



**Rebuilding Stronger:**  
*A Guide for Integrating Recovery Preparedness into Community Wildfire Protection Plans*



WASHINGTON  
RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION &  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



**CWPP Post-Fire Recovery Planning Toolkit**



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## Wildfire Recovery Preparedness

Wildfire recovery preparedness is a cornerstone of building resilient communities. By proactively integrating post-fire recovery preparedness considerations into Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMPs), and All-Hazard Mitigation Plans (AHMPs), communities can prepare for disaster before it strikes. This approach strengthens partnerships, secures essential resources, and clearly defines roles and responsibilities, leading to efficient and effective recovery efforts.

This guide is designed for community stakeholders and planning partners involved in CWPP development or updates. It provides a structured approach to integrating wildfire recovery strategies by identifying key elements, engaging relevant stakeholders, and outlining actionable steps



## Recovery Frameworks

Wildfire recovery is a complex and multi-phase process that requires a structured approach to rebuilding communities, restoring landscapes, and strengthening resilience. Two widely recognized recovery frameworks help guide post-fire recovery planning:

1. **Fire Adapted Communities Network’s (FACNet’s) Post-Fire Recovery Framework<sup>1</sup>**
2. **FEMA’s National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF)<sup>2</sup>**

These frameworks provide guidance, coordination strategies, and best practices to help communities navigate post-fire recovery effectively. Integrating them into CWPPs and/or HMPs/AHMPs can improve recovery preparedness and long-term wildfire resilience.

### *Fire Adapted Communities Network’s (FACNet’s) Post-Fire Recovery Framework*

FACNet’s Post-Fire Recovery Framework provides a visual tool and structured guidance for communities navigating wildfire recovery. This framework emphasizes a holistic approach to post-fire recovery, integrating social, economic, and environmental considerations. It outlines eight key elements of post-fire recovery, each representing a critical area of action.



**Figure 1:** Fire Adapted Communities Network (FACNET), Post-Fire Recovery Framework Wheel (2024), <https://fireadaptednetwork.org>.

<sup>1</sup> Fire Adapted Communities Network, Post-Fire Recovery Framework (2024), accessed March 2025, <https://fireadaptednetwork.org>.

<sup>2</sup> Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA), *National Disaster Recovery Framework* (2024), accessed January 2025, <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/frameworks/recovery>.



## *Fire Adapted Communities Network's (FACNet's) Post-Fire Recovery Framework Cont.*

FACNet's key elements of post-fire recovery include:

**1. Emergency Management** - Immediate response efforts, coordination, and transition planning from emergency response to long-term recovery.

- Ensure clear leadership, communication systems, and operational support are in place.
- Potentially includes actions involving Incident Management Team (IMT) coordination, emergency operations planning, and transitioning responsibilities to recovery teams.

**2. Risk Assessment** - The process of evaluating post-fire hazards such as flooding, debris flows, and soil instability.

- Identify threats to infrastructure, drinking water, and public safety.
- Potentially uses tools such as Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) assessments, geospatial mapping, and erosion models.

**3. Life Safety** - Addressing public safety risks and implementing hazard mitigation measures.

- Support emergency communications and public outreach.
- Potentially includes actions involving hazard tree removal, flood prevention, and early warning systems for post-fire hazards, such as debris flows.

**4. Infrastructure** - Rebuilding and restoring essential community systems damaged by wildfire.

- Work with municipal agencies and utility providers to accelerate recovery.
- Potentially includes actions involving road repairs, water system restoration, energy grid stabilization, and broadband infrastructure rebuilding.

**5. Landscape** - Ecological restoration of burned landscapes, including forests, watersheds, and habitats.

- Support natural recovery through science-driven post-fire land management practices.
- Potentially includes actions involving erosion control, revegetation, habitat restoration, and invasive species management.

**6. Community** - Addressing housing, economic stability, and public health needs.

- Focus on community engagement, economic revitalization, and social well-being.
- Potentially includes actions involving temporary housing, rebuilding assistance, mental health support, and local business recovery.



*Fire Adapted Communities Network’s (FACNet’s) Post-Fire Recovery Framework Cont.*

**7. Agriculture** - Supporting post-fire recovery for farms, ranchers, and rural industries.

- Provide financial aid and disaster assistance programs for impacted agricultural producers.
- Includes livestock relocation, fencing replacement, irrigation restoration, and farmland rehabilitation.

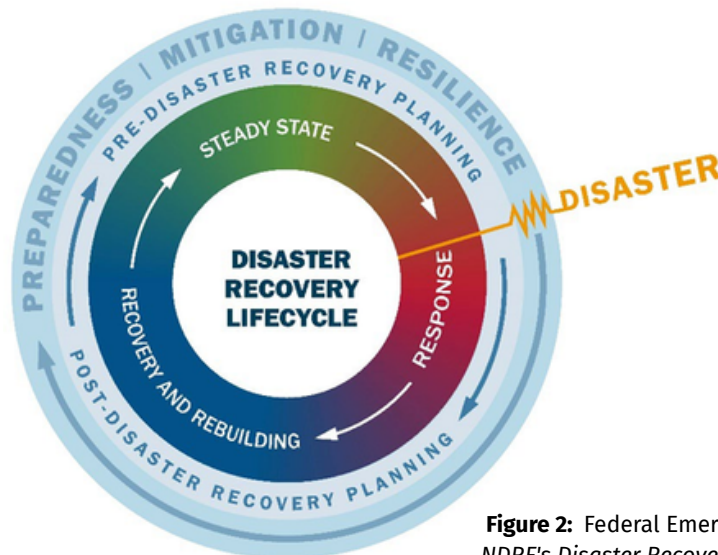
**8. Monitoring & Evaluation** - Tracking recovery progress, assessing policy effectiveness, and adapting recovery plans over time.

- Help ensure that lessons learned improve future wildfire resilience.
- Potentially includes actions involving data collection, performance monitoring, and reporting on recovery outcomes.

*FEMA’s National Disaster Recovery Framework*

FEMA’s NDRF provides structured guidance for disaster recovery, recognizing recovery as an overlapping, adaptive process. The NDRF is widely used by federal, state, and local agencies to coordinate recovery efforts after disasters. The framework aligns well with wildfire recovery by offering policy guidance, potential funding pathways, and best practices to support long-term resilience. It organizes resources and technical assistance through six Recovery Support Functions (RSFs). By leveraging the NDRF framework within CWPPs, communities can:

- Align post-fire recovery actions with broader wildfire mitigation planning.
- Improve access to state and federal funding opportunities for recovery and resilience projects.
- Strengthen coordination between emergency services and land managers to enhance preparedness.



**Figure 2:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), NDRF’s Disaster Recovery Lifecycle, 2024, <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/frameworks/recovery>.





## *FEMA's National Disaster Recovery Framework Cont.*

These Recovery Support Functions (RSFs) include:

- 1. Community Planning & Capacity Building (CPCB)** - Strengthening local leadership, planning, and governance for disaster recovery.
  - Supports cross-agency coordination to streamline recovery operations.
  - Help communities develop post-fire recovery plans, integrate mitigation efforts, and access federal funding.
  
- 2. Economic Recovery** - Assisting businesses, workers, and local economies in wildfire-affected areas.
  - Help communities create recovery-friendly economic policies and attract new investments.
  - Potentially provides financial aid, technical assistance, and business continuity resources.
  
- 3. Health & Social Services** - Supporting public health, social services, and mental health resources after a wildfire.
  - Develop a network of resources to support trauma recovery, substance abuse prevention, and vulnerable populations.
  - Potentially includes actions to provide and support emergency medical services, mental health counseling, and disaster case management.
  
- 4. Housing** - Providing temporary and long-term housing solutions for wildfire survivors.
  - Work with local governments to ensure equitable housing recovery.
  - Potentially includes actions to support disaster housing programs, rebuilding grants, and affordability assistance.
  
- 5. Infrastructure Systems** - Repairing and upgrading critical infrastructure damaged by wildfire.
  - Identify and support funding for resilient infrastructure improvements.
  - Potentially includes actions to support road reconstruction, power grid restoration, water supply repairs, and transportation network stabilization.
  
- 6. Natural & Cultural Resources** - Protecting and restoring wildfire-affected ecosystems, cultural sites, and historic landmarks.
  - Identify and support funding for conservation projects, erosion control, and habitat restoration.
  - With intent to ensure that historic and culturally significant areas are preserved and integrated into CWPP, HMP/AHMP, and recovery planning.



### *Applying These Frameworks to Action Plans*

By integrating elements from both FACNet's Post-Fire Recovery Framework and FEMA's NDRF, communities can ensure their CWPPs and other relevant plans can align recovery actions with wildfire mitigation, funding opportunities, and cross-sector collaboration, ultimately strengthening long-term resilience to wildfires. When updating or developing a CWPP and/or HMP/AHMP, communities should use these frameworks to assess gaps and assets, prioritize recovery actions, and establish coordination mechanisms to enhance post-fire recovery efforts. This guide utilizes both frameworks to inform the content of the recommendations, considerations, and potential partners to engage during the planning processes.

**Disclaimer:** Some recommendations and considerations included in this guide are tied to federal disaster assistance resources. These resources only activate and are available to communities once a disaster declaration is officially made<sup>3</sup>. It is imperative that your community leaders and planners understand the pathways necessary to get a disaster declaration and be able to leverage disaster assistance. Additionally, community leaders, planners, and partners should develop backup plans to access and receive resources for recovery needs if a disaster declaration is not achievable.

## **From Risk to Readiness: A Guide for CWPP Stakeholders**

Recovery planning involves assessing risks, evaluating community capacity, identifying gaps, and prioritizing actions to address immediate needs while building long-term resilience. Integrating recovery considerations into CWPPs and/or HMPs/AHMPs enables a proactive approach, enhancing eligibility for funding and resources.

This guide supports community stakeholders and planning partners in:

- Identifying wildfire risks and potential impacts.
- Incorporating cultural, social, economic, and environmental values at risk.
- Assessing capacity, funding, partnerships, and workforce needs.
- Enhancing understanding of community recovery needs.

Action Steps:

- Collaborate with partners to identify post-fire recovery actions.
- Integrate these actions into CWPP and/or HMP/AHMP plans.
- If separate, formally adopt the CWPP into the county plan to align efforts and improve access to funding.

<sup>3</sup> Visit the Washington Emergency Management Division website for more information on this process and resources available to communities for recovery assistance: <https://mil.wa.gov/for-government>.







## Stakeholder Roles in Recovery Preparedness

A well-coordinated recovery process depends on the engagement of diverse stakeholders, each playing a unique role in post-fire recovery preparedness. The NDRF’s Community-Driven Recovery Model outlines a structured approach that identifies key stakeholders and their responsibilities across six RSFs. The Community Driven Recovery Model emphasizes the interconnected nature of recovery efforts, requiring alignment between governmental agencies, private entities, and local communities (See figure 3 below). This approach ensures that wildfire recovery efforts are inclusive, adaptive, and sustainable over time. Understanding these roles helps communities establish clear expectations and improve collaboration for an effective recovery process.

For example:

- **Local & Tribal Governments:** Lead community-driven recovery efforts by integrating wildfire recovery into land use planning, hazard mitigation strategies, and economic revitalization plans.
- **State & Federal Agencies:** Provide technical assistance, financial resources, and policy support through agencies such as FEMA, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- **Nonprofit & Volunteer Organizations:** Facilitate community outreach, coordinate donations, and provide direct aid to impacted individuals and businesses.
- **Private Sector & Utilities:** Restore critical infrastructure, support economic stabilization, and contribute expertise in rebuilding efforts.
- **Community Members & Civic Organizations:** Advocate for equitable recovery, participate in public meetings, and help shape long-term resilience strategies.



Figure 3: FEMA’s NDRF Community-Driven Recovery Model (2024).



## How to Use This Guide:

This guide provides a structured approach for integrating wildfire recovery preparedness considerations into community plans like CWPPs and AHMPs/HMPs. It is designed to help communities proactively assess recovery needs, identify key stakeholders, and implement targeted actions to enhance resilience before and after a wildfire event. As part of the CWPP Post-Fire Recovery Preparedness Toolkit, this guide is accompanied by two additional resources: a list of potential partners to engage and a recovery assets and gaps assessment, providing a comprehensive suite of tools to support community recovery planning. Community recovery planning helps you systematically understand, assess, and address critical recovery needs. To make the most of this guide, follow these tips and key steps as best you can.

### *Step 1. Identify Relevant Recovery Topics*

Each section of this guide outlines a critical area of wildfire recovery, including Planning & Preparedness, Emergency Management, Infrastructure, Community Resilience, and more. Review these topics to determine the most relevant to your community's needs.

**Tip:** Customize and adapt recommendations to reflect local needs, challenges, and strengths. Prioritize topics based on immediate community vulnerabilities, long-term recovery goals, and integration opportunities with existing CWPPs or HMPs.

### *Step 2. Engage Key Stakeholders*

Successful wildfire recovery planning requires collaboration across multiple sectors. You should engage a diverse array of community leaders, planners, and partners for each recovery function or element. See the CWPP Post-Fire Recovery Planning **Potential Partner List** to brainstorm what entities to engage. Keep track of your post-fire recovery planning network as you brainstorm and reach out. This tracking should highlight agencies, organizations, and community partners who can contribute to recovery planning and implementation. Use these partnership lists to:

- Identify partners within your community who can provide expertise, funding, or logistical support.
- Facilitate cross-sector collaboration for more effective recovery planning.
- Strengthen existing networks and establish new partnerships for long-term resilience.

**Tip:** Collaborate early and engage stakeholders from the beginning to build consensus and gather diverse insights.



### *Step 3. Assess Recovery Assets & Gaps*

Use the Recommended Considerations sections within each recovery topic to evaluate your community's current capacity and identify areas that need improvement. These sections include targeted questions and action items to help communities:

- Understand existing wildfire preparedness and recovery capabilities.
- Identify critical gaps in resources, policies, or infrastructure.
- Develop strategies to address unmet recovery needs.

**Tip:** Document and track recovery preparedness by using monitoring and evaluation tools to assess recovery gaps and update plans as needed.

**Tool:** This guide links to a Community Post-Fire Recovery Planning **Assets & Gaps Assessment Template** to help track findings and create action-oriented recovery plans. Within the linked Assets & Gaps Assessment is a Partnership Network Template to help you keep track of your community stakeholders and partners.

### *Step 4. Integrate Recovery Actions into Your CWPP or All-Hazard Mitigation Plan*

Once you've identified priority actions, collaborate with stakeholders to incorporate them into your CWPP or HMP/AHMP. Ensure alignment between wildfire mitigation, emergency response, and long-term recovery efforts to create a seamless and effective approach.

Key Integration Steps:

- Use stakeholder input and asset/gap analysis to define recovery priorities.
- Incorporate actionable strategies into CWPP action plans.
- Formalize recovery planning efforts within county or municipal hazard mitigation plans to improve access to funding and resources.

By following this approach, communities can ensure their CWPPs include a comprehensive and proactive wildfire recovery strategy, strengthening resilience and preparedness for future wildfire events.



# Wildfire Recovery Preparedness Planning Recommendations & Considerations

This section aligns recovery planning recommendations with FEMA's six Recovery Support Functions and FACNet's Key Post-Fire Recovery Elements for integrating recovery planning into CWPPs and HMPs/AHMPs.

## 1. Community Planning & Capacity Building (CPCB)

Community planning and capacity building focus on strengthening local governance, planning frameworks, and public engagement to enhance wildfire resilience and preparedness. This includes risk assessment, mitigation planning, and ensuring policies support effective post-fire recovery.

*Community Preparedness & Capacity Building:* Prepared communities can respond and recover more effectively by fostering strong coordination and public awareness.

- Identify partners needed to enhance coordination for immediate response, relief, and recovery efforts (e.g., emergency managers, health organizations, long-term recovery groups, voluntary organizations active in disasters, and local entities).
- Ensure CWPPs and HMPs/AHMPs include recovery functions.
- Establish coordination and communication mechanisms to align efforts and minimize duplication of efforts.
- Local evacuation plans, routes, and notification systems are communicated to all community members.
- Protocols for leading search and rescue operations are established.
- Educate community members and organizations to support recovery efforts.
- Develop networks for mutual assistance among residents and organizations.
- Identify vulnerable populations and ensure inclusive communication pathways.
- Identify or create a system for tracking expenses (including volunteer tasks and hours) to ease the reimbursement process for disaster assistance funding.
- Establish a network of understanding to enhance collaboration between local and state partners to reduce duplication of effort and the overlap of responsibilities.



**Risk Assessment & Mitigation Planning:** Communities must proactively assess and mitigate wildfire risks to minimize potential losses and streamline recovery efforts.

- Identify wildfire hazards in the community and surrounding landscape.
  - After a wildfire, analyze the specific hazards for each basin based on soil type, burn severity, and topography<sup>4</sup>.
- Develop detailed values-at-risk maps both before and after a wildfire occurs.
  - Consider including values that are downstream of a fire event and may be impacted by post-fire debris flow and flooding.
- Establish collaborative spatial planning tools<sup>5</sup>.
- Identify and map fire corridors, strategic fuel management zones, and landscape-level interventions.
- Assess vulnerabilities of community assets, infrastructure, and natural resources.
- Develop strategies to utilize collected data for response and recovery.
- Ensure local pre-fire mitigation plans include specific actions to reduce or minimize potential wildfire impacts and support recovery functions.
- Develop monitoring and evaluation strategies for community wildfire plans and emergency management plans to be reviewed and updated periodically.
- Develop strategies to review and update recovery plans, assess recovery progress, and update geospatial mapping/modeling products.
- Identify protocols for flash flood, debris flow, and erosion risk assessments to mitigate flood post-wildfire.
  - Develop communication and outreach products that can readily be disseminated to the community, both residents and visitors.
  - Create a plan for an early-warning system that may include rain and stream gauges. Work closely with the USGS, WGS, and the National Weather Service (NWS) to determine the placement of gauges following a wildfire event.
  - Established a cache of signage and communication materials for post-fire risk impacts (e.g., flooding, debris flow, and hazardous materials or debris) and ensure they are approved by local and trusted entities.

<sup>4</sup> Seek assistance from the [United States Geological Survey \(USGS\)](#) and the [Washington Geological Survey Team \(WGS\)](#).

<sup>5</sup> Comprehensive mapping tools used to identify wildfire hazards and community resources include: Wildfire Risk to Communities ([wildfirerisk.org](#)); LANDFIRE ([landfire.gov](#)); FEMA Hazus ([hazus.fema.gov](#)); USGS Wildfire Hazard Potential (WHP) Map; Monitoring Trends in Burn Severity (MTBS) ([mtbs.gov](#)); NOAA NWS Fire Weather Maps ([weather.gov/fire](#))



**Policy & Regulatory Alignment:** Clear policies and streamlined regulations improve rebuilding efficiency and community resilience.

- Update land use policies, zoning codes, and building regulations to enhance wildfire resilience. For example:
  - Adopt or strengthen the International Wildland-Urban Interface (IWUI) Code to establish building and landscaping requirements in high-risk areas.
  - Expand WUI boundaries in zoning and development codes to ensure new growth accounts for wildfire hazards.
  - Incentivize fire-resistant construction materials for homes, fences, and decks in WUI zones.
- Integrate recovery considerations into CWPPs, HMPs/AHMPs, and Emergency Management Plans (EMPs).
- Streamline permitting processes to expedite post-fire rebuilding.
- Address bureaucratic barriers to support post-disaster reconstruction.
- Establish clear mechanisms for resource distribution and policy review.
- Identify coordination mechanisms between local, state, and federal agencies.
- Identify mechanisms to increase the capacity to solicit and receive feedback, update policy and plans, and adapt plans as conditions change.
- Integrate insurance advocacy in your CWPP efforts to ensure an understanding of insurance. For Example:
  - Homeowners and renters understand their insurance policy coverage
  - Encourage homeowners to purchase additional insurance through FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), if necessary.

## 2. Economic Recovery

Economic recovery ensures local businesses, workforces, and financial systems can recover after wildfire events. It involves creating support systems for businesses, attracting investments, and stabilizing the local economy.

**Business Resilience & Workforce Development:** Supporting businesses and workforce restoration ensures economic stability post-disaster.

- Develop financial assistance programs for impacted businesses.
- Create incentives for fire-resilient economic development.
- Identify ways to support workforce restoration through job training and local employment initiatives.





**Economic Stabilization & Investment:** Sustainable investment strategies promote long-term economic resilience and recovery.

- Establish business continuity plans for wildfire-affected areas.
- Facilitate investment in local businesses to restore economic stability.
- Attract new economic opportunities that align with community recovery goals.

### 3. Health & Social Services

Health and social services are crucial for supporting individuals and families impacted by wildfires. This includes emergency healthcare, mental health support, and ensuring community well-being during recovery.

**Emergency & Long-Term Healthcare:** Accessible medical care is essential for both immediate relief and long-term health stability.

- Provide immediate and ongoing medical care for wildfire survivors and responders.
- Develop strategies to ensure healthcare services continuity post-disaster.
- Establish emergency medical supply procurement, distribution plans, and medical supply tracking mechanisms.
- Identify primary and backup medical supply sources.
- Develop an Incident Command Transition Plan for long-term recovery and emergency management.

**Social & Mental Health Services:** Addressing emotional and psychological impacts helps communities recover holistically.

- Establish a mental health support network if it does not exist locally.
- Offer trauma-informed mental health support and counseling services to those impacted by and responding to a wildfire event.
- Develop culturally sensitive outreach and support mechanisms.
- Ensure long-term case management services for displaced individuals.
- Ensure multiple access points for mental health services are available (e.g., In-person and virtual options; Culturally sensitive support mechanisms).



**Community Support & Equity Considerations:** Inclusive recovery efforts must account for vulnerable populations and community engagement.

- Engage diverse community groups to ensure equitable access to recovery resources.
- Establish community engagement programs to address wildfire-related social challenges.
- Provide resources for family reunification efforts, such as:
  - Comprehensive family tracking systems and protocols.
  - Multiple reunification access points.
  - Protocols for vulnerable populations regarding family reunification.
  - Multilingual reunification support mechanisms.
- Develop a Community Long-Term Recovery Plan and establish strategic recovery partnerships.
- Identify and develop necessary protocols for providing the community and responders with food and water, such as the establishment of a collaborative network of food providers.

## 4. Housing

**Emergency & Temporary Housing:** Establishing secure temporary housing minimizes displacement and aids recovery.

- Identify primary and backup shelter locations before a wildfire event occurs. Ensure they will be available whenever necessary.
- Develop flexible, long-term housing transition plans.
- Establish survivor support systems and tracking mechanisms.
- Create a comprehensive survivor support system.
- Define partner roles and responsibilities for temporary to long-term housing coordination and placement.
- Develop mutual aid networks to mobilize volunteers and create peer-to-peer housing networks.

**Housing Recovery & Rebuilding:** Fire-resilient construction and rebuilding support are crucial for sustainable recovery.

- Coordinate home rebuilding efforts, including volunteer and donation management.
- Develop outreach strategies for fire-resistant construction education.
- Make financial assistance protocols clear and accessible.
- Ensure compliance with wildfire-adapted building standards.



**Debris Removal & Property Restoration:** Timely debris removal facilitates reconstruction and minimizes secondary hazards.

- Establish agreements for coordinated debris cleanup and removal.
- Establish a prioritization strategy for debris removal locations to expedite rebuilding efforts.
- Develop safety protocols for debris management and communicate them with the public.
- Outline and document environmental preservation and conservation protocols for debris removal.
- Identify multiple debris removal mechanisms to include in your plan and agreements.
- Work with local and regional clean air and water regulatory agencies to develop clear and concise messaging on hazard material testing prior to debris clean up and property restoration (e.g., Asbestos protocols).

## 5. Infrastructure Systems

Infrastructure recovery ensures essential utilities, transportation systems, and emergency communication networks function effectively after a wildfire.

**Utility Restoration & Critical Infrastructure:** Reliable infrastructure restoration is essential for community safety and recovery.

- Establish strategies for the repair and upgrade of damaged electrical, water, and healthcare infrastructure.
- Implement emergency backup systems for power and water supply.
- Identify and establish emergency power infrastructure restoration protocols.
- Establish water quality monitoring and distribution systems post-fire.
- Identify critical power and water infrastructure for strengthening and mitigation efforts.
- Develop a comprehensive service restoration communication plan and identify communication channels with the public.

**Transportation & Emergency Access:** Restoring mobility and emergency access accelerates overall recovery.

- Repair damaged roadways and bridges to restore mobility.
- Develop and integrate traffic controls and emergency response access plans.
- Establish mechanisms for rapid road debris clearance.



**Emergency Communication Systems:** Effective communication systems support response and recovery efforts.

- Develop redundant emergency notification and public communication systems.
- Implement a protocol to establish an Information Dissemination Plan that includes a plan for sharing information via digital platforms, traditional media, community bulletin boards, and local gathering spaces.
- Identify possible locations for a centralized information hub and the potential responsible entities to provide real-time updates.
- Ensure accessibility of emergency information for all populations, including non-English speakers and those with Access and Functional Needs (AFNs) by planning for translation and interpretation services, such as:
  - Translating resources into languages present in the community, such as American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation.
  - Developing accessible materials for deaf, hard of hearing, and visually impaired individuals.
  - Meeting the needs of any other vulnerable populations in your community.
- Ensure backup communication technology is available, such as:
  - Temporary communication line technologies (trap lines).
  - Cell on Wheels (COWs).
  - Cell on Light Trucks (COLTs).
  - Wireless on Wheels (WOWs).
  - Weather Radios (NOAA Weather Radios)
  - Two-way Radios
- Ensure communication networks are developed for post-fire recovery services and resources, such as:
  - Neighborhood communication leads or points-of-contact.
  - Media engagement strategies.
  - Print and digital communication protocols.
  - Language translation resources and plans for communication materials.



## 6. Natural & Cultural Resources

The restoration of natural and cultural resources supports environmental health and protects historical and cultural landmarks.

**Environmental Restoration & Hazard Mitigation:** Proactive environmental recovery measures reduce long-term damage.

- Establish protocols for rapid damage assessments like Soil Burn Severity Evaluation and Mapping, Smoke Damage assessments, and All-Lands Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Teams.
- Create a rapid prioritization framework that can be implemented immediately after a wildfire event to identify the most critical values or infrastructure in need of flood mitigation or protection.
- Implement erosion control and soil stabilization strategies.
- Implement rain gauges for remote watershed monitoring.
- Conduct watershed restoration efforts to prevent post-fire flooding.
- Restore native vegetation and manage invasive species.

**Wildlife Protection & Ecosystem Recovery:** Protecting wildlife and ecosystems ensures long-term environmental stability.

- Establish wildlife rescue and rehabilitation programs.
- Identify wildlife rescue organizations and veterinary service providers for emergency care and rehabilitation.
- Identify emergency wildlife habitat assessment mechanisms, like wildlife tracking and recovery strategies.
- Monitor ecosystem recovery and implement habitat restoration projects.
- Some recovery and restoration practices require state and federal environmental review, so consider establishing an inter-agency review panel to comprehensively ensure all environmental regulations are followed and efficiently permitted.

**Cultural & Historical Resource Protection:** Preserving cultural heritage strengthens community identity post-disaster.

- Identify and protect cultural and historical sites impacted by wildfire.
- Identify and secure funding for the restoration and conservation of significant community assets.
- Some recovery and restoration practices require state and federal cultural/historic preservation review, so consider establishing an inter-agency review panel to comprehensively ensure all cultural/historic preservation regulations are followed and efficiently permitted.



## FACNet's Additional Recommendations to Consider

### 7. Agriculture

Agricultural recovery ensures food security, rural economic stability, and the protection of livestock and farmland post-wildfire.

**Livestock & Agricultural Land Recovery:** Protecting and restoring agricultural operations ensures community sustainability.

- Implement evacuation and sheltering plans for livestock.
- Develop an emergency livestock care and veterinary response network and strategies.
- Restore damaged irrigation infrastructure and replace lost equipment.
- Provide emergency feed and water supply resources for agricultural operations.

**Ranch & Farmland Rehabilitation:** Supporting farmland recovery enhances economic and environmental stability.

- Establish financial assistance programs for agricultural recovery.
- Support fence rebuilding and soil stabilization efforts.
- Identify animal shelter networks to support backup and replacement shelter protocols.
- Support protocols for the repair and replacement of animal infrastructure, including food and water necessities from event to recovery.

### 8. Landscapes

Landscape recovery focuses on restoring natural ecosystems, managing hazards, and ensuring long-term environmental resilience.

**Forest & Land Rehabilitation:** Restoring forests and land reduces long-term fire risk and supports biodiversity.

- Implement reseeding and replanting initiatives, like preparing seed stock to promote natural recovery.
- Develop long-term monitoring programs for ecosystem health.
- Utilize fuel management and defensible space strategies to reduce future wildfire risks.





**Public Land & Open Space Recovery:** Restoring public lands ensures continued community and ecological benefits.

- Restore parks, trails, and recreational areas impacted by wildfire.
- Develop adaptive land management plans to enhance fire resilience.

**Hazard Tree Removal & Risk Reduction:** Managing hazard trees reduces post-fire safety risks.

- Identify and remove fire-damaged trees that pose safety risks.
- Retain standing dead trees where appropriate for habitat value.
- Ensure compliance with the Forest Practices Act and environmental regulations in hazard tree removal projects.

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*\*Portions of this guide were adapted from the (1) National Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network Wildfire Recovery Graphic and accompanying facilitator's guide and PowerPoint presentation; (2) FEMA's National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) – Third Edition (2024). We express our gratitude and appreciation for the use of content and materials.*