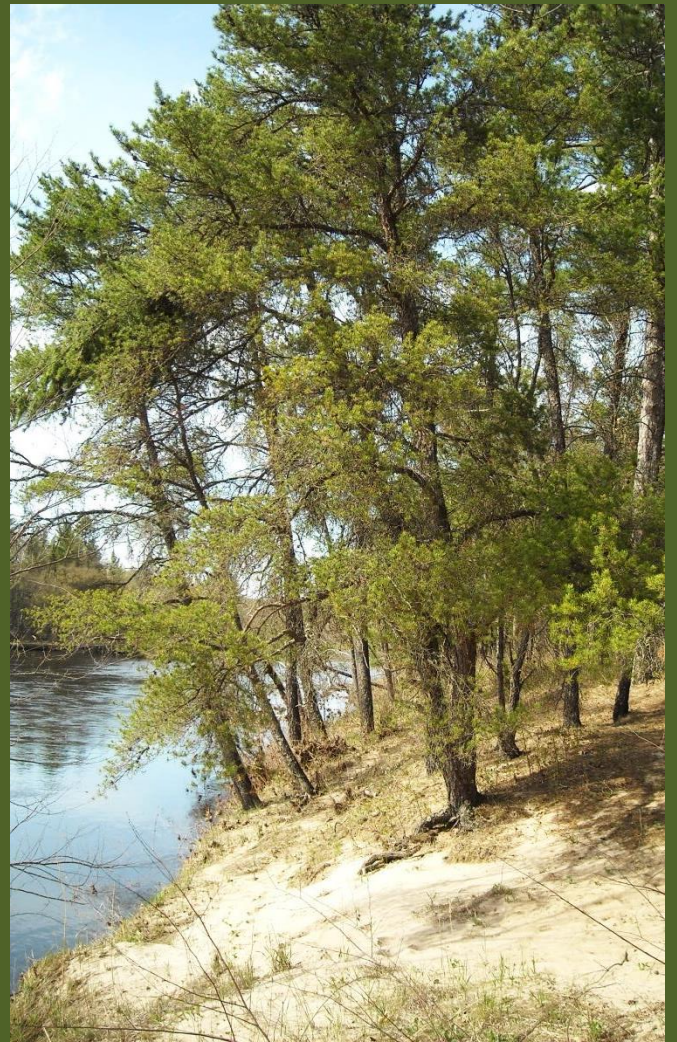


Town of Seymour Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) 2013-2017

An Action Plan for Wildfire Mitigation
Adopted: July 17, 2013



Prepared by:
Town of Seymour CWPP Planning Committee
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission



RESOLUTION #2013-02

**ADOPTION OF THE
TOWN OF SEYMOUR COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 was created in order to reduce the threat of destructive wildfires while upholding environmental standards and encouraging early public input during review and planning processes, and

WHEREAS, The Town of Seymour has been identified as a "Very High" in the Wisconsin Communities-at-Risk Assessment, and

WHEREAS, a Community Wildfire Protection Plan should be developed in any community that is listed as an "at risk" community in a federal or state risk assessment, and

WHEREAS, The Town of Seymour has worked cooperatively with other stakeholders to develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and

WHEREAS, the intent of the plan is to help fire protection agencies, community leaders, natural resource professionals, and homeowners be better prepared for wildfire, and

WHEREAS, completion of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan will earn priority for funding hazardous fuels reduction projects carried out under the auspices of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Seymour Board has reviewed the draft of the *Town of Seymour Community Wildfire Protection Plan* and concurs with the final plan content.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Scymour Board hereby adopts the *Town of Seymour Community Wildfire Protection Plan*.

Dated this 17th day of June, 2013.

Resolution introduced and adoption moved by Shels Running

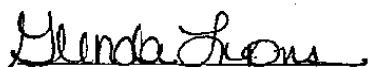
Motion for adoption seconded by Douglas Kranig

Voting Aye: 2 Nay: _____ 1 abstained

APPROVED:


Doug Kranig, Chairperson, Town of Seymour

ATTEST:


Glenda Lyons, Clerk/Treasurer, Town of Seymour

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The following report is a collaborative effort between various entities. The representatives below comprise the core decision-making team responsible for this report and mutually agree on the Plan’s contents:

Name	Title	Organization
Doug Kranig	Town Chair	Town of Seymour
Jack Running	Chief (also Town resident)	Township Fire Department
Kerry Parker	Battalion Chief (Town employee/resident)	Township Fire Department
John Oxley	1 st Lieutenant (Town employee)	Township Fire Department
Tom Hurley	Emergency Management Director	Eau Claire County
Mike Torud	Parks & Forest Director	Eau Claire County
Amy Luebke	Wildland-Urban Interface Specialist	WDNR
Jed Kaurich	Forester Ranger	WDNR
Chris Straight (facilitator)	Senior Planner	West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Town of Seymour has been designated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as a *Very High* community-at-risk for wildfire because of the flammable vegetation (fuel type) of the area, the area’s housing density, and the risk of wildfire occurring. To help mitigate the risk, this Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) was created by the Town and adopted in 2013. During three planning meetings on 3/7/13, 4/4/13, and 5/13/13, the Planning Committee guided the development of this Plan, including providing insight into local risks, the prioritization of mitigation activities appropriate for the Town of Seymour, and the identification of potential resources for plan implementation.

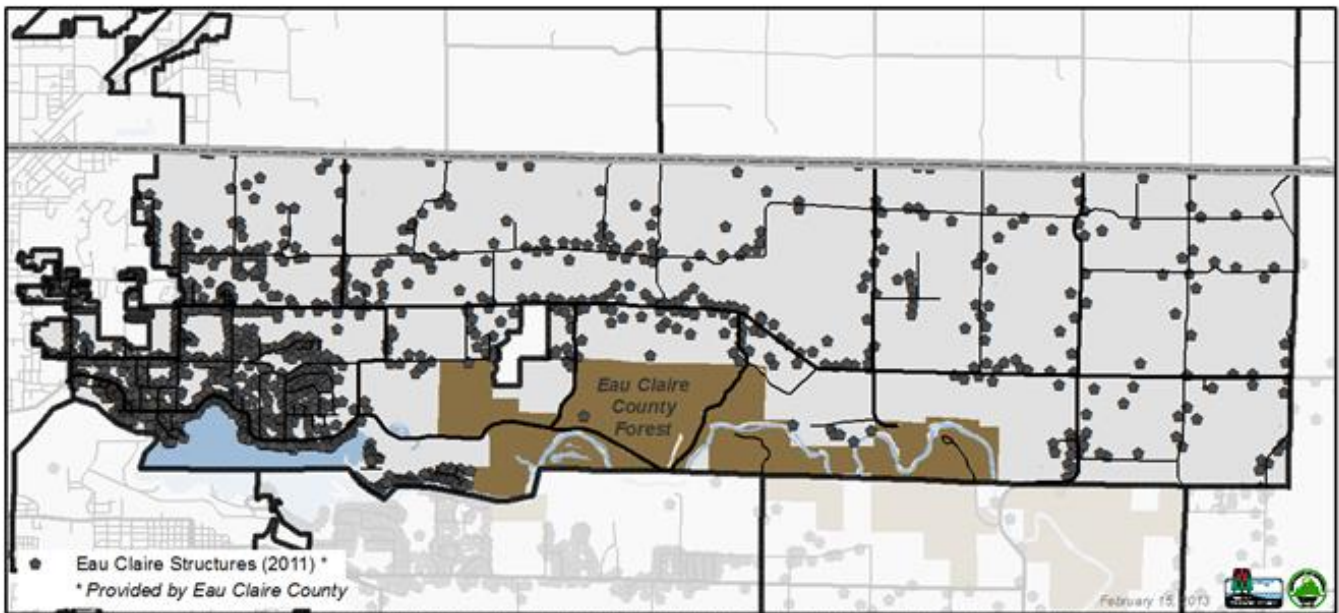
2. COMMUNITY BACKGROUND AND EXISTING SITUATION

Community Description

The Town of Seymour is located in northern Eau Claire County and immediately east of the City of Eau Claire. Lake Altoona and the Eau Claire River are the most significant water bodies in the community, while forest and farming dominates the overall landscape. Only about 30% of the Town is assessed as agricultural use. Approximately 2,380 acres (or 11.5%) of the Town is Eau Claire County Forest lands. An additional 819 acres is in public or institutional uses.

Map 1 below shows the distribution of principal structures in the Town, with the heaviest concentrations nearest the City of Eau Claire, along Lake Altoona, and along the County highways. For 2012, there were 2,273 assessed parcels in the Town of Seymour, of which over half (1,270) had improvements. Over 95% (1,208) of these parcels with improvements were residential. Community officials report that there has been an increasing trend of newer homes being built on larger lots (e.g., 3-10 acres), often in wooded areas.

Map 1 – Distribution of Principal Structures in Town of Seymour (2011)



The data shown on this map have been obtained from various sources, and are of varying age, reliability and resolution. This map is not intended to be used for navigation, nor is this map an authoritative source of information about legal land ownership or public access. Users of this map should confirm the ownership of land through other means in order to avoid trespassing. No warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding accuracy, applicability for a particular use, completeness, or legality of the information depicted on this map.

The following are some additional key facts about the Town of Seymour in 2012:

- The Town had an estimated 2012 population of 3,222, which is a 244-person (or 8.2%) increase since 2000. However, the estimated total housing units increased from 1,080 in 2000 to 1,314 in 2012.
- The average household size was 2.6 persons. About 32% of the households had children. About 12% of the population was aged 65 or older. 95.6% of the population is white.

- 86.1% of the households were owner occupied. Less than two percent of housing units were seasonal.
- 87% of working residents travelled outside of the Town to their place of employment (2000 Census).

Description of Predominant Land Cover

In all, the Town of Seymour encompasses approximately 20,627 acres, including land and surface water. The most recent land cover data for most of Wisconsin is based on satellite imagery from the early 1990s, which identifies the predominant land cover type within a 5-acre block (or raster). Under this approach, a limited number of homes within a 5-acre wooded area would yield “forest” as the predominant land cover.

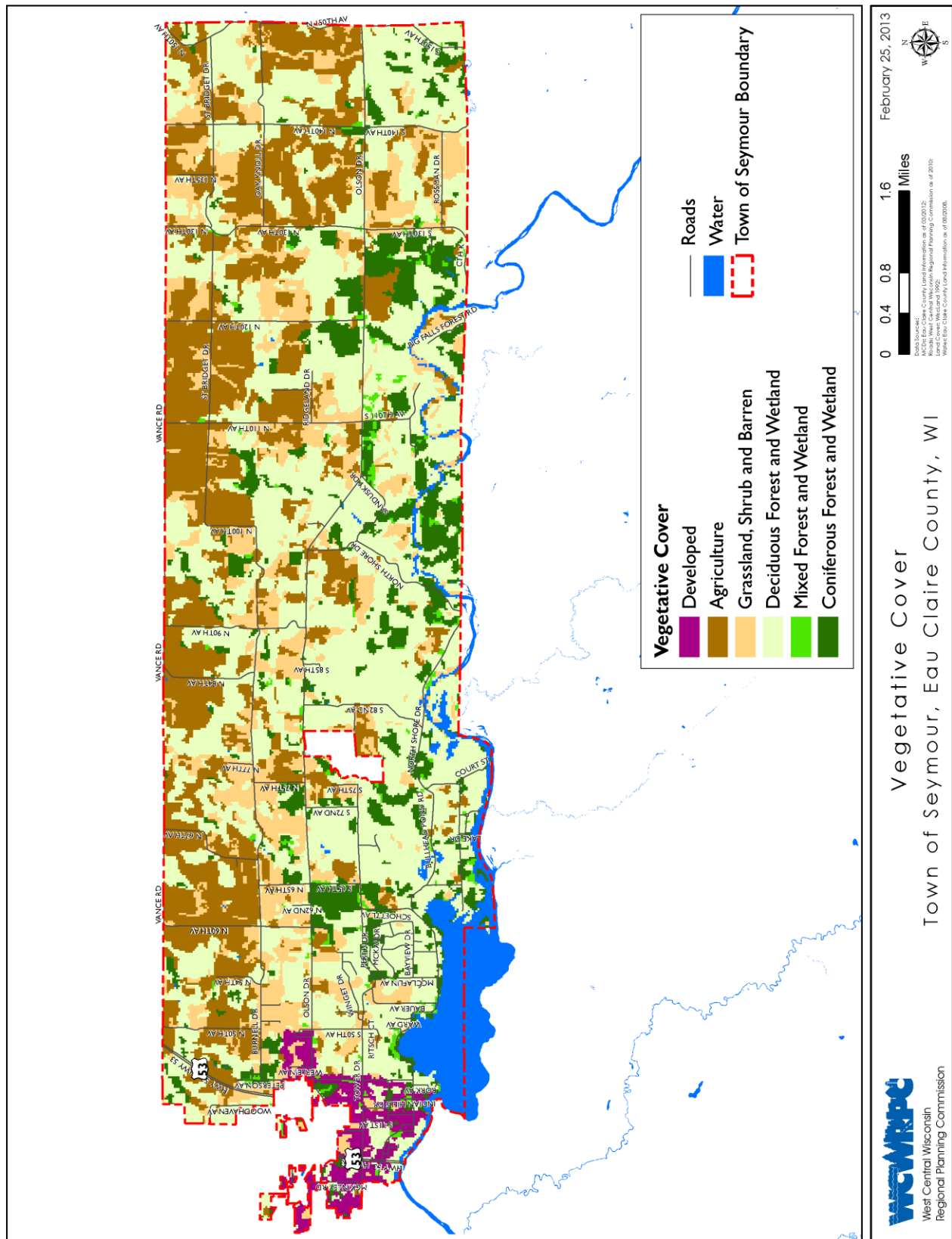
The Town has experienced significant development since the WisLand data became available, and cropped agricultural land has been increasing in the region in recent years due to higher corn and bean prices. Even so, the WisLand land cover data below and on Map 2 on the following page still provides valuable wildfire risk insights into the predominant land cover in the Town of Seymour:

Deciduous Forest and Related Wetlands	44.5 %
Agriculture	24 %
Grassland, Shrub and Barren	15 %
Coniferous Forest and Related Wetlands	9-10 %
Surface Water	3-4 %
Developed Areas	2-3 %
Mixed Forest and Related Wetlands	1-2 %

Fire Protection

Wildland fire protection in the Town of Seymour is a partnership between the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), Township Fire Department, and the Town. Nearly all of the Town of Seymour is designated as *Intensive Fire Protection* where the Wisconsin DNR’s Augusta Fire Response Unit (FRU) has primary responsibility for wildland fire protection, with the Township Fire Department providing structural fire protection. The far western portion of the Town is designated as *Cooperative Fire Protection*, with the Town of Seymour and Township Fire Department having primary responsibility for wildland and structural fire prevention, detection, and suppression activities, with aid and counsel from WDNR upon request.

Map 2 – Town of Seymour Predominant Land Cover



The WDNR Augusta FRU is headquartered at the Augusta WDNR Ranger Station. The Augusta FRU is home base for three pieces of equipment: a 4x4 truck with pump and 167-gallon tank and two heavy units which haul tractor plows for wildfire fighting. Additional equipment and aircraft support can be requested as needed. Mutual aid agreements are in place with Eau Claire County for additional equipment and operator support. Local staff from the Augusta FRU, in conjunction with the WDNR Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Specialist, takes the local lead in all WDNR wildfire prevention, education, and coordination efforts in the Town.



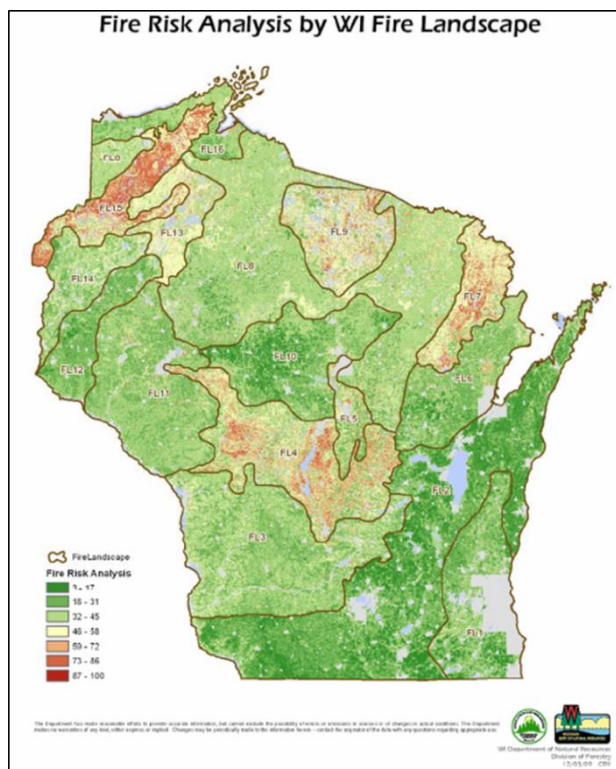
The Town of Seymour is part owner in Township Fire Department, Inc., which is the local fire protection service. Station No. 1 of the Fire Department is located within the Town of Seymour. The Department can draw upon its equipment at this station, as well as its other four stations. Eau Claire County fire departments are part of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) which may be used for deploying

fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel if assistance from other departments is needed.

Wildfire Hazard

The Wisconsin DNR conducted a statewide wildfire risk assessment in 2008 which identified the Town of Seymour as the only town in Eau Claire County which has a **Very High** fire danger risk based on hazard (fuel types), risk (fire history & ignition potential), and wildland-urban interface (proximity of development to flammable vegetation). This is discussed further in Section 3.

The Town falls within the very western edge of *Fire Landscape 4: Central Wisconsin Sands* which is described as containing extensive areas of jack and red pine, with dry, sandy, and organic soils. This is one of the highest wildfire risk landscapes in Wisconsin, with a notable wildfire history and potential for a 10,000-acre fire. Since 1975, there have been four wildfires greater than 2,500 acres in size—Brockway (1977; 15,471 acres), Saratoga (1977; 6,159 acres), Cottonville (2005; 3,410 acres), and Lyndon Station



(1988; 3,177 acres). This fire landscape has a higher structural load than any of the other pine-dominated landscapes in Wisconsin.

Though located in a different wildfire landscape, the recent 2013 Germann Road Wildfire in Douglas County has raised local interest in wildfire risks and presents an opportunity for further public education. The Germann Road Wildfire began on May 14, 2013, and burned 7,442 acres with 47 structures (17 of them residences) lost.

Community Wildfire History

From 2002 through 2012, there have been 55 wildfires reported in the Town of Seymour. The following are some of the characteristics of these fires.

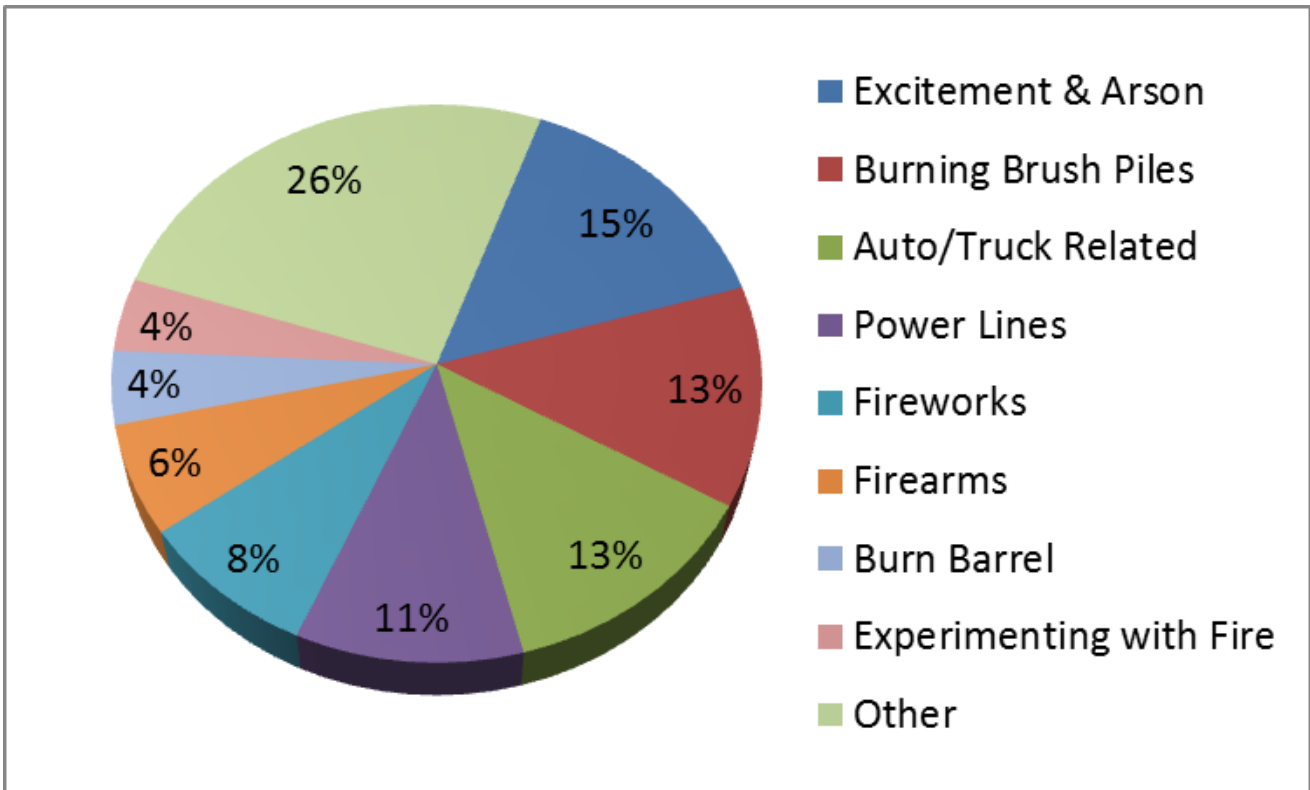
Frequency of Wildfires in the Town of Seymour

Year	# of Fires	# of Preventable Fires	Structures Saved/Lost
2002	2	2	0/0
2003	11	10	3/0
2004	4	4	0/0
2005	6	4	0/0
2006	9	7	0/1
2007	2	2	0/0
2008	7	7	0/0
2009	1	1	0/0
2010	3	3	0/1
2011	3	1	0/0
2012	7	4-5	0/0
Totals:	55	45	3/2

- The numbers are inflated by a series of eight arson fires which occurred in May 2003 for which a responsible party was never identified.
- The Town averaged five wildfires per year, with only one report in 2009 and eleven reports in 2003.
- Excluding the May 2003 arson fires, 40% of the fires occurred in April. An additional 15% occurred in the months of July or September. Only one fire (1/9/03) occurred in the months of November, December, January, or February. Wildfires occurred on every day of the week with a high of eleven fires on Thursdays and a low of three fires on Tuesdays.
- A total of 20.61 acres have burned in these 55 fires (0.38 acres/fire).
- Over 80% of the fires were preventable.
- Excluding the eight May 2003 arson fires, the primary causes were excitement or arson (7), burning brush piles (6), auto/truck related (6), power lines (5), fireworks (4), firearms (3), burn barrels (2), and experimenting with fire (2) as shown in the chart on the following page.
- Of the 48 wildfires for which a responsible party was identified, all were residents. No responsible party was identified for 28 of the fires.

In terms of wildfire causes, the “Other” category in the graph below had the largest number of wildfire ignition types, and included causes as diverse as a campfire, a landfill fire, a Bald Eagle flying into power lines, a person attempting to drive animals, and ashes from a woodboiler.

Town of Seymour Wildfire Causes (2002-2012)
(excludes the eight May 2003 arson fires)



The Town of Seymour has not experienced a fire over five acres in size in the last decade. Three large forest fires in eastern Eau Claire County have occurred over the past thirty years:

- 1982 Canoe Landing Fire burned 274 acres and resulted in one death
- 1994 Canoe Landing Fire burned 553 acres
- 1998 Horse Creek Fire burned 246 acres

Local officials did note one recent “close call” in Summer 2012 which burned less than one acre during very dry conditions along the Town’s border in the Town of Washington. This 2012 event could have become very serious if the winds had not been calm that day.

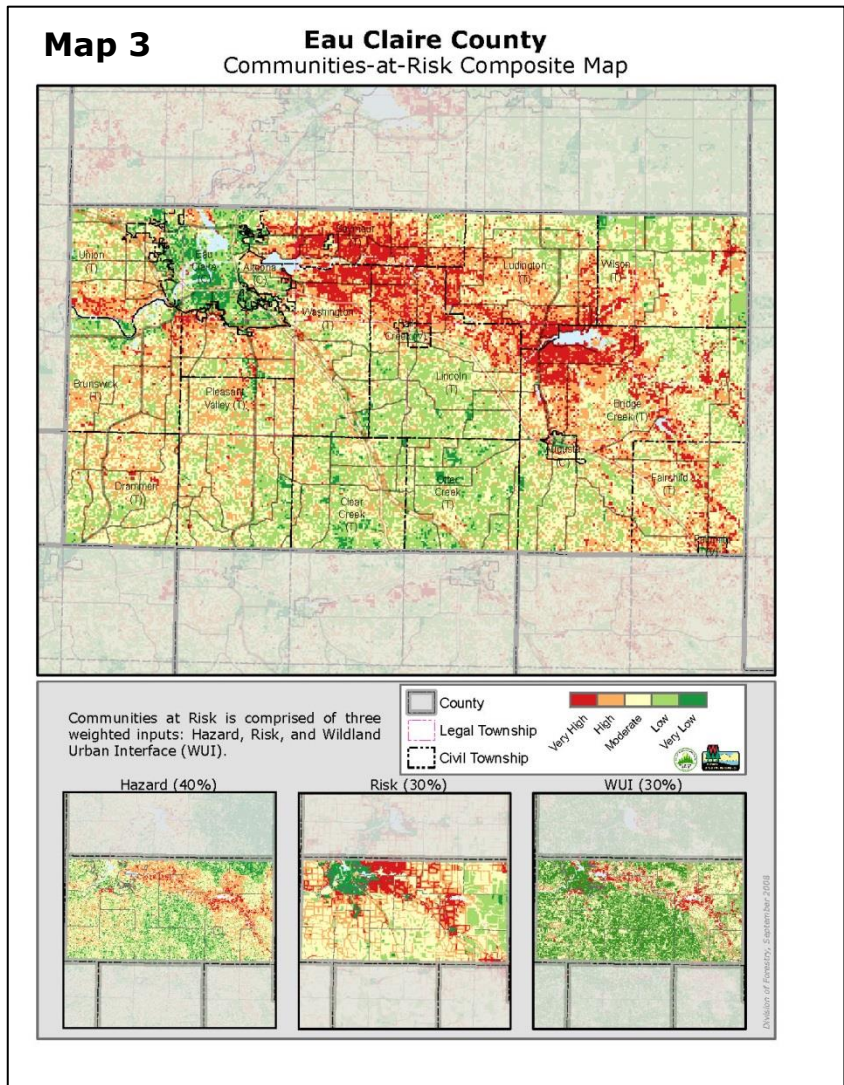
3. RISK ASSESSMENT

Map 3 to the right was produced by WDNR as part of the 2008 Communities-At-Risk Assessment discussed previously. It provides context for considering the relative wildfire risk in the Town of Seymour and the three factors used to assess risk: hazard, risk, and wildland-urban interface (WUI).

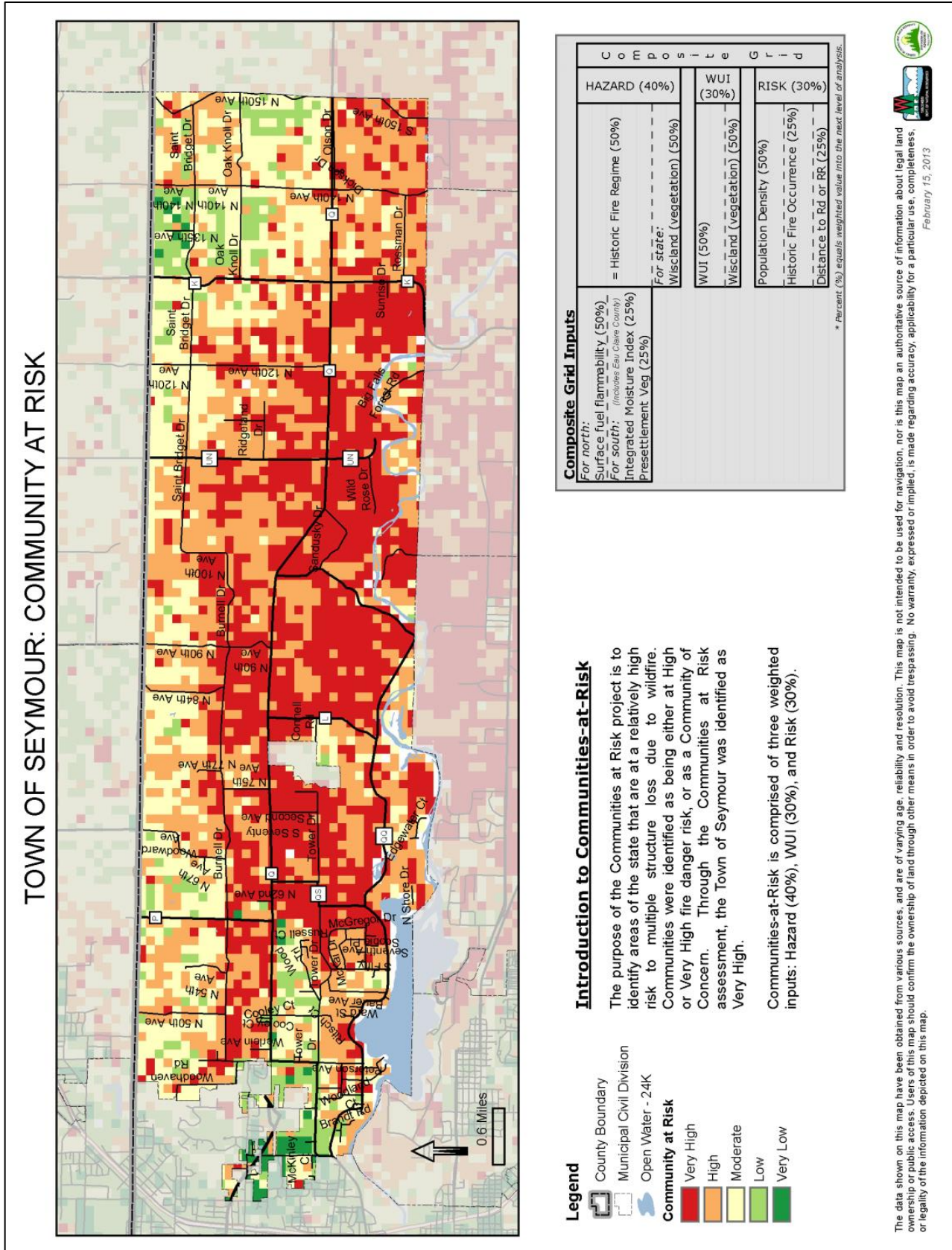
As a result of this assessment, the Town of Seymour was identified as a community at **Very High** risk of wildfire. Due to the high risk nature throughout most of the Town, the Planning Committee designated the entire Town of Seymour as being the WUI area.

Maps 4 and 5 on the following pages focus on Seymour, including a comparison with the distribution of the Town's principle structures. As shown on Map 5, the highest concentrations of structures are in the western portion of the Town.

During the planning process, the Planning Committee noted that the Town has ample forest and homes to serve as fuel for wildfire, plus a diversity of potential ignition sources (e.g., people, power lines, vehicles). As a result, and due to development densities in some areas of the Town, even a small fire could be devastating due to the potential for structure loss.

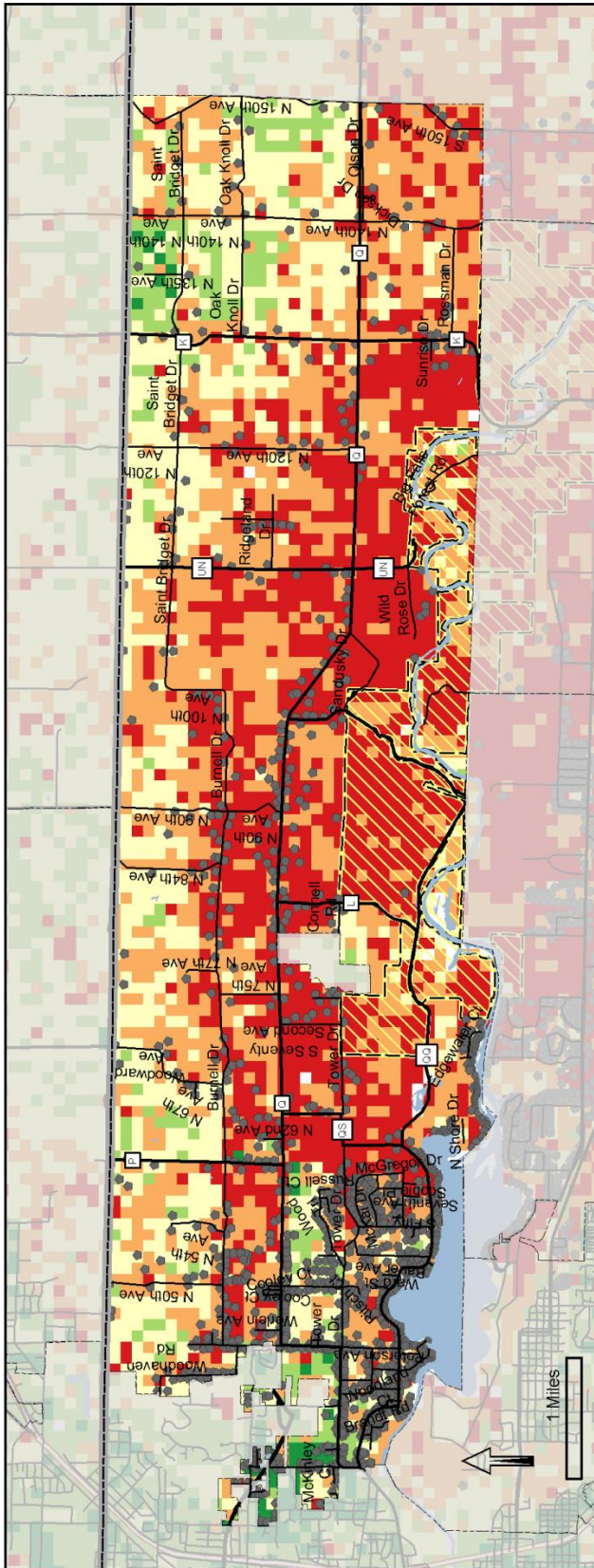


Map 4 – Town of Seymour Wildfire Community-At-Risk (CAR) Map

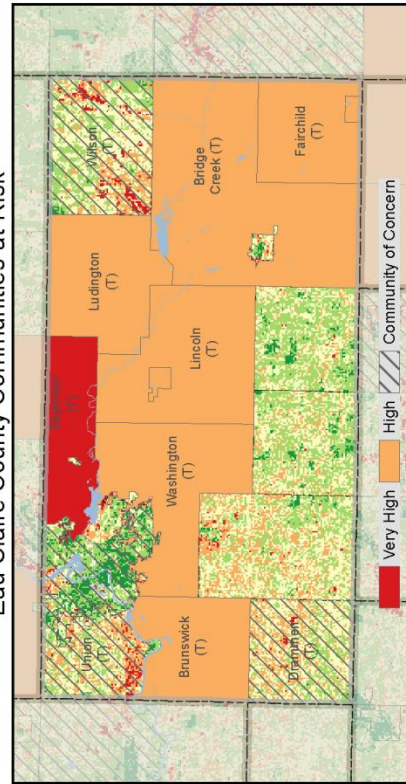


Map 5 – Town of Seymour Wildfire CAR Map with Structures

TOWN OF SEYMOUR: COMMUNITY BASE MAP



Eau Claire County Communities-at-Risk



Introduction to Communities-at-Risk

The purpose of the Communities at Risk project is to identify areas of the state that are at a relatively high risk to multiple structure loss due to wildfire. Communities were identified as being either at High or Very High fire danger risk, or as a Community of Concern. Communities of Concern include communities that may not be of high fire danger overall, rather they have a localized area of acute fire danger of at least 2 contiguous square miles.

Communities-at-Risk is comprised of three weighted inputs: Hazard (40%), WUI (30%), and Risk (30%).

Legend

- Structure (2011)*
- ▭ County Boundary
- ▭ Municipal Civil Division
- ▭ Open Water - 24K
- ▭ County Forest
- Community at Risk
 - ▭ Very High
 - ▭ High
 - ▭ Moderate
 - ▭ Low
 - ▭ Very Low

*Structure data provided by Eau Claire County

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February 15, 2013

4. ISSUES IDENTIFICATION

The Seymour CWPP Planning Committee identified the following as being the primary wildfire issues of concern in the Town of Seymour:

- **Driveway Access for Emergency Response Vehicles**
 - lack of adequate height and width, especially due to vegetation/trees
 - lack of adequate turnarounds and/or pull-offs; can't maneuver vehicles
 - driveway base (e.g., sand, dirt) cannot handle vehicle weights
 - most significant problem area is along the Eau Claire River and parts of Lake Altoona
- **Homeowners are Unaware of the Fire Risk**
 - residents believe "it can't or won't happen here"
 - lack of an understanding of the possible impacts
 - lack of a recent large wildfire incident in the area or a visual example of what a wildfire can do
- **Landowners don't know how to be Firewise or Misunderstand What it Means**
 - firewood stacked near homes and stacks of hay bales near structures
 - homeowners are not maintaining defensible spaces
 - myth that you need to clear cut all trees to be Firewise
- **Not Aware of or Disregard for Burning Permits and Restrictions**
 - contractors burning brush piles after site clearing sometimes disregard permits and restrictions
- **80% of fires were preventable**
 - campfires along river and fireworks were identified by the Committee as being concerns, though excitement/arson and burning brush piles were more common causes of preventable wildfires in the Town
- **Lack of a Sense of Community**
 - proximity to Eau Claire makes it difficult to discern community boundaries
 - lack of a social, civic or retail center within the community
 - can be a challenge for outreach to community members
- **Poor Address Signage**
 - problem is primarily in the Lake Altoona and Eau Claire River area
 - some signs have poor visibility (e.g. old, poorly located)
 - shared driveways and private roads often lack a second sign for direction
 - frequently a problem for emergency services, including police, fire, and medical
- **Evacuation Challenges**
 - proximity to the Eau Claire River and Lake Altoona impacts evacuation options for residents near these surface waters

5. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

Town of Seymour CWPP Goal

Establish clear priorities for the implementation of wildfire mitigation in the Town of Seymour.

Objectives:

- Encourage the reduction of hazardous fuels on private property so that when wildfires do occur, they will be less intense and easier to suppress.
- Reduce structure ignitability so that homes are more Firewise and better able to survive a wildfire.
- Conduct education and outreach to raise awareness of wildfire risk to prevent wildfires and encourage property owners to prepare for wildfire.
- Improve emergency preparedness and fire response capability for protection of homes.

6. MITIGATION STRATEGY ALTERNATIVES

Wildfire mitigation can be defined as those actions taken to reduce the likelihood of loss due to wildfire. Effective mitigation can be accomplished through a variety of methods. During the planning process, the Planning Committee individually brainstormed a list of over 75 strategy alternatives to address each of the issues identified in Section 4. As a group, the Committee then discussed and further vetted, consolidated, and reduced this list to 28 alternatives deemed to be most feasible for possible implementation over the next five years. Committee members then individually voted for their four priority strategies and twelve other strategies which they felt were most important, effective, and feasible.

The results of this prioritization process are available in Appendix A and the alternatives are organized by the issues identified in Section 4. The weighted score and priority were used for guidance in determining which strategies to keep in the plan and the development of the action plan in Section 7. Since many of the strategy alternatives in Appendix A were combined, please refer to Section 7 for the final recommended strategies.

Some of the alternatives in Appendix A not selected for implementation may be included as strategies in future CWPP updates or be implemented in the future as resources and opportunities allow.

7. MITIGATION ACTION PLAN

The following action plan reflects those projects (or strategies) identified by the Planning Committee as being most important to wildfire mitigation in the Town of Seymour. Since many of the strategies address multiple issues, the action plan is organized by suggested implementation schedule, rather than by issue. In a few cases, a single project includes multiple strategies identified in Appendix A. The priorities from Appendix A were considered when developing the action plan schedule, along with additional factors such as ease of implementation and the availability of resources.

Project Name	Project Description	Timing	Resources & Notes	Lead
2013 PROJECTS				
Pancake Breakfast Outreach - Driveways	Purchase fire engine banners for display on equipment during the Father's Day Pancake Breakfast and other community events. The banners should be used to help educate residents on how wide a driveway or road must be and prompt residents to ask themselves "would this vehicle fit down my driveway".	Begin in 2013. Annual. Implement for other events when feasible.	Obtain two banners with WDNR wildfire mitigation dollars. Fire Dept to coordinate with WDNR WUI Specialist on implementation. In 2015 (after HIZ training), offer sign-up sheet for assessments.	Fire Dept.
Pancake Breakfast Outreach - Firewise	Set up a Firewise display (i.e., table with information, banner, pictures, photos, home ignition zone self assessments, Cottonville Firewise video, driveway & address signage guidelines, burning permit info) during the Father's Day Pancake Breakfast and other community events. Integrate Town of Seymour-specific information as it becomes available.	Begin in 2013. Annual. Implement for other events when feasible.	Basic display is available for loan from WDNR through WUI Specialist. Basic materials available. Offer additional and more Town-specific information over time.	Fire Dept.
Driveway Permit Handouts	Distribute the driveway brochure with driveway permits.	Begin Summer 2013. Ongoing.	Brochure available. May include additional information on address signage in future, such as maintaining proper visibility for signs.	Town Staff
Local Media Outreach	Through the Fire Department Public Information Officer, work with local media (e.g., Leader Telegram, television, radio) to produce news articles on issues of driveway access & address signage for emergency vehicles, area wildfire risks, and related actions that homeowners and businesses can take.	Begin in Fall 2013. Ongoing.	Include outreach with local newspaper and television hosts (e.g., Joe Knight, Northland Adventures) to prepare a special story(ies) about risks and good practices.	Fire Dept PIO

Project Name	Project Description	Timing	Resources & Notes	Lead
Firewise Video	Post or link to the Firewise video of the Cottonville wildfire at the Town and Fire Department websites.	2013	May also provide a link to the WDNR Firewise webpage and daily burning restrictions.	Town & Fire Dept
Mitigation Action Plan Review	Review progress on mitigation action plan, proposed 2014 projects, and other wildfire issues and opportunities.	Fall 2013.	Some 2014 projects require planning and action in 2013.	CWPP Work Group

2014 PROJECTS

Town Newsletter Outreach	Include an insert in the Town newsletter with information on: (1) burning permits and restrictions; (2) educating residents and requesting action on address signage concerns; (3) wildfire risks and Firewise practices, and (4) general family emergency preparedness.	Begin in 2014. Annual.	Pursue WDNR wildfire mitigation funds. One page full-color insert suggested. Mail with "Spring" newsletter; must be ready in January for March mailing.	WDNR WUI
Fire Prevention Packets	Hand out fire prevention packets with WDNR burning permits at the Town Hall and with "Welcome to Seymour" packets.	Complete by Feb 2014. Ongoing.	Basic information available, but can supplement with more Town-specific over time.	WDNR Ranger
Town Hall Wildfire Display	Create a permanent wildfire display at the Town Hall specific to the Town of Seymour with a community wildfire risk map (CAR), a copy of the Town's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), and other pertinent materials related to the issues and strategies identified in the CWPP.	Available by Feb 2014. Ongoing.	WDNR Ranger will work with Town and Work Group to develop. Limited space available. Coordinate with fire prevention packets in previous strategy and supplement with new information over time.	WDNR Ranger
Wildfire Signage	Install Town-specific wildfire/Firewise signage at key locations in the Town of Seymour. For instance, nice aluminum signage could be installed at the locations of the current welcome signs at the entrances to the Town proclaiming that the Town is at wildfire risk or is a community wildfire planning area.	2014	Pursue WDNR wildfire mitigation funds for sign production. Town staff to install. WUI Specialist to coordinate design with Work Group. The signs could also reference burning permit requirements. Also consider landfill and brush/recycling sites as locations.	WDNR WUI

Project Name	Project Description	Timing	Resources & Notes	Lead
Fire Prevention & Campfire Signage	Install metal fire prevention and campfire use signs (e.g., Smokey Bear, high risk area, campfire rules) in public forest and campfire areas.	2014	Suggested locations include Big Falls (north & south), LL Phillips County Park, & Lions Club Youth Camp; work with landowners. WDNR Ranger has signs. Town to provide posts and labor.	Town staff
HIZ Assessment Training	Train Township Fire Department firefighters in how to perform home ignition zone assessments.	2014	WDNR WUI will organize training.	WUI & Fire Dept
Mitigation Action Plan Review	Review progress on Mitigation Action Plan, proposed 2015 projects, and other wildfire issues and opportunities.	Fall 2014	Some 2015 projects require planning and action in 2014.	CWPP Work Group

2015+ PROJECTS

Building Permit Handouts	Prepare a brief flyer regarding burning permits and restrictions especially targeted to contractors which can be provided with building permits.	Complete by Feb 2015. Ongoing.	Pursue WDNR wildfire mitigation funds. Short, but colorful to gain reader interest.	WDNR WUI
Door-to-Door Visits	Teams of Fire Department personnel will conduct door-to-door visits for targeted areas and homes with driveway access and address signage concerns to hand-out information and offer driveway and home ignition zone (HIZ) assessments. Also offer these assessments to any residents through the Town newsletter insert and a sign-up sheet at Father's Day Pancake Breakfast Firewise display.	Begin in 2015. Ongoing. Do not begin until HIZ Assessment Training complete.	Fire engines and/or ambulances may be used in these efforts to demonstrate problem areas and add general visibility to the effort. Informational packets can be left at the home if the homeowner is not present. Not all visits will be complete in a single year.	Fire Dept
Promote Mass Notification System	Support the implementation of a County-based mass notification system. When implemented, educate Town residents on the system or any pertinent evacuation procedures.	2015+	This strategy supports Eau Claire County's consideration of a GIS-based mass notification system which would be important should evacuation be needed.	County Emgy Mgmt
Mitigation Action Plan Review	Review progress on Mitigation Action Plan, proposed projects for coming year, and other wildfire issues and opportunities.	Annual; each fall.	Update CWPP by the end of 2017, or before if needed.	CWPP Work Group

8. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE

Members of the Planning Committee will be invited to participate in a Seymour CWPP Work Group to guide implementation of this plan. The Work Group will meet as needed, but at least annually, to review progress on the Mitigation Action Plan (Section 7), coordinate activities, and discuss any changing development trends, wildfire issues, or mitigation opportunities. Fall meetings are recommended so that potential WDNR wildfire hazard mitigation-funded projects can be identified for the coming calendar year. Initially, two meetings per year (one in fall and one in spring) may be needed. The WDNR WUI Specialist will coordinate the Work Group meetings. The CWPP will be updated by the end of 2017, if not before.

APPENDIX A: SELECTION & PRIORITIZATION OF STRATEGY ALTERNATIVES

*The following strategy alternatives are not in final form.
Please refer to Section 7 for final action plan recommendations.*

Strategy #	Strategy Alternative	Regul ar Votes	Priority Votes (3x)	Weight ed Score	Recommendation for Action Plan
Issue #1 Driveway Access					
Strategy 1-1	Purchase fire engine banners for display on equipment during the Father's Day Pancake Breakfast and other community events. The banners should be used to help educate residents on how wide a driveway or road must be and prompt residents to ask themselves "would this vehicle fit down my driveway". Offer a sign-up sheet at the Pancake Breakfast for residents who wish to have Fire Department personnel visit and perform a driveway assessment.	1	6	19	High Priority
Strategy 1-2	Mail the newly revised driveway access brochure and the Firewise brochure to Town residents, along with a letter from the Town Board and/or Fire Chief offering driveway assessments.	2	1	5	Delete. Address thru Strategy 1-3, 1-7 & 2-3.
Strategy 1-3	Teams of Fire Department personnel will conduct door-to-door visits for areas and homes with driveway access and address signage concerns to hand-out information and offer driveway assessments. Fire engines and/or ambulances may be used in these efforts to demonstrate problem areas and add general visibility to the effort. Informational packets can be left at the home if the homeowner(s) is not present. This effort should be preceded by an announcement in the Town newsletter.	2	4	14	High Priority. All homes would not need to be covered in a single year.
Strategy 1-4	Notify residents in the Town newsletter that the Fire Department will be performing driveway assessments and leave a letter and informational packet at homes with problem driveways.			0	Combined with 1-3 & 2-3 in action plan through newsletter insert.
Strategy 1-5	Provide the driveway brochure and other related Firewise information at presentations at the Annual Town meeting, the annual Lake District meeting, and other community events.	1		1	Delete. Would have limited impacts.
Strategy 1-6	Adopt a Town ordinance requiring driveway width and design specifications that are able to accommodate fire equipment/vehicles.			0	Delete; not feasible/difficult to enforce. Educate.

Town of Seymour Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Strategy #	Strategy Alternative	Regular Votes	Priority Votes (3x)	Weighted Score	Recommendation for Action Plan
Strategy 1-7	Distribute the driveway brochure with new driveway permits.	4		4	Medium Priority
Strategy 1-8	Through the Fire Department Public Information Officer, work with local media (e.g., Leader Telegram, television, radio) to produce news articles on issues of driveway access for emergency vehicles, area wildfire risks, and related actions that homeowners and businesses can take.	4		4	Medium Priority
This issue will also be addressed through: 2-1, 6-1					

Issue #2 Homeowners are unaware of the fire risk.					
Strategy 2-1	Set up a Firewise display (i.e., table with information, banner, pictures, photos, home ignition zone self assessments, Cottonville Firewise video) during the Father's Day Pancake Breakfast and other community events. Integrate Town of Seymour-specific photos and information when appropriate. Include examples from other Wisconsin wildfires when possible to demonstrate the risk.	3	3	12	High Priority
Strategy 2-2	Post or link to the Firewise video of the Cottonville wildfire at the Town and Fire Department websites.	6		6	Medium Priority
Strategy 2-3	Distribute a Town of Seymour Wildfire Newsletter to residents explaining the wildfire risks in the Town and other information related to the wildfire issues facing the community (e.g., access, address signage, Firewise, burning permits, prevention). This should be accompanied by an introduction or special letter from the Town Board and/or Fire Chief offering driveway assessments.	6	1	9	Medium Priority (includes votes from 1-2 and other strategies). Changed to a Town newsletter insert in action plan.
Strategy 2-4	Train Township Fire Department Firefighters in how to perform home ignition zone assessments.	<i>Added later; not scored</i>		H	High Priority
This issue will also be addressed through: 1-3, 1-8, 6-1					

Strategy #	Strategy Alternative	Regul ar Votes	Priority Votes (3x)	Weight ed Score	Recommendation for Action Plan
Issue #3 Landowners don't know how to be Firewise or don't understand what it means.					
Strategy 3-1	Include Firewise information in the Town newsletter and offer home ignition zone assessments once a year through the newsletter.	3	1	6	Combined with 2-3 & door-to-door in action plan.
Strategy 3-2	Install "Is Your Home Firewise" or similar signs tailored to the Town of Seymour at the Town Hall and Fire Hall. Approach Eau Claire County to request installation of similar signage at the County brush & recycling site.	4		4	Combined with 6-2 in action plan.
Strategy 3-3	Find a homeowner in the Town of Seymour willing to become a model Firewise home. Take before and after pictures for use in educational efforts.	1		1	Delete. Limited effectiveness, but can still use pictures.
Strategy 3-4	Work with local newspaper and television hosts (e.g., Joe Knight, Dave Carlson) to prepare a special story(ies) about local wildfire risks and good Firewise practices.	6		6	Combined with 1-8 in action plan.
Strategy 3-5	Explore a scout project involving the creation of defensible spaces at the home(s) of seniors or persons with disabilities. Provide potential candidate homes to the local Boy and Girl Scouts for their action.	0		0	Delete. Not feasible at this time. Limited resources avail.
This issue will also be addressed through: 1-3, 2-1, 2-3, 6-1					

Issue #4 Lack of awareness or disregard for burning permits and restrictions.					
Strategy 4-1	Prepare a brief flyer regarding burning permits and restrictions especially targeted to contractors which can be provided with building permits.	3	2	9	Medium Priority
Strategy 4-2	Continue to include reminders in the Town newsletter on burning permits and restrictions.	4		4	Combined with 2-3 in action plan.
This issue will also be addressed through: 2-1, 2-3, 6-1					

Issue #5 80% of fires were preventable					
Strategy 5-1	Install metal fire prevention and campfire use signs (e.g., Smokey Bear, high risk area, campfire rules) in public forest and campfire areas.	5		5	Medium Priority
Strategy 5-2	Hand out fire prevention packets with WDNR burning permits at the Town Hall.	5		5	Medium Priority
This issue will also be addressed through: 2-1, 2-3, 6-1, possibly 1-3, 1-8					

Strategy #	Strategy Alternative	Regul ar Votes	Priority Votes (3x)	Weight ed Score	Recommendation for Action Plan
Issue #6 Lack of a Sense of Community makes it a challenge for outreach, permitting, building awareness, etc.					
Strategy 6-1	Create a permanent "wildfire corner" at the Town Hall specific to the town of Seymour with a community wildfire risk map (CAR), a copy of the Town's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), and other pertinent materials related to the issues and strategies identified in the CWPP.	2	1	5	Medium Priority
Strategy 6-2	Install Town-specific signage at key locations in the Town of Seymour. For instance, nice aluminum signage could be installed at the locations of the current welcome signs at the entrances to the Town proclaiming that the Town is at wildfire risk or is a community wildfire planning area. The signs could also reference burning permit requirements.	2	5	17	High Priority
This issue will also be addressed through: 1-3, 2-1, 2-3					

Issue #7 Poor Address Signage					
Strategy 7-1	Consider adoption of Town regulations requiring consistently maintained, located, and/or designed (e.g., height, colors) address signage, with additional directional or secondary signage required for shared driveways and shared private roads.	3		3	Delete. Educate thru 1-3, 2-3, etc
Strategy 7-2	Through the Town newsletter, educate residents on address signage concerns (and alternative solutions), such as address signage location and visibility or the lack of secondary address signage on shared roads and driveways. Request that residents take action to remedy these concerns.	7		7	Combined with 2-3 & door-to-door in action plan.
Strategy 7-3	Take photos of "good" address signage vs. "bad" address signage for educational purposes.	6		6	Delete. Use examples from outside Town.
This issue will also be addressed through: 1-3, 1-5, 1-7, 2-1, 2-3, 6-1					

Strategy #	Strategy Alternative	Regular Votes	Priority Votes (3x)	Weighted Score	Recommendation for Action Plan
Issue #8 Evacuation Challenges					
Strategy 8-1	Through mailings and/or the Firewise display, encourage families to create their own family evacuation plans (e.g., "to go" kits, where to meet, contact information, home drills, general preparedness)	1		1	Delete, though integrate general family preparedness with 2-3 in action plan.
Strategy 8-2	Area municipalities, Township Fire Department, Altoona Fire Department, WDNR, Eau Claire County Emergency Management and the Altoona Lake District should work cooperatively to develop an evacuation pre-plan for the Lake Altoona and Eau Claire River area for wildfire and other natural disasters. The plan should include a notification system for alerting residents.	4	4	16	High Priority. Refocus on mass notification systems in action plan.
Strategy 8-3	Educate residents on public-sector evacuation plans and notification systems through the Town newsletter or other Town mailings.	0	0	0	Delete. Could be addressed as a second phase of 8-2 in future.
This issue will also be addressed through: 2-3, possibly 2-1, 6-1					