CWPP committee:

There are 9 full committee members involved in working through the CWPP process.

These include representatives from: Emergency Services, Oregon Dept. Forestry, Rural Fire Dept., Wallowa-Whitman Forest Service, Bureau of Land Mgmt., FS Rep from Umatilla National Forest. There is overlap of some member from the Cohesive Wildfire Strategy (CWS) group.

Write up development:

1. Northeast Oregon is a pilot for addressing the CWS approach. One of our tasks has been to incorporate guidance from the Cohesive Wildfire Strategy into the CWPP document with emphasis on its three goals: Restore and Maintain Landscapes, Wildfire Response, and Fire-adapted Communities. The CWS recommends four guidelines for establishing priorities as well including;
2. The primary emphasis is for safe and effective response to wildfire. The plan will recognize the importance of preparedness in both structural protection and wildfire prevention, emphasizing advanced preparedness for full effectiveness.
3. Second, and most challenging, is fuels and vegetation management including the analysis, design, and prioritization of treatments. Guidance includes strategic placement of fuels treatment; increasing the use of all approaches to further advance toward resilient forests and rangelands; and increasing the use of wildland fire to meet resource objectives.
4. The third priority is preparedness through working with homeowners and communities in proactive approaches prior to wildfires. Homeowner and community involvement is essential for successful landscape preparation in advance of potential wildfires.
5. Fourth, emphasis is given to the design of programs and activities to meet the needs of the local population and strengthen efforts to prevent human caused ignitions.

We are also using several other key policies and directions to help guide rational. Including:

The overall CWPP process began with a County wide allocation of 18 individual WUIs. **Within the last week** we have met and are considering approaching the assessment process merging the WUIs adjacent to one another which is a total of 13 WUIs distributed around the perimeter of the La Grande Valley and three outliers in remote areas. Compared to the original 2005 CWPP the identified WUI zone reaches out into the general forests where it strategically makes sense such as; ridges, roads, chan

We are calling the area a WUI zone instead of individual WUIs. The rational for this is to evaluate geographic conditions and assess the overall conditions

We are using the West Wide Wildfire Risk Assessment as the primary maps for identifying fire threat, risk, occurrence, etc. (More on this)