

WILDFIRE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN - SPR # 01-104

Prepared for:

Valentine Gane
P.O. box 18941
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Prepared by:

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On October 11, 2001

SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The property is located above Jamestown, in the bar K subdivision, lot 141. **The address of the property is 45 Crockett Trail.** Access to the home site is via a short driveway approximately 83 feet long.

The dominant fuel type is made up of litter and small shrubs. The dominant overstory is lodgepole pine with occasional ponderosa pine, and mixed conifer (Douglas fir, aspen, and limber pine). Mountain pine beetle was observed on the property, five newly infested ponderosa were identified and treated. Dwarf mistletoe was not observed on the property, but may be present. Most of the property has a slight slope of 0-5 %, with a north aspect. The north side of the staked home site is the steepest with a slope of 20-25 %. The property is located within the Lefthand Canyon Fire Protection District.

The property is characterized by **Fuel Model 9**. Fuel Model 9 is represented by closed canopy stands of lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine, and mixed conifer. Under story consists of small trees and shrubs, grasses, and moderate concentrations of down, dead woody litter, there is a small established stand of aspen trees just below (west) the home site. There is also meadow northwest of the property (approx. 200 ft. from the home site).

The initial property inspection for a wildfire hazard mitigation consultation occurred on September 9, 2001. The property was marked with blue tree marking paint for thinning and clearing recommendations. The boundary for zone 1 is marked with red flagging; zone 2 is marked with blue flagging. A final inspection was completed on October 5, 2001. Payment for marking, written plan, and inspection was received on October 5, 2001 for the amount of \$195.

RECOMMENDATIONS

As detailed in fact sheet 6.302, *Creating Wildfire Defensible Zones*, an important factor that determines a structure's ability to survive wildfire is defensible space. Defensible space is a maintained area around a structure where fuels (flammable materials) are modified to slow the possible spread of wildfire to the structure, as well as from the structure to the surrounding areas. Defensible space provides a place where structure protection and fire suppression operations may occur. Wildfire hazard mitigation work breaks up fuel continuity, potentially decreasing a wildfire's intensity, and for more effectiveness should be completed beyond a home's defensible space area.

It is recommended that all roads, as well as the property address, be marked with visible signage.

There are three zones of protection to be created around the homesite for defensible space. Zone 1 is the most critical and affords the most protection to the site. Zones 2 and 3 are extensions of this protection.

ZONE 1

Zone 1 is the area of maximum modification. It is a 15 foot wide area, measured from the outer edge of the structure (i.e. 15 ft. from the "footprint" of the homesite, which may include decks, balconies, and character trees accepted by the inspecting forester). In this area all flammable vegetation is removed. Trees kept for aesthetic characteristics are considered part of the structure, extending the defensible space accordingly. On your property we have considered Zone 1 to be approximately 45 feet to the north of the structure and 35 feet from the south, west, and east sides of the structure.

As per Boulder County Land Use Department, create a 3-foot wide strip of nonflammable groundcover immediately adjacent to the structure. This can be accomplished by using decorative rock or gravel. This strip should surround the house and extend under any decks to 2 feet past the drip line of the decks. All grasses in zone 1 should be cut and maintained to be less than 6 inches in height. All shrubs should be pruned and maintained as well.

ZONE 2

Typically zone 2 is a transition zone between the heavily thinned areas near the house to a more traditional forest setting. In this zone, some clusters of trees are acceptable if there is adequate spacing between clusters.

Zone 2 may extend 75-100 feet from the structure depending on the slope and aspect of the site. On your property we have considered Zone 2 to be approximately 45 feet to the north of the structure and 35 feet from the south, west, and east sides of the structure.

Thinning and pruning are necessary to create defensible space at this site. **All trees marked in blue should be removed.** Trees for removal were selected because of their poor form and/or lack of vigor in addition to their close spacing. Tree removal will improve the health of the remaining trees in addition to mitigating wildfire hazards.

Remove ladder fuels from beneath trees. Ladder fuels are small shrubs, trees, tree limbs, etc. that allow a fire to climb into a tree's crown. **Limb trees to a height of 6 to 10 feet** on the remaining trees in this zone. Branches of young, small trees in this zone should be pruned to 1/3 of the tree's height. **All slash generated during thinning operations should be removed completely** (either chipped or hauled away) from Zone 1 and 2.

ZONE 3

Typically zone 3 extends from zone 2 and is of no set shape or size. Zone 3 adds further protection, but mitigation focuses on forest health as well as fire protection purposes. Because dwarf mistletoe and mountain pine beetle have been observed in the area, **it is highly recommended that you periodically survey your property for signs of both dwarf mistletoe and mountain pine beetle.** It is recommended that all of zone 3 (the remainder of your property) be thinned for forest health. Please contact CSFS if you have questions concerning any of these issues.

Forested land in this zone would greatly benefit from thinning for increased overall forest health and wildfire hazard reduction. The following guidelines apply if you (and your neighbors) decide to work in these areas.

While not required through Site Plan Review, those who live in the wildland-urban interface are encouraged to implement consistent and good forest management practices. Such practices will increase both the health, vigor, and value of your mountain property for years to come. These practices include:

- Thin suppressed trees and trees with disease and insect infestations and retain the larger, healthier trees. Thin trees with aesthetic and wildlife considerations in mind.
- Some snags can be retained for wildlife.
- Some slash in this zone could be lopped and scattered and/or piled for wildlife.
- Large amounts of slash should be disposed of by chipping, hauling to an approved site, or burning.
- For burning permits, check with your local fire protection district.

All cutting, limbing and slash treatments must be completed prior to scheduling a wildfire hazard re-inspection. Contact the CSFS Boulder District office to set up an inspection date at least two weeks before you need the approval.

Implementing this wildfire mitigation plan and maintaining your defensible space will help reduce the threat of wildfire to your home, but does not guarantee its safety.

In addition to the above recommendations, several other measures can be taken to make your home and family more prepared and adapted to life in a fire prone ecosystem. These include:

1. Be aware of fire danger. Signs are posted at the entrances of most major canyons.
2. Clean roof and gutters at least twice a year.
3. Stack firewood uphill at least 15 feet from buildings.
4. Do not store combustibles under decks.
5. Screen off foundations, roof and attic openings.
6. Screen and maintain spark arresters on chimneys.
7. When possible, maintain an irrigated greenbelt around the home.
8. Connect and have available at least 50 feet of garden hose during fire season.
9. Post lot and house numbers so that they are clearly visible.
10. Maintain the site's defensible space annually. Contact the Colorado State Forest Service for a 5-year maintenance inspection.

DEFINITIONS

Aspect – Exposure. The direction a slope faces.

Canopy – The cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by crowns of adjacent trees.

Crown – Branches and foliage of a tree.

Dominant fuel type – Matter that would carry a fire, found on the ground.

Fuel continuity – The proximity of fuels to each other. Helps determine if a fire can sustain itself.

Limb (verb) – To remove the branches from a tree.

Overstory – The tree species that forms the uppermost forest layer.

Snag – Standing dead tree, often used by wildlife such as woodpeckers, owls, and sometimes squirrels.

Wildfire mitigation plan – A plan to reduce wildfire hazards around a home or other structure through fuels reduction and landowner awareness.

SPR MITIGATION PLAN FORM

TODAY'S DATE: 9/3/01
 LANDOWNER'S NAME: Valentine Gane
 MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 18441 Boulder 80308

35 ft (70 ft total)
 410 ft (80 ft total)
 down slope
 01-104

SITE ADDRESS: 45 Cravitt Trail → Jamestown → Bar K
Lot 141

SPR# 01-104 SECTION 27 TOWNSHIP 2N RANGE 72W

01-104

DOMINANT FUEL TYPE litter, grass, sm shrubs OVERSTORY LP

ASPECT 01-104 SLOPE 10-20 % TOTAL ACERAGE 1

FUEL MODEL 9

I&D/FOREST HEALTH new MPB hits / light - not found

SITE MAP INCLUDED? (Y) N

VISIBLE SIGNAGE? (Y) N

DRIVEWAY (length, width, location) 80 ft ROAD ACCESS

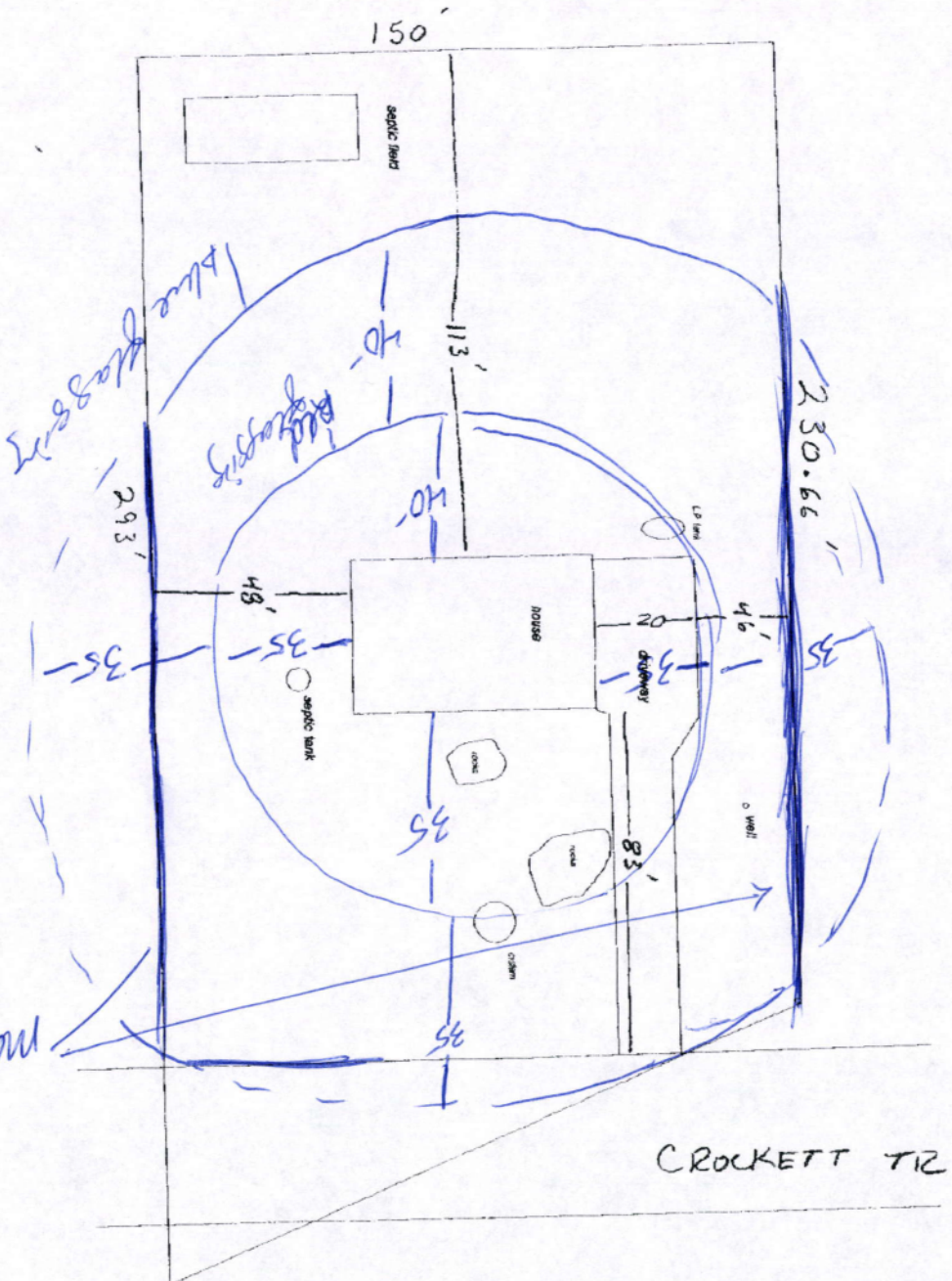
BUILDING/STRUCTURE: MATERIALS cedar siding
 SQ. FT. 2000
 HEIGHT/STORIES
 DECK south 6x56 wood
 ROOFING class A WINDOWS
 LEECH FIELD ✓
 CISTERN (capacity) 2500 gal
 PROPANE

pd. in full

FPD Left hand

COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS: →





SITE PLAN
45 CRACKET T2
side
ne
(GANE RESIDENCE)

