins and upper mountain			
	facilities maintain individual syste	ems and		
	separate contracts.			
Notes/comments:				

List locations of water sources:			
Owner	Address, lat/long, etc.	Accessible	
TOA/Bay City	40°35'32.2"N 111°37'52.5"W	yes	
S.A. #3/Wasatch Drain	40°35'00.0"N 111°39'05.3"W (not in Alta)	yes	
ASL springs, Basin systems	Numerous		
Notes/comments:			

PART II:

RISK ASSESSMENT

Estimated Values at Risk				
Provide an approximation of the estimated current value	es of residential and commercial			
property in the area. The County Assessor should be able to assist with this information.				
Estimated values at risk of commercial and	\$ 301,859,420			
residential property				
Year	2017			

Natural Resources at Risk Describe the natural resources at risk in the area, such as watershed, forest products, wildlife, recreation tourism, etc.
Watershed, forest products, wildlife, ski resort infrastructure (local and regional economy), dispersed recreation infrastructure

The following information is based on the Communities At Risk (CARs) list that was developed cooperatively at the local and state level to assist land management agencies and other stakeholders in determining the scope of the WUI challenge and to monitor progress in mitigating the hazards in these areas. This information is updated annually through the interagency fuel groups. Input the fields that are reflected on the state list found on our website at forestry.utah.gov.

Fire O	ccurre	ence: Number o	of fires in the area for the last 10 years to	
[]	0	No Risk		
[]	1	Moderate	o to 1 fire/township	
[x]	2	High	2 to 14 fires/township	
[]	3	Extreme	Greater than 14 fires/township	
Total				

Area Fire History				
Month/Year of fire	Ignition point	Ignition source	Acres burned	

	d various human-related causes such as smoldering campfires. These fires have either burned out naturally or they've been contained and suppressed by firefighters
Fuel Hazard:	: Assess the fuel conditions of the landscape and surrounding the community
[] o	No Risk
	Moderate (Moderate to low to control, fire intensities would generally cause nage to resources based on slope, wind speed and fuel. Vegetation Types: Ponderosan shrub, grassland, alpine, dry meadow, desert grassland, Ponderosa pine, Aspen riparian.)
Vegetation Ty	High (High resistance to control, high to moderate intensity resulting in high to mage to resources depending on slope, rate of spread, wind speed and fuel loading. The present the mountain shrubs, sagebrush, sagebrush/perennial grass, salt desert brush, Creosote and Greasewood.)
-	Extreme (High resistance to control, extreme intensity level resulting in almost abustion of vegetation and possible damage to soils and seed sources depending on speed, rate of spread and fuel loading.)
Total	
	cted: Evaluate the human and economic values associated with the community or ch as homes, businesses and community infrastructure.
[] o	No Risk
[] 1 and recreation	Moderate (Secondary Development: This would be seasonal or secondary housing nal facilities.)
[] 2 commercial a	High (Primary Development: This would include primary residential housing, nd business areas.)
-	Extreme (Community infrastructure and community support: This would be s, utilities, transportation systems, critical care facilities, schools manufacturing and s. It may also include valuable commercial timber stands, municipal watersheds and

areas of high historical, cultural and/or spiritual significance which support and/or are critical to the well-being of the community.)

Total _____

Insurance Rating				
Provide the current insurance rating for the community				
ISO Fire Insurance Rating:	Ask Jay			

Protection Capabilities: Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating for the community will serve as an overall indicator of the protection capabilities.

[] Extreme 3 ISO Rating 10

[x] High 2 ISO Rating 7 to 9

[] Moderate 1 ISO Rating of 6 or lower

Total ____

Fire Occurrence	Fuel Hazard	Values Protected	Fire Protection Capabilities	Overall Rating
2	2	3	2	9
Tota	9			

The following information is based on the Utah Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal (UWRAP) and Area of Interest (AOI) Summary Reporting Tool. Reports are generated using a set of predefined map products developed by the West Wide Wildfire Risk Assessment (2012) project. The UWRAP provides a consistent, comparable set of scientific results to be used as a foundation for wildfire mitigation and prevention planning in Utah.

Wildland Development Areas (WUI): Data set is derived using modeling techniques abased on the Where People Live and population count data available to government agencies from the Department of Homeland Security.

Wildland Development Area (WUI) Impacts: Data set is derived using a Response Function modeling approach. To calculate the Wildland Development Area Impact Response Function Score, the Wildland Development Area housing density data was combined with flame length data and Response Functions assignments to represent potential impacts.

Wildfire Risk: combines the likelihood of a fire occurring (Threat), with those of areas of most concern that are adversely impacted by fire (Fire Effects). Wildfire Threat Index is derived from historical fire occurrence, landscape characteristics including surface fuels and canopy fuels, percentile weather derived from historical weather observations and terrain conditions. Fire Effects are comprised of Value Impacts and Suppression Difficulty.

	Total Acres AOI for each Category with the percentages added				
	WUI WUI Impacts Wildfire Risl				
Low (1-4)	~2300 acres	~700 acres	17,082/38.3%		
Moderate (5-7)	~330 acres	~200 acres	22,895/51.2%		
High (8-10)	~250 acres	21 acres	4,653/10.4%		

Including maps from the UWRAP report may also be beneficial in this section. Consider using the following as an example.

- Location Specific Ignitions
- Ignition and Fire occurrence density
- Water Impacts
- Rate of Spread
- Suppression Difficulty
- Fire Effects

	Past Accomplishments
Prevention	• The ski area annually removes trees that are deemed hazard from within the ski area, which include trees that threaten the lift lines, and dead or blown over trees within the ski area that threaten the safety of the skiers. Annual removal varies from year to year, but it can also be considered fuel reduction.
Preparedness	• Alta Ski Area assisted the Forest Service in conducting a fuel inventory in 2015 of forest stands within Alta Ski Area special use permit. Continued inventory schedule is still to be determined with the Forest Service.
Mitigation	 Alta Ski Area has an active revegetation or restoration program that seeks to restore disturbed lands by stabilizing these soils as rapidly as possible with native vegetation. Disturbed soils by nature are more vulnerable to post fire watershed degradation.
Maintenance	All occupied structures owned by Alta Ski Area are equipped with a Fire Sprinkler system and are checked by certified specialists annually.

PART III: RISK REDUCTION GOALS/ ACTIONS

Goals of Plan: Provide a brief statement under the Prevention, Preparedness, Mitigation and Maintenance goals. These should align with the pillars of the National Cohesive Strategy and the Utah Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy (1. Resilient Landscapes 2. Fire Adapted Communities 3. Wildfire Response).

Identification of Actions: Provide detailed project information. These projects/actions can be mapped/tracked in the Utah WRA portal and should be consistent with a Cooperative Agreement in compliance with the Wildfire Policy if applicable.

<u>GOAL A: PREVENTION</u> (~25% of Participation) – Activities directed at reducing the occurrence of fires, including public education, law enforcement, personal contact.

Action(s):	Timeline:	Community Lead:	Priority:
Firewise Day-ACE	July 2019	Chris	High
Summer program brochure/personnel	April-June 2019	Chris & Maura	Medium
Alta Marshals Office-USFS LEO: Enforcement	Ongoing	Mike	High
Notes, updates, and monitoring:			

GOAL B: PREPAREDNESS (Maximum 25% of Participation) – Activities that lead to a state of response readiness to contain the effects of wildfire to minimize loss of life, injury, and damage to property. Including access to home/community, combustibility of homes/structures and creating survivable space.

Goal B.1 – Evaluate, upgrade and maintain community wildfire preparation				
Action(s):	Timeline:	Community Lead:	Priority:	
Address/signage inventory and upgrade	2019-2020	Chris Cawley	low	
EM training-ICS courses, etc.	Spring- summer 2019	Chris Cawley	high	
Property Assessment	Summer-fall 2019	Chris Cawley	high	
Notes, updates ,and monitoring				

Action(s):	Timeline:	Community Lead:	Priority:
Consider CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Program	2020	Chris Cawley	low

$\label{thm:condition} Goal~B.3-Address~identified~regulative~issues~impacting~community~wild fire~prevention~and~response~needs.$

Action(s):	Timeline:	Community Lead:	Priority:
Consider vegetation removal ordinance update	2019-2020	John Guldner	medium

Notes, updates ,and monitoring		

Action(s):	Timeline:	Community Lead:	Priority:
UFA Station 113 training, maintenance, and investment	Ongoing	UFA 113	High
Fire hydrant access	Ongoing	All	medium
Notes, updates ,and monitoring			

GOAL C: MITIGATION (~50% of Participation) – Actions that are implemented to reduce or eliminate risks to persons, property or natural resources including fuel treatments and reduction.

Goal C.1 – Decrease fuels within the community to reduce wildfire impact in and around the community.			
Action(s):	Timeline:	Community Lead:	Priority:
Chipper day: Basin, Creek subdivision, Peruvian Estates, etc, grizzly	August 2019	Chris-Katie G.	High
Property assessment follow-up	Summer-fall, 2019	UFA 113, UFA Wildland Bureau	Medium
Notes, updates , and monitoring			

Action(s):	Timeline:	Community Lead:	Priority
Ski Area Projects	Ongoing	Maura Olivos	high

GOAL D: MAINTENANCE – the process of preserving actions that have occurred including fuel treatments and reduction.

Goal D.1 - Regularly evaluate, update and maintain project commitments.				
Action(s):	Timeline:	Community Lead:	Priority:	
Update CWPP in November	Annual, fall	Chris Cawley	medium	
Notes and updates				

PART IV: CONTACTS

The contacts in this part identify community resources that can be used to complete the goals of the plan.

Planning Committee Member List					
Name	Affiliation	Phone Number	E-mail		
Chris Cawley	Town of Alta	603-731-8074	Ccawley@townofalta.com		
Katie Gibble FFSL		801-678-1655	kgibble@utah.gov		
Jay Torgersen	UFA	801.824.3716	jtorgersen@unifiedfire.org		
Dominic Burchett	UFA	801-558-5444	dburchett@unifiedfire.org		
Maura Olivos Alta Ski Area		801-742-3333	molivos@alta.com		

Commercial Entities					
Organization	Contact Person	Phone Number	E-mail	Address	
Alta Ski Area	Maura Olivos	801-742-3333	molivos@alta.com		
Alta Peruvian Lodge	Todd Collins	801-742-3000	collins@altaperuvian.com		
Goldminers Daughter	Ross Olson	801-742-2300	ross@skigmd.com		
Alta Lodge	Cliff Curry	801-742-3500	Cliffcurry@altalodge.com		
Rustler Lodge	Tom Pollard	801-742-4200	tomp@rustlerlodge.com		
Snowpine Lodge	Dave Eichel	801-742-2000	Dave@snowpine.com		

Formal Associations				
Organization	Contact Person	Phone Number	E-mail	
Powder Ridge Association	Matt Rollins			
Village at Sugarplum	Jay Yenny			
Blackjack Condos	Matt Springer			
Albion Basin Cabin Owners	Del Draper			
Grizzly Gulch	Roger Bourke			
West Grizzly?				
Peruvian Estates?				
Alta Chalets	Dan Ketner			

Media Support				
Organization	Contact Person	Phone Number	E-mail	

Schools				
School	Contact Person	Phone Number	E-mail	Address

Transportation				
Organization	Contact Person	Phone Number	E-mail	
UDOT	Shawn Lambert			
UTA	Bill Humphries			

Private Equipment Capabilities				
Type of Equipment	Contact Person	Phone Number	E-mail	Address
Various	Maura Olivos	801-742- 3333		
Loaders	Scott Eilber			

Other				
Organization	Name	Phone Number	E-mail	

APPENDIX

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