



**Rogue River-Siskiyou NF, Ashland Ranger District  
Ashland Forest Resiliency Project**

**Location:**

The project is located in the Ashland municipal watershed adjacent to the City of Ashland, Jackson County, Oregon. The watershed contains both national forest and municipal lands.

**Purpose:**

This project is being planned as an HFRA project. Treatment area is approximately 8, 150 acres within the municipal watershed. Treatment goals are to reduce hazardous fuels within the municipal watershed by thinning stands, creating fuel breaks with an over-story canopy, and to implement aspects to the CWPP that are appropriate with these treatment activities.

The majority of the Ashland Forest Resiliency Project is in Condition Class 3. Vegetation attributes have been significantly altered from the historical range and fire frequencies have departed from historical frequencies of multiple return intervals. The proposed activities focus on the reduction of hazardous fuels by thinning stands, creating fuel breaks with an over-story canopy, and similar treatments designed to reduce the spread of fire. The City of Ashland is currently treating some of their lands within the watershed to reduce hazardous fuels using very similar prescriptions that are anticipated to be in the analysis for national forest lands. The community of Ashland is identified as a community at risk in the Federal Register and it meets the definition in HFRA of an At Risk Community.

The objectives of the project are:

- ❖ Maintenance of water quality and quantity in the municipal watershed
- ❖ Protection of Late Successional Reserve (Northwest Forest Plan) characteristics
- ❖ Creation of a disturbance resilient forest landscape
- ❖ Protection of municipal and private land resources in the WUI

When the Forest announced the Ashland Forest Resiliency (AFR) Proposal as an HFRA project the community of Ashland responded by seeking to participate in the process outlined in HFRA for those communities that had completed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Their interests spurred the development of their CWPP which is now in final draft. When completed, the Forest anticipates using the CWPP in the analysis as one of the alternatives.

**Partners:**

City of Ashland (Fire & Rescue, Public Works Dept., Forest Lands Commission), Headwaters, Klamath-Siskiyou Wildland Center, Ashland Watershed Stewardship Alliance, World Wildlife Fund, The Nature Conservancy, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Forest Service.

**Contact:** Nancy Rose, Rogue River/Siskiyou Staff Officer, (541) 858-2218