

# Banner Mountain Firewise Community

## Community Wildfire Action Plan 2024-2026



**FIREWISE USA**  
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

The Banner Mountain Firewise Community represents approximately 1658 parcels consisting of 8,861.3 acres within the wildland urban interface and intermix in the Sierra Nevada Mountain range. This proposed Firewise USA™ Site Community Wildfire Action Plan was developed through input received during the Summer 2023 Firewise Risk Assessment process and best practices learned from recent wildfires within Nevada County. The goal of this Action Plan is to continue to obtain measurable improvements in each defined goal area in order to maximize neighborhood safety and wildfire resilience.

### YEAR 1

#### Education and Outreach

1. Develop and retain a roles and responsibilities statement document for "Neighborhood Captain".
2. Develop a Neighborhood Captain territory (section) map overlay and conduct a coordinated communitywide recruitment campaign to identify a Captain for each section.
3. Develop a concurrent awareness and outreach campaign to obtain additional Neighborhood Captains and community members.
4. Increase of Neighborhood Captains by 100%. From current seven (7) Captains to 14.
5. Increase the number of members by 50%. From 20 to 30.
6. Promote preparedness programs, such as: Code Red, ZoneHaven, Ready Nevada County Dashboard and Scout Your Route.
7. Develop and launch a targeted "Nevada County Fire Safe Council \$40 Reflective Safety Address Sign" campaign.
8. Conduct two (2) Community Outreach/Education events.

#### Home Hardening Goals

1. Support the Nevada County Fire Safe Council, and CalFire, with their Home Hardening awareness efforts.
2. Identify one "new" neighborhood to promote the Defensible Space Advisory service. Conduct five (5) advisories.

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### Defensible Space/Fuels Reduction Goals

1. Encourage fuel reduction efforts within the community and collect hours and monies expended data for annual reporting.
2. Promote neighborhood micro-grant opportunities aimed at fuels reduction.
3. Partner with the Coalition, the Nevada County Fire Safe Council, and Nevada County Public Works to provide ongoing Free Chipping and Green Waste drop off locations; with sufficient staff to assist the elderly and disabled with unloading trucks and trailers

### Evacuation Planning (Ex. Preparedness and Routing) and Wildfire Preparedness

1. Identify problematic public lands at risk for wildfire. Focus on those areas that may impact ingress and egress along evacuation routes. Provide support to oversight agencies in fuels reduction projects. (For example: Little Deer Creek Landscape Resilience project.)
2. Identify the "Top 5" problematic vacant parcels at risk for wildfire. Partner with the Coalition, the Nevada County Fire Safe Council, and the Nevada County Code Enforcement Office to bring these parcels into wildfire code compliance.
3. Assess and develop available communication tools to alert communities to wildfire and evacuation alerts in the absence, or lack, of access to internet and/or cell services.

## YEAR 2

### Education and Outreach

1. Increase of Neighborhood Captains by 100%. From current 14 Captains to 28.
2. Develop and launch a targeted "Vent Fine Mesh Screen" and "Non-combustible skirting" campaign.
3. Promote preparedness programs, such as: Code Red, ZoneHaven, Ready Nevada County Dashboard and Scout Your Route.
4. Develop and launch a targeted "Nevada County Fire Safe Council \$40 Reflective Safety Address Sign" campaign.
5. Conduct two (2) Community Outreach/Education events.

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### Home Hardening Goals

1. Support the Nevada County Fire Safe Council, and CalFire, with their Home Hardening awareness efforts.
2. Identify one "new" neighborhood to promote the Defensible Space Advisory service. Conduct five (5) advisories.
3. Partner with CalFire and the Nevada Consolidated Fire District to run a wildfire prevention toolkit promotion during the summer months.

### Defensible Space/Fuels Reduction Goals

1. Encourage fuel reduction efforts within the community and collect hours and monies expended data for annual reporting.
2. Partner with Nevada County Office of Emergency Services, and the Coalition, to continue the efforts to reduce the fuels along the roadways with BLM, US Forest Service, and NID jurisdictions. To include thinning/clearing of public lands and especially key evacuation routes.
3. Promote neighborhood micro-grant opportunities aimed at fuels reduction.
4. Promote and assist with ongoing free local green waste promotions.

### Evacuation Planning (Ex. Preparedness and Routing) and Wildfire Preparedness

1. Identify the next "Top 5" problematic vacant parcels.
2. Partner with the Coalition, the Nevada County Fire Safe Council, and the Nevada County Code Enforcement Office to bring these parcels into wildfire code compliance.
3. Continue to assess and develop available communication tools to alert communities to wildfire and evacuation alerts in the absence, or lack, of access to internet and/or cell services.
4. Meet with the Nevada County Sheriff's Office to confirm emergency evacuation route procedures along Banner Lava Cap, Idaho Maryland, Gracie, and Red Dog roads.
5. In partnership with the Coalition, meet with the Nevada County Roads Maintenance Division staff to discuss short/long term roadway improvement plans for available evacuation routes.
6. Confirm current locations of unlawful trailer camps, squatters, and unsafe parcel conditions. Initiate planning communications with appropriate county support agencies.

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## YEAR 3

### Education and Outreach

1. Increase of Neighborhood Captains by 43%. From current 28 Captains to 40.
2. Promote another targeted "Nevada County Fire Safe Council \$40 Reflective Safety Address Sign" campaign.
3. Promote preparedness programs, such as: Code Red, ZoneHaven, Ready Nevada County Dashboard and Scout Your Route.
4. Conduct two (2) Community Outreach/Education events.

### Home Hardening Goals

1. Support the Nevada County Fire Safe Council, and CalFire, with their Home Hardening awareness efforts.
2. Identify one "new" neighborhood to promote the Defensible Space Advisory service. Conduct five (5) advisories.

### Defensible Space/Fuels Reduction Goals

1. Encourage fuel reduction efforts within the community and collect hours and monies expended data for annual reporting.
2. Partner with Nevada County Office of Emergency Services, and the Coalition, to continue the efforts to reduce the fuels along the roadways with BLM, US Forest Service, and NID jurisdictions. To include thinning/clearing of public lands and especially key evacuation routes.
3. Promote neighborhood micro-grant opportunities aimed at fuels reduction.
4. Promote and assist with ongoing free local green waste promotions.

### Evacuation Planning (Ex. Preparedness and Routing) and Wildfire Preparedness

1. Identify the next "Top 5" problematic vacant parcels. Partner with the Coalition, the Nevada County Fire Safe Council, and the Nevada County Code Enforcement Office to bring these parcels into wildfire code compliance.
2. Continue to assess and develop available communication tools to alert communities to wildfire and evacuation alerts in the absence, or lack, of access to internet and/or cell services.

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3. Launch a cooperative effort between the Nevada County Fire Safe Council, the Nevada County Sheriff's Office, the Nevada County Code Enforcement Office and the Nevada County Homeless Outreach and Medical Engagement (HOME) Team to address unlawful trailer camps, squatters, and unsafe parcel conditions on Banner Mountain that create wildfire and/or unsafe emergency ingress and egress.