


Kenai Peninsula Borough

Office of Emergency Management

MEMORANDUM

TO: Blair Martin, Chair & Planning Commission Members

THRU: Charlie Pierce, Mayor
Melanie Aeschliman, Planning Director
Marcus Mueller, Land Management Officer

FROM: Brenda Ahlberg, Emergency Manager 

DATE: 01/06/2022

RE: Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update – Draft Plan¹

Background: From 2006 to 2009, the borough developed 17 Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) representing all landscapes across the borough with the exception of Tyonek, Moose Pass, Bear Creek, Seward and Lowell Point. In 2018, the borough received federal pass-through funds in the amount of \$103,366 (O2018-19-11) and funds from the spruce bark beetle interest account in the amount of \$50,000 (O2019-19-02) to update these plans. This update is being completed by SWCA Environmental Consultants with substantial completion by March 31, 2022.

The 2022 update combines the former 17 plans and encompasses all unincorporated areas and municipalities. The CWPP serves two audiences: 1) provides recommended projects designed to greatly reduce wildfire risk to residents, ensuring that communities live safely in this fire prone environment; and 2) provides guidance to fire and emergency managers, as well as agencies who manage large land holdings.

The intent of this memo is to provide you the “working draft” that is distributed to the CWPP core team, the planning commission and to the advisory planning commissions for initial review and input. Public review dates are January 24 – February 4, 2022; this two-week review period will be legally noticed as well as promoted on borough social media platforms.

For more information please contact Brenda Ahlberg, Emergency Manager, at bahlberg@kpb.us or 907-262-2098. You may also visit the project story map www.kpb.us/cwpp. This story map (an interactive project website designed to tell a story with maps) continues to be used as the primary two-way communication tool, providing information and collecting community input about the project.

¹ This project is being completed by consulting firm SWCA and funded in part by the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska Division of Forestry and Department of Natural Resources pursuant to USDA Forest Service Award No. 2018-DG-110106-810.