

**Risk Perceptions and Support for Management Regimes in Wildland-Urban
Interface Zones: A Comparative Analysis of Wildfire Policy and Citizen Response
in the Intermountain West**

Principal Investigator: Deserai Anderson Crow
Key Personnel: Lydia Dixon, Elizabeth Koebele, Adrienne Kroepsch, Rebecca Schild

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1) Can you please provide your full name, professional title, and agency that you work for?
- 2) What is your job at the agency?
- 3) Can you describe the management plan(s) that are currently in place for wildfires in (county/city)?
- 4) Do you know how the current fire management plans were developed for your town/city/state?
 - a. Who was involved (fire managers, government officials, stakeholders, insurance)?
 - b. When were they implemented?
 - c. Have they been updated?
- 5) What sort of information or input does the city/county use when drafting these management plans?
 - a. How do you choose which information to include?
 - b. Where does this information come from?
 - c. What is the most important information used in the plan?
- 6) Were you satisfied with how these plans were developed?
 - a. Is there anything you would change about the plans, or the process used to develop them?
- 7) When wildfires happen, how do fire fighters and managers use the management plans?
 - a. Do you think that firefighting on-the-ground reflects what is laid out in the plans, or do the plans reflect the experiences of the firefighters on-the-ground?
- 8) When a fire occurs, can you describe how fire management plans/protocol are implemented?
 - a. Who is responsible for making decisions?
- 9) How would you describe the fire risk in this area?
 - a. How is it calculated?
 - b. Was this discussed during the fire management plan's creation?
 - c. Do you think these risk assessments were accurate based on actual damage from recent fires? Have you changed your models for calculating risk?
- 10) Who do you think is responsible for fire mitigation?
 - a. Are there aspects of mitigation that should be entirely up to homeowners?
 - b. Are there aspects that should be entirely up to local, county, state, or federal govt?

- 11) From your perspective, was/is there a lot of media coverage of your agency and the development of the management plan?
 - a. How would you characterize this media coverage?
- 12) How is this area's fire risk communicated to the public (media, direct outreach, events, education, etc.)?
 - a. What do you think are the most effective strategies?
- 13) What is your perception of this community in terms of fire-preparedness?
 - a. Do most homeowners seem aware of the risk?
 - b. Do you think that they take the risk seriously?
 - c. Why do you think they are/are not prepared?
 - d. Do you think most take personal responsibility for fire mitigation, or do they wait for emergency crews to take care of them?
- 14) Was (city/county) looking at what other cities/counties/states were doing when the revision/creation of a fire management plan arose?
- 15) When the last wildfire broke out, can you describe what happened, beyond what we know from media reports?
 - a. Who responds first?
 - b. How fast is the ideal response time?
 - c. Who takes responsibility for the fire?
 - d. Who determines when a higher-level incident response team takes over?
- 16) Did your town or city receive federal emergency assistance during the last wildfire?
 - a. If so, can you describe the type and amount of assistance?
 - b. How does the process work in terms of getting federal assistance?
 - c. Do you think that process was effective, or does it need improvement?
- 17) Have you or do you anticipate making significant changes to management plans as a result of this last fire?
- 18) How does your town or city plan for population and housing growth in the wildland-urban interface in general?
- 19) Is there anyone else at your agency or with whom you've worked that we should speak with about these issues?
 - a. If we contact him/her, can we use your name?
- 20) Are there any citizens that you could put us in contact with (by forwarding our information to them) that may want to discuss these issues in a focus group setting?