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Upcoming Meetings

Montezuma Ambassador Meeting: June meeting - cancelled. August meeting TBD.

For more information contact Samantha at storres@wildfireadapted.org

Fire Council Meeting: July 18th at 5:00 pm at the La Plata County Fairgrounds Lightner Room

For more information contact Alex at agraf@wildfireadapted.org

Vallecito Summer Slash Depot: June 16, 17; July 20, 21; August 18, 19

To volunteer or for more information please email Marilyn at McCord.M@protonmail.com

SUMMIT LAKE MITIGATION WORKSHOP

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The Summit Lake Mitigation Workshop in Mancos was a major success! WAP along with many partners (Dolores Watershed Resilient Forest Collaborative, BLM, San Juan National Forest, local fire protection districts, CO Dept of Fire Prevention and Control, and local mitigation contractors) provided training and resources to homeowners and landowners to reduce the risk of wildfires. Demonstrations included chainsaw safety, Home Ignition Zone, gamble oak mitigation, chipper, and more.

As we head into wildfire season, workshops like this can make a big difference in making our residents and communities safe. Thank you to all those who came out to make this mitigation workshop a success! [Click here to read the full story](#)

MAY 2023 FIRE COUNCIL

At the May 2023 Fire Council Meeting, Durango Fire Protection District Battalion Chief Scott Neilson presented the 2023 Wildfire Seasonal Outlook. This vital information can help our communities be better prepared for the year ahead. It's time to shift our focus from the wild and wet winter this year, to the upcoming wildfire season outlook. View the full presentation below.

2023 Wildfire Seasonal Outlook

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EASTERN LA PLATA COUNTY COORDINATOR



Wildfire Adapted Partnership is happy to introduce our newest team member, Ryan Cook. Ryan joined WAP as the Eastern La Plata County Coordinator in this month. He grew up in Michigan and attended Oakland University where he graduated with a BA in Psychology. He moved to Durango in 2013 for a job with the conservation corps and he's lived in the area ever since.

Ryan began his career in wildfire mitigation in 2014. He is an experienced crew leader and has completed countless fire mitigation projects across La Plata County. He is passionate about fire mitigation and enjoys helping people protect themselves and their property from the dangers of wildfire. Ryan is an avid outdoorsman and loves spending time in the mountains. In his free time he enjoys fly fishing, hunting, playing guitar, and spending time with his wife, son, and two dogs. To contact Ryan, please email him at rcook@wildfireadapted.org. Welcome aboard Ryan!

JOIN OUR TEAM

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join our team

MONTEZUMA COUNTY
COORDINATOR



Do you have a passion for people and the community? Do you want to protect lives and property from wildfire? WAP is hiring a Montezuma County Coordinator. This part-time position (30 hrs/wk) will manage WAP's programs in Montezuma County by coordinating the Ambassador Program and providing wildfire education, planning, and mitigation support to local residents. The coordinator also serves as a regional liaison between federal, state, county, Tribal, and local representatives to encourage information exchange and strengthen collaborative partnerships between agencies and communities. Wildfire Adapted offers ample benefits including competitive pay, prorated group medical plan, paid holidays, annual leave, sick leave, employer retirement contribution, and professional development.

To apply, please send cover letter and resume to:
Ashley Downing, Executive Director
jobs@wildfireadapted.org

[View Full Job Announcement Here](#)

PROGRAM UPDATES

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Chipper Rebate Program

WAP's Chipper Rebate Program is open!

Individuals are eligible for a 50% reimbursement (maximum \$250) and HOAs/communities are eligible for a 50% reimbursement (maximum \$1,500) of chipping expenses. All reimbursement applications must provide a completed copy of the application below, copy of all invoices/receipts, and two photos of the chipping activity. [Click here for more information.](#)

For all questions please email us at chipper@wildfireadapted.org.

Home Risk Site Assessments

WAP's Site Assessments are open!

Have a Wildfire Adapted Partnership coordinator visit you and do a wildfire risk assessment of your home. Our coordinators will walk around your property with you and discuss what steps you can make to be better prepared for wildfire. You will receive a write up of everything you need to know to take the next steps in your wildfire preparedness journey as well as important materials to help guide you in your efforts. These visits generally take 60-90 minutes. [Click here for more information.](#)

For all questions email us at info@wildfireadapted.org.

Homeowner Grant Opportunity

Ready to improve your home's defenses against wildfire? Get a free wildfire risk assessment and take advantage of first come first serve grant funding in La Plata County that can reimburse part of the cost to improve our ecosystem health and decrease your properties risk.

Funds are available to private landowners within in the mapped program area who complete a free home wildfire risk assessment and hire a contractor to complete wildfire mitigation on their parcel. Once mitigation is completed, the program may reimburse the homeowner up to 50% of the project.

To sign up please visit the [La Plata County website here.](#)

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for volunteers to assist with the Vallecito Summer Slash Depot on June 16, 17; July 20, 21; August 18, 19. You do NOT need to commit to all dates. To volunteer or for more information please email Marilyn at McCord.M@protonmail.com

REMINDERS

Volunteer Hours

Thank you to our Neighborhood Ambassadors and volunteers for all your hard work! Please remember track your hours at wildfireadapted.org/time-report

Cost Share

Cost share projects are currently available in select areas. Please reach out to your [County Coordinator](#) to find out if you're eligible.

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Articles of Interest

1. [May is Wildfire Awareness Month](#)
2. [Wildfire evacuation drill grows in third year](#)
3. [Prescribed burns near Durango and Vallecito successful, federal land managers say](#)
4. [Polis signs wildfire bills into law addressing everything from insurance to evacuations](#)
5. [Using cattle for wildfire mitigation in Boulder](#)
6. [Colorado law will require homes to be more wildfire resistant](#)
7. [Colorado doubles down on its move away from relying on rented aircraft to fight wildfires](#)
8. [Colorado firefighters travel to Canada to help with battle against wildfires](#)
9. [Prescribed Fire](#)

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