

# WILDFIRE ADAPTED PARTNERSHIP

## 2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT

**Mission: inspire, educate, and enable individuals and communities to protect lives and property from wildfire**

# Programs

Wildfire Adapted Partnership is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that works with our neighbors and agency partners to create fire adapted communities. We assist local residents in creating defensible space, planning wildfire evacuations, creating and updating CWPP's, and preparing for wildfire on a neighborhood level through education and grant opportunities offered through Wildfire Adapted programs. WAP also participates in a variety of collaboratives with partner agencies to execute cross-boundary work.



## NEIGHBORHOOD AMBASSADORS

Our Neighborhood Ambassadors are educated and empowered to act as spark plugs in their communities through mitigation events and educating their neighborhoods.

---



## INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

Grant funding for communities and individuals helps offset the expense of mitigation making it more accessible. Our mitigation programs include Defensible Space Cost Share, Chipper Rebate, and Community Kickstart Grants.

---



## EDUCATION

WAP education programs inform the public of what it means to live in a fire adapted ecosystem. WAP offers free home site assessments, participates in collaboratives, and hosts monthly Fire Council and Ambassador meeting

---



## PLANNING

WAP helps create and update Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP), Community Wildfire Risk Assessments, and fuels reduction projects in Ambassador communities. WAP participates in regional and local collaboratives to plan cross-boundary treatments and improve forest and water health.

# Community Spotlight

## Pagosa Lakes POA Archuleta County

PLPOA's five-year plan to mitigate moved forward in 3 different areas this year. In Highland Estates, a tract paralleling Hills Circle and the fenceline with the San Juan NF was treated. The fenceline treatment augments the area that the USFS treated on their side. A large heavily wooded greenbelt in Martinez Mountain Estates was treated to enhance forest health and to create a fuel break along a power line route. 27 acres were treated in total with plans for more work over the next 3 years.



## Deer Valley Estates La Plata County

Deer Valley Estates in Bayfield has worked to be a fire adapted community for over 2 decades. They established fuel breaks and worked with the San Juan National Forest to treat 200' feet surrounding the subdivision while hosting annual community work days. Not only did DVE use their 2009 CWPP as a guide for action, but this year they updated their CWPP to include their many accomplishments and create a new plan for the future. Great work Deer Valley Estates!

## Pinon Hills Montezuma County

For years, residents of the Pinon Hill Community have dedicated time and resources to mitigation on individual properties, but access and evacuation were a concern. Led by a dedicated Ambassador, residents used WAP grant funds to complete roadside thinning. In 2023, they hired a contractor to clear 20 feet on either side of 1.6 miles of road. Residents volunteered an impressive 322 volunteer hours removing and hauling ladder fuels in support of the project. Pinon Hills brought residents together and motivated defensible space work beyond the project corridor. Cheers to all their hard work!



# By the Numbers

## Education and Outreach

- 15 Fire Council / Ambassador Meetings
- 227 Educational Meetings and Events
- 242 Site Visits
- 3,775 Face-to-Face Engagements
- 38k Mass Media Engagements

## Mitigation Programs

- 867 Acres Treated
- 95 Cost Share Projects
- 81 Chipper Rebates
- 29 Community Projects
- \$354,577 Reimbursed to Homeowners
- 721 Structures Protected
- 117 Communities Assisted

## Volunteers

- 157 Neighborhood Ambassadors
- 12 New Ambassadors
- 20,755 Volunteer Hours
- 100 Ambassador Communities

## Planning and Support

- 3 Neighborhood-Level Updated CWPPs
- 1 County-Level Updated CWPP
- 8 Community Assessments
- Conducted Strategic Planning

867 Acres Treated

20k Volunteer Hours

4 CWPPs Updated

242 Site Visits

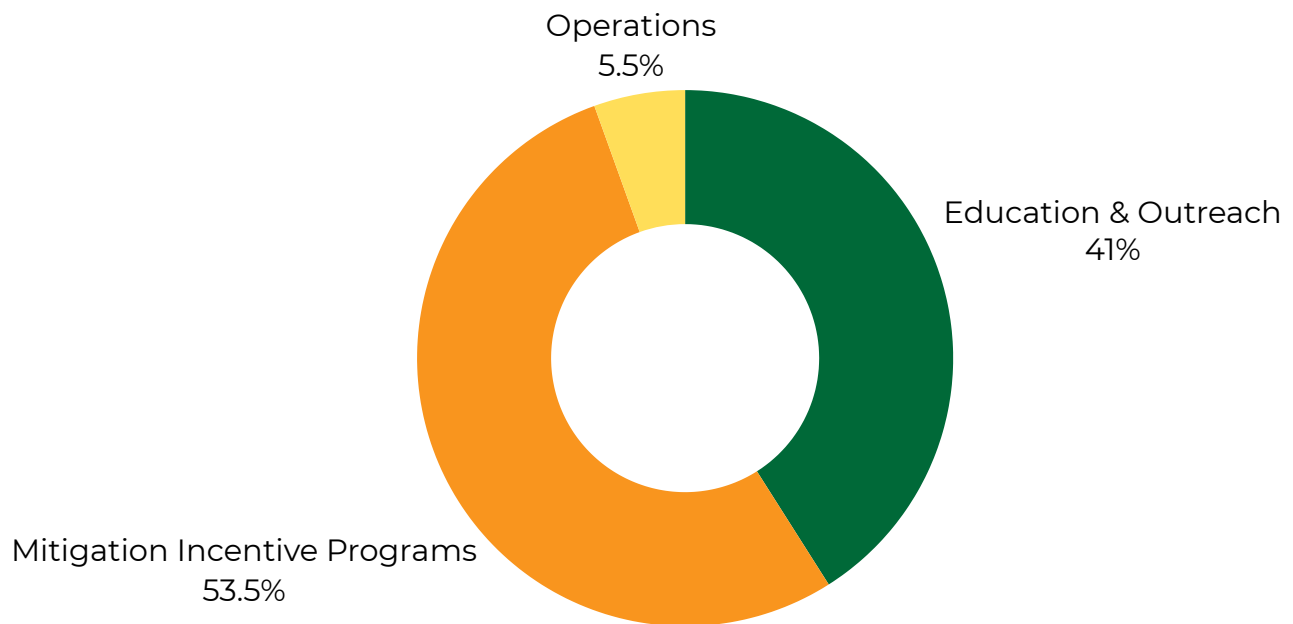
157 Neighborhood Ambassadors

95 Cost Share Projects

# Budget Review

Wildfire Adapted Partnership is a 501(c) 3 not for profit organization. As a nonprofit organization, WAP receives most funding through government entities and individual and community donations. We understand that all funding comes with accountability, so WAP strives for financial transparency and responsible spending.

## Organizational Budget Breakdown



Total Income: \$659,286.76  
Total Expenses: \$641,574.00



**51%**

**WAP reimbursed 51% of total wildfire mitigation project costs to homeowners and HOAs**

# Thank You!

**WAP relies on our strong relationships with partners at the federal, state, and local levels to provide the best wildfire preparedness support to the communities we serve. Partners include:**

- Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, and San Juan counties
- Bureau of Land Management - Southwest District Office
- City Governments
- Coalitions and Collaboratives - Action Implementation and Mitigation Program
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Colorado Department of Natural Resources
- Community and Homeowners Associations
- El Pomar Foundation
- Fire Adapted Colorado
- Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network
- Local Fire Protection Districts
- La Plata Electric Association Round Up Foundation
- Mancos Conservation District
- San Juan National Forest
- Wildfire Watershed Protection Fund

**We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to protect lives and property from wildfire.**



*WAP Board and Staff: Fall 2023*

## Contact

Wildfire Adapted Partnership  
701 Camino Del Rio, Ste.306,  
Durango, CO 81301  
(970) 385-8909

[www.WildfireAdapted.com](http://www.WildfireAdapted.com)  
[info@wildfireadapted.org](mailto:info@wildfireadapted.org)  
[@wildfireadaptedpartnership](https://www.instagram.com/wildfireadaptedpartnership)