### Meeting

WHEN: Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 PM MST WHERE: Zoom <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88074803284?pwd=4120Vs3UAwkrMWFikarMJOrTEIDhYX.1</u> Meeting ID: 880 7480 3284 Passcode: 533657

### **Attendees**

Henry Ballard, Susan Farago, Dan Fischer, Brian Gebhardt, Emily Gebhardt, Josh King, Rachel King, Alan Kirton, Haydee Kuner, Jerry Kuner, Daniel Levison, Pat Noyes, Alan Rosenberg, Chief Michael Schmitt, Abby Silver, Dick Smith, Bill Stahl, Leary Walker, Brooke Weathers

### **Agenda**

Kickoff: Abby Silver

Announcements: Does anyone have any?

### Minutes from last meeting:

2024 meeting minutes are available on the Sunshine FPD website https://www.sunshinefpd.org/\_files/ugd/a30c56\_fdc311f7ee2040a4b080c663bdd4df50.pdf

### **Reports:**

2024 CWPP Project Work/Spend – Alan 2024 CWPP Year End Financials – Alan 2025 CWPP Financial Outlook – Alan 2025/2027 CWPP Grant Status – Abby/Alan 2025 Projects Carried Over From 2024 – Abby/Alan

#### **New Business:**

New Projects for 2025? Other ideas or topics?

### **Closing:**

### 2024 CWPP Project Work/Spend

2024	CWPP Spend	Point Person(s)	2024 Budgeted Cost	2024 Actual Cost	Notes
	P General Expenses	F C13011(3)		COSC	Notes
	Refreshments for CWPP presentation held at Station 1	Emily Gebhardt	0	\$100	
CWPF	Project Expenses				
1.0	Fuels Mitigation - Community Chipping Events	Abby Silver	\$0	\$0	Spring and Fall Events. BOCO covered the cost.
2.0	Pressurized (Gravity Fed) Wet Hydrant on County Road 83	Michael Johnson	\$50,000	\$0	Project owned by Fire Cistern Committee
3.0	Fire Cistern on Whispering Pines	Michael Johnson	\$2,000	\$0	Project owned by Fire Cistern Committee
4.0	Sign Maintenance Project	Need Lead	\$300	\$0	Repair existing signs or install new signs as required.
5.0	Mine Lane Egress Road Maintenance	Need Lead	\$500	\$0	Repair as needed
6.0	Hazard Tree Removal Along District Roads and Near Powerlines	Need Lead	\$2,400	\$0	Remove as necessary
7.0	Hazard Tree Removal Along Emergency Egress Routes	Need Lead	\$1,000	\$0	Remove as necessary
8.0	Financial Incentives to District Residents to Participate in Wildfire Partners	Abby Sliver	\$5 <i>,</i> 000	\$670	One resident signed up for reimbursement program
9.0	Egress Route from Sunshine Saddle to Left Hand Canyon via Glendale Gulch	Chief Schmitt Pat Noyes	\$0	\$0	No existing public access via Glendale Gulch Rd.
10.0	Other Egress Routes as Defined in SFPD 2013 CWPP and CR 85J	Chief Schmitt	\$0	\$0	Chief Schmitt is continuing to work with BOCO to try to get them to provide some maintenance and improvement to 85J.
11.0	Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project	Alan Kirton Abby Silver	\$279,810	\$231,936	Project is 60% completed. We got \$129,365 in grant reimbursements to help cover the project expenses.
12.0	Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project	Alan Kirton Abby Silver	\$0	\$0	In 2025 SFPD was awarded two grants for this project
13.0	Grass cutting along Sunshine Canyon in the Meadows area	Chief Schmitt Abby Silver	\$0	\$0	Was not required in 2024
Total			\$341,010	\$232,706	

## 2024 CWPP Year End Financial Summary

2024 CWPP Revenue	Amount
CWPP Tax Revenue	\$70,131.35
CWPP Donations	\$0.00
CWPP Grant Revenue (Dry Gulch South project)	\$129,365.23
Total CWPP Revenue	\$199,496.58
2024 CWPP Expenses	Amount
CWPP General Expense	
Refreshments for CWPP presentation meeting	\$100.33
Wildland Mitigation Expenses	
Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project	\$231,936.00
Wildfire Partners Incentives for Residents	\$669.50
Total CWPP Expenses	\$232,705.83
2024 CWPP Net Income	(\$33,209.25)

CWPP Reserve Fund Balance	Amount
2023 Year End CWPP Reserve Fund Balance	\$166,785.06
2024 Year End Contribution to CWPP Reserve Fund	(\$33,209.25)
2024 Year End CWPP Reserve Fund Balance	\$133,575.81

### 2025 CWPP Financial Outlook

2025 CWPP Financial Outlook	Amount
CWPP Reserve Fund 01/01/2025	\$133,576
Projected 2025 CWPP Tax Income *	\$61,831
2025 Available Grant Income - Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project	\$165,115
CSFS Incentives for Local Government Grant (ILG) **	\$72,403
BOCO Strategic Fuels Mitigation Grant (SFMG) **	\$92,712
2025 Available Grant Income - Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project	\$324,856
CSFS Forest Restoration and Wildfire Mitigation Grant***	\$188,846
USDA/US Forest Service - State Financial Assistance WUI Grant***	\$136,010
Total 2025 CWPP Available Funding	\$685,378

\* SFPD Assessed Valuation is \$1,736,826 and the CWPP mill levy is 3.56 mills

\*\* Both grants are matching grants for the Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project. SFPD will receive a 31% reimbursement of actual expenses from the CSFS ILG grant and a 42% reimbursement of actual expenses from the BOCO SFMG grant.

\*\*\* Both grants are matching grants for the Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project. SFPD will receive a 50% reimbursement of actual expenses from the CSFS FRWRM grant and a 36% reimbursement of actual expenses from the USDA SFA-WUI grant.

In summary, there is \$685,378 available in CWPP funding for 2025. Of that, \$165,115 can only be used to match expenses incurred in the Dry Gulch South project at the reimbursement rates given above. \$324,856 can only be used to match expenses incurred in the Dry Gulch North project at the reimbursement rates given above.

### CWPP Grant Status for 2025-2029

### **Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project**

### 2023 CSFS Incentive for Local Government Grant Program – Awarded in May 2023

SFPD was awarded the Incentives for Local Government Grant Program (ILG) in May, 2023. The grant is administered by the Colorado State Forest Service.

SFPD's grant application was for the Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project which is a 70 acre project located on both sides of Sunshine Canyon between 3100 and 3700. In the grant application the mitigation cost was assumed to be \$3500/acre with a total project cost of \$249,200. The grant typically matches 50% of the cost and has a total award of \$124,600. SFPD's reimbursement rate for this project is 31% since the grant award only accounts for 31% of the project cost.

### 2023 Boulder County Strategic Fuels Mitigation Grant (SFMG) – Awarded February, 2024

SFMG is a new grant program administered by Boulder County. Because it is a local grant, it can be used to match against either state or federal grants. One of the stipulations of SFMG is that you must have an identified state or federal grant to provide the match. SFPD had the CSFS ILG grant in hand to provide that match.

SFPD's application was for the Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project. For the SFMG grant we assumed \$6000/acre. The total project cost was estimated to be \$424,700. The grant provides a 40% match which results in a grant award of \$169,880.

### **Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project**

### 2024 State Fire Assistance – Wildland Urban Interface Grant (SFA-WUI) – Awarded January, 2025

The SFA-WUI grant is a federal grant. SFA-WUI is administered at the federal level by the USDA Forest Service and locally by CSFS.

The SFPD's application for the Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project and was submitted in May, 2023. The project covers an area that is to the southwest and northeast of Sunshine Canyon Dr. between mile markers 3.7 and 4.2. Project cost was estimated at \$272,020. Project area is 57.4 acres resulting in a cost per acre of \$4739/acre.

The grant was awarded in Feb, 2025 with an award amount of \$136,010. Since SFA-WUI is a federal grant, it can be matched by both state and local grants. In 2024 SFPD was awarded a FRWRM grant for the Dry Gulch North Project (see below) which will be used as a match for the SFA-WUI grant. SFPD will also apply for a BOCO SFMG grant as an additional match. **Note: Recent cost cutting measures at the federal level have put this funding in jeopardy.** 

### **2024-2025 CSFS Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant (FRWRM) – Awarded February, 2025** The FRWRM grant is a state grant administered by CSFS. SFPD's application was for the Dry Gulch North Fuels

Reduction Project. The grant scope was changed to be 57.4 acres vs 67 acres in the SFA-WUI grant. This was primarily because of operability concerns in the Fourmile Canyon Creek drainage. The project was estimated at \$6500/acre. Total project cost was estimated at \$377,692. The FRWRM grant award is \$188,846.

### 2025 CWPP Projects Carried Over from 2024 and Past Years

**Note:** Starting in 2025, CWPP will not be planning or implementing any water supply improvement projects. This work is now managed by the Fire Marshall and the Fire Cistern Committee.

### **1.0 Fuels Mitigation - Community Chipping Events**

Community Chipping events continue to be a very successful way to encourage residents to maintain their D-space and fuel breaks. We have held both Spring and Fall Chipping Events since 2015 with good participation in both events. **Project Details:** Boulder County is now providing funding for chipping. SFPD will organize the dates and notify the community on how to sign up for the chipping events. Boulder County will provide funding. **Est. Cost for 2025 - \$0 Point Person(s) – Abby Silver** 

### 2.0 Sign Maintenance Project

The sign maintenance project is a yearly project to replace address signs that have been damaged during the past year. **Est. Cost for 2025 - \$300** 

Point Person(s) – Alan Rosenberg and Brooke Weathers have agreed to take on this project. We also discussed that if the list of residents needing signs installed or repaired was created then we could perhaps hire the work out for installing the signs. Cost could be adjusted to account for that.

### 3.0 Mine Lane Egress Road Maintenance

This project is part of the ongoing maintenance of the Mine Lane egress road that goes between Sunshine and Boulder Heights. In the past, the costs have typically been shared between Sunshine FPD and Boulder Mountain FPD. **Project Details:** Repair as needed

### Est. Cost for 2025 - \$1500

Point Person(s) – Chief Schmitt has talked to Sam Mishkin about doing the maintenance work using his tractor. We can also approach Boulder Mountain FPD to see if they can share in the cost.

### 4.0 Hazardous Tree Removal Along District Roads and Powerlines

There are dead and dying trees located near district roads. These represent a threat for safe egress along the roads and a threat of wildfire should a tree take down a powerline in a windstorm. This project will provide a financial incentive for the property owner to remove the hazardous trees. The funding amount will be 90% of the cost of removal which is a similar match amount to those property owners that took part in past shaded fuel break along district roads project. Since SFPD is funding most of the project cost, the district will hire the contractor to do the work.

### Project Details:

Work for 2025 includes:

- Re-send a notice to the district notifying the residents of this project
- Get License to Enter and Cutting Agreements signed
- At project completion pay contractor and get donation from property owner for homeowner portion of cost

### Est. Cost for 2025 - \$2400 (Assume 6 trees, \$400/tree)

Point Person(s) – Abby Silver will identify trees/property owners and getting LTEs. Eric Bader will be contracted to do the cutting and chipping.

### 5.0 Hazard Tree Removal Along Egress Routes

Besides state/county roads, there are two other defined egress roads in the district. One is at the top of Sunshine Saddle which goes to Mine Lane, Boulder Heights and the Boulder Mountain Fire District. The other is the driveway to the Star House which continues to Pine Brook Hills and the Boulder Mountain Fire District. Both roads are gated and used for emergency egress only. This project would perform hazard tree removal along these roads to help ensure that there is no blockage on the roads due to wind-blown trees.

### **Project Details:**

Inspect and remove hazard trees as required.

### Est. Cost for 2025 - \$1000

Point Person(s) – Chief Schmitt has agreed to identify the trees to be removed and to arrange to have firefighters do the cutting.

### 6.0 Wildfire Partners Matching Funds

The Four Mile Canyon Fire final report clearly stated that the single determining factor in home survivability in the wildfire was the characteristics of the home ignition zone. This project will provide financial incentives for Sunshine residents to work with Boulder County Wildfire Partners to have a wildfire assessment performed and then to follow up with wildfire mitigation work. Wildfire Partners is currently offering to pay 50% of the mitigation cost when the homeowner uses a Wildfire Partner's contractor to perform the mitigation work. SFPD will provide a match of 25% of the mitigation cost so that the homeowner only pays 25% of the mitigation cost. The Wildfire Partners match is currently set at \$2000 maximum and the SFPD match will be set at \$1000 maximum. This money can be used to match any action identified in the Wildfire Partners assessment report for either forestry or home hardening measures.

### **Project Details:**

We will need to make a more concerted effort to get the word out to the community regarding this project. Perhaps we need to get some help from someone who is well versed in communication to do that portion of the project (i.e. John Bauer)

### Est. Cost for 2025 - \$5000

Point Person(s) – Abby Silver will continue to be the lead on this. Jean Gatza has agreed to talk with John Bauer to discuss options regarding email communications and/or web site changes to try to get residents to sign up.

### 7.0 Egress Routes as Defined in SFPD 2013 CWPP Document

SFPD's 2013 CWPP document defined several different emergency egress routes. Chief Schmitt has been working with BOCO to get them to improve and maintain 85J with the goal of making the road passable all the way to Salina. The other egress route under investigation is a road down to Glendale Gulch from Sunshine Saddle. **Est. Cost for 2025 - \$0** 

### 8.0 Mowing Along Sunshine Canyon Drive in the Meadows Area

As shown in 2023, the grass growth along Sunshine Canyon Dr. in the Meadows neighborhood can become a significant hazard for safe egress during a wildfire event. This project would mow along the roadway to create a 6' buffer on each side of the road.

Est. Cost for 2025 - \$0

Point Person(s) - Chief Schmitt has checked with Boulder County and they do not have a program for doing this kind of mowing. We can investigate this further if the need arises, i.e. we have a wet spring which causes a lot of grass growth.

### 9.0 Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project

SFPD was awarded both the CSFS Incentives for Local Government and the Boulder County Strategic Fuel Mitigation Grant for the Dry Gulch South Project. The project is 70 acres, and for purposes of the RFP, the project was divided into 3 project areas, North (24.6 acres), East (17 acres) and South (26.8 acres). In 2024 SFPD went through an RFP process to find contractors to perform the mitigation work. Fixed price contracts were signed with Patriot Tree Company for the South Project Area and Velte Forestry for the East and North Project Areas. The South Project Area has been completed, and the work was certified by CSFS. Approximately 1/3 of the North Project Area and 1/2 of the East Project Area have been completed. We are expecting full completion of the project and certification by CSFS by the end of 2025. See estimate details below:

Remaining Work To Be Completed in 2025	2025 Cost
North Project Area	
Unit 1 (Completed)	\$0
Unit 2 (30% of cost)	\$49,446
Unit 3 (30% of cost)	\$49,446
Payment after certification (10% total cost)	\$16,482
East Project Area	
Unit 1	\$26,010
Unit 2 portion paid in 2025	\$13,005
Unit 3 (Completed)	\$0
Payment after certification (10% total cost)	\$8,670
South Project Area Completed and Certified	\$0
Slash Pile Burning (82 existing, ~20 new piles)	\$10,000
Total 2025 Cost	\$173,059

Total Grant Award Amounts	
SFMG	\$169,880
ILG	\$124,600
Total	\$294,480
Grant Award Amounts Used in 2024	
SFMG	\$77,168
ILG	\$52,197
Total	\$129,365
Remaining Grant Funding	
SFMG	\$92,712
ILG	\$72,403
Total	\$165,115

Dry Gulch South 2025 Net Expenditure \$7,9	14
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**Note:** The 2025 net expenditure is low because there were project expenditures in late 2024 for which we did not submit for grant reimbursement in 2024. This results in more 2025 grant income relative to 2025 costs.

#### Point Person(s) – Alan Kirton and Abby Silver

#### **10.0 Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction**

The Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction project lies to the north of Dry Gulch South. It is located in an area that is to the southwest and northeast of Sunshine Canyon Dr. between mile markers 3.7 and 4.2. A ridgeline runs along the northern portion of the project area. The area south of that ridgeline drains in the Fourmile Creek watershed. The area north of that ridgeline drains into the Fourmile Canyon Creek watershed.

SFPD was awarded a State Fire Assistance – Wildland Urban Interface Grant (SFA-WUI) in January, 2025. The SFA-WUI grant is a federal grant administered through the USDA, federally, and CSFS locally. The application process for the SFA-WUI grant is relatively long, having to go though both a state and federal approval process. The application was first submitted in May 2023. The estimate used for the SFA-WUI grant does not reflect the pricing that we have seen for the Dry Gulch South project. The SFA-WUI award amount is \$136,010

SFPD was also awarded a CSFS FRWRM grant in February, 2025 for the Dry Gulch North project. The estimate used for this grant is more in line with cost/acre we've seen with Dry Gulch South. The award amount for the FRWRM grant is \$188,846.

Dry Gulch North Project Cost Estimate		
CSFS Marking Cost (\$80/acre x 57.4 acres)	\$4,592	
Mitigation Cost (\$6500/acre x 57.4 acres)	\$373,100	
Total	\$377,692	
Grants Awarded		
SFA-WUI Grant	\$136,010	
FRWRM Grant	\$188,846	
SFMG	TBD	
Total	\$324,856	
SFPD Costs		
SFPD Net Cost	\$52,836	
SFPD Share	14.0%	
Grant Share	86.0%	
2025 Cost Estimate (assumes 25% project completion)		
CSFS Marking Cost (\$80/acre x 57.4 acres)	\$4,592	
Mitigation Cost (\$6500/acre x 57.4 acres x 25%)	\$93,275	
Total 2025 Cost	\$97,867	
2025 Grant Income		
SFA-WUI (36% Reimbursement Rate)	\$35,232	
FRWRM (50% Reimbursement Rate)	\$48,934	
Total 2025 Grant Income	\$84,166	

The following is the project estimate, grant amounts and 2025 project cost assuming the project marking and 25% of the mitigation work would be done in 2025.

	SFPD 2025 Net Cost for Dry Gulch North Project	\$13,701
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#### 2025 CWPP New Projects

#### **11.0 Community Hauling Event**

There was considerable discussion regarding a community hauling event where people could get rid of flammable yard clutter that was not suitable for chipping. Items could include root balls, old firewood that was no longer burnable, wooden pallets, scrap lumber, etc. There were ideas regarding locations where dumpsters could be placed. One of the potential hurdles discussed was getting this material to wherever the dumpsters were located as many people do not have a pickup truck available for hauling the material. There was a consensus that dumpsters would need to be supervised by volunteers to prevent the dumping of household trash and/or hazardous materials.

#### Est. Cost for 2025 - \$1500 (placeholder for funding, actual cost TBD)

Point Person(s) – Abby Silver and Susan Farago will explore options for how the Community Hauling Event could be structured. Jean Gatza will send out a community notice with a short survey to judge the interest of residents.

#### 12.0 Boulder Mushroom Presentation to the Community

As an offshoot to the Community Hauling Event discussion, there was also an interest in whether Boulder Mushroom might have a part to play in terms of dealing with slash piles and other biomass. Boulder Mushroom has been developing ways to use fungi as a tool for biomass management to speed up decomposition and water retention. There was an interest in having Zach Hedstrom, founder/owner of Boulder Mushroom, do a community presentation to the community.

Point Person(s) – Josh King volunteered to explore the possibility of having Zach Hedstrom do a presentation.

### 13.0 Neighborhood Watch

There was an interest in developing community awareness and potentially neighborhood watch for reporting activities that present a fire hazard to the community. This may be especially important when Boulder County has enacted Stage 1 or Stage 2 fire restrictions, as visitors may not be aware of the additional restrictions.

Est. Cost for 2025 - \$0 Point Person(s) – Daniel Levison

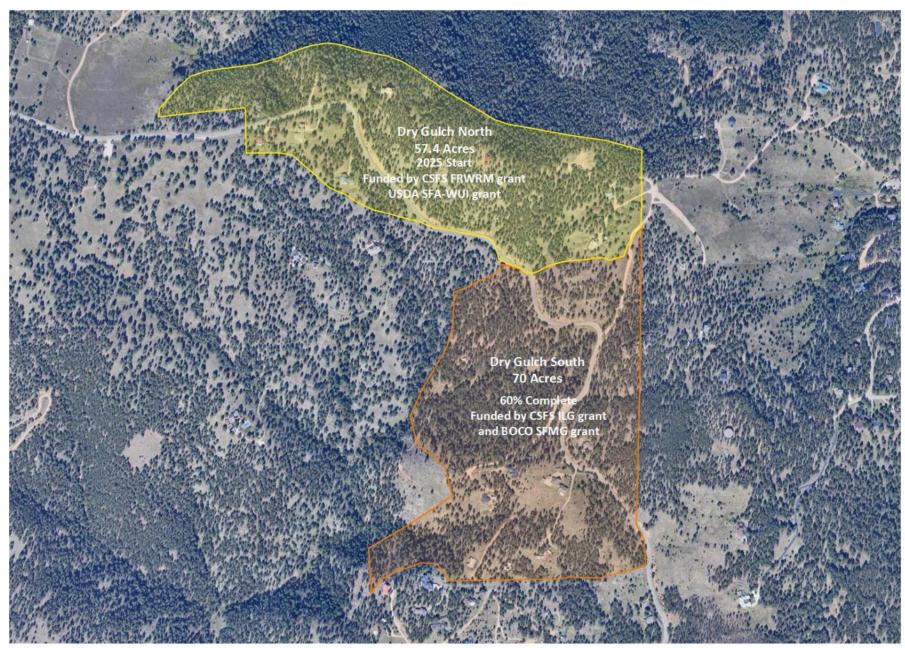
### 2025 CWPP Projects

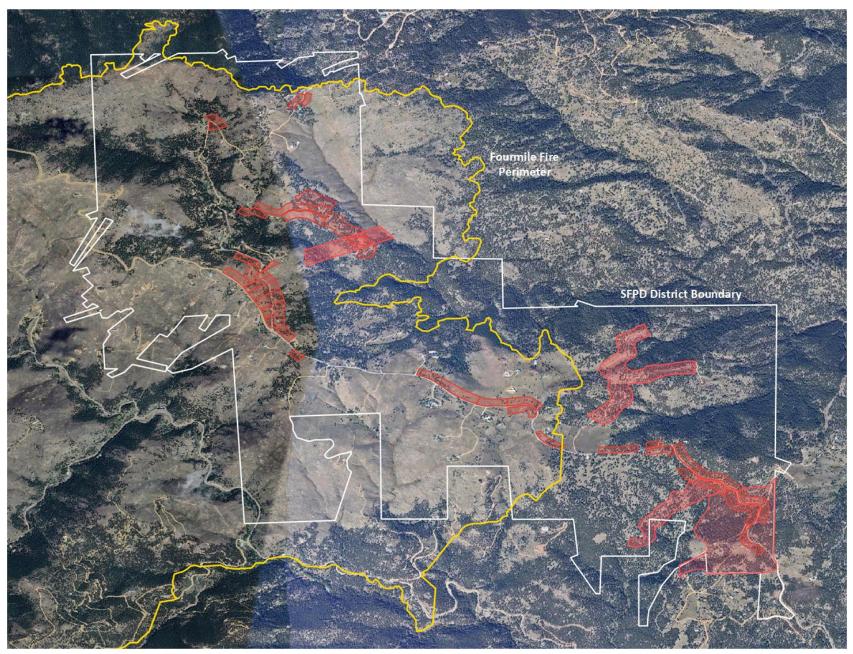
			2025 Budgeted	
2025	Project List	Point Person(s)	Cost	Notes
1.0	Fuels Mitigation - Community Chipping Events	Abby Silver	\$0	Spring and Fall Events. BOCO covers the cost.
2.0	Sign Maintenance Project	Brooke Weathers Alan Rosenberg	\$1,000	Repair existing signs or install new signs as required.
3.0	Mine Lane Egress Road Maintenance	Chief Schmitt Sam Mishkin	\$1,500	As required
4.0	Hazard Tree Removal Along District Roads and Near Powerlines	Abby Silver Eric Bader	\$2,400	As required
5.0	Hazard Tree Removal Along Emergency Egress Routes	Chief Schmitt Firefighters	\$1,000	As required
6.0	Financial Incentives to District Residents to Participate in Wildfire Partners	Abby Sliver	\$5,000	
7.0	Other Egress Routes as Defined in SFPD 2013 CWPP and CR 85J	Michael Schmitt	\$0	Michael Schmitt is continuing to work with BOCO to repair 85J.
8.0	Grass cutting along Sunshine Canyon in the Meadows area	Michael Schmitt Abby Silver	\$0	As required
9.0	Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project	Alan Kirton Abby Silver	\$173,059	Assumes project completion in 2025
10.0	Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project	Alan Kirton Abby Silver	\$97,867	Assumes 25% of cutting/extraction completed
11.0	Community Hauling Event	Abby Silver Susan Farago	\$1,500	
12.0	Community Presentation Boulder Mushrooms	Josh King	\$0	
13.0	Fire Prevention and Neighborhood Watch	Daniel Levison	\$0	
Total	1	1	\$283,326	

2025 Proje	Expected Grant Income from Mitigation cts	Income
9.0	Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project	\$165,115
	CSFS ILG Grant	\$72,403
	BOCO SFMG Grant	\$92,712
10.0	Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project	\$84,166
	SFA-WUI Grant	\$35,232
	FRWRM Grant	\$48,934
Total		\$249,280

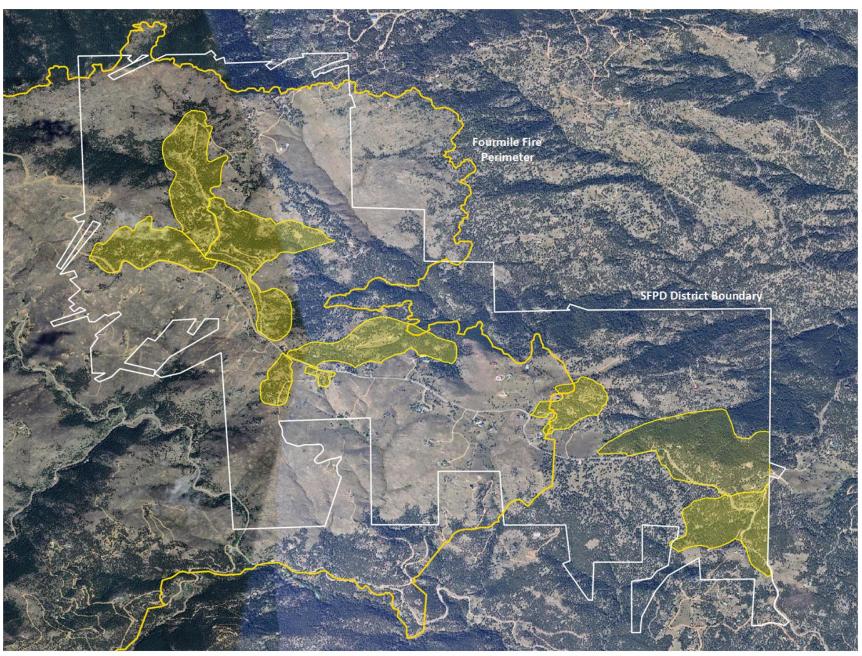
2025 Net CWPP Spend

\$34,046





SFPD Post Fire Fuels Mitigation Projects



SFPD Proposed Fuels Reduction Projects in the BWWA CWPP