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## Assessment Report

Hooty Owl  
1313 Sesame Street

**Wildfire Mitigation Specialist:**  
Brett Haberstick

**Assessment Date:**  
June 15, 2016

**Deadline for Financial Award:**  
June 15, 2017

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Thank you for participating in Wildfire Partners.

By taking part in your assessment and acting to reduce your risk, you are serving as a positive example for others in your community. Your leadership and stewardship will help create a positive change and build a more resilient community. Wildfire Partners is here to support you as you work to implement the following key messages that were stressed during your home assessment.

### Key Messages

- Take Personal Responsibility
- Implement Your Individual Action Plan
- Work With Your Neighbors
- Actively Maintain Your Mitigation
- Understand There Are No Guarantees

[www.WildfirePartners.org](http://www.WildfirePartners.org)

[info@wildfirepartners.org](mailto:info@wildfirepartners.org)

(303) 441-1420



**REDZONE**



# WILDFIRE MITIGATION CHECKLIST

- Good Job! No mitigation is necessary at this time.
- Mitigation is recommended in this area.
- Mitigation is required to obtain certification.

For details and photographs of the required and recommended mitigation, please see the page numbers listed.

Check this box when completed.

## ROOF & EAVES (Page 5)

- |  |                          |  |   |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--|---|--------------------------|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | The roof edge is free of gaps and protected from ember penetration.           |                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #e31a1c; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | Mitigate openings, cracks, or gaps in the roof that are larger than 1/8 inch. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | Dormers and other complex features are properly mitigated.                    |                          |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | The roof is free of combustible debris.                                       |                          |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | The roof edge is protected by metal flashing and gutters are noncombustible.  |                          |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | The eaves are properly mitigated.   |                          |

## EXTERIOR WALLS, SIDING, & OPENINGS (Page 6)

- |  |  |  |  |                          |
|--|--|--|--|--------------------------|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | The siding is free of gaps, holes, or areas where embers could accumulate. |                          |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | Combustible components of the siding are properly protected from ignition. |                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #e31a1c; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | Your Specialist identified one or more vents to mitigate.                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | Overhangs and other exposed areas are properly protected.                  |                          |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | All other openings are properly mitigated.                                 |                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #f4a460; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | Install new weather stripping around the perimeter of the garage door.     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## DECKS, PORCHES, & STRUCTURE ATTACHMENTS (Page 7)

- |  |                          |  |   |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--|---|--------------------------|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | Wood fences attached to the structure are properly mitigated.                 |                          |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | The area where the deck attaches to the structure is protected from ignition. |                          |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | The deck boards are in good condition.  |                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #e31a1c; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | Remove combustible materials from the deck.                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid #ccc;"></span> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | All other structural attachments are properly mitigated.                      |                          |

**NONCOMBUSTIBLE ZONE 1A (0-5 feet) (Page 8)**

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- Create a noncombustible surface extending 3-5 feet around the structure.
- Vegetation is properly mitigated.
- Landscape timbers are properly mitigated.
- Remove all combustible material under the deck.

**ZONE 1 (5-30 feet) (Page 9)**

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- Trees in Zone 1 meet Colorado State Forest Service guidelines.
- Pine needles and dead grasses are removed from the base of trees.
- Remove all marked ground junipers and juniper trees.
- Shrubs are well-spaced and removed from the drip line of “keep” trees.
- Grasses and weeds are cut to a maximum height of 6 inches.
- Zone 1 is free of heavy accumulations of surface fuels.

**ZONE 2 (30-100+ feet) (Page 10-11)**

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- Remove all marked trees.
- When possible promote aspen trees.
- Shrubs are well-spaced and removed from the drip line of “keep” trees.
- Branches are properly mitigated on all “keep” trees.
- Remove all heavy accumulations of surface fuels.

**ACCESSORY STRUCTURES & PERSONAL PROPERTY (Page 12)**

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- Accessory structures in Zone 1 are properly mitigated.
- Firewood piles are 30 feet from structures and have 10 feet of clearance.
- Clear combustible debris and vegetation within 10 feet of the propane tank.
- All other combustible items around the home are properly mitigated.

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (Page 14)**

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- There is an address marker clearly visible from both directions on the road.

# ROOF & EAVES ASSESSMENT

## REQUIRED

### Roof Condition:

Replace or repair all damaged areas in the roof. Make sure that there are no openings, cracks, or gaps that are larger than 1/8 inch.

### Specialist's Comment:

Consult our list of retrofit contractors if you would like to hire a professional to make these repairs.

### Notes:



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# EXTERIOR WALLS, SIDING, & OPENINGS ASSESSMENT

## REQUIRED

### Vents:

Cover all unscreened wall vents with 1/8 inch corrosion resistant metal mesh, and install a louver-type dryer vent that automatically stays closed unless the dryer is running.

### Specialist's Comment:

As we discussed, screening the vents will help prevent embers and debris from entering your home.

### Notes:



## RECOMMENDED

### Garage Door Gaps:

Your garage door has gaps making it vulnerable to embers. Install new weather stripping around the perimeter of the door.

### Specialist's Comment:

Install weather stripping to the double car door like the single car door.

### Notes:



# DECKS, PORCHES, & STRUCTURE ATTACHMENTS ASSESSMENT

## REQUIRED

### Items on Deck:

Remove combustible materials from on top of your deck. Tip: Combustibles such as pine needles or leaves are often present between deck boards and/or where your deck meets the wall.

### Specialist's Comment:

Don't forget that cleaning debris is an ongoing task.

### Notes:



# NONCOMBUSTIBLE ZONE 1A ASSESSMENT (0-5 feet)

## REQUIRED

### Surface Material:

Create a noncombustible surface around your entire structure. Install crushed gravel, flagstone, pavers, or even poured concrete around your entire structure. At a minimum rake down to bare mineral soil so nothing combustible is present. Tip: To prevent future vegetation growth, use a permeable weed barrier.



### Specialist's Comment:

Much of the perimeter has crushed rock or native decomposed granite but some stretches need to have landscape cloth and crushed rock installed. There are also grass, weeds, and shrubs that need to be removed.



### Notes:

## REQUIRED

### Under Decks:

Remove all combustible material and/or vegetation from under your deck and/or house extension.

### Specialist's Comment:

Make sure to remove the small pile of pine needles we found hiding under your deck stairs.



### Notes:



## ZONE 1 ASSESSMENT (5-30 feet)

### REQUIRED

#### Junipers:

Remove all marked ground junipers and juniper trees in Zone 1.

#### Specialist's Comment:

Junipers are very flammable and pose a serious risk when close to your home. There are only three bushes to remove.

#### Notes:



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## ZONE 2 ASSESSMENT (30-100+ feet)

### REQUIRED

**Conifers:**

Remove all marked trees in Zone 2.

**Specialist's Comment:**

N/A

**Notes:**



### RECOMMENDED

**Aspen:**

When possible promote Aspen in Zone 2. Tip: Tree spacing and ladder fuel guidelines do not apply to mature Aspens. Generally, no thinning of live Aspens is recommended; only remove dead or diseased trees.

**Specialist's Comment:**

N/A

**Notes:**



## REQUIRED

### Surface Fuels:

Remove all heavy accumulations of dead branches, logs, pine needles and wood chips from Zone 2. Tip: Wildfires can quickly grow in intensity when they burn in areas with heavy accumulations of surface fuels.

### Specialist's Comment:

Some of this work was being done during the assessment and will be chipped this weekend by Saws 'n Slaws. Other work is needed to meet this objective.

### Notes:



## ACCESSORY STRUCTURES & PERSONAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT

### REQUIRED

#### Propane Tanks:

Clear all combustible debris and vegetation within 10 feet of all propane tanks. Tip: For extra protection, install a noncombustible surface around the tank and locate them at least 30 feet from any structures, preferably on the same elevation as the house.



#### Specialist's Comment:

N/A

#### Notes:

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# HOMEOWNER'S INSURANCE

**Adequate Insurance:** In order to determine if you are adequately insured, start by evaluating your Homeowners Insurance Coverage A policy limit. You will need to know the size of your home and the cost of rebuilding it. To determine the cost of rebuilding, obtain an estimate from a local contractor who is familiar with the current costs of rebuilding a home similar to yours in your location in Boulder County. (The cost of rebuilding your home is different than its current value.) If you are unable to obtain an estimate, you can also use the figure of \$200 to \$400 per square foot depending on the type of home.

To determine if your Coverage A is adequate, multiply the square footage of your home by your rebuilding cost per square foot. If this number is greater than your Coverage A limit, you should consider increasing this limit.

There are a number of other items in your insurance policy that you should review. Boulder County produced a video to help residents with insurance. Watch it here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMNtlzITsbg&feature=c4-overview-vl&list=PL034D4EED3629C14A](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMNtlzITsbg&feature=c4-overview-vl&list=PL034D4EED3629C14A). For more information, visit The Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association at [www.rmiia.org](http://www.rmiia.org) and United Policy Holders at [www.uphelp.org](http://www.uphelp.org).

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**Home Inventory:** Create an inventory of your personal property now. If you lose everything you own in a fire, it will be difficult to remember what you lost. You can download free home inventory software at [www.rmiia.org/Homeowners/Walking\\_Through\\_Your\\_Policy/Home\\_Inventory.asp](http://www.rmiia.org/Homeowners/Walking_Through_Your_Policy/Home_Inventory.asp)

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# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

**Evacuation:** You and your family should plan for and practice how you will evacuate during a wildfire. The fire season is now a reality throughout the year in Colorado, which means that both firefighters and residents have to be on alert for the threat of wildfire at all times.

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**Belongings:** Prepare a written list of items to take with you as well as an evacuation kit. Without a list, it is easy to forget items such as family heirlooms, important documents, and valuables. Evaluate how much time you have to evacuate prior to gathering these items – some situations will require immediate evacuation.

Your evacuation kit should be individually tailored to meet the basic survival needs of your family for three days to a week. Store your emergency supplies in one location that is relatively safe, yet easily accessible if evacuation is required. Some items to consider include water, food, first aid kit, flashlight, medications, cash, tools, and sanitation items.

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**Notification:** Sign-up to receive free emergency alerts (reverse 911) from the Boulder Office of Emergency Management. The emergency alert program allows residents to be notified by cell phone, home and work phones, text messaging and e-mail. Register for free at [www.boulderoem.com](http://www.boulderoem.com) under “Sign Up for Emergency Messages.”

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**Communications:** Plan for how you and your family will stay in contact and where you would meet if separated during a wildfire. Do not rely on conventional forms of communication during an emergency. Having redundant forms of communication can help assure that your family will be able to quickly reunite should the unexpected occur. Some tips include using text messages to communicate during times with high call-volumes, establishing a meeting location where your family can reconvene, and assigning an out-of-town contact to serve as a liaison between family members.

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**Pets:** Plan for caring and evacuating your pets during an emergency. If you must evacuate, try to take pets with you. Be sure your pet has identification tags securely fastened to the collar, and keep a pet carrier and leash to secure your pet. For more information on pet preparedness, please see [www.readycolorado.com/plan/animal-plan](http://www.readycolorado.com/plan/animal-plan)

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# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

**Neighbors:** Talk to your neighbors about linking your mitigation efforts. You may have several valid reasons why you are reluctant to talk or work with your neighbor. However, we encourage you try. The success of your mitigation efforts may depend upon it. Positive connections between active and engaged neighbors help create resilient communities.

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**Wildfire Mitigation Community Programs and Slash Disposal Options:** There are many ongoing efforts in Boulder County to learn about and join.

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**Saws and Slaws:** Short for chainsaws and coleslaws—is a group of mountain folk who celebrate living in the Rockies by purposefully working to mitigate fire risk around our homes then feasting together as neighbors. Saws and Slaws is much more than a catchy name for mitigation activities, it's more like an old fashioned barn raising, or current day block party where friends and neighbors pool their efforts to help a fellow community member and then close their time together with good food (and sometimes home-made beer). Saws and Slaws can be easily replicated anywhere. Visit [www.sawsandslaws.com](http://www.sawsandslaws.com) to learn more.

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**Community Wildfire Protection Plans:** Boulder County and 13 local fire districts have produced Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs). These plans contain a wealth of information on wildfire mitigation and have resulted in an enormous amount of work on the ground. If you have not read your district's or the county's plan, visit <http://csfs.colostate.edu/wildfire-mitigation/community-wildfire-protection-plans/>.

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**Firewise Communities USA:** The Firewise Communities/USA Recognition Program is a process that empowers neighbors to work together in reducing their wildfire risk. Using a five-step process, communities develop an action plan that guides their activities, while engaging and encouraging their neighbors to become active participants. Visit [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org) to learn more. Firewise Communities in Boulder County include Lake of the Pines, the Town of Nederland, and the Sunshine Fire Protection District.

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**Boulder County Community Forestry Sort Yards:** Boulder County has established two community forestry sort yards – in Allenspark and Nederland - to collect wood and slash from county residents. Area residents can drop off logs and slash from private land for no charge at either site. For more details include hours of operation and materials accepted visit [www.BoulderCounty.org/ForestHealth](http://www.BoulderCounty.org/ForestHealth).

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**October Wildfire Awareness Month:** On September 6, 2011—the one year anniversary of the Fourmile Canyon Fire—Boulder County declared October as Wildfire Awareness Month. Activities during the month teach residents about wildfires and wildfire mitigation and encourage homeowners to take action. The month features tours, hikes, training, volunteer projects, chipping days, the Wildfire Mitigation Challenge, and key note addresses by the nation's leading wildfire scientists.

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**Boulder County Community Chipping Reimbursement Program:** Every year since 1993, the county offers financial assistance to encourage mountain communities to conduct community chipping days. In 2014 funding was awarded to: Coal Creek Saws and Slaws, Crestview Estates, Four Mile Fire Protection District (FPD), Magnolia Rd (PUMA), Town of Nederland Saws and Slaws, Rocky Mountain FPD, St. Antons HOA, Sugarloaf FPD, and Sunshine FPD. To find out if there is discounted chipping in your area, contact Jim Webster at 720-564-2600. For more details visit: [www.BoulderCounty.org/ForestHealth](http://www.BoulderCounty.org/ForestHealth)

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**Boulder County Forest Health Outreach Program and E-Newsletter:** Boulder County's Forest Health program promotes forest sustainability through outreach and education with private landowners. Throughout the year, we offer forestry workshops and trainings on topics such as wildfire mitigation, bark beetles and forest ecology. The best way to stay informed about upcoming programs is to join the eNewsletter by visiting [www.BoulderCounty.org/ForestHealth](http://www.BoulderCounty.org/ForestHealth)

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**Boulder County Parks and Open Space Volunteer Projects:** Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department offers many volunteer forestry projects throughout the year. To view these projects, visit [www.bouldercounty.org/jobs/vol/pages/posvolunteers.aspx](http://www.bouldercounty.org/jobs/vol/pages/posvolunteers.aspx)

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## DISCLAIMER - THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES

While the purpose of the Wildfire Mitigation Assessment is to reduce the risk of fire damage to your home or property, following the recommendations in this Assessment does not guarantee prevention of such damage. Wildfire mitigation work around your home can give firefighters the best chance to defend and protect your property from wildfires, and can also substantially increase your safety and reduce the risk to life and property. However, wildfire is unpredictable and can be impossible to stop or control, regardless of what mitigation efforts you have taken. Wildfire Partners makes no warranties, guarantees or representations of any kind with respect to the effectiveness of any mitigation efforts you undertake in connection with your participation in the Wildfire Partners program.

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