



2001 Kitty Hawk, North Carolina Hazard Mitigation Program

The Fairfield District of the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources (DFR) implemented a hazard mitigation program in the central coastal communities of North Carolina. These fishing and vacation communities are growing at a rapid rate, and the wildland/urban interface challenges have grown as a result. The DFR partnered with the state Division of Coastal Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state Wildlife Resources Commission, and U.S. Department of Defense. These agencies manage the majority of forestland that surround these communities. Some of the work done by the DFR and its partners included:

- Conducted three public landowner Firewise meetings
- Coordinated with fire department and initiated door-to-door campaign to encourage participation
- Conducted two Kitty Hawk town council meetings – one Firewise and one project update meeting
- Eighteen high-hazard community homes were assessed for hazard mitigation. These homes had vegetation reduced mechanically
- Kitty Hawk Fire Department received wildland PPE, tools, and pumps to better prepare for and respond to wildland/urban interface fires.
- The NC Division of Coastal Management (Kitty Hawk Wood Preserve) installed access control at high traffic/high hazard areas. They also daylighted and extended existing trails for initial attack fire equipment access
- The Town of Kitty Hawk installed five fire hydrants at critical locations

As a result of this program the Town of Kitty Hawk and surrounding communities are now more knowledgeable and aware of interface hazards and have made great strides in making changes to their building ordinances to meet Firewise concepts.

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