

City of Fillmore | 2022

Community Wildfire Protection Plan





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PREFACE: WHAT IS A COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN?

Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) are blueprints for preparedness at the neighborhood level. They organize a community's efforts to protect itself against wildfire, and empower citizens to move in a cohesive, common direction. Among the key goals of Fillmore CWPP, which was developed collaboratively by citizens, and federal, state, and local management agencies, are to:

- Align with the local fire agency's cohesive pre-fire strategy, which includes educating homeowners and building understanding of wildland fire, ensuring defensible space clearing and structure hardening, safeguarding communities through fuels treatment, and protecting evacuation corridors.
- Identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatment.
- Recommend the types and methods of treatment that will protect the community.
- Recommend measures to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.

Note: The CWPP is not to be construed as indicative of project "activity" as defined under the "Community Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act, Chapter Three, Projects Subject to CEQA." Any actual project activities undertaken that meet this definition of project activity and are undertaken by the CWPP participants or agencies listed shall meet with local, state, and federal environmental compliance requirements.

The Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council produced this report in partnership with the City of Fillmore. Funding is provided by a Grants Clearinghouse grant from the U.S. Forest Service through the California Fire Safe Council. In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

SECTION I: SNAPSHOT OF THE COMMUNITY

Each community in Ventura County has a unique history and identity. Below is a description of what sets this area apart, including its landscape, preparedness, and firefighting resources.

A. OVERVIEW

General Background

Fillmore is a city in Ventura County, California, United States in the Santa Clara River Valley. In an agricultural area with rich, fertile soil, Fillmore has a historic downtown that was established when Southern Pacific built the railroad through the valley in 1887. They also provided a name for the town; J. A. Fillmore was a general superintendent for the company's Pacific system. In 1769, the Spanish Portola expedition, first Europeans to see inland areas of California, came down the valley from the previous night's encampment near today's Rancho Camulos and camped in the vicinity of Fillmore on August 11. Fray Juan Crespi, a Franciscan missionary traveling with the expedition, had previously named the valley Cañada de Santa Clara. He noted that the party traveled about 9–10 miles and camped near a large native village. Founded in 1887 upon the arrival of the Southern Pacific Rail line, the city voted to incorporate in 1914. Fillmore sits at the foot of Topatopa Mountains and several other mountains in the Santa Clara River Valley.

Most houses are cottages, bungalows and old homes. Over half of all homes were constructed after 1970. The oldest buildings are found in downtown, which is centered around Central Street. Particularly the western part of the city has newer residential communities. Most businesses are located on Ventura Street (Highway 126).

It is famous for its many orange groves. Fillmore's economy is still largely driven by agriculture. Most agricultural industry in the Fillmore area is related to orange, lemon, avocado orchard farming and packing and, more recently, specimen tree farming. To a lesser extent, row crop farming and small industry and assembly are also present in and near Fillmore and in other parts of the Santa Clara River Valley.¹

Fillmore is often described as the last, best small town in Southern California, and that has been its moniker for nearly two decades. Located 30 minutes from the beach and nestled in the Santa Clara River Valley with the Los Padres National Forest at its backdoor, Fillmore has a long, rich history in agriculture, and remains an agricultural town to this day. Fillmore has been a filming location for decades, with Hollywood productions drawn to our historic, quaint downtown storefront area as well as our local railroad trains and historic depot setting, as well as abundant orchards of mature orange, lemon and avocado trees. Fillmore's current population is approximately 16,000, with new developments that will increase population by several thousand by the end of the decade. The community gathers downtown at Central Park throughout the

¹ "Fillmore-Discovering Heritage Valley." *Heritage Valley Tourism Bureau*, Heritage Valley Tourism Bureau, <https://19i.e3e.myftpupload.com/fillmore>.

year for annual Fall, Winter/Christmas, May (springtime) and Fourth of July festivals and other holidays.

Demographic and Vulnerable Population Information

Fillmore's 2020 population was estimated to be approximately 16,125. Close to 75% of Fillmore residents identify ethnically as Hispanic/Latino, while 20% identify as white, and the remaining 5% encompass Asian/Pacific Islander, African-American, Native American and mixed-race/ethnicity. (www.census.gov)

Fillmore's top occupations include health and social assistance (12.4%), educational services (7.7%), construction (8.9%), manufacturing (8.4%), agriculture (7.6%) and retail trade (8.2%). The continually strong need for an agricultural workforce in the surrounding areas of Fillmore brings an ongoing, significant farmworker/farmworker family population in the City. The per-capita income in Fillmore in 2019 was \$26,655, only two-thirds of \$38,595, the average per-capita income in Ventura County. Nearly 8% of Fillmore residents and 9% of Fillmore children are deemed to be persons living in poverty. Renters make up 30% of the population in Fillmore, and nearly 60% of the renters spend 30% or more of their household income on rent. Within the City of Fillmore (including adjacent unincorporated areas) lies a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Qualified Census Tract (includes North Fillmore and the residential areas west of Telegraph Road, east of B St. and north of Hwy 126), where 50% or more of households have incomes below 60% of the Area Median Gross Income (\$92,000). (Fillmore Housing Element, 2014)

The city is served by the Fillmore Unified School District. Educational facilities for this district include: two high schools including Fillmore High School; one middle school; and four elementary schools. A fifth elementary school is located in the city of Piru, which is also a part of the school district. The Fillmore Christian Academy is a private K-8 school in town. ²

Within the Fillmore Unified School District (FUSD), 2,800 out of 3,700 students, or 75% of students qualify for free or reduced lunch. There are also over 800 English Language Learners in the district, and through the Fillmore Adult school there are English as a Second Language (ESL) classes offered in Fillmore as well as the neighboring community of Piru. Poverty in Fillmore affects our youngest residents the most - according to the 2019 Ventura County State of the Region report, 36.3% of children 5 and younger live in households below the federal poverty line. In this same report, it's noted that FUSD scored fifth-highest in the County on the "misery index", a measure of childhood socio-economic disparities. In the indicators include: the poverty rate among children 5 and younger; the percentage of women-led households with children 5 and younger who live below the federal poverty line; the percentage of adults 25 and older without a high school diploma; the percentage of people who speak English "less than very well"; the percentage of students classified as English learners; and the percentage of students eligible for free or discounted meals at school. The percentages are added together

² "Fillmore-Discovering Heritage Valley." *Heritage Valley Tourism Bureau*, Heritage Valley Tourism Bureau, <https://19i.e3e.myftpupload.com/fillmore>.

and weighted equally for the index. A higher number indicates greater socioeconomic challenges.³

People who meet the definitions of more vulnerable, more impoverished are disproportionately affected by wildfire events. This includes children in low-income families, monolingual Spanish-speaking or indigenous language-speaking households, homeless or home insecure, seniors and those living with disabilities. Vulnerable populations more often live in more crowded housing, have less access to communications regarding public safety alerts and emergencies and have less access to readily available transportation in the case of emergency evacuations.

Additionally, Fillmore faces challenges in connecting to public transportation resources in other parts of the County. A Santa Clara Valley Heritage Valley bus system offers shuttles between Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru, with a Ventura County transit bus that bring Santa Clara Valley residents to and from various Ventura locations (at which point riders can transfer to an Oxnard/Camarillo route), however, there is no public transit bus route that extends over Grimes Canyon to Moorpark, Simi Valley or the Conejo Valley, nor a public transit route that goes east past Piru to Santa Clarita. Work commute times average about 30 minutes for Fillmore residents, similar to other cities in the County.

Fillmore residents' water supply is provided by several municipal wells, and the aquifer levels are consistently steady and plentiful for the residents of Fillmore. However, according to a report from the California Department of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources, continued hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking" and oil drilling in the Sespe Oil Field poses "serious hazards to the Los Padres National Forest and to the small rural community of Fillmore downstream in Ventura County." ⁴

B. LANDSCAPE

TOPOGRAPHY

Fillmore is a small town in the Santa Clara River Valley in Ventura County about 25 miles from the Los Angeles County line, below San Cayetano Mountain, a peak of the Topatopa Mountains in the Los Padres National Forest. The Sespe Condor Sanctuary, where the critically endangered California condor is recovering, in the Topatopa range to the north. The nearby Sespe Creek is a tributary of the Santa Clara River. Fillmore is within a historic Ventura County agricultural and tree-farming belt.⁵ Located nearby are a fish hatchery and the Sespe Creek and Sespe Wilderness, home to the California condor Sespe sanctuary.

³ "2019 State of the Region Report." *Ventura County Civic Alliance*, 25 July 2019, <https://civicalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019-State-of-the-Region-Report-Final-Web-1.pdf>.

⁴ ForestWatch. "Draft Report Reveals Significant Environmental Impacts of Fracking in Ventura County's Sespe Oil Field." *Los Padres ForestWatch*, 15 Jan. 2015, <https://lpfw.org/draft-report-reveals-significant-environmental-impacts-of-fracking-in-ventura-countys-sespe-oil-field/>.

⁵ "Fillmore-Discovering Heritage Valley." *Heritage Valley Tourism Bureau*, Heritage Valley Tourism Bureau, <https://19i.e3e.myftpupload.com/fillmore>.

The vegetation is typical Southern California chaparral and Sagebrush to the north and to the east. To the south is the Santa Clara River bottom and Riparian area, with highly flammable Arundo, an non-native plant species that has overtaken much of the Santa Clara River bottom in various parts from Santa Clarita to the Pacific Ocean. To the west is the Sespe River drainage, as well as chaparral.

The majority of the infrastructure is located within a liquefaction areas where historical occurrence of liquefaction, or local geological, geotechnical and ground water conditions indicate a potential for permanent ground displacements and is bordered by the San Cayetano Fault line with an earthquake zone that runs along the foothills.⁶

Fillmore experiences east to west drainage in its topography, and is surrounded 360 degrees by wildland areas. Its location in east Ventura County, along the Santa Clara River valley at the base of foothills of the Los Padres National Forest makes Fillmore a bit unique when it comes to topography in relation to fire danger, as a fire can come running down the foothills towards the City. Additionally, Fillmore is situated at the point where offshore (desert winds and climate) meets onshore (Pacific Ocean-created weather patterns), and when these two opposing weather patterns collide, it does make for more extreme weather conditions, which can contribute to fire danger.

FLOOD RISK/HISTORY

St. Francis Dam Disaster: On March 12, 1928, the dam constructed in the San Francisquito Canyon, located upriver from the Ventura County Line was completely filled. The lake is 3 miles long and contains 38,000 acre feet or 12 billion gallons of water. On this day, engineers inspected the dam and found it to be sound and the reported leaks to be normal. At 3 minutes before midnight on March 12, 1928, the dam collapsed catastrophically and without warning. The center section of the dam, soon to be called the “tombstone” and the wing to the right were all that remained in place. The wing was 588’ long and 20’ tall. A 140’ wall of water carried 1,000 ton blocks of concrete like rafts on a wave. The largest piece, found 1500’ from the tombstone weighed 10 thousand tons and was 61’ tall. Of the 75 families living in the canyon just beneath the dam, only a few survived. The dam keeper warned the engineers that he saw muddy leaks around the dam the morning of March 12th. The flood took about 5 ½ hours to travel the 54 miles from the dam site to the ocean. It arrived at Fillmore at 2:20 a.m. The speed of the flow was about 12 mph. Total time -- 11:57 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. In six hours more than 450 people were swept away in the dark and murky waters. Many were never found. It was wond of the worst man-made disasters of the 20th century.⁷

Fillmore stands at substantial risk for flood by three water flows - Santa Clara River, Pole Creek, and Sespe Creek. Ventura County institutes a Flood Warning System, and at the heart of it is the Automated Local Evaluation in Real-Time (ALERT) network. After the successful

⁶ “Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation: Fillmore Quadrangle.” *California Geological Survey* (California Department of Conservation). *California Geological Survey*. https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/Documents/Publications/EZRIM/FILLMORE_EZRIM_a11y.pdf

⁷ “St. Francis Dam Disaster.” *Fillmore Historical Museum*, <https://www.fillmorehistoricalmuseum.org/st-francis-dam-disaster>.

implementation of this gauge, VCPWA-WP decided to implement a Flood Warning system for Sespe Creek after a flood in 1978 that caused significant damage in Fillmore. Six rain gauges were installed in 1979 in the Sespe Creek and Santa Paula Creek watersheds. All six of these gauges remain in operation today. Improvement in technology over the years has allowed for the display of real-time rainfall and stream flow in graphs and maps. The ALERT network continued to grow and eventually all three of Ventura County watersheds were covered by the ALERT system.

The areas surrounding the Santa Clara River directly south of the City boundaries and the areas surrounding Sespe Creek, directly west of the City boundaries, lie within a 100 year flood zone. More localized flooding may occur within and beyond FEMA flood zones, and can negatively impact communities. The Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) is responsible for watershed, flooding, and stormwater management in the County. Fillmore lies in the Santa Clara Watershed Zone (Zone 2). The Santa Clara Watershed covers Piru, Fillmore, Santa Paula, Ventura, El Rio, Saticoy, Oxnard, Port Hueneme and Nyeland Acres. Major or significant drainage channels are the Santa Clara River and its tributaries and various Oxnard Plain drains. (https://watertalks.csusb.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Water_Talks_Toolkit_VENT_108.pdf)

VCWPD operates and maintains flood control facilities that have been constructed by the District, or by others and transferred to the District. Routine maintenance is conducted periodically on all District facilities to ensure proper operations. Maintenance typically involves removal of sediment and vegetation to restore the original design conveyance or flow capacity of flood control channels or the storage capacity of flood or debris basins. The District maintains 40 dams or debris basins strategically placed to capture or remove sediment from channels that have the potential to cause downstream flooding of residential or commercial areas. Additional (non-scheduled) storm-related maintenance is conducted on an as-needed basis, usually during emergency conditions, to protect life and property. Concerning Fillmore, the Ventura County Watershed Protection District has a number of flood control basins designed to capture debris before it can enter the main stem of the Santa Clara River, including the Warring Canyon basin in Piru and the Jepson wash debris basin north of Fillmore along Sespe Creek.^{8 9}

FIRE HISTORY

The Fillmore community has a history of major wind-driven fires every 6-7 years. The last big fire was the Thomas Fire in December 2017.

⁸ Bandurraga, Mark. "Ventura County Public Works Agency - Character, People ..." *Ventura County Watershed Protection District*, 21 Feb. 2006, https://s29422.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Debris_Basin_Report_VCWPD_2005.pdf.

⁹ "Santa Clara River." *Ventura County Public Works Agency*, 28 June 2021, <https://www.vcpbublicworks.org/wp/santa-clara-river/#1531774274763-df3a1477-6fc8>.

Fillmore Fire History					
YEAR_	FIRE_NAME	ALARM_DATE	CONT_DATE	GIS_ACRES	ZipCode
1912				913.098	93015
1915				156.153	93015
1916				132.494	93015
1932				125.142	93015
1946	WILEY CANYON	11/2/1946		21,266.10	93015
1957	BOULDER CREEK	8/22/1957		3,734.05	93015
1958	CALUMET CANYON	10/21/1958		17,213.50	93015
1970	CLAMPITT FIRE	9/25/1970		115,537	93015
1971	GOODENOUGH	10/5/1971		2,255.09	93015
1984	SQUAW FLAT	10/15/1984		6,088.06	93015
1990	SHIELLS	10/9/1990		403.238	93015
1990	POLE	6/23/1990		257.205	93015
1996	GRAND	7/2/1996		10,949.50	93060
1998	PIRU INCIDENT	10/18/1998		12,612.70	93015
2003	PIRU	10/23/2003	10/31/2003	63,726.40	93015
2003	SIMI FIRE	10/25/2003		107,570	93021
2006	SHEKELL	12/3/2006	12/9/2006	13,618.10	93021
2007	RANCH	10/20/2007	11/15/2007	58,410.30	93040
2009	GUIBERSON	9/22/2009	9/24/2009	17,526.70	93015
2013	GOODENOUGH	4/8/2013	4/8/2013	145.233	93015
2017	THOMAS	12/4/2017	1/12/2018	281,791	93023

KEY INFRASTRUCTURE

Fillmore's water tanks and pumping systems are largely situated on the hillside above town and flow down. Residential structures are located on the edges of town and are closely located to areas of dry vegetation and chaparral. As previously noted, Fillmore is bordered by the Santa Clara River to the South, Sespe creek to the west and Pole creek to the east. Several City parks are also on the border of City limits - Shiells park in the Northwest, Two Rivers Park in the Southwest and Rio Vista Park along the City's southeasternmost side. Within the City's boundaries, there are a few agricultural orchards. Just outside the City's boundaries, but within the purview of this Plan, the city is surrounded by orchards, row crops, farms and ranches. Fillmore also owns an equestrian facility on the south side of the Santa Clara River which has approximately 88 borders at this time.

Water infrastructure is provided by the City of Fillmore Water Department

The Ten largest employers in Fillmore include:

- Fillmore Unified School District
- Ameron-NOV Pole Products
- Bunnin Chevrolet
- Villa Park Citrus and Avocado Packing House
- Super A Foods
- Fillmore Medical Plaza
- Clínicas del Camino Real

- Greenfield Care Center
- City of Fillmore
- VONS Groceries

Fillmore has several dedicated business parks that include independent and chain/franchise businesses, and active plans to develop manufacturing in the southwest corner of the City.

Habitat Features

The City of Fillmore is surrounded by mixed chaparral to the northern border along the foothills and is bordered by a riparian corridor to the south.

There is a Fish Hatchery and habitat restoration site located along the Santa Clara River to the SouthEastern border of the town. Fillmore Hatchery is located in a former citrus grove bordering the Santa Clara River. It was one of the first "warmwater" trout hatcheries constructed in California to produce catchable-sized fish. The water is about 60°F which supports fast growth for trout. Initial testing of the water supply began in 1941. In 1942, 30 ponds, 4 cottages, a feed room, and a garage building were constructed at a cost of approximately \$74,000.

Fillmore Fish Hatchery was dedicated as a state hatchery in 1942. Initially Fillmore was constructed with earthen ponds which were supplied by both spring and well water. 1968 and 1972 saw renovations with construction of a total 40 concrete ponds and two additional wells. Fillmore currently utilizes 1 large well along with one recirculation pump to conserve water. Water temps average at 60 degrees.

Fillmore Hatchery is a production trout hatchery which receives fertile trout eggs from a CDFW egg production hatchery. Once hatched, fish are raised for one year before release for recreational angling. On average 700,000 trout are released yearly into local lakes and streams primarily in Southern California.

Due to unprecedented drought, in 2014 an upgrade was the installation of Endangered Species Fish Rescue Tanks. The system is capable of maintaining a controlled living environment separate from the main hatchery and rearing ponds. It provides controlled water temperatures and oxygenation, recirculation and disease control

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Hatcheries/Fillmore/History>

Key Landmarks

Fillmore Neon Sign The Fillmore sign at the corner of California Hwy 126 and Central Avenue, steers motorists to the Central Business District. The sign, erected in 1940, is a streamlined, neon-lighted rectangle with curved edges that stands at the northeast corner of the intersection. The community nominated it to be an official landmark because of its style, architecture, and

what it added to the community in the past and contributes to the personality of the city. (Los Angeles Times, Sept. 30, 1994)

Fillmore High School The two buildings at Fillmore High, erected in 1939, were built in the Mediterranean-style of that era with looming, Moorish entrances. The high school was first built in 1909, then built on a new location in 1910 with new buildings following in 1924. A fire took place in 1937, resulting in the Mediterranean style, landmark buildings being constructed in 1938 and 1939, which were named then and Science and Arts buildings, which are still called to this day. (Ventura County Historical Landmarks and Points of Interest, May 2016;¹⁰

Fillmore State Bank Fillmore State Bank Building was constructed in 1917 to house the Fillmore State Bank, which had been founded in 1905 by Judge Felix Ewing and John Carne. In 1927 it became the Bank of Italy; the name was changed in 1930 to Bank of America. In 1965 the building became a branch of the Bank of A. Levy. Albert C. Martin was the architect.¹¹

Fillmore First Bank and Masonic Building This building is currently home to a realty and a mortgage company, in the late 1970s this was a liquor store and deli where they made the best sub-sandwiches in town

Fillmore Presbyterian Church The Fillmore on Central began as the First Presbyterian Church site in 1888 and offered a gathering place, and later a school, for the community for more than 100 years. The historic Mission-style building was carefully restored in 2020 to preserve and highlight its exquisite original details and now serves as an event space for weddings and other special events.¹²

Towne Theatre The Towne Theatre was constructed of unreinforced brick in 1918. The single-screen theater was used to show silent movies and the stage area was used for vaudeville. Mary Pickford performed here. The theater was closed due to extensive damage from the 1994 earthquake. The city purchased the theater and used grants from the State Historical Preservation Office to rebuild the structure. Restoration cost nearly \$1 million to complete. Most recently the Towne Theater was sold to a private non-profit organization with plans to further renovate the theater for live performances and arts and cultural events.¹³

¹⁰ Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board Staff. "CRPD Historical Landmarks Points of Interest." *Conejo Recreation and Park District*, May 2016, <https://www.crpdpd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CRPD-Historical-Landmarks-Points-of-Interest.pdf>.

¹¹ "Fillmore State Bank Historical Marker." *The Historical Marker Database*, 16 June 2016, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=77889>.

¹² "The Fillmore on Central History." *The Fillmore on Central*, 5 Oct. 2020, <https://thefillmoreoncentral.com/history-of-the-fillmore-church-event-venue/>.

¹³ "338 Central Avenue Historical Marker." *The Historical Marker Database*, 25 Mar. 2019, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=131358>.

Southern Pacific Depot The Southern Pacific Depot was built in 1887 during the Southern California land boom of that decade. It was saved from demolition and moved to its present site in 1974 to become the Fillmore Historical Museum. This was done through the efforts of Edith Moore Jarrett, who served as the first curator of the museum. This prefabricated railroad building is located near its original site. A Southern Pacific box car which served at the first post office in Bardsdale is set alongside the building. Edith Moore Jarrett Roderick Brown bought the building and donated it to the city as a museum. A pair of Sespe sandstone Ionic columns salvaged from the first Fillmore State Bank stand at the entranceway. When the Southern Pacific Railroad finished its line between Ventura and Los Angeles in 1887, Fillmore (named after Southern Pacific's West Coast superintendent, Jerome A. Fillmore) was established as the only train stop in the sparsely inhabited far eastern Santa Clara Valley; the town followed in 1888. The stop proved critical in supporting the local citrus and oil industries from 1910-20.¹⁴

Trinity Episcopal Church Also known as the “Chocolate” Church, This redwood, English gingerbread Craftsman style church has one of the few remaining lych gates in the United States. It was built in Hueneme, on the east side of Ventura Road (formerly Fourth Street) between Pleasant Valley Road and Clara Street, by Senator Thomas Bard for his wife Molly. In 1933 Mrs. Bard gave the little church to the Fillmore Episcopalians; it was dismantled, every piece numbered, transported to Fillmore, and rebuilt.¹⁵

Church of Christ Scientist Also known as the Lutheran and Community Churches, it was built in 1929; designated July 1980; Location: 461 Third Street, Fillmore. This English Tudor style stucco church has a winding flagstone brick path leading to its doors. Designed by architect H. Roy Kelley, it won an Honor Award from the American Institute of Architects, Southern California Chapter. (Ventura County Historical Landmarks and Points of Interest, May 2016; ¹⁶

Artists' Barn and Surrounding Grounds Built circa 1910; Designated July 1980. Location: 416 Bard Street, Fillmore. For many years the Hinckley's Artists' Barn, which was converted from a barn to a residence and studio in 1936, served as an art center for Ventura County. It was featured in a Life magazine article in 1936. One wall, called The Famous Artists' Wall, has 10-inch squares that were painted by professional artists who visited the site. When there was no more room on that wall for distinguished visitors' paintings and signatures, the squares were continued across an adjacent wall. The barn regularly served as a Lyceum of the arts. A pepper tree over 100 years old when the landmark was designated stands on the grounds.¹⁷

¹⁴ “Southern Pacific Depot Historical Marker.” *The Historical Marker DataBase*, 26 Apr. 2019, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=132748>.

¹⁵ “Trinity Episcopal's Journey to Fillmore.” *Fillmore Historical Museum*, <https://www.fillmorehistoricalmuseum.org/trinity-episcopal-s-journey-to-fill>.

¹⁶ Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board Staff. “CRPD Historical Landmarks Points of Interest.” *Conejo Recreation and Park District*, May 2016, <https://www.crpdpd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CRPD-Historical-Landmarks-Points-of-Interest.pdf>

¹⁷ “The Artists' Barn Historical Marker.” *The Historical Marker DataBase*, 24 June 2019, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=135704>.

Packing House at Sespe and “A” Street Before 1888 the Santa Clara River Valley was given over to range land for sheep and cattle. With the coming of the railroad this changed. The valley was soon given over to orchards and crops of all types. In 1888, the Sespe Land and Water Company set aside five acres to try growing oranges. Ten years later, the Ventura Free Press wrote that Fillmore was “a horticultural center for oranges, lemons and apricots.” Apricots and walnuts were also major crops with entire families picking the harvest for drying which would then be shipped to market. Apricots were labor intensive and by the 1940s most orchards had been replaced by orange groves. In 1899, the Fillmore Citrus Fruit Association built its first packinghouse at Sespe and A Street. Eventually there would be 12 citrus packing houses in the city.¹⁸

Historical Railroad Along with its rich agricultural history, Fillmore is also known across Southern California for being a destination for historic railway and train enthusiasts. Vintage trains are housed in the Fillmore railyard and on weekends the train operator hosts themed rides throughout the year, based on the season. The City’s railway history is also documented in several railroad bridges displayed as landmarks at the eastern edge of town at the entrance to the Bridges subdivision and at the northwestern entrance to Fillmore across Sespe Creek.¹⁹

MAPS

Using technology and local expertise, the sponsors of this CWPP have included a series of maps depicting the site and situation of the Fillmore Community (Appendix C). The following maps are visual aids from which the Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council and community members can assess and make recommendations.

1. Area Communities Map
2. Fire Hazard Severity map
3. Fire History (1910-2010)
4. Evacuation Map - CITY OF FILLMORE EVACUATION MAP FOR THOMAS FIRE.
5. Fuel Treatment Projects

C. FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES

The City of Fillmore is served by multiple agencies with firefighting responsibilities, including its own City of Fillmore Fire Department, Station #91, augmented with reserve firefighters, and local and County mutual aid - Ventura County Fire Station #27, and the US Forest Service Station #54. Community efforts to protect the community include continuous, year-round use of public agency and non-profit (Team Rubicon) hand-crews to reduce fuel load. Fillmore is



¹⁸ “Agriculture.” *The Fillmore Historical Museum*, <https://www.fillmorehistoricalmuseum.org/stories-2/agriculture>.

¹⁹ Burns, Adam. “California Scenic Train Rides: A Complete Guide.” *American Rails*, 28 Dec. 2021, <https://www.american-rails.com/catrs.html>.

not unique in weed abatement, but perhaps unique in doing it year-round, in the summer as well as the fall to prepare for the Santa Ana winds, and takes wildlife habitat and slope ecology into consideration when planning projects. Fillmore Fire Department takes advantage of fuel reduction activities to use as training and preparedness exercises for multiple agencies.

The City of Fillmore Fire Department is composed of 5 full time staff members including one paid chief, 3 paid captains, and one paid disaster coordinator. Additionally, the City of Fillmore Fire Department employs 2 volunteer Deputy Chiefs, 4 volunteer Captains, and 60 volunteer firefighters.

Fire Suppression goals:

- 1) Arrival of the first firefighting unit capable of initial fire attack or a victim rescue within 5 minutes 90% of the time.
- 2) Arrival of sufficient additional firefighting units which would allow interior firefighting operations within 10 minutes 90% of the time.
- 3) To provide fire suppression and emergency response capabilities with adequate manning, apparatus, equipment, and trained personnel, deployed on a 24-hour a day basis.
- 4) To provide pre-hospital emergency medical care, stabilization for ill or injured persons, on a 24-hour a day basis, by a Level 2 paramedic and ALS assist staffing within 5 minutes 90% of the time.
- 5) To respond to requests for mutual aid to surrounding communities, on an as available basis.

Fillmore Fire Department provides a full range of services to the community it serves and as mutual aid is requested, to the surrounding area of Ventura County. These services include but are not limited to:

Fire Suppression: Full fire suppression capability in commercial and residential structures, vehicle and urban interface operations. Fire department personnel, including paid and volunteer, are continually trained to meet the highest of fire fighting standards.

Rescue: Personnel are trained in basic rope systems for over the side and many different low, moderate and high angle rescues. Personnel operate Quint 91 a aerial/heavy rescue apparatus for vehicle extrication. Fillmore Fire Dept. provides coverage for response both within Fillmore City Limits and also Mutual aid responses with Ventura County Fire Department.

Training: Fire department personnel train daily with two to three scheduled drills per month using several live training scenarios in many areas. There are various training props, located at Station 91 including but not limited to rope rescue props, roof props, smoke house evolutions and various other drills. With state of the art video and classrooms the facility is heavily used by the department and available to other departments in surrounding communities

Fire Safety Inspections: Fire department personnel conduct annual business inspections and certify occupancy for all new construction throughout the City of Fillmore.²⁰

²⁰ "Fire Suppression ." *City of Fillmore Fire Department*, <http://www.fillmorefire.com/firesup.htm>.

Fire Prevention & Public Education: The Fire Department offers a variety of fire prevention and public education programs for people of all ages. Some of the programs include a traveling fire safety house, smoke detector program, and career days at the High School.

SECTION II: COLLABORATION

Strong working relationships are critical in ensuring that our communities are well-prepared. This section describes those key partners and their roles in developing this CWPP.

A. KEY PARTNERS

The Fire Safe Council Name led the development of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), with guidance and support from several partners. The development team included representatives from the agencies described in the table below.

Organization	Roles/Responsibilities
Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council	Facilitation, Section IV, V, VI, support documentation
City of Fillmore Fire Department	Fire Resources, history, ongoing projects, and goals
City of Fillmore	compiling documentation and community engagement
Ventura County Fire Department	Evacuation
Ventura County Sheriff's Department	Maps Evacuation
Cal Fire	Evacuation Planning
VCTC	Evacuation Planning
CalTrans	Evacuation Planning
SoCal Edison	Collaboration regarding hazards during high-wind warnings
Tri-Counties Regional Center Human Services Agency California Child Services	Evacuation Planning
Veteran's Emergency Technical Services	Mapping and Fire History

SECTION III: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATION

Understanding wildfire risk is a key building block in preventing the loss of property and life. This section discusses efforts to build awareness, starting with the individual.

A. PRIORITIES

- Development and Distribution of wildland fire educational materials, including an educational coloring book for children
- Continual and bi-annual Chipper events - vegetation clearing, including free drop-off of hazardous vegetation for disposal
- Education of the whole community regarding the hazards of wildland fire and empower residents on how they can take steps to mitigate hazards on their property and through conscientious behaviors, including home hardening and home ignition zone assessments

B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

- The wildland educational coloring book was a grant awarded from SoCal Edison and is on-going
- The vegetation clearing/free disposal (Chipper event) as well as two bi-annual events
- Community education is ongoing. Fillmore's own CERT program, with an average of 30 participants annually.
- Disaster Preparedness Day-Annual event hosted by the City of Fillmore with partnership of emergency services to educate the community on how to be better prepared for a disaster.
- **VC ALERT PROGRAM**
 - Ventura County has implemented a state-of-the-art emergency notification system that may be used to deliver time sensitive emergency alerts to residents when there is a threat to your health and safety.
 - **Registration of Phone Numbers:** The VC Alert Emergency Notification System database currently includes all listed and unlisted landline telephone numbers that are serviced by AT&T and Frontier. If you would like to be contacted on your home phone, cellular phone, work phone, TTY device, email, fax or via instant messaging – you must register that information using the opt-in portal. All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential.
 - **Hearing Impaired / TTY Phones and Devices-**The VC Alert Emergency Notification System is capable of delivering messages to TTY/TDD devices. To register your contact information, please utilize the opt in portal or contact the VC Alert Hotline at (805) 648-9283 for assistance.
 - **Use of the System:** VC Alert may be used to deliver alerts when there is a threat to the health or safety of residents. It is important for residents not to rely on VC Alert notifications as their only means of emergency information. The system may be used in conjunction with information provided to the media, directions given by

emergency responders, and information posted on official city, county and government websites/social media.

- **How it Works**-The process begins when the City or County issues a message about a potential safety hazard or concern. Messages may be sent to all standard voice and text communication devices, including landline phone numbers, cellular phone numbers, email, and more. If you do not confirm receipt of the message, the system may continue trying to contact you until it receives a confirmation from you.²¹

C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Future projects include getting more community members involved in volunteering with the Fillmore Fire Department, though not in the capacity as Firefighters, but rather the creation of a volunteer workforce - spreading education, awareness and being proactive about preventing fires. This encompasses some CERT, but expands beyond.
 - Creation of a Fillmore Fire Dept. Volunteer Program (FDVP)
 - FDVP will be an interactive and collaborative partnership between the Fillmore Fire Dept. and the citizens, creating an active means to make a difference in the community and based on the concept of utilizing the talents and skills of volunteers from within the local community as partners in public safety
 - Potential Projects/Uses:
 - Traffic Safety
 - Non-hazardous assistance during disasters
 - Expand the program to be more equitable and inclusive, encouraging participation from multilingual (especially Spanish speakers) individuals to improve outreach.
 - FFVP will enhance safety and quality of life for our entire community
- Community Outreach Campaign to ADA/Disabled Community through Public Safety lens
 - Share results of City's ADA survey
 - Partner with the Ventura County Human Services Agency (HSA)
 - Working in partnership with Sheriff's Dept., City Community Development and Code Enforcement
- Partner with the City of Fillmore and County agencies in a campaign to encourage ADA residents, their caregivers, and those with mobility needs to register with the Human Services Agency for evacuation preparedness and transportation assistance. This is to ensure that this vulnerable population is known by our Fire Department, Sheriff's Dept and other first responders for Notification and warning procedures, evacuations, emergency transportation issues, accessibility to mobility devices or service animals while in transit and has accessibility to all necessary information during emergencies.
- When Fire Dept. is doing residential inspections for Wildland Fire Safety, inquire about individuals needing assistance during evacuation, and share that information with HSA for their master list of individuals needing assistance in Fillmore.
- Encourage the creation of FireWise Communities [NFPA standards] which includes:

²¹ "VC Alert." *Ready Ventura County - Get a Kit. Make a Plan. Be Informed. Get Involved.*, 3 Sept. 2021, <https://www.readyventuracounty.org/vc-alert/>.

- Creating a board/committee to represent the community
- Complete wildfire risk assessment and create a three-year action plan
- Implement action plan
- Submit Application to Firewise USA for approval²²

DRAFT

²² “How to Become a Firewise USA® Site.” *National Fire Protection Association*, 2022, <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/Firewise-USA/Become-a-Firewise-USA-site>.

SECTION IV: STRUCTURAL HARDENING

Long before a wildfire sparks, there are numerous steps that residents can take to protect their homes and other structures. This section describes some of those efforts.

A. PRIORITIES

The overall goal for increasing community capacity for structural hardening is to reduce vulnerabilities of residential losses to wildland/WUI fire threats at the individual home and neighborhood levels. This includes working to reduce the loss of life, private property, financial resources, and impacts to short- and long-term recovery.

NFPA Best Practices, County Standards

- Ensure building standards are enforced - collaboration with Building and Safety Code Enforcement
- Encouraging retrofitting older homes for home hardening to meet the best practices in fire-safe building standards

B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

- Annual and seasonal clearing around residential structures
- Ongoing Building inspections for new construction
- Ongoing code enforcement/reporting of dangerous fire hazards. These reports are investigated by both Code Enforcement and the Fire Department and are cleared/mitigated where appropriate. Those who are out of compliance are charged the cost for the contractor that is hired by the fire department to conduct the clearance and an administrative fee.
- The Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council provides free Home Ignition Zone Assessments to residents throughout Ventura County, assisting them by identifying specific structural and landscaping vulnerabilities that could potentially threaten their homes during a wildfire and recommending mitigation measures to harden their homes against ember intrusion.

C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Seek grants for the Fillmore Fire Department to reduce the standing fuel hazard of palm trees in residential neighborhoods that border city limits/natural vegetation areas.
- Identify funding opportunities for residents to conduct mitigations, reimbursement for mitigation efforts, and potential tax incentives for those who have hardened their homes.

SECTION V: DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Creating a buffer between buildings and the grass, trees, shrubs, and other wildland areas surrounding it are essential to improving survivability. This section looks at efforts to build this key layer of protection.

A. PRIORITIES

- Work with housing developers to stress the importance of buffers around neighborhoods and working with the City of Fillmore, create policies and put procedures in place that ensure future building projects create additional buffers around new developments.
- Increase existing defensible space utilizing slope ecology, mosaics, and avoiding loss of slope stability.

B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

- Ongoing projects for creating defensible space are in place on the Southern and Eastern borders of the City. The City of Fillmore is currently working with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to create a permanent wetlands area on the eastern border of the City, in the area of the Sespe Cienega restoration project near the Fillmore Fish Hatchery.
- Fillmore City Fire Department conducts annual Residential Inspections for Wildland Fire Safety. Ongoing code enforcement/reporting of dangerous fire hazards. These reports are investigated by both Code Enforcement and the Fire Department and are cleared/mitigated where appropriate. Those who are out of compliance are charged the cost for the contractor that is hired by the fire department to conduct the clearance and an administrative fee.
- Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council conducts free Chipper events for the community made possible by grant funding as part of a vegetation management program to reduce the flammable fuel load and increase weed abatement activities in communities that border the wildland urban interface threat zones. These events are either stationed drop off events at a designated location where residents can bring vegetation to be chipped and disposed of or curbside where a Chipper is brought into neighborhoods to provide chipping services.

C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Securing grants to implement Palm tree hazardous fuel reduction around the City of Fillmore's borders with natural vegetation.
- Expand beyond the current numbers of fuel reduction that the Fillmore Fire Department is capable of undertaking with existing resources.
- Provide more curbside Chipper events in neighborhoods with the highest fire risk.

SECTION VI: FUELS TREATMENT

Fuels are combustible materials such as grasses, leaves, plants, shrubs, and trees that feed flames. This section describes efforts to treat and manage these materials in the community.

A. PRIORITIES

- Continue to expand the City of Fillmore fuel reduction with the hand-crews. Currently the Fire Department is on a 3-4 year cycle of cutting and then returning to cut re-growth.
- Reduce the overall volume of hazardous fuels surrounding and within City limits

B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

- Ongoing projects include road-side thinning.
- Crews on a continual basis work to create natural-looking fuel breaks by thinning out heavier pockets of chaparral and removing dead trees.
- Ongoing hazardous tree removal
- Fillmore City Fire Department conducts annual weed abatement projects with Team Rubicon, Oxnard College Fire Academy, and other organizations. (See Figure 5 in Appendix B)
- CalTrans conducts regular roadside thinning activities along the 126 Highway.
- Fillmore Public Works maintains trees within the parkways (the area between the sidewalk and the street), city right-of-ways, parks, etc. Maintenance of trees consists of trimming and removal, as warranted. The department also oversees a contract with a private operator for tree maintenance.

C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Future projects include removing wind-blown dead brush.
- Continue brush clearance along the bike paths that run along the river, improving viability and creating a buffer between the brush and bikers.
- Invasive species vegetation management (*Arundo donax* and wind-blown dry brush)
Arundo Donax, or Arundo, is a highly invasive giant reed from southeast Asia. This plant looks like bamboo and ravages waterways, taking up the water resources, reducing visibility into the area which encourages illegal activity, outcompeting with native plant species, and introducing fire into areas that in other circumstances would act as fuel breaks. Removing Arundo would reduce the amount of accidental fires within homeless encampments and would reduce the human activity along waterways thus reducing the likelihood of fire being introduced in the area. Removing this plant would also free up more water resources for the native species that are stressed, dead, or dying due to the competition of this invasive species, which in turn would provide more wildlife habitat and reduce the flammability of the area.
- Securing grants to implement Palm tree hazardous fuel reduction around the City of Fillmore's borders with natural vegetation.

- Expand beyond the current numbers of fuel reduction that the Fillmore Fire Department is capable of undertaking with existing resources. The Fillmore Fire Department needs more FireFighters to be able to conduct these projects.

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SECTION VII: EVACUATION PLANNING

Identifying key corridors in and out of a community – as well as temporary safe refuge areas – is essential to being prepared for evacuation. This section provides an overview of the PACE system (primary, alternate, contingency and emergency) used to plan ahead.

Evacuation planning is a dynamic process subject to the nuances of each community. Below is an overview of the City of Fillmore's key ingress and egress, as well as designated evacuation corridors, Temporary Safe Refuge Areas, completed projects, priorities and future projects.

A. OVERVIEW OF INGRESS AND EGRESS

- Fillmore Fire Dept. is comfortable with the ingress and egress that exists via Hwy 126 east to west and Hwy 23 to the south.

B. DESIGNATED EVACUATION CORRIDORS AND TEMPORARY EVACUATION POINTS

The City of Fillmore in conjunction with the Ventura County Human Services Agency have identified a safe refuge at Two Rivers Park in the Southwesternmost section of the City, as well as the Veteran Memorial Bldg. centrally located two blocks north of the downtown corridor.

Should a fire blow east to west, starting in the Northeast wildland area of Ventura County, and making it down to Piru, preliminary evacuation notices will be implemented immediately. The City of Fillmore does not anticipate that mandatory evacuations will be implemented, but rather precautionary evacuations may be advised for the northeastern portions of the community. The current goal of the Fillmore Fire Department is to reduce the need to place the entire community under a precautionary evacuation.

The cycle of nearby fires has actually put Fillmore in a safer position, being that there is less potential hazard in nearby wildland areas. Those wildland areas that are closest to the City have been the subject of regular clearing to keep the fuel loading levels down and the chaparral not so dense.

C. PRIORITIES

- Limit roadwork on main arteries during high wind events
- Within our City limits work with Edison and Cal-Trans as necessary to accomplish this objective.

D. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

PACE:

Primary: Provide residents with the formalized Ready, Set, Go! Program for disaster preparedness and evacuation planning. Issue an Evacuation Warning. Give Fillmore residents advance notice to go and stay outside of the threat zone.

Alternative: Issue an Evacuation Order. Advise of an Alternative, Temporary Evacuation Point outside of the Fillmore Area

Contingency: Two Rivers Park, the Veteran's Memorial Bldg and use of Fillmore Unified School District buildings and facilities, or other identified shelters within the area.

Emergency: Allow for residents to stay in their homes and shelter-in-place.

Sheriff Department Role in Evacuation: Sheriff's Deputies may make evacuation notifications for various reasons, including fires, a police incident, hazardous materials spill, etc. An Incident Commander is established that may be a fire department official, a police official, or together in unified command. Once a decision is made that an area is under an evacuation order, the Sheriff's Office uses several different notification methods as a layered approach to reduce the chance that anyone might be missed.

- This includes:
 - the reverse 911 system,
 - social media notifications
 - and a Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) notification.
 - Non-telephone or mobile device communication includes utilization of a hi-lo siren tone and vehicle speaker,
 - and the last, most specific and targeted layer are door-to-door personnel notifications.

It should be noted that the Sheriff's Department does not force residents to evacuate an area that is under an evacuation order. The Sheriffs inform the resident/s in such an area they are in danger, and neither the Sheriffs nor other emergency personnel may be able to return to help them if they decide to stay.

The Sheriff's Department rarely physically evacuates residents. If Sheriffs encounter someone with medical or mobility problems that needs to be evacuated, Ventura County Emergency Medical Systems (EMS) is contacted and EMS and their partners will typically use an ambulance for physical evacuations.

Law Enforcement is responsible for managing evacuations and may need to coordinate with Ventura County Transportation Commission for transportation resources to assist with evacuations.

Fillmore Area Transit Corporation provides bus and van rentals in the area and have the capacity to help evacuate those without reliable transportation

In 2017-2018 an Evacuation Plan was developed by the Fillmore Fire Dept. and the Fillmore Police Dept, and is regularly updated per changes in local and regional policies and recent fires, floods, earthquakes and other emergencies that may necessitate updates to the evacuation plans.

E. FUTURE PROJECTS

- Forming a Fillmore Fire Department Community Volunteer Program to assist with Evacuation response, helping inform others of where to go, helping reduce traffic congestion, etc.
- Revitalize and implement an updated training for the Fillmore Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), under the leadership of Fillmore Fire Captain Mike Salazar
- Partner with the City of Fillmore and County agencies in a campaign to encourage ADA residents, their caregivers, and those with mobility needs to register with the Human Services Agency for evacuation preparedness and transportation assistance. This is to ensure that this vulnerable population is known by our Fire Department, Sheriff's Dept and other first responders for Notification and warning procedures, evacuations, emergency transportation issues, accessibility to mobility devices or service animals while in transit and has accessibility to all necessary information during emergencies.
- Ventura County and the Operational Area Emergency Operations Center are tasked with assembling data on the populations that will need evacuation, including information on special needs populations (such as the elderly, infirmed, disabled, transients, prisoners, and hospital patients) and persons who normally use public transit or alternative transportation to get to their destinations. Maintain communication with VCTC regarding emergency transportation capabilities and needs, including moving emergency resources into the affected portions of each county, moving people who are injured or in danger out of the affected area, and meeting the requirements of special-needs populations.²³

²³ "Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan ." *Ventura County Transportation Commission*, 17 Dec. 2020, <http://tepp-vctc.org/Transportation%20Emergency%20Preparedness%20Plan%20FINAL%20No%20PII.pdf>.

SECTION VIII: OTHER MITIGATION & PREPAREDNESS PROJECTS

There are countless ways that communities can act to protect themselves ahead of wildfires. This section details additional past, current and future efforts underway that were not previously mentioned.

A. PRIORITIES

CERT PROGRAM

Ventura County Fire Department in coordination with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have joined together to assist its residents with disaster preparedness education and training.

Fillmore's CERT program is funded by the VCFD office but is not dependent on VCFD for programmatic activities.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program teaches community members about the potential disasters that could affect their area and how to safely and responsibly respond to them.

The Hybrid CERT program consists of online courses (9 units) that educates volunteers in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, team organization, hazards that may impact their area, and disaster medical operations.

Once completed, you just follow up with your local CERT Coordinator to complete the hands-on practical portion and receive your full CERT credentials.

Being prepared in an emergency situation is critical. In the last 10 years, Ventura County residents have experienced wildfires, floods, mudslides, and earthquakes.

Would you know what to do if an emergency struck your community, school or workplace? After a disaster, professional responders will be needed everywhere.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program teaches community members about the potential disasters that could affect their area and how to safely and responsibly respond to them.²⁴

B. COMPLETED AND / OR ONGOING PROJECTS

- Household waste and large item removal events through E.J. Harrison.
- Disaster Preparedness training for all the community
- Holiday safety tips - Halloween, Christmas, 4th of July and others

²⁴ "CERT." *Ventura County Fire Department*, <https://vcfd.org/cert/>.

CERT educates volunteers in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, team organization, hazards that may impact their area, and disaster medical operations.

CERT members receive hands-on training in:

- Disaster preparedness and response skills
- Reducing fire hazards in the home and workplace
- Setting up medical treatment areas
- Assisting emergency responders
- Treatment and triage evaluation
- Conducting light search and rescue
- Organizing and managing a CERT Team

It takes about 24 hours to complete the CERT program. Each graduate will receive a manual, a CERT Disaster start-up pack (helmet, gloves, vest and goggles) and a certificate of completion.

C. FUTURE PROJECTS

- See list above in Section VII. Evacuation Planning

SECTION IX: SIGNATURES

This plan must be approved by the following key parties: the local Fire Safe Council president, the chief of the primary responding fire agency and chair of the CWPP review committee. This section includes these signoffs.

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan, as developed for the City of Fillmore:

- Was collaboratively developed and meets the intent of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) in emphasizing the need for agencies to work collaboratively with communities in developing hazardous fuel reduction projects, and places priority on treatment areas identified by communities themselves in a CWPP. Interested parties and federal land management agencies in the vicinity of this CWPP have been consulted.
- Identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment that will protect areas within this CWPP.
- Recommends measures to reduce ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.
- Is intended for use as a planning and assessment tool only, utilizing a compilation of community issues/goals and projected fire mitigation strategies. The CWPP is not to be construed as indicative of project “activity” as defined under the “Community Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act, Chapter Three, Projects Subject to CEQA.” Per the Community Guide, Section 3.1.1, “CEQA only applies to public agency decisions to approve, or actions to carry out, a discretionary project.” Any actual project activities meeting this definition of project activity and undertaken by the CWPP participants or agencies listed shall meet with local, state, and federal environmental compliance requirements.
- Assists and encourages compliance with current county and state fire code standards.

X

Lead Representative of
Community Submitting this CWPP

X

Participating Fire Agency representative
(State, Local, or Tribal)

VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PREVENTION PLANS REVIEW COMMITTEE:

This CWPP was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Ventura County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Review Committee as demonstrated by the signature below.

X

President
Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council

The CAL FIRE Unit Chief has final signing authority on CWPPs in Ventura County. The signature below attests that the standards listed in the section above and the content of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan are proposed to be met and mutually accepted.

X

CAL FIRE Camarillo Unit

SECTION X: APPENDICES

This section includes important additional information that complements other portions of the plan.

APPENDIX A: MEETING TRACKING DOCUMENTS

This CWPP was developed for the community of Fillmore, through a series of community meetings. The Fire Safe Council Name members who contributed to the document include the following:

Pending Data

Community Representatives

Christinia Villasenor- Fillmore City Council Member (Working Group)

Marissa Rodriguez-Fillmore Resident (Working Group)

Chief Keith Gurrola-Fillmore Fire Department (Working Group)

Kate Furlong-VRFSC Programs Manager (Working Group)

Daniel Maguie-Disaster Response and Recovery Administrator (Human Services Agency)

Tom Dudley-UC Santa Barbara (Invasive Plant Council Fuels Project Group)

Jamie Whiteford-Ventura County Resource Conservation District (Invasive Plant Council Fuels Project Group)

Agency Representatives

City of Fillmore Councilmembers and VRFSC

Meetings Dates

8/24/21-Human Services Agency

8/26/21-Home Hardening Best Practices Working Group

9/4/21-Fillmore Emergency Preparedness Day

9/15/21-Working Group Meeting

10/13/21-Working Group Meeting

11/10/21-Working Group Meeting

11/18/21- Invasive Plant Council Fuels Project Group

12/1/21-FlameMapper

12/14/21-Fillmore City Council Presentation
1/11/22-Invasive Plant Council Fuels Project Group
1/12/22-Red Cross
1/12/22-Working Group Meeting
1/28/22-Red Cross
1/28/21-FlameMapper
2/7/22-Human Services Agency
2/9/22-Red Cross
2/16/22-Invasive Plant Council Fuels Project Group
2/16/22-Working Group Meeting
2/24/22-Home Hardening Best Practices Working Group
3/9/22-Red Cross
4/6/22-FlameMapper
4/13/22-Red Cross
4/19/22-Working Group Meeting

APPENDIX B: MAPS

FIGURE 1: AREA COMMUNITIES MAP

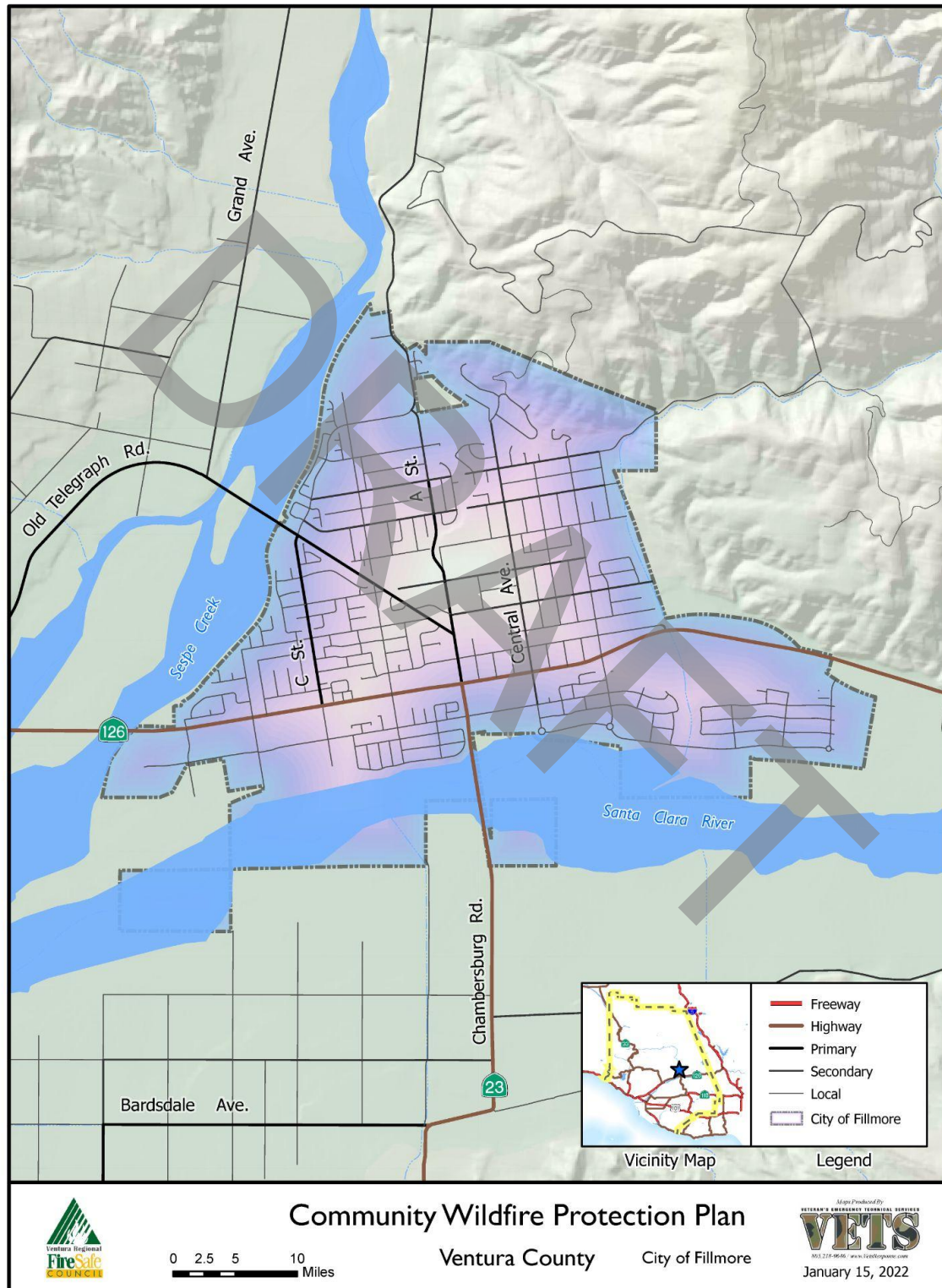
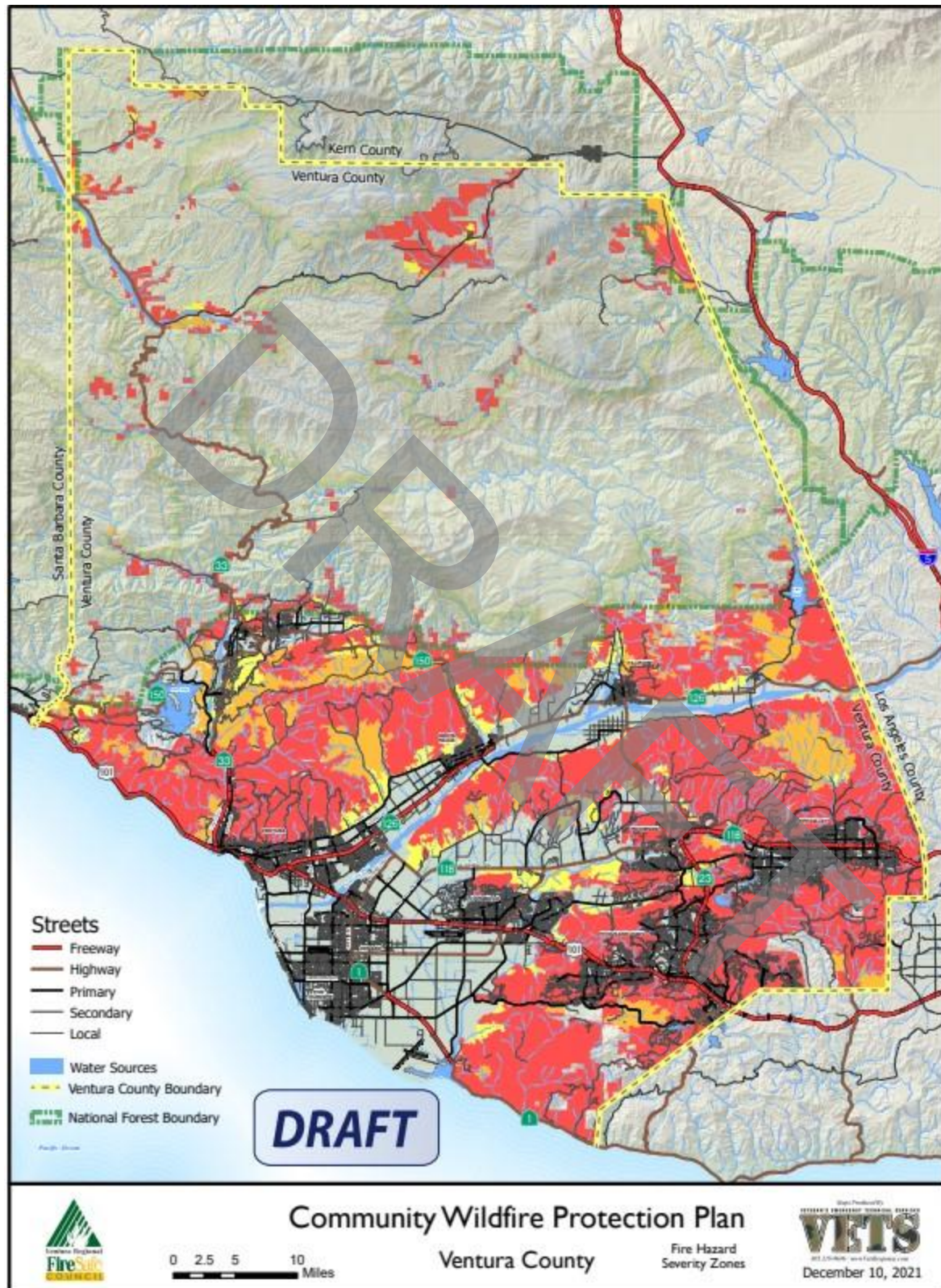


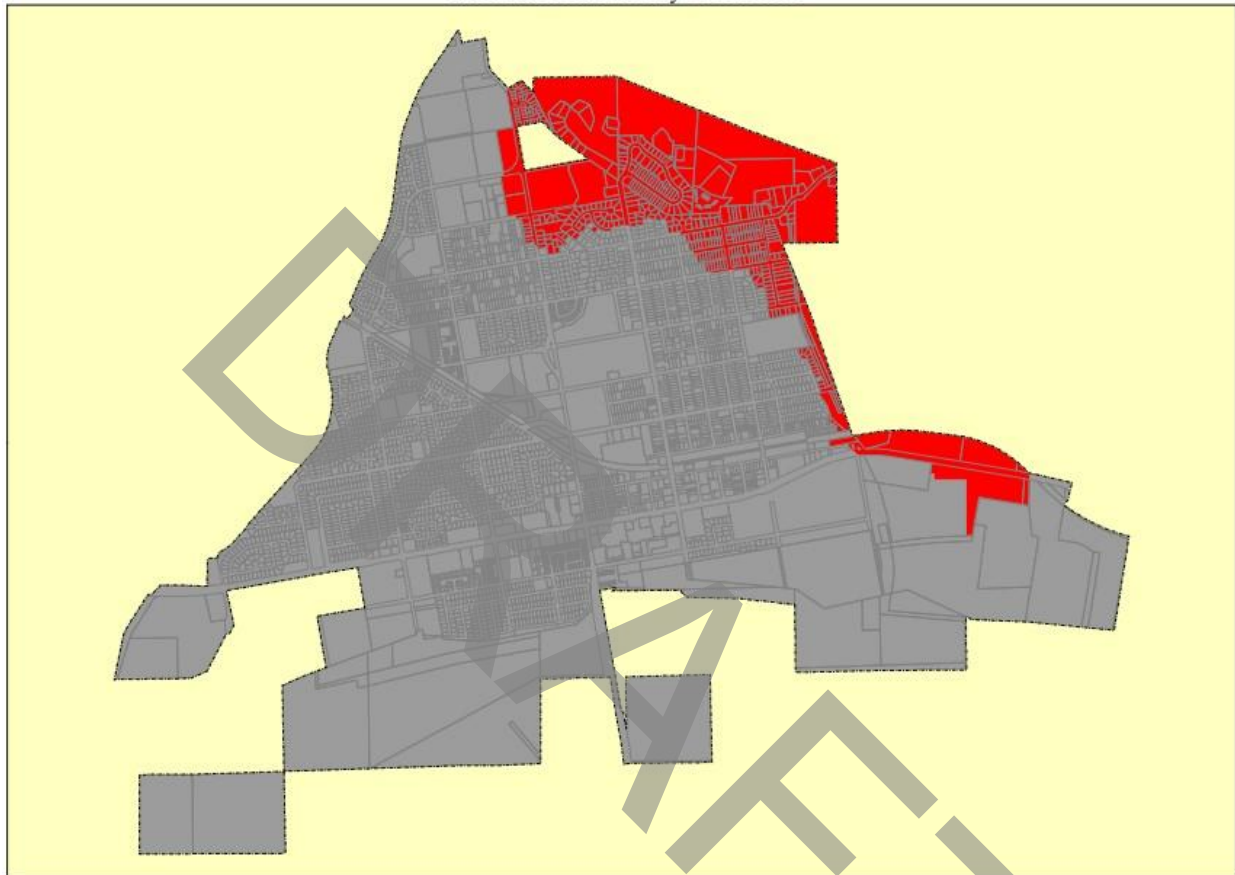
FIGURE 2: FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY MAP





Fillmore

VERY HIGH FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES IN LRA
As Recommended by CALFIRE



This map was developed using data products such as parcel and city boundaries provided by local government agencies. In certain cases, the values represented on the map may not be current. The map is for display purposes only. Questions and requests related to parcel or city boundary data should be directed to the appropriate local government entity.

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The State of California and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy of data or maps. Neither the State nor the Department shall be liable under any circumstances for any direct, indirect, or consequential damages with respect to any claim by any user or third party on account of, or arising from, the use of data or maps.

Obtain FRAP maps, data, metadata and publications on the Internet at <http://rap.ca.gov>
For more information, contact CAL FIRE-FRAP, PO Box 94246, Sacramento, CA 95824-0462, (916) 327-3000

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor
State of California
Lester Snite, Secretary for Resources
The Resources Agency
Dai Walters, Director
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

MAPID: FHSZL_05_Fillmore
DATA SOURCES:
CAL FIRE Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in LRA (05/10/10, 3)
CAL FIRE Incorporated Cities (05/10/10, 2)
CAL FIRE County Boundaries (05/10/10, 1)
CAL FIRE Parcel Boundaries (05/10/10, 1)

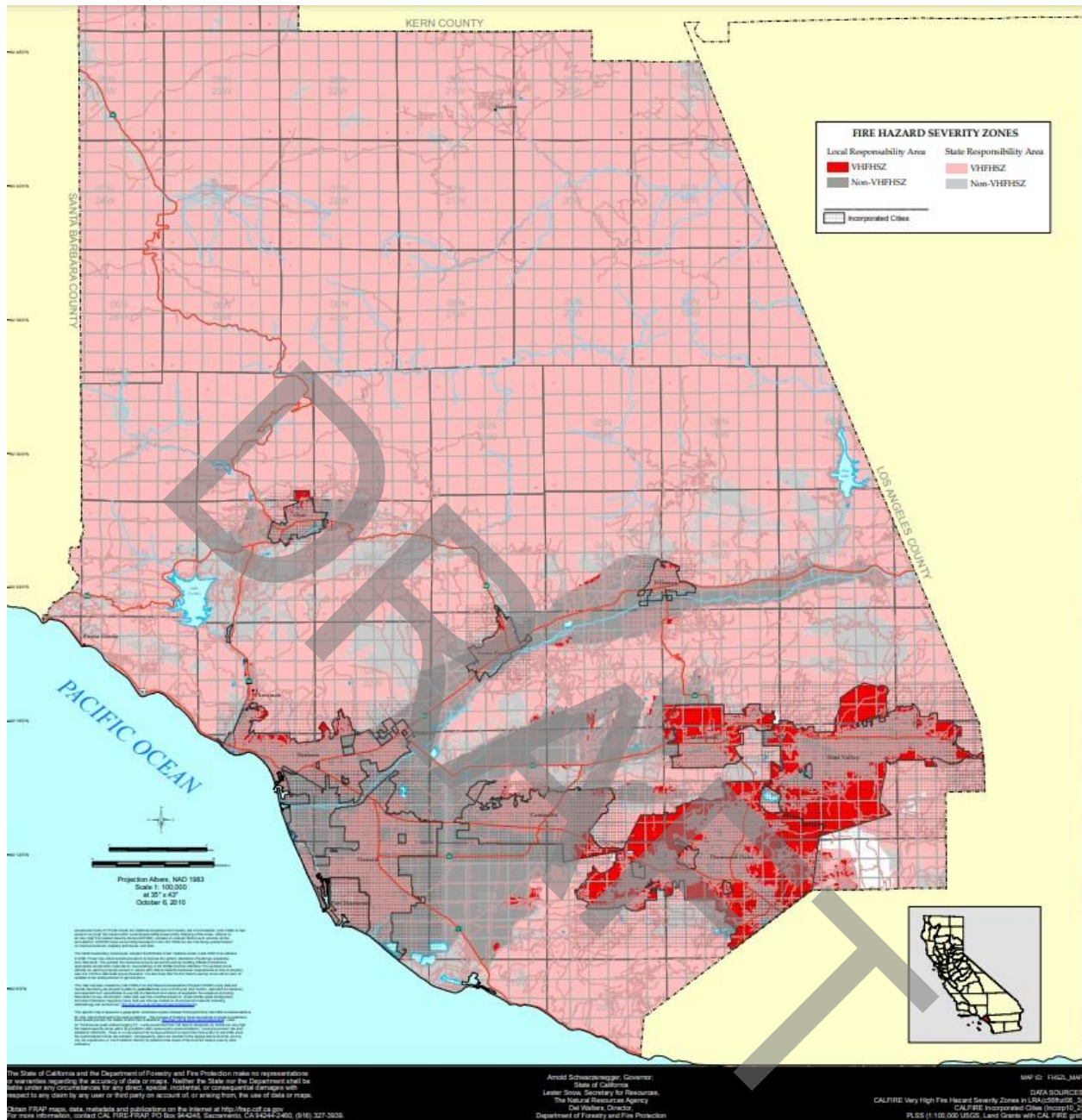
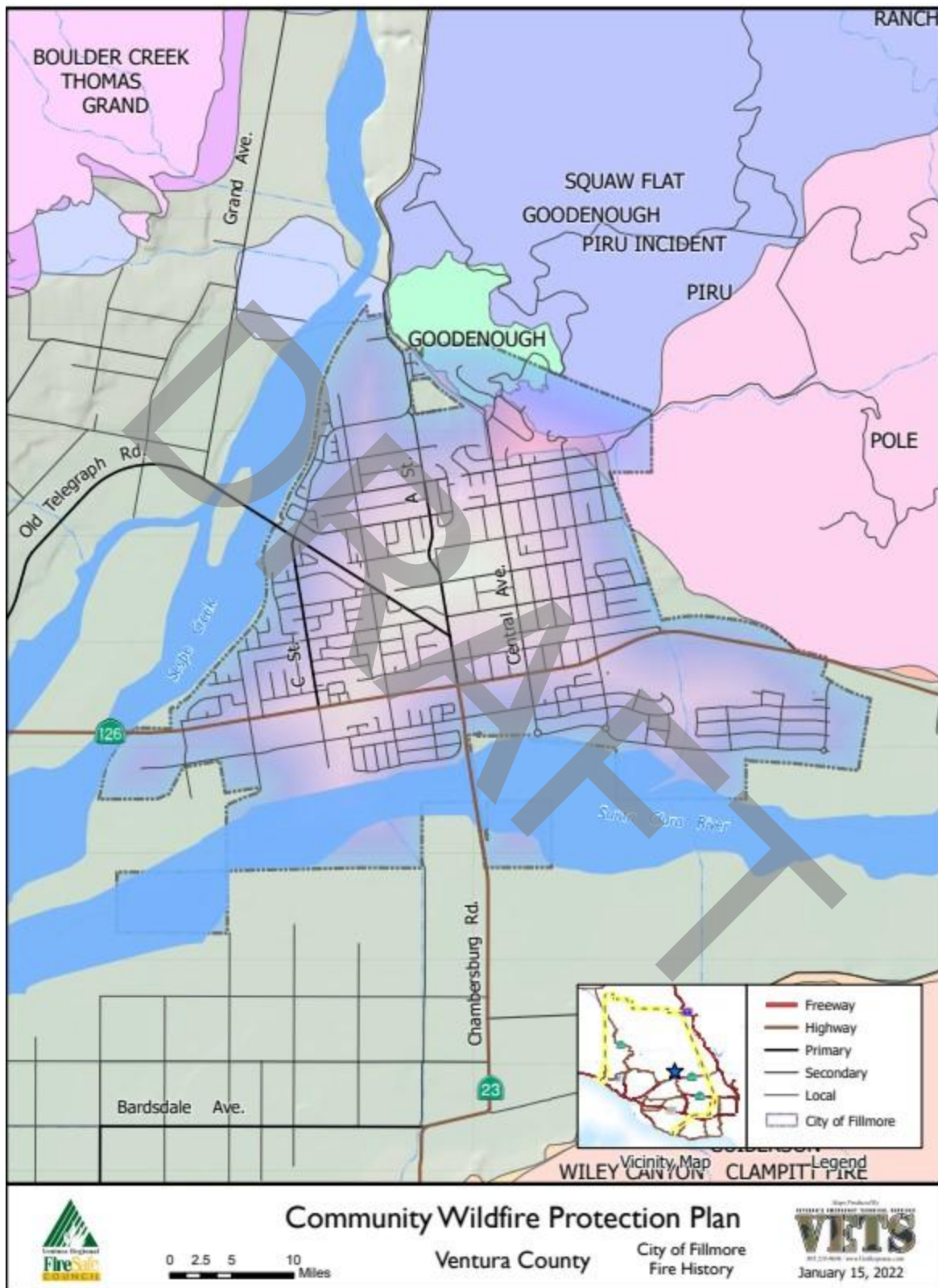
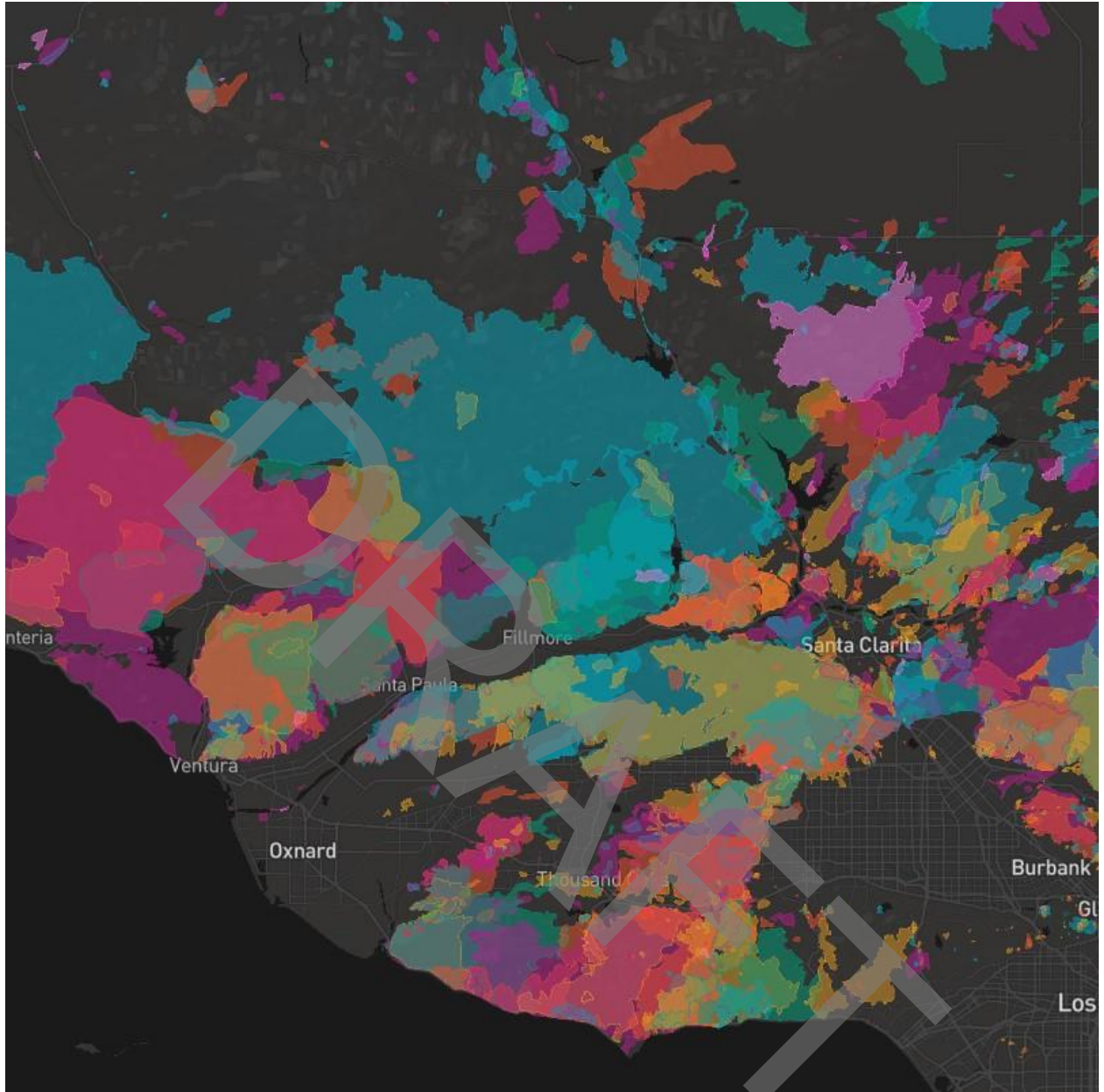
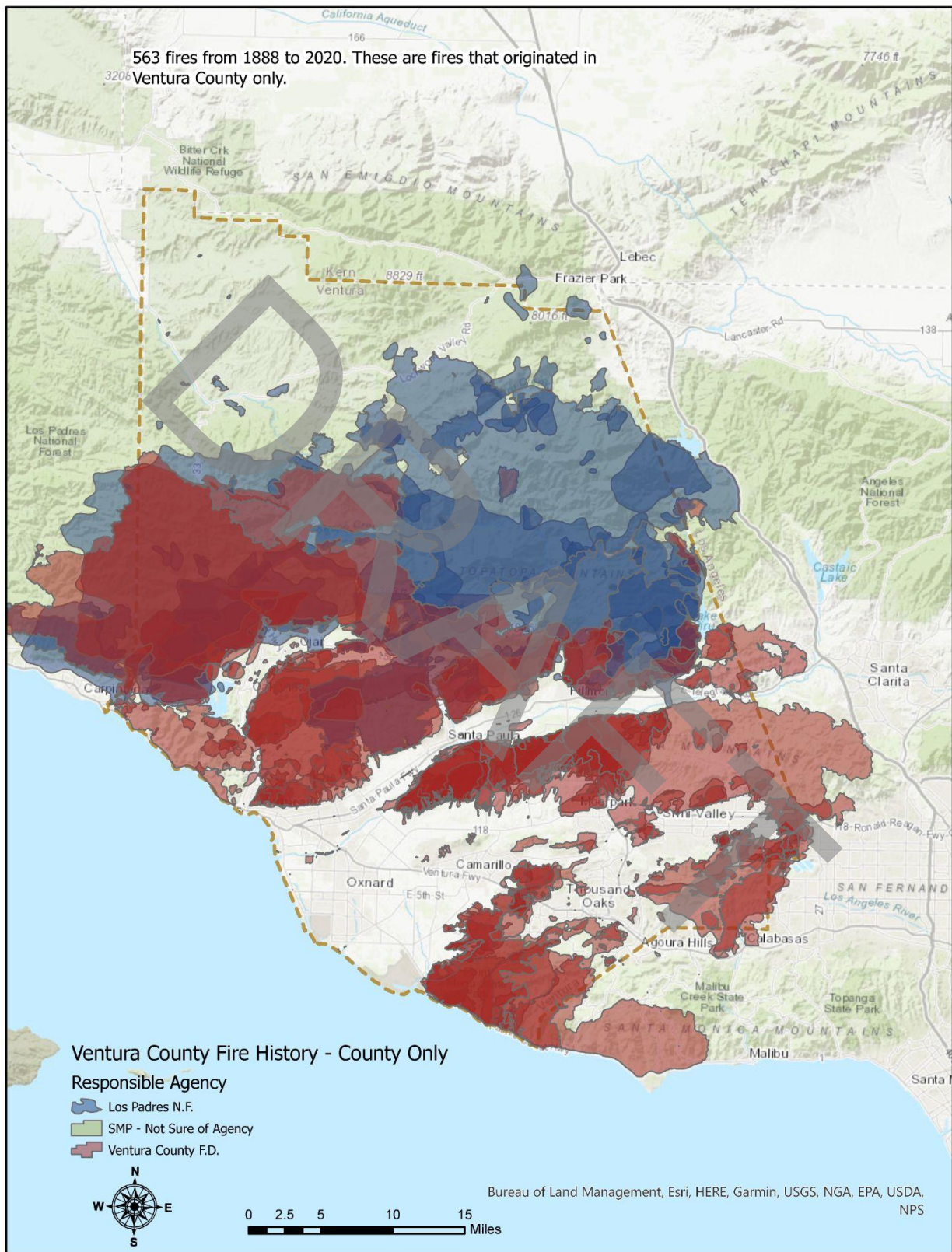


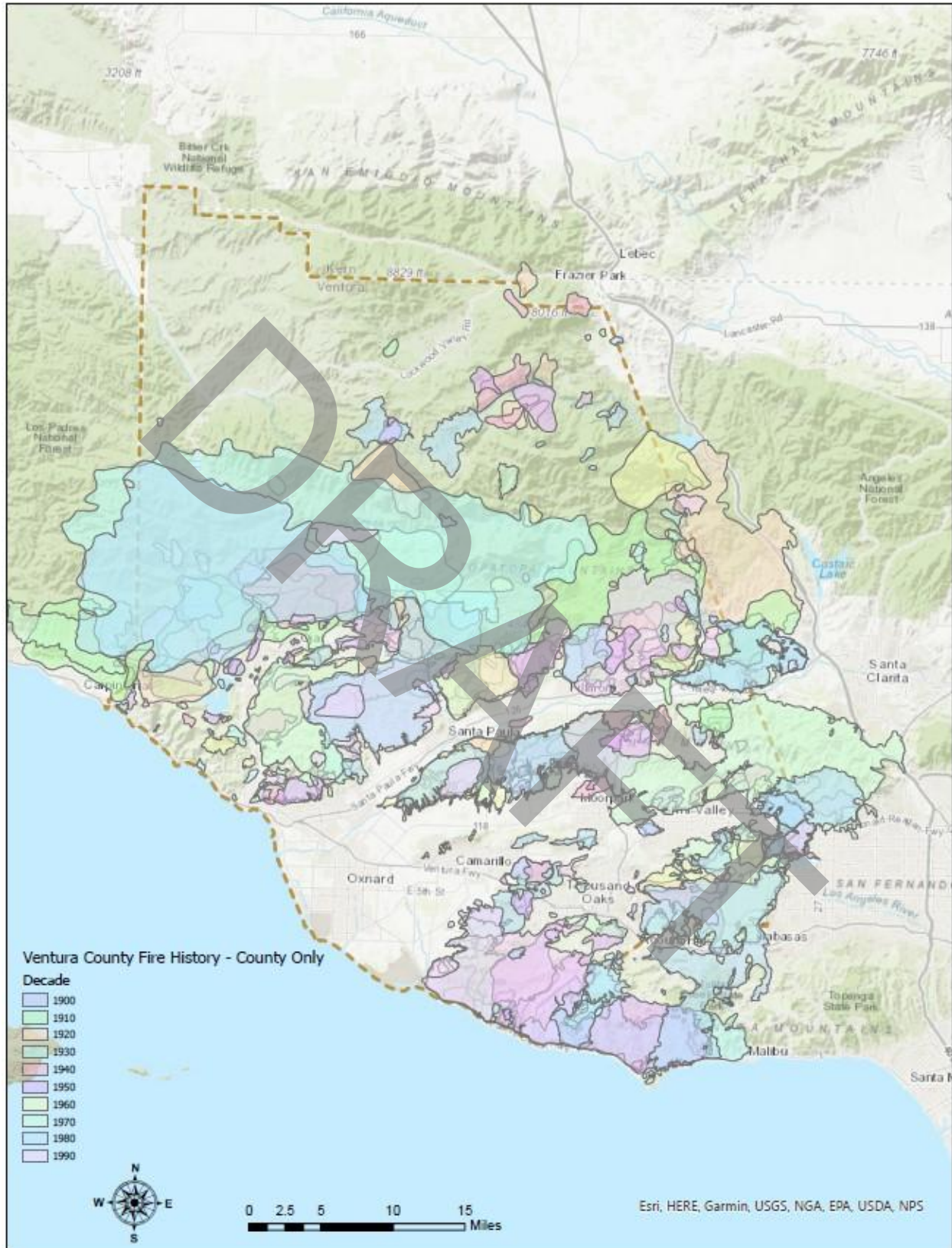
FIGURE 3: FIRE HISTORY 1910-2010

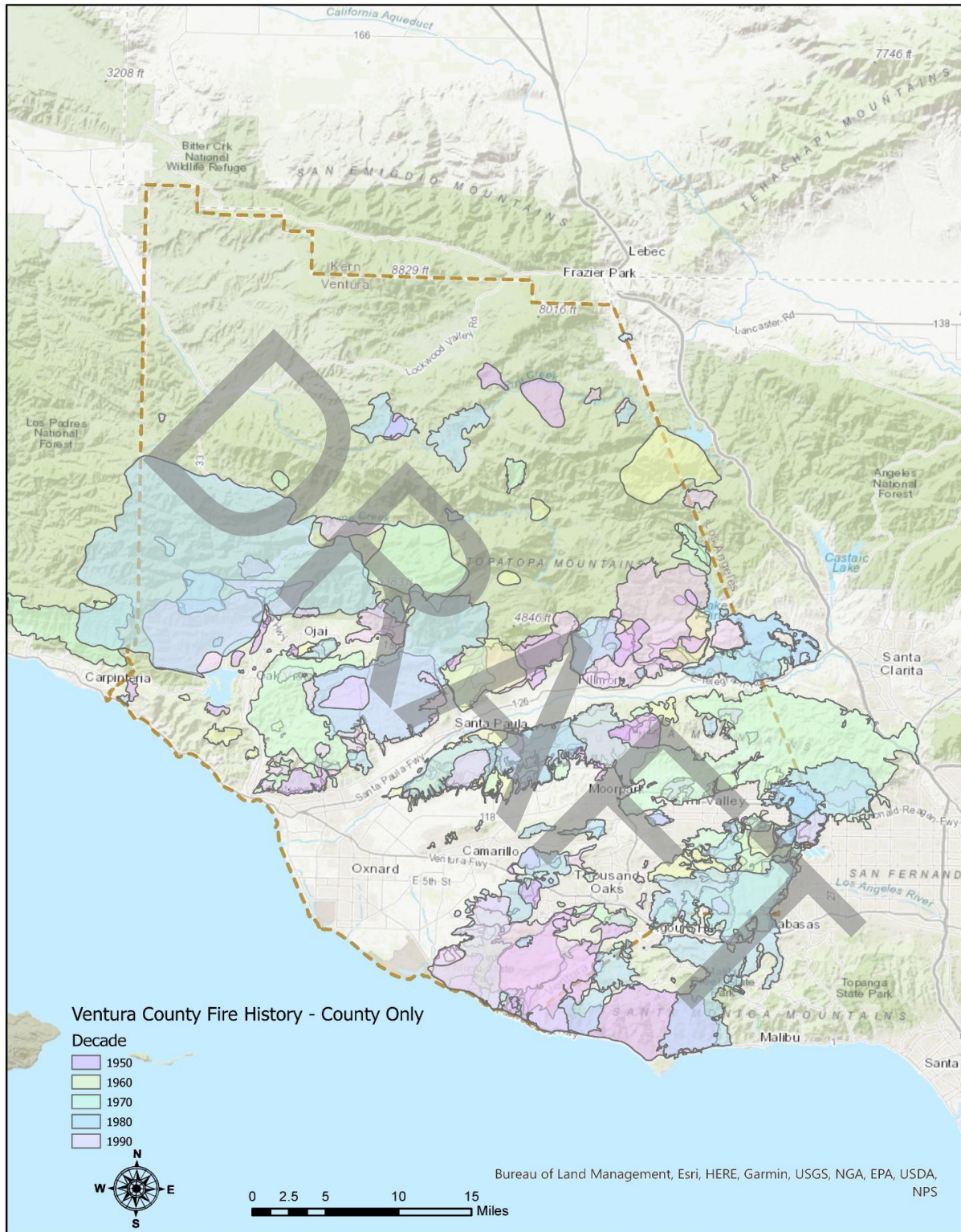




<https://projects.caprado.org/california-fire-history/#8.82/34.5552/-118.6562>







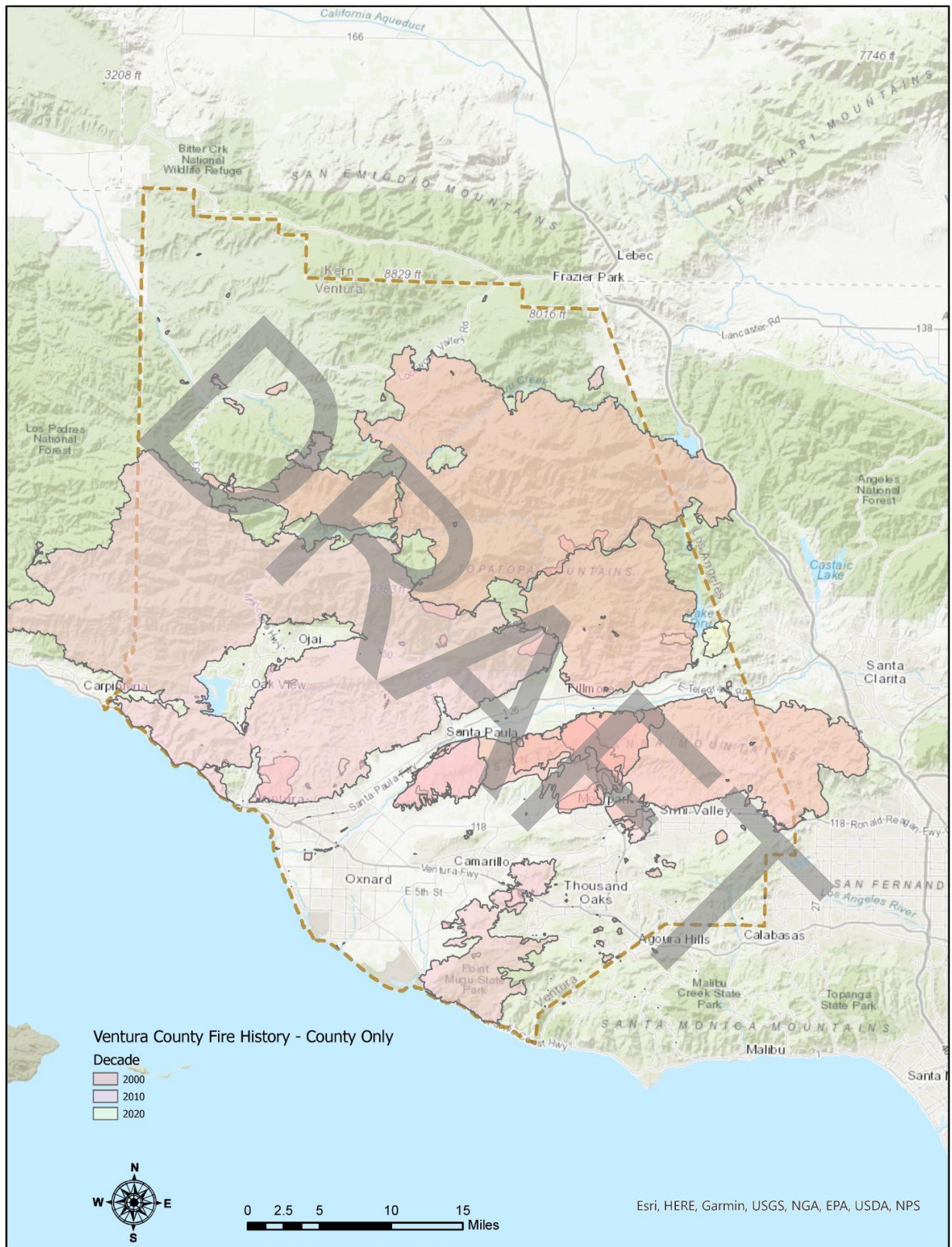
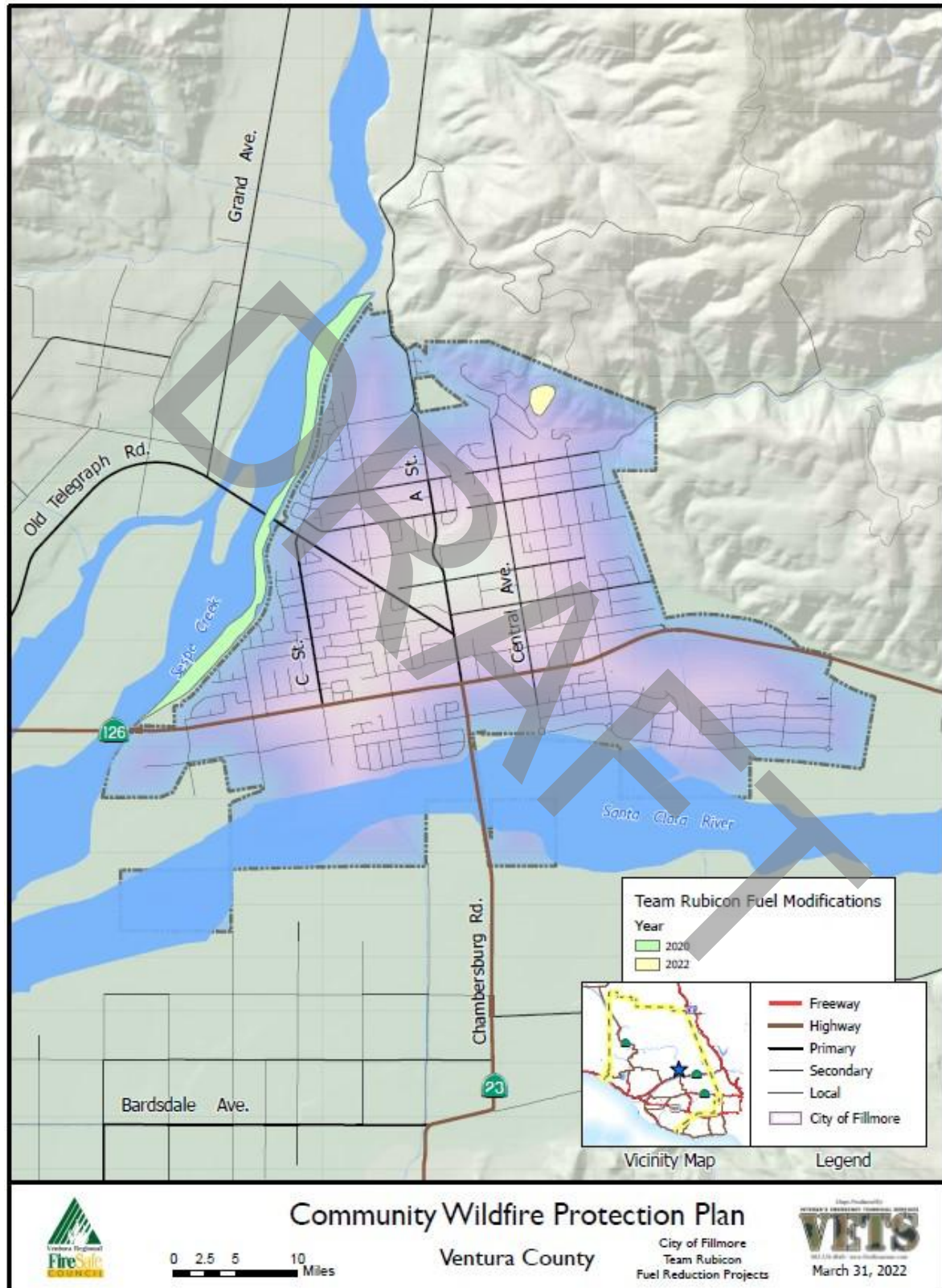


FIGURE 4: EVACUATION MAP



FIGURE 5: FUELS TREATMENT PROJECTS



APPENDIX C: 1ST AMENDMENT (AS APPLICABLE)

Community Wildfire Protection Plan Amendment

For

COMMUNITY NAME

Date Submitted: _____

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