

7J

Community Cluster.....7

Landscape Class.....J

Description

These fire-prone counties are within the western interior forest of Idaho, Montana, Washington, Oregon, Utah and Kansas. These communities have a growing presence of Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and a larger amount of federal ownership (USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management).

Example of a Typical County

Flathead County, Montana: Kalispell and the main entrance to Glacier National Park and the Flathead National Forest fall in this county. There were large fires here in 200, 2003 and 2007.

Challenges and Opportunities

Vegetation and Fuels

These counties may have contiguous areas that could benefit from the use of landscape-scale prescribed fire. Strategic fuel breaks may be warranted. There may be an active forest products industry nearby, which could support fuel treatments. Treatments are economical as a precursor to prescribed fire. The focus would be on treating the periphery of the area to act as a buffer.

Homes, Communities and Values at Risk

Local discretion should be used to determine the importance of homes and community actions.

Human-Caused Ignitions

Human caused ignitions are not as great here as in other parts of the country, but may deserve attention if a local situation dictates.

Effective and Efficient Wildfire Response

Prepare for large, long duration wildfires. Protect structures and target prevention of ignitions.



National Priorities

Vegetation and Fuels	Very Low
Homes, Communities and Values at Risk	Moderate
Human-Caused Ignitions	Moderate

Effective and Efficient Response:
There is high risk of large wildfires, more potential for resource benefits.

7J County Names

Kansas

Pottawatomie

Riley

Montana

Flathead

Ravalli

Oregon

Hood River

Jackson

Utah

Morgan

Washington

Kittitas