

# National Fire Plan

## Education-Communication

### Colorado 2003



**Check it out!** Learn about current efforts to prevent damage from wildfire on private and public lands in southwest Colorado by going to just one website – the Southwest Colorado Fire Information Clearinghouse.



The San Juan Public Lands Center (FS/BLM), Colorado State Forest Service, and the Office of Community Services (OCS) at Fort Lewis College sponsor the site, designed to inform local residents and agencies of the many rehabilitation and recovery efforts going on in the aftermath of the Missionary Ridge and Valley Fires. The partners wanted to provide easy access to all the resource, social, and economic information that residents might need.

The Southwest Colorado Fire Information Clearinghouse website includes information on current fires, defensible space, and mitigation contractors. The site also contains reports such as the Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) Report, the Missionary Ridge Timber Salvage Environmental Impact Statement, and Community Fire Plans.

Cooperation among the partners has enabled the site to be the perfect repository for many of their products, such as the Community Fire Plans and Community Wildfire Series. The CFPs were a collaborative effort among these partners, local fire departments, and counties; however, when these were completed in May 2002, it was unclear whether the plans belonged on the county, CSFS, OCS, or FS/BLM website. The same was true for the Community Wildfire Series -- articles written by OCS staff on defensible space success stories and issues including the piñon pine die-off. It soon became evident that the clearinghouse website was the ideal host for these articles and reports.

A mailing list option, offering subscribers updates about current happenings, was also added, and is set up so that any of the partners can send out updates.

Funding for the webmaster's time is provided by the federal agencies with OCS and CSFS offering in-kind services. The website is at [southwestcoloradofires.org](http://southwestcoloradofires.org)

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