

Tusayan Community Wildfire Protection Plan an At-Risk Community of the Kaibab National Forest in Coconino County

April 18, 2013

prepared by:

Tusayan Community Wildfire Protection Committee

P.O. Box 3625

Grand Canyon, AZ 86023

(928) 638-3473

e-mail: tfdgc@msn.com



Committee Members:

Robbie Evans, Tusayan Fire District, Chief

Lora Pitsinger, Tusayan Fire District, Assistant Chief/Administrator

Clarinda Vail, Red Feather, INC., Tusayan Representative

Josie Bustillos, Grand Canyon Chamber and Visitor's Bureau, Tusayan Representative

Cooperating Federal and State Agencies Representatives:

James Simino, Kaibab National Forest (KNF), Tusayan District Ranger

Quentin Johnson, (KNF) Tusayan Ranger District, Fire Management Officer

Bruce Banke, Arizona State Forestry Division, Assistant Fire Management Officer

Dan Pearson, Grand Canyon National Park, Fire Management Officer

Dave Mills, Tusayan Fire District Wildland Consultant

Final (Draft until approved by agencies)

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ARS	Arizona Revised Statutes
CWPP	Community Wildfire Protection Plan
GCNP	Grand Canyon National Park
GCNPA	Grand Canyon National Park Airport
HFRA	Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003
KNF	Kaibab National Forest
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFP	National Fire Plan
TCWPP	Tusayan Community Wildfire Protection Plan
TFD	Tusayan Fire Department
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFS	United States Forest Service
WUI	Wildland-Urban Interface
4FRI	Four Forest Restoration Initiative

I. Introduction and Purpose

The collaborative process for developing the Tusayan Community Wildfire Protection Plan (TCWPP) began May 5, 2004 at a Grand Canyon Chamber and Visitor's Bureau meeting in Tusayan. The topic was discussed and five committee members, representing various interested parties, were appointed that day. Other State and Federal representatives were then invited to participate and the committee listed was formed. The committee had its first meeting August 18, 2004. The plan was approved in 2005.

This document is the updated 2013 TCWPP.

A group met January 11, 2012, at the request of the Tusayan Fire District (TFD) Chief, to review and renew the plan in light of recent wildland fire activity, mechanical treatments and additional lands annexed increasing the acreage of the Town of Tusayan. Participants included TFD, KNF, AZ State Forestry Division, Grand Canyon Chamber and Visitor's Bureau, and other representatives of the community.

The TCWPP is for a federally recognized "at-risk" community located in the Kaibab National Forest (KNF) managed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and located in Coconino County. It was developed in response to the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA). This legislation established unprecedented incentives for communities to develop a comprehensive wildfire protection plan in a collaborative, inclusive process. Furthermore, this legislation gives direction to the Departments of Interior and USDA to address local community priorities in fuel reduction treatments, even on nonfederal lands. The HFRA represents the legislative component of the Healthy Forests Initiative, introduced by President Bush in January 2003. Congress passed the HFRA in November 2003 and the president signed it into law that December. When certain conditions are met, Title I of the HFRA authorizes the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to expedite the development and implementation of hazardous fuel reduction projects on lands managed by the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management.

The HFRA emphasizes the need for federal agencies to collaborate with communities in developing hazardous fuel reduction projects and places priority on treatment areas identified by communities themselves through development of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Priority areas include the wildland-urban interface (WUI), municipal watersheds, areas impacted by wind throw or insect or disease epidemics, and critical wildlife habitats that would be negatively impacted by a catastrophic wildfire. In compliance with Title 1 of the HFRA, the CWPP requires agreement among local government, local fire districts, and the state agency responsible for forest management (in Arizona, the Arizona State Forestry Division [State Forester]). The CWPP must also be developed in consultation with interested parties and the applicable federal agency managing the land surrounding the at-risk communities. A CWPP is developed to assist local fire districts, local governmental agencies and residents in the identification of lands—including federal lands—at risk from severe wildfire threat and to identify strategies for reducing fuels on wildlands while improving forest health, supporting local economies, and improving firefighting response capabilities. Guidance for development of the TCWPP is based on *Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan: A Handbook for Wildland-Urban Interface Communities* (Communities Committee, Society of American Foresters, National Association of Counties, National Association of State Foresters 2004). This TCWPP was collaboratively developed through consultation with the KNF.

A. Community Information

Tusayan is located within seven miles of the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park (GCNP) on State Route 64 (180) in Coconino County, Arizona. The community of Tusayan is comprised of various private and non-private lands with overnight accommodations (approximately 1,048 hotel rooms), various restaurants, retail stores and other services. The community has considerable infrastructure designed to serve the approximately 5 million people that visit the Grand Canyon each year. This includes commercial, residential and advanced sanitary/reclaimed water systems. The adjacent Grand Canyon National Park Airport (GCNPA) is 859 acres with various air tour and retail operations and includes a residential area. The Tusayan Ranger District of KNF residential compound, shop and office compound is located approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile north of Tusayan and is 40 acres in size. The Grand Canyon Unified School District owns the Tusayan School site and is located to the north west of the GCNPA property and is 80 acres in size. The residential population of Tusayan is mainly employed by tourist related businesses, GCNPA or KNF. The population varies, depending on the season, from 500-700 residents. TFD was formed in July of 1996, and the community's current ISO grade is 6/9. Private ownership of developed land is mainly restricted to areas within the community, although there are a few private in-holdings in the plan area, including Kotzin, Ten-X Ranch, Imbleau, Griffin, Highland Mary, Metzger and Anita Station. There are no current homeowners associations in the plan area. The plan area has numerous United States Forest Service fuel reduction projects planned, with several currently underway. See attached map (A) for past and ongoing fuel reduction projects

B. Goals

The TCWPP Committee has agreed to the following goals:

- ❖ promote community involvement in the TCWPP process
- ❖ improve fire prevention and suppression
- ❖ reduce hazardous forest fuels
- ❖ restore forest health
- ❖ educate the public in firewise treatments around their homes and businesses to reduce structural ignitability in the TCWPP area
- ❖ recommend measures to create a more wildfire defensible community
- ❖ support 4FRI- Four Forest Restoration Initiative

II. Wildland-Urban Interface

The WUI is commonly described as the zone where structures and other features of human development meet and intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. Communities within the WUI face significant risk to life, property, and infrastructure.

Wildland fire within the WUI is one of the most dangerous and complicated situations firefighters face. Both the National Fire Plan (NFP), a response to catastrophic wildfires, and *A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment, 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy* (2001) place a priority on working collaboratively with communities in the WUI to reduce their risk from large-scale wildfire. The HFRA builds on existing efforts to restore healthy forest conditions in the WUI by empowering local communities and by authorizing expedited environmental assessment, administrative appeal, and legal review for qualifying projects on federal land. The

community of Tusayan is federally recognized as an “at risk” community for catastrophic fire.

The high priority inhabited area containing critical human infrastructure is identified as the TWCPP WUI zone in red on the attached map (A) and is 63,614 acres. The community of Tusayan and scattered private in-holdings are in white on the attached map (A).

The zone was determined based on KNF recommendations and fire behavior/incidence history, the risk of crown fire, topography and predominant south/south west wind direction as deciding factors. The attached map (B) depicts fire history from 1970-2010, acreage of the TCWPP zone, how much acreage has been treated and how much is left to treat. There are no critical watersheds in the zone. Rain Tank, a natural catchment, exists southwest of GC Airport. The only other surface water occurs in constructed wildlife catchments.

The Tusayan All Hazard Plan completed in 2003 and updated in 2013 is attachment (D).

A. Risk Assessment, Current Condition and Recommended Measures

Representatives from TFD and KNF have conducted a risk assessment of the community of Tusayan in both the WUI where the community’s boundary is adjacent to the KNF, and within residential areas. During this assessment critical areas needing immediate treatment were identified.

The most critical areas to receive priority treatment are those WUI areas located adjacent to existing infrastructure such as Arizona Public Service Company sub-station and electrical power distribution lines. These electrical power lines are above ground and are crucial to maintain power to the community’s potable and non-potable water systems, to keep fire pumps operational, in addition to emergency radio communication systems for USFS, TFD and the Coconino County Sheriff Department.

Ongoing mechanical thinning projects and prescribed burns have been conducted around the community in the last decade, especially on the south and west sides (refer to attached map B). Based on KNF recommendations thinning, prescribed burns and low intensity ground fire will be conducted on a rotating 7-10 year basis in this zone. The area to the southwest could be a great threat to the community due to the alignment of topography with predominantly southerly winds. Hazard fuel reduction is the only manageable variable.

Most of the forest surrounding Tusayan has received some kind of treatment or the KNF is currently in the planning process for the areas that have not received any treatment.

See attached map (B) for locations of the following ongoing fuels treatment projects:

1. The Tusayan South project, mechanical thinning and prescribed burns south of the airport, west of SR 64, and including Ten-X Campground.
2. The Tusayan East project, mechanical thinning and burning to the north and east between KNF housing and the South Rim Mobile Home Park.
3. The Flying J project, thinning and prescribed burning south and west of Tusayan.
4. The Ten X PCT project, thinning and prescribed burning around the Ten X private land.
5. Tusayan East WUI project is 90 acres and is ½ mile east of the developed area of Tusayan.

6. Tusayan South WUI project is 400 acres and is ½ mile southeast of GCNPA.

The assessment of private residences indicates a need for non-complex hazard fuel reduction particularly along the WUI perimeter on all sides.

A collaborative effort by TFD and KNF to initiate a Fire Wise program would provide a means for the local residents to have their homes and businesses assessed. Recommendations would be provided to homeowners and businesses to make them more fire resistant. TFD would try to find the available manpower, resources or grants, to assist the local residents with clean up and educational programs. Aggressive public education and private property treatment projects within the community, coupled with current efforts of TFD and KNF programs, will make the area a safer, more informed community that will meet the intent and spirit of the TCWPP.

B. Monitoring, and TCWPP Reporting

TFD and the TCWPP Committee will administrator and be responsible for implementing and monitoring the TCWPP recommendations. The TFD Board will appoint committee members, as necessary. The TCWPP should be periodically reviewed and updated, as needed by TFD and the TCWPP Committee with participation from the KNF.

C. Future Funding Needs

1. Increased reclaimed and fresh water storage and more hydrants in the Tusayan Community. TFD to assess actual need and placement primarily in the urban interface zone.
2. Funds to provide at least two staff members and up to \$400 per acre for implementation of mechanical treatment projects in the private property areas listed in the assessment.
3. Funding for wild land fire training the mostly volunteer TFD.
4. Funding to train homeowners to make their homes more defensible.
5. Funds for future projects in the KNF. All shown in pink on the attached map (B)

I. Recommended Measures to Create a More Wildfire Defensible Community

The community takes the risks of a wild land fire igniting and spreading in the WUI seriously. TFD, USFS, and GCNP fire response crews' performance can be leveraged through combined responses. In the wake of a large fire or in the case of multiple fires, however, it may not be possible to protect every home and structure in the WUI. Community leaders as well as private landowners must take actions to reduce fire risks and promote effective responses to wild land fires. The following are recommendations to enhance protection capabilities in the TWCPP:

1. Provide this TCWPP and the Tusayan All Hazard Plan to Tusayan businesses and residents and describe high-risk areas, specific land standards that apply to trees and make recommendations to address fuels treatment.
2. Local land use policies could include incentives for private landowners to address defensible space and fuels management on their properties and implement fire-sensitive land use planning.
3. TFD, USFS/KNF and the Town of Tusayan will enhance regulatory and control policies, such as open burning, campfires, smoking restrictions, and other use of fire and will enhance relationships with local law enforcement to ensure compliance with any regulations adopted.

4. Additional comprehensive and frequent training will be encouraged. TFD, USFS/KNF and the Coconino County Sheriff's Department will conduct a common training activity when ever possible for the purpose of emphasizing tactics of WUI suppression and interagency coordination. GCNP participates in many cooperative training activities as well.

A. Priorities for Promoting Community Involvement through Education, Information and Outreach

The TCWPP and KNF have developed and implemented public outreach programs to help create an informed citizenry. The goal is to have residents support concepts of fire-wise landscaping and naturally functioning forest ecosystems through restoration management and appropriate response to wild land fire. The TCWPP is intended to be a long-term strategic tool to promote forest health while reducing hazardous fuels in the WUI. To effectively achieve these goals, a grass roots collaboration of individual citizens, supported by local government as partners, will provide the most effective long-term means to maintaining a defensible community over time. The components of such a structure include the following recommendations:

1. Expand the use of current public information tools to promote fire-wise treatments at businesses and residential areas. This may be accomplished through public presentations describing treatments that promote defensible space, through modifications/improvements to both structures and the vegetation located in the WUI.

2. TFD and KNF personnel will act as "goodwill ambassadors" by making available wild land hazardous fuel reduction and residential preparedness information at community activities and events. Information will be made available in both printed and oral formats that explain the need for fire awareness and the benefits of preparing private property for potential threat from wildfires. Promote awareness of Tusayan All Hazard Plan in attachment (D),

B. Enhancing Local Wood Products-Related Industries

The TCWPP supports development of potential utilization opportunities for fuels removed in support of hazardous fuel reduction efforts in and around the community. Development of markets and industries that extract useable material from fuel reduction management projects (e.g., biomass, firewood, post and poles, other small diameter wood products) would benefit hazardous fuel reduction, forest health, and employment opportunities.

The Four Forest Restoration Initiative is a project designed to carry out landscape-scale restoration of ponderosa pine forests in northern Arizona. The four forests involved are the Kaibab, Coconino, Apache-Sitgreaves and Tonto National Forests. The overall goal of the project is to restore the structure, pattern, and composition of fire-adapted ecosystems. The restoration-based work opportunities are expected to create jobs across northern Arizona and reduce fuel loading in order to minimize risk of high-intensity fire. All of the ponderosa pine areas within the TCWPP boundary are included in this project. Plans for thinning and prescribed burning around Tusayan would help minimize risk of damage due to wildfire.

C. Future Forest Conditions Will Improve

The TCWPP will promote forest health, while reducing the threat of fire to structures and improvements by hazardous forest fuels reduction with community involvement. This may also encourage economic development in the community. Tusayan and the natural wonders of Grand Canyon are extraordinary resources that deserve protection from catastrophic

wildfire. The TCWPP is a major step in building wildland fire protection for this area, its residents, visitors, homes, businesses and infrastructure.

IV. Declaration of Agreement and Concurrence of all Required Agencies

The following partners in the development of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan have reviewed and do mutually agree or concur with its contents:

AGREEMENT

Tusayan District Ranger, Kaibab Forest National

Date

CONCURRENCE

Fire Chief, Tusayan Fire District

Date

State Forester, Arizona State Forestry Division

Date

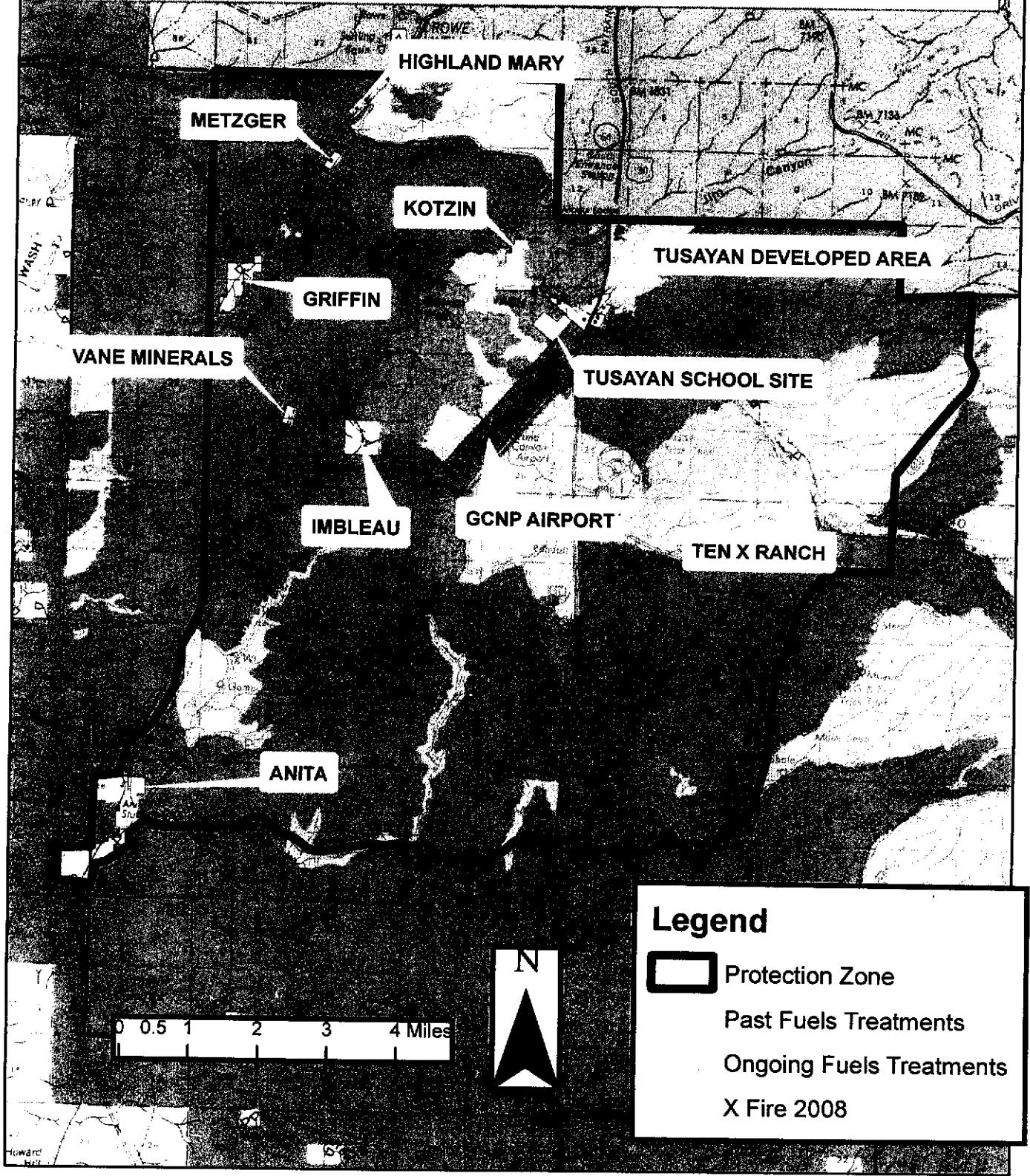
Chairman, Coconino County Board Of Supervisors

Date





Mayor, Town of Tusayan

Date

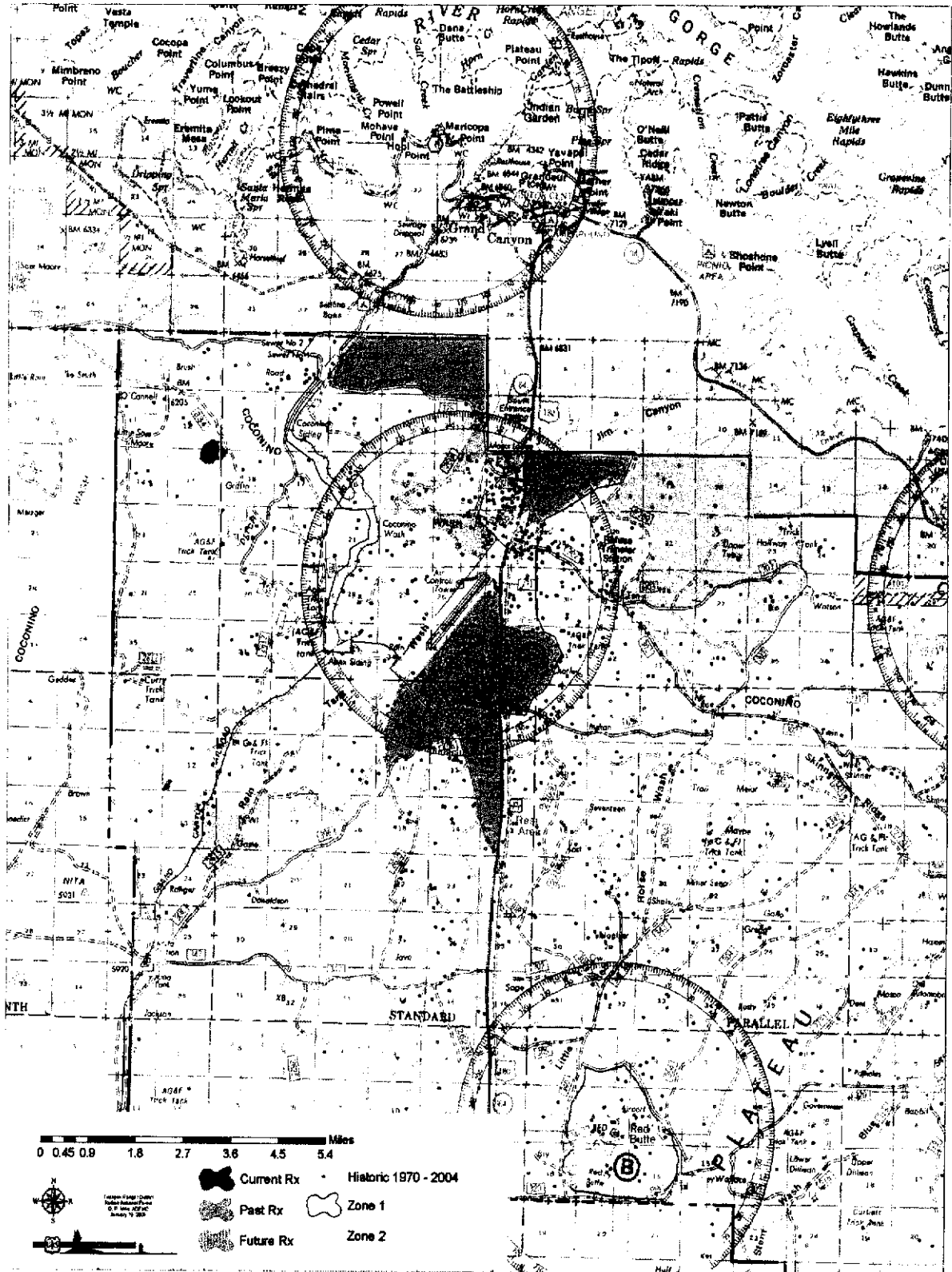
ATTACHMENT A MAP TUSAYAN WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN



Legend

-  Protection Zone
-  Past Fuels Treatments
-  Ongoing Fuels Treatments
-  X Fire 2008

ATTACHMENT B



ATTACHMENT C

Document from the:

Tusayan Fire District Standard Operating Guidelines (TFDSOG)

Page: 1 of 7

**Tusayan All Hazard Plan
Revised Date: 04/13**

Fire Chief: Robbie Evans

Purpose: The purpose of this TFDSOG is in response to the need of pre-planning for a natural or manmade disaster that would precipitate an evacuation of the Tusayan area. Some events that may call for evacuations are: the threat of wildland fire, earthquakes, or hazardous materials incidents.

This plan is generic in nature, allowing flexibility depending on the nature or urgency of the emergency evacuation. This plan must also work in conjunction with the Grand Canyon National Parks emergency evacuation plan, along with Coconino County's Emergency Evacuation procedures.

Policy:

- a. It is the policy of Tusayan Fire District to provide for the safety and protection of the residents and visiting public to the Tusayan/ Grand Canyon area.
- b. If the need to evacuate Tusayan becomes apparent due to an emergency that would threaten the safety of the public and local residents. The Tusayan evacuation plan is intended to ensure a safe and efficient emergency operation. This policy needs to take into consideration the advisability of putting in excess of 12,000 vehicles, in the busy summer months, south bound on Hwy 64 if an evacuation is called for in the area. Alternatives, for safety of the public, include staying in place and alternative places in Tusayan.

Procedures:

- a. The decision and call for evacuation of Tusayan will be made in concurrence with Coconino County Sheriffs Office and Tusayan Fire District.
- b. The command structure will managed under the National Incident Command System (NIMS), this will provide a flexible command structure. And by using the Incident Command System a unified command is easily implemented and allows for two or more agencies to have primary incident responsibilities The Incident Commander will designate a Command post as soon as the evacuation declaration is made.
- c. Communications: Grand Canyon National Park Dispatch will serve as the primary incident communications center for Tusayan Fire District. The National Park Service Dispatch center has the capability to connect various communications center through radio/telephone patching.
- d. Information: A Public Information Officer will be designated and operate under the direction of the Incident Commander.

- e. Notification: Will be made to the various governmental and public service agencies as soon as possible upon the decision to evacuate. The GCNP Communication Center will have primary responsibility for conducting these notifications. Tusayan Fire and Coconino County Sheriffs Office will notify local businesses and residents.

Local Resources

- a. Town of Tusayan
- b. Grand Canyon National Park Service
- c. Coconino County Sheriff's Office
- d. U. S. Forest Service, Kaibab National Forest, Tusayan Ranger District
- e. Arizona Department of Public Safety
- f. Guardian Medical Transportation
- g. Arizona Department of Transportation, Williams Maintenance Yard
- h. Arizona Department of Game and Fish
- i. Grand Canyon National Park Airport

Immediate Resource Contacts

Coconino County Emergency Management, and the State of Arizona Department of Emergency Management. Both of these agencies can provide access to other resources, equipment and manpower, which includes mobilizing the Arizona National Guard. Either entity can make a disaster declaration and immediately begin providing assistance and resources. The State of Arizona will determine costs and request funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Shelters

The American Red Cross can create disaster shelters. There are contracts with both the Williams School District and Flagstaff Unified School District along with the National Guard Armories. These facilities can be set up within evacuation travel times from the Tusayan area. Red Cross Flagstaff Contact is 928-774-5494
Grand Canyon School Contact, though not a designated Red Cross Shelter, is 928-638-2461

Funding Resources

Both state and county funding channels are available through the Coconino County Sheriff's Office based on a Declaration of a State Emergency.

Tusayan Evacuation Procedures

- a. Public Notification
Public evacuation information will be broadcast as soon as possible on 102.5 (KUGO) with either telephone notification or personal contact with the area businesses and residents. The information provided will address the securing of residences, available egress routes out of Tusayan, Evacuation Collection Area's, and Safety Zones.
- b. Evacuation of Residents and Overnight Visitors

Evacuation of guests and residents will be conducted under the direction of Coconino County Sheriffs Department.

Bus Transportation

For any residents or visitors requiring bus transportation out of the area to an evacuation shelter. This will be accomplished by using local tour bus operations that are operated out of Grand Canyon Airport or inside Grand Canyon National Park. A local representative of the entity that owns the buses will respond to the Incident Command Post to act as liaison for the use of all buses during the evacuation phase.

Hotel Guests

All local hotels will be notified that evacuation procedures have been initiated and the need to begin evacuation of all guests. Either the General manager or the Front Desk Personnel will be contacted, and using the available on duty personnel at each hotel. They will contact and notify all guests of the order to evacuate. These personnel are to insure that the guests have received the notice and have evacuated or are in the process of evacuating will physically check each guestroom. After each room is cleared a pillowcase or towel shall be tied to the exterior door handle of the room to mark it as checked and cleared

After each hotel/area is checked and cleared, the personnel involved shall report to either the G.M or Front Desk Personnel, who will in turn notify the Incident Command Post of the progress and status of their evacuation efforts.

Any guests requiring transportation will be directed to report to the front desk associated with their hotel. Front Desk Personnel will then contact the ICP transportation manager to relay information regarding the numbers of guests needing transportation as well as any special needs.

A different team of personnel from each hotel will make a secondary check of each area following the initial check and evacuation.

Residential Areas

Coconino County Sheriff Department and National Park Service Ranger units, if available, will manage residential evacuation. This activity will be conducted under the direction of Operations Chief.

Teams of officers (CCSO, DPS, NPS Rangers, USFS Kaibab and Tusayan Fire District Personnel) will be assigned to residential areas to inform residents of the need to evacuate. Forcible removal is questionable unless there is immediate threat of injury occurring.

Residents shall turn on their front porch light and tie a pillowcase, towel or similar item to their front door handle to signify that they have evacuated their residence.

Due to the many seasonal employees that have no transportation, buses will be provided to assist in their transportation to evacuation collection areas.

Available buses will be dispatched to the different hotels and employee housing areas.

After each bus is filled the driver will report via radio to the transportation manager, and state the number of passengers and any need for additional assistance. The drivers will then proceed to the designated evacuation collection area.

After the initial evacuation, all residential areas will receive a second check to insure complete evacuation.

Safety Zones

The following areas have been designated as Urban/Wildland Interface Safety Zones in the Event that immediate evacuation egress from the Tusayan area is not possible during such an incident. Incident personnel shall be assigned to supervise each safety zone.

Safety Zones

Grand Canyon Airport - south ramp road, main terminal parking lot

Papillion Helicopter Terminal - Parking areas

Grand Canyon Helicopter Terminal – Parking areas

Traffic Control

All highway traffic control will fall under the jurisdiction of Department Of Public Safety and Coconino County Sheriff Department. And they will implement all procedures for traffic control.

Notification List- (Current April 18, 2013)

Arizona Department of Public Safety	928-773-3600
Arizona Department of Emergency Management	602-244-0504
Coconino County Sheriff Department	800-338-7888
Coconino County Emergency Management	800-338-7888
Arizona Department of Transportation	928-779-7547
GCNP NPS Dispatch	911 or 638-7805
Town of Tusayan	928-638-9909
Tusayan Ranger District U.S. Forest	928-638-2443
Williams Ranger District	928-635-2681
GCNP Airport	928-638-2446
KUGO Radio (102.5)	800-264-5449
American Red Cross Flagstaff	928-774-5494
American Red Cross National	800-842-7349
Arizona Public Service	928-638-2282
Hydro-Resources Water	928-310-4350
A Quality Water for Anasazi Water	928-606-0498
SGC Sanitary District	928-638-0906
Graves Butane	928-638-9295
Ferrell Gas	928-526-0466
Titan Gas	928-526-3147
Superior Gas	928-635-1314
Century Link	928-638-7854
Grand Canyon Chamber and Visitor's Bureau	928-638-2901

Contact For Buses:

Grand Canyon Airlines	928-638-2463
Grand Canyon School District	928-638-2461
Paul Revere	928-638-0951
Vision Air	928-638-3306
Xanterra Transportation	928-638-2631

Also, notify all area businesses.

Also, tell them to notice their employees in housing: (Current April 18, 2013)

Big E Steakhouse	928-638-0333
Camper Village	928-638-2887
Canyon Food Mart	928-638-2608
Canyon Plaza Inn & Suites	928-638-2673
DNPS Store & Housing	928-638-2854
Grand Canyon Airlines	928-638-2463
Grand Canyon Helicopters	928-638-2764
Grand Hotel	928-638-3333
Holiday Inn	928-638-3000
Imax Theater	928-638-4629
Maverick Helicopters	928-638-2622
McDonalds Restaurant	928-638-2208
Papillon Helicopters	928-638-9330
Pink Jeep Tours	928-282-5000
Plaza Bonita	928-638-8900
Red Feather Lodge	928-638-2414
Seven Mile Lodge	928-638-2291
Sophie's Mexican Kitchen	928-638-4654
Steak House	928-638-2780
Squire Inn	928-638-2681
Trading Post	928-638-2417
We Cook Pizza	928-638-2778
Wendy's	928-638-6484

Over the past several years, Coconino County, Grand Canyon National Park and Tusayan Fire District officials have embarked on an aggressive plan to build a corrected address database in accordance with the addressing ordinance. Proper addressing qualifies communities to take advantage of the Statewide Enhanced 911 system, meaning that, when a citizen calls 911, their location automatically displays in the dispatch center. Emergency services are able to accurately locate citizens in a timely manner, without having prior knowledge of a specific area. Though all of the Tusayan work has been done, some phone numbers still come up with incorrect addresses due to using old address or other reasons. The committee thought this fact was worth noting in this All Hazard Plan.

ATTACHMENT D- page 1 of 2

Protecting your Home, Business and Community Against Fire

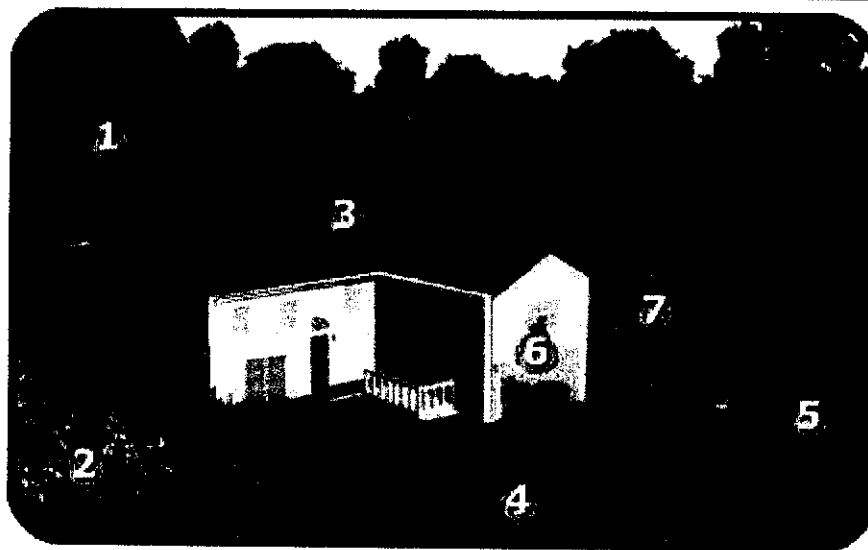
These are some precautions you can take to help guard against wildfire:

Firewise

- ❖ Stack firewood or lumber at least 100 feet away and uphill from structures.
- ❖ Clear a 10-foot area around propane tanks and barbecues
- ❖ Regularly clean your roof and gutters.
- ❖ Inspect chimneys at least twice a year and clean them at least once a year.
- ❖ Keep dampers in good working order.
- ❖ Remove portions of trees and bushes that extend within 10-15 feet of your flue openings.
- ❖ Flue and chimney tops should have a screen covering with openings no larger than ½ inch.
- ❖ Install ABC approved fire extinguishers and learn how to use them.
- ❖ Keep handy household items that can be used as fire tools: a rake, axe, handsaw or chain saw, bucket, shovel, and a ladder that will reach the roof.
- ❖ Identify and maintain an adequate outside water source such as a hose or hydrant. Have a garden hose that is long enough to reach any area of the home and other structures on the property.
- ❖ Clean out storage areas. Don't let trash such as old newspapers, boxes and magazines accumulate.
- ❖ Check electrical wiring. Inspect cords for frayed or exposed wires or loose plugs.
- ❖ Do not overload extension cords or outlets. If you need to plug in two or three appliances, get an UL-approved unit with built-in circuit breakers to prevent sparks and short circuits.
- ❖ Make sure your heating source is clean and in working order. Many home fires are started by faulty furnaces or stoves, cracked or rusted furnace parts and chimneys with creosote build up. Call professionals for help.
- ❖ Use caution when using alternative heating sources, such as wood, coal, kerosene heaters, and electrical space heaters.
- ❖ Place heaters at least three feet away from flammable materials.
- ❖ Make sure the floor and nearby walls are properly insulated.
Use only the type of fuel designated for your unit and follow manufacturers' instructions.
- ❖ Store ashes in a metal container outside and away from the house.
- ❖ Keep open flames away from walls, furniture, drapery and any flammable items. Keep a screen in front of the fireplace.
- ❖ Make sure insulation does not touch electrical wiring.
- ❖ Know the locations of the gas valve and electric fuse or circuit breaker box and how to turn them off in an emergency. If you shut off your main gas line for any reason, allow only a gas company representative to turn it on again.
- ❖ Make sure there is ample room for fire and other emergency vehicles around property.

Firewise Inspection Contact.....Tusayan Fire Department 638-3473

PREPARING A HOUSE FOR WILDLAND FIRE SEASON



1) Remove dead or overhanging branches. During the windy conditions that exist during a wildland fire, flames, sparks and firebrands could travel from the tree to the roof of this structure.

2) Remove leaf accumulation from your yard. Leaf accumulation provides fuel for a wildland fire.

3) Remove leaf clutter from your roof and gutters. During a wildland fire, leaves on the roof and/or in the gutters could be ignited by flying embers.

4) Remove tall, dry grasses. Tall, dry grasses provide a path for fire that can lead directly to a house.

5) Remove "ladder fuels". Prune tree limbs so the lowest is between 6' - 10' from the ground. Fire burning through tall, dry grass could ignite these limbs and climb to the top of the tree with relative ease.

6) Check your generator and/or hose to be sure it is in good repair. Refuel garden equipment carefully. Yard equipment needs annual maintenance and proper fueling. Hoses develop leaks and deteriorate with age and exposure. During wildland fire season, fuel your lawn mower properly --away from dry, flammable grasses.

7) Prune bushes and shrubs regularly. Remove excess growth as well as dead leaves and branches to decrease their flammability, and the threat they could pose during a wildland fire.

Dispose of cuttings and debris promptly, according to local regulations.

Find more Firewise tips at our website.

www.firewise.org