

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 CWPPs, and preparing for wildfire on a neighborhood level through education and grant opportunities. 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 organizing 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 and the steps they can take to lower their risk of wildfire. WAP offers free home site assessments, participates in collaboratives, and hosts monthly Fire Council and Ambassador meetings.



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 watershed health.



Community Spotlight

Pagosa Lakes POA Archuleta County

PLPOA's five-year plan to mitigate community greenbelts 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 Hills 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
- 692 Structures Protected
- 117 Communities Assisted

Volunteers

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

Planning and Support

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

867 Acres Treated

20k Volunteer Hours

4 CWPPs Updated

242 Site Visits

157 Neighborhood Ambassadors

95 Cost Share Projects

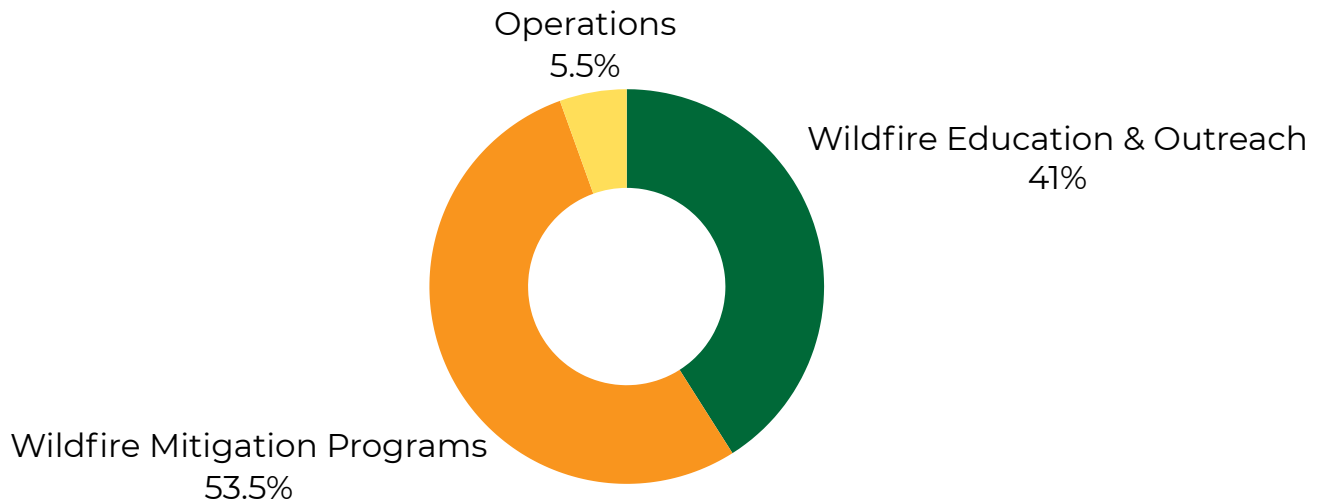
Total acres treated increased by 46% from 2022.



Budget Review

Wildfire Adapted Partnership is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization. As a nonprofit, 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



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: January 2024

Contact

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