After the Wildfire: WUI Lessons Learned

Colorado Springs Fire Department

Jeremy Taylor               Amy Sylvester
Background

Colorado Springs Fire Department

- 446,000 Residents
- 21 Stations
- 195 square miles
- 59,554 calls in 2014
Wildland Urban Interface

- 28,800 Acres
- 36,485 Homes
Operations

- Wildland Stations
- Apparatus
- Red Carded Personnel

Steven D. “Smitty” Smith
Fire Code Enforcement

- Home Rule City
- Fire Marshal
- 2009 International Fire Code (as Amended)
- Hillside Ordinance
- Roofing Ordinance
Wildfire Mitigation

- Hazard Risk Assessment
- Code & Development Review
- Education / Outreach
- Grant Administration
- Fuels Management
- Monitoring
- Event
- Evaluation
Waldo Canyon Fire
Colorado Springs, CO
Waldo Canyon Fire Progression June 23 - July 4, 2012

Waldo Canyon Wildfire Incident Progression Map

June 23 – July 4, 2012

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Acres</th>
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<td>July 1-4</td>
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Waldo Canyon Fire

- Evacuation
- Response
- Logistics
- Communications

NBC News
Waldo Canyon Fire

- Political Pressure
- Security
- Disaster Declaration
- Displaced Employees
Initial Post-Fire Response

- Damage Assessments
- Issues
- Pre-Plan
- Technology
- Partnerships
- Notifications
Initial Post-Fire Response

- Dignitaries
- Re-entry Plan
- Recovery
- Community Groups
The Aftermath: Code Process

- Pre-Plan!
  - Immediate Need
- Public Process
  - Residents
  - Policy Makers
The Aftermath: Code Process

- Streamlined Implementation
- Plan Review
- Design Manual
- Construction
- Enforcing Compliance
- Consistent Messaging
The Aftermath: Ops/Training

- Tactical
  - Officers
  - Line
  - Civilian

- Technology
- Policy
- Logistical/Support Needs
The Aftermath: Emergency Management

- Technology as a tool
- Evacuation Planning/Drills
- Depth of Capacity/Staffing
- Leveraging Partnerships
The Aftermath: Mitigation Services

- Increased Demand
  - # of Neighborhoods
  - Education
  - Fuels Reduction
- Equipment/Staffing
- Funding
- Contractors
After Action Report

- Purpose
  - Audience
  - Scope
  - Intent

- Lessons Learned

- What was planned?
- What actually happened?
- Why did it happen?
- What can we do next time?
Recovery

- Plans: 1, 2 & 5 Years
  - Flooding
  - Slash Removal
  - Infrastructure
- Volunteer Coordination
- Investigation
- Well Being of Staff
Future Planning

- Business Outreach
- Volunteer Program Coordination
- Landscaper Workshop
- Media Workshop
- Continued Training
Questions?

http://csfd.springsgov.com

Jeremy Taylor, Program Coordinator
(719) 385-7281
jtaylor@springsgov.com

Amy Sylvester, Program Coordinator
(719) 385-7342
asylvest@springsgov.com

Colorado Springs Fire Department
375 Printers Parkway
Colorado Springs, CO 80910