

P.O. Box 1373
Fairplay, CO 80440
(719) 836-4201 (Fairplay)
(719) 836-3273 (Fax)
Website: www.parkco.us

COUNTY OF PARK
Board of County
Commissioners



March 30, 2021

RE: AGREEMENT TO CREATE AREAS OF REFUGE

Platte Canyon Fire Protection District and Burland Firewise work closely and continuously together to reduce the potential for Wildfire. The 2020 Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) recognized the need for Burland Ranchettes to create an Emergency Temporary Area of Refuge. The purpose of an Area of Refuge is to create a wildfire defensible / survivable area for those whose evacuation routes are potentially overrun by fire, forcing a retreat.

The best and most obvious location to create an area of refuge is (1) the Burland Ballfield and (2) the Burland Equestrian Area, both at the intersection of CR72 and Bluebird Drive. The ballfield will require minimal effort to enhance the wildfire defensibility / survivability. Action required: Mitigate the road shoulders, selectively remove overstory (Ponderosa Pine) and understory (ladder fuels) and establish a mowing schedule for flash fuels (grasses). The equestrian area while similar, will require greater effort. Action required: Mitigate the road shoulders, selectively remove overstory (Ponderosa Pine) and understory (ladder fuels) and establish a mowing schedule for flash fuels (grasses). We will replicate a healthy ponderosa pine forest by spacing individual or cluster trees 20 – 100 feet apart. Slash generated through mitigation shall be chipped and broadcast. All proposed mitigation activities will be accomplished by the Platte Canyon Wildfire Module and Burland Firewise volunteers. Funding for this project is secured. Mitigation activities shall be coordinated with user groups to prevent adverse situations.

Both the Burland Ballfield and the Burland Equestrian Area are owned by Park County. Platte Canyon Fire Protection District and Burland Firewise are asking for written authorization to mitigate and maintain these two locations as an Emergency Area of Refuge.

Attachment: MAPS 1 & 2

Joe Burgett, Chief, Platte Canyon Fire Protection District

Signature _____ Date _____

Jack Roberts, Burland HOA / Burland Firewise Coordinator

Signature _____ Date _____

Richard Elsner
(719-836-4209)

Ray Douglas
(719-836-4211)

Amy Mitchell
(719-836-4210)

Park County Commissioners authorize the Platte Canyon Fire Protection District and Burland Firewise to proceed with the Emergency Temporary Area of Refuge as described above.

Amy Mitchell, District 1 Signature _____

Date _____

Dick Elsner, District 2 Signature _____

Date _____

Ray Douglas, District 3 Signature _____

Date _____

Please contact Tom Eisenman ,County Manager at teisenman@parkco.us or 719-836-4203 with any questions

Cc: T. Eisenman, CM