



*Knowledge to Go Places*

Boulder District  
5625 Ute Highway  
Longmont, Colorado 80503-9130  
(303) 823-5774

April 10, 2002

Joe McNally  
701 Drane Place  
Corsicana, TX 75110

Dear Joe,

I hope all is well. Enclosed is a copy of your Wildfire Mitigation Site Plan Review.

When you have completed the work, please call me so we can set up an inspection. If you have any questions about the SPR process or any concerns about forest management issues, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Holly Asmus".

Holly Asmus  
Forester

## WILDFIRE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN - SPR # 01-158

### Prepared for:

Joe McNally  
701 Drane Place  
Corsicana, TX 75110

On April 3, 2002

### Prepared by:

Holly Asmus  
Forester  
Colorado State Forest Service  
[hasmus@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:hasmus@lamar.colostate.edu)

### SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The property is located in Allenspark, off of Highway 7, 16.4 miles west of Lyons, in Boulder County, S32, T3N, R72W. **The address of the property is 178 Whiz Bang Road.** Access to the home site is via short driveway. The site consists of 23 acres total.

The dominant fuel type is litter and small shrubs. The dominant overstory is ponderosa pine, with occasional Douglas fir and limber pine throughout the stand. The home site has an east aspect and a slope of 5-10%. The property is located within the Allenspark Fire Protection District.

Dwarf mistletoe was observed on the north, northwest neighboring property in the limber pine species only, but was not observed on the McNally property. There were no indications of observed mountain pine beetle on the McNally property. It is recommended that the landowner survey their property on a yearly basis for signs of insect and disease. Please contact the Boulder District State Forest Service if you have any question concerning the health of your forest property.

Although the property has fairly open tree spacing, trees at the site should be reduced for wildfire hazard mitigation as well as for forest health.

The property is characterized by **Fuel Model 9**. Fuel Model 9 is represented by closed canopy stands of ponderosa pine, and mixed conifer. The understory consists of small trees and shrubs, grasses, and moderate concentrations of down, dead woody litter.

The initial property inspection for a wildfire hazard mitigation consultation occurred on April 3, 2002. The property was marked with blue tree marking paint for thinning and clearing recommendations. The boundary for zone 2 is marked with pink flagging. **A final inspection will be done when implementation is completed. Payment for tree marking and the written plan was received on \_\_\_\_\_, for the amount of \$150. Payment for the final inspection was received on \_\_\_\_\_, for the amount of \$45.**

### 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 practices break 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 the access driveway, 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 ft. wide area, measured from the outer edge of the structure (i.e. 15 ft. from the "footprint" of the home site, which may include decks, balconies, and character trees accepted by the inspecting forester). In this area all flammable vegetation must be removed. Trees kept for aesthetic characteristics are considered part of the structure, extending the defensible space accordingly.

Zone 1 starts at the foundation and extends out 15 feet in all directions. All flammable vegetation should be removed in this zone. 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 out past the drip line of the decks.

Thinning and pruning are necessary to create defensible space at the 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 ten feet on the remaining trees in this zone. For young, small trees in this zone, limb the lower third of the tree's height.**

### ZONE 2

Zone 2 extends out from zone 1; it 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. Suppressed, stressed, damaged, diseased, weak, and/or deformed trees made up all of the trees to be removed. In your wildfire mitigation plan, wildlife habitat and species diversity where take into consideration, as well as appropriate screening issues, when marking trees for removal.

On your site, zone 1 and zone 2 extend approximately 40 feet each from the outer edge of the home site corner stakes. **Within this 80-foot zone, limb remaining trees to a height of eight feet. As you approach the outer edge of zone 2, reduce limbing height to six feet. Lower branches of young, small trees in this zone should be limbed to one third of the tree's height.**



### ZONE 3

Zone 3 extends out from zone 2, and is of no set shape or size. At your site, zone 3 extends into the remaining 23 acres. Forested land in this zone could be thinned for increased overall forest health and wildfire hazard reduction. The following guidelines apply if you (and your neighbors) decide to work in these areas.

- Thin suppressed trees and trees with disease and insect infestations and retain the larger, healthier trees.
- 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 C/O inspection. Contact me 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 for and adapted to life in a fire prone ecosystem. While not required through Site Plan Review, other measures should be practiced by those who live in the wildland-urban interface. 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.

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# SPR MITIGATION PLAN FORM

TODAY'S DATE: 4/3/02  
 LANDOWNER'S NAME: Joe McNally  
 MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SITE ADDRESS: 178 Wisbang Rd.  
Allenspark, CO

SPR# \_\_\_\_\_ SECTION \_\_\_\_\_ TOWNSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ RANGE \_\_\_\_\_

DOMINANT FUEL TYPE shrub/litter OVERSTORY PD

ASPECT E SLOPE 5-10% % TOTAL ACERAGE N/A

FUEL MODEL 9

I&D/FOREST HEALTH NO MPB/DMT

SITE MAP INCLUDED? Y (N)

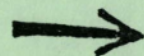
VISIBLE SIGNAGE? Y (N)

DRIVEWAY (length, width, location) \_\_\_\_\_ ROAD ACCESS Hwy 7 & Wisbang Rd.

BUILDING/STRUCTURE: MATERIALS \_\_\_\_\_  
 SQ. FT. \_\_\_\_\_  
 HEIGHT/STORIES \_\_\_\_\_  
 DECK \_\_\_\_\_  
 ROOFING \_\_\_\_\_ WINDOWS \_\_\_\_\_  
 LEECH FIELD \_\_\_\_\_  
 CISTERN (capacity) \_\_\_\_\_  
 PROPANE \_\_\_\_\_

FPD Allenspark

COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:





To:

Invoice No. 58363

Joe McNally  
701 Drake Place  
Corsicana, TX 75110

**Colorado**  
**State**  
 FOREST  
 SERVICE

Date:

4/8/02

Item	Unit Cost	Total
1 Wildfire Mitigation Plan-SPR- #00220		150 <sup>00</sup>
2		
3 D-space marking #01-158		
4		
5 Inspection		45 <sup>00</sup>
6		
7		
8		
9		
Tax Exempt No. _____	Sales Tax	

Total 195<sup>00</sup>

CK-CA-MO Amount Paid:

Amount Due 195<sup>00</sup>

Ck#

Dated

Rcv'd By

F.Y. 01-02

Funding

Amount

2235306615195<sup>00</sup>

Deposit No.

Date

CSFS Originator

Payment Due By \_\_\_\_\_

Remit to:

COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE  
 BOULDER DISTRICT  
 5625 UTE HIGHWAY  
 LONGMONT CO 80502-9130