

**Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda  
March 16, 2026**

**Meeting**

**WHEN:** Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 PM MST

**WHERE:** Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83465230327?pwd=ShQe19NvKpMyA2klsdVH69Xotaq9UR.1>

Meeting ID: 834 6523 0327

Passcode: 538468

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**Attendees**

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**Agenda**

**Kickoff:** Abby Silver

**Announcements:** Does anyone have any?

**Minutes from last meeting:**

2025 meeting minutes are available on the Sunshine FPD website

[https://www.sunshinefpd.org/files/ugd/a30c56\\_4c74aa97dabc4f1094876c839760c9c0.pdf](https://www.sunshinefpd.org/files/ugd/a30c56_4c74aa97dabc4f1094876c839760c9c0.pdf)

**Reports:**

2025 CWPP Project Work/Spend – Alan

2025 CWPP Year End Financials – Alan

2026 CWPP Financial Outlook – Alan

2026 Projects Carried Over From 2025 – Abby/Alan

**New Business:**

New Projects for 2026?

Other ideas or topics?

**Closing:**

**Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda  
March 16, 2026**

**2025 CWPP Project Work/Spend**

<b>2025 CWPP Spend</b>		<b>Point Person(s)</b>	<b>2025 Budgeted Cost</b>	<b>2025 Actual Cost</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>1.0</b>	Fuels Mitigation - Community Chipping Events	Abby Silver	\$0	\$0	Spring and Fall Events. BOCO covered the cost.
<b>2.0</b>	Sign Maintenance Project	Brook Weathers Alan Rosenberg	\$1,000	\$0	Repair existing signs or install new signs as required.
<b>3.0</b>	Mine Lane Egress Road Maintenance	Chief Schmitt Sam Mishkin	\$1,500	\$0	Some maintenance performed by Eric Bader and Pat Noyes
<b>4.0</b>	Hazard Tree Removal Along District Roads and Near Powerlines	Abby Silver Eric Bader	\$2,400	\$5,204	
<b>5.0</b>	Hazard Tree Removal Along Emergency Egress Routes	Chief Schmitt Firefighters	\$1,000	\$0	
<b>6.0</b>	Financial Incentives to District Residents to Participate in Wildfire Partners	Abby Silver	\$5,000	\$0	
<b>7.0</b>	Other Egress Routes as Defined in SFPD 2013 CWPP and CR 85J	Michael Schmitt	\$0	\$0	
<b>8.0</b>	Grass cutting along Sunshine Canyon in the Meadows area	Michael Schmitt Abby Silver	\$0	\$0	
<b>9.0</b>	Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project	Alan Kirton Abby Silver	\$173,059	\$174,357	Cutting/extraction completed and grants have been closed out. Received \$165,114 in grants reimbursements. There are still slash piles in the project area that need to be burned.
<b>10.0</b>	Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project	Alan Kirton Abby Silver	\$97,867	\$2,013	CSFS payment for marking trees. Project work to be done in 2026.
<b>11.0</b>	Community Hauling Event	Abby Silver Susan Fargo	\$1,500	\$0	
<b>12.0</b>	Community Presentation Boulder Mushrooms	Josh King	\$0	\$0	
<b>13.0</b>	Fire Prevention, Education and Neighborhood Watch	Daniel Levison	\$0	\$0	
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$283,326</b>	<b>\$181,574</b>	

**Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda  
March 16, 2026**

**2025 CWPP Year End Financial Summary**

<b>2025 CWPP Revenue</b>	<b>Amount</b>
CWPP Tax Revenue	\$63,429.21
CWPP Donations	\$0.00
CWPP Grant Revenue (Dry Gulch South project)	\$165,114.17
<b>Total CWPP Revenue</b>	<b>\$228,543.38</b>
<b>2025 CWPP Expenses</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Wildland Mitigation Expenses</b>	
Hazard Tree Removal	\$5,204.00
Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project	\$174,356.50
Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project	\$2,013.00
<b>Total CWPP Expenses</b>	<b>\$181,573.50</b>
<b>2025 CWPP Net Income</b>	<b>\$46,969.88</b>

<b>CWPP Reserve Fund Balance</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2024 Year End CWPP Reserve Fund Balance	\$133,575.81
2025 Year End Contribution to CWPP Reserve Fund	\$46,969.88
<b>2025 Year End CWPP Reserve Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$180,545.69</b>

**Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda  
March 16, 2026**

**2026 CWPP Financial Outlook**

<b>2026 CWPP Financial Outlook</b>	<b>Amount</b>
CWPP Reserve Fund 01/01/2026	\$180,546
Projected 2026 CWPP Tax Income *	\$59,007
<b>2025 Available Grant Income - Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project</b>	<b>\$377,692</b>
CSFS Forest Restoration and Wildfire Mitigation Grant**	\$188,846
USDA/US Forest Service - State Financial Assistance WUI Grant**	\$136,010
Boulder County Strategic Fuels Mitigation Grant**	\$188,846
<b>Total 2026 CWPP Available Funding</b>	<b>\$617,245</b>
<b>2026 CWPP Funding Available for Projects Other than Dry Gulch North</b>	<b>\$239,553</b>

\* SFPD Assessed Valuation is \$1,657,500 and the CWPP mill levy is 3.56 mills

\*\* Grants are matching grants for the Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project. In total SFPD cannot receive more money than it spends on the project. Current project estimate is \$377,692.

# Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda

## March 16, 2026

### 2026 CWPP Projects Carried Over from 2025 and Past Years

**Note:** CWPP will not be planning or implementing any water supply improvement projects. This work is now managed by the Fire Marshall and the Fire Cistern Committee. At the SFPD Board’s discretion, CWPP funding can be allocated to be used on water improvement projects.

#### **1.0 Fuels Mitigation - Community Chipping Events**

Community Chipping events continue to be a very successful way to encourage residents to maintain their D-space and fuel breaks. We have held both Spring and Fall Chipping Events since 2015 with good participation in both events.

**Project Details:** Boulder County is now providing funding for chipping. SFPD will organize the dates and notify the community on how to sign up for the chipping events. Boulder County will provide funding.

**Est. Cost for 2025 - \$0**

**Point Person(s) – Abby Silver**

#### **2.0 Sign Maintenance Project**

The sign maintenance project is a yearly project to replace address signs that have been damaged during the past year.

***We will need volunteers to do the project for 2026.***

**Est. Cost for 2026 - \$300**

**Need Project Lead**

#### **3.0 Mine Lane Egress Road Maintenance**

This project is part of the ongoing maintenance of the Mine Lane egress road that goes between Sunshine and Boulder Heights. In the past, the costs have typically been shared between Sunshine FPD and Boulder Mountain FPD

**Project Details:** Repair as needed

**Est. Cost for 2026 - \$500 (TBD)**

**Need Project Lead**

#### **4.0 Hazardous Tree Removal Along District Roads and Powerlines**

There are dead and dying trees located near district roads. These represent a threat for safe egress along the roads and a threat of wildfire should a tree take down a powerline in a windstorm. This project will provide a financial incentive for the property owner to remove the hazardous trees. The funding amount will be 90% of the cost of removal which is a similar match amount to those property owners that took part in past shaded fuel break along district roads project. Since SFPD is funding most of the project cost, the district will hire the contractor to do the work.

**Project Details:**

Work for 2026 includes:

- Re-send a notice to the district notifying the residents of this project
- Compile the responses from the residents and work with a contractor to verify that the trees do represent a hazard and get the estimated cost
- Get License to Enter and Cutting Agreements signed
- At project completion pay contractor and get donation from property owner for homeowner portion of cost

**Est. Cost for 2025 - \$2400 (Assume 6 trees, \$400/tree)**

**Need Project Lead**

## **Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda March 16, 2026**

### **5.0 Hazard Tree Removal Along Egress Routes**

Besides state/county roads, there are two other defined egress roads in the district. One is at the top of Sunshine Saddle which goes to Mine Lane, Boulder Heights and the Boulder Mountain Fire District. The other is the driveway to the Star House which continues to Pine Brook Hills and the Boulder Mountain Fire District. Both roads are gated and used for emergency egress only. This project would perform hazard tree removal along these roads to help ensure that there is no blockage on the roads due to wind-blown trees.

#### **Project Details:**

Inspect and remove hazard trees as required.

**Est. Cost for 2026 - \$1000**

**Point Person(s) - Chief Schmitt, Firefighters**

### **6.0 Wildfire Partners Matching Funds**

The Four Mile Canyon Fire final report clearly stated that the single determining factor in home survivability in the wildfire was the characteristics of the home ignition zone. This project will provide financial incentives for Sunshine residents to work with Boulder County Wildfire Partners to have a wildfire assessment performed and then to follow up with wildfire mitigation work. Wildfire Partners is currently offering to pay 50% of the mitigation cost when the homeowner uses a Wildfire Partner's contractor to perform the mitigation work. SFPD will provide a match of 25% of the mitigation cost so that the homeowner only pays 25% of the mitigation cost. The Wildfire Partners match is currently set at \$2000 maximum and the SFPD match will be set at \$1000 maximum. This money can be used to match any action identified in the Wildfire Partners assessment report for either forestry or home hardening measures.

#### **Project Details:**

We will need to make a more concerted effort to get the word out to the community regarding this project. Perhaps we need to get some help from someone who is well versed in communication to do that portion of the project (i.e. John Bauer)

**Est. Cost for 2026 - \$5000**

**Point Person(s) – Abby Silver**

### **7.0 Egress Routes as Defined in SFPD 2013 CWPP Document**

SFPD's 2013 CWPP document defined several different emergency egress routes. Chief Schmitt has been working with BOCO to get them to improve and maintain 85J with the goal of making the road passable all the way to Salina. The other egress route under investigation is a road down to Glendale Gulch from Sunshine Saddle.

**Est. Cost for 2026 - \$0**

## Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda March 16, 2026

### **8.0 Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project**

Cutting and extraction for the Dry Gulch South project was completed in 2025. There are slash piles within the project area that were created before the CWPP project and some that were created as part of the project implementation. There will costs associated with getting those burned as well as some incidental costs associated with some lop and scatter slash to be cleaned up.

<b>Remaining Work To Be Completed in 2026</b>	<b>2026 Cost</b>
Cleaning scattered slash left by contractor	\$2000
Slash Pile Burning (74 piles remaining)	\$11,000
<b>Total 2026 Cost</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>

**Point Persons: Alan Kirton, Abby Silver**

### **9.0 Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction**

The Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction project lies to the north of Dry Gulch South. It is located in an area that is to the southwest and northeast of Sunshine Canyon Dr. between mile markers 3.7 and 4.2. A ridgeline runs along the northern portion of the project area. The area south of that ridgeline drains in the Fourmile Creek watershed. The area north of that ridgeline drains into the Fourmile Canyon Creek watershed.

SFPD was awarded a State Fire Assistance – Wildland Urban Interface Grant (USDA SFA-WUI) in January, 2025. The SFA-WUI grant is a federal grant administered through the USDA, federally, and CSFS locally. The SFA-WUI award amount is \$136,010

SFPD was also awarded a CSFS FRWRM grant in February, 2025 for the Dry Gulch North project. The estimate used for this grant is more in line with cost/acre we’ve seen with Dry Gulch South. The award amount for the FRWRM grant is \$188,846.

Even though we had enough grants in hand to proceed with the project, there was uncertainty about the funding for the federal grant so the decision was made to hold off on implementation until more reliable funding could be obtained. In spring of 2025 SFPD applied for the Boulder County Strategic Fuels Mitigation Grant and was awarded the grant in July 2025. The award amount was \$188,846.

The grants are from federal, state and county governments and can be combined. However, the total amount of grant reimbursements cannot exceed the cost of the project.

<b>Dry Gulch North Project Cost Estimate</b>	
CSFS Marking Cost (\$80/acre x 57.4 acres)	\$4,592
Mitigation Cost (\$6500/acre x 57.4 acres)	\$373,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$377,692</b>
<b>Grants Awarded</b>	
SFA-WUI Grant	\$136,010
FRWRM Grant	\$188,846
SFMG	\$188,846
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$513,702</b>
<b>SFPD Costs</b>	
<b>SFPD Cost</b>	<b>\$377,692</b>
<b>Grant Income</b>	<b>\$377,692</b>
<b>SFPD Net Cost</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Point Persons: Abby Silver, Alan Kirton**

**Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda  
March 16, 2026**

**2026 CWPP Carryover Projects**

<b>2026 Carryover Projects from 2025</b>		<b>Point Person(s)</b>	<b>2026 Budgeted Cost</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>1.0</b>	Fuels Mitigation - Community Chipping Events	Abby Silver	\$0	BOCO provides funding for the Community Chipping Events
<b>2.0</b>	Sign Maintenance Project		\$1,000	Same cost as 2025
<b>3.0</b>	Mine Lane Egress Road Maintenance		\$1,500	Same cost as 2025
<b>4.0</b>	Hazard Tree Removal Along District Roads and Near Powerlines	Abby Silver Eric Bader	\$2,400	Same cost as 2025
<b>5.0</b>	Hazard Tree Removal Along Emergency Egress Routes	Chief Schmitt Firefighters	\$1,000	Same cost as 2025
<b>6.0</b>	Financial Incentives to District Residents to Participate in Wildfire Partners	Abby Silver	\$5,000	Same cost as 2025
<b>7.0</b>	Other Egress Routes as Defined in SFPD 2013 CWPP Document and CR 85J	Chief Schmitt	\$0	Same cost as 2025
<b>8.0</b>	Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project	Alan Kirton Abby Silver	\$13,000	Cutting and extraction of the Dry Gulch South project was completed and grants closed out. There are still 74 piles to be burned plus some cleanup of scattered slash.
<b>9.0</b>	Dry Gulch North Fuels Reduction Project	Alan Kirton Abby Silver	\$377,692	Assumption is that this project will be completed in 2026. The project will be totally funded by grants.
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$401,592</b>	

**Net CWPP Spend on Carryover Projects - \$23,900**

# Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda

## March 16, 2026

### 2026 Possible CWPP Projects

#### 10.0 Townsite North or Townsite South or Ingram Fuels Reduction Project

Since Dry Gulch North is fully funded by grants we have on hand, we could initiate another large mitigation project. Townsite North, Townsite South and Ingram were all projects identified in the Boulder West Wildfire Authority CWPP, which was the document jointly created by Sunshine, Four Mile, Sugar Loaf and Gold Hill FPD. Townsite North project area is 59 acres, Townsite South is 43 acres and Ingram is 42 acres. For budget and planning purposes the assumption is that project cost is \$6000/acre which is consistent with the project cost for the two Dry Gulch projects. That would put Townsite North at \$354,000, Townsite South at \$258,000 and Ingram at \$252,000. The cost of any of these projects is more than what SFPD can take on its own and based on money and volunteer resources we can only do one of these projects at a time.

**2026 Work** – Determine which of the three projects we should do first. Once that decision has been made, then communicate with property owners to determine their desire to be part of the mitigation project. Based on the response we will either begin the process of doing the grant applications or if there is not enough participation, then move on to one of the other project areas. Once a project area has been selected and we have a commitment from most, if not all residents, then the grant applications and award cycle will take up to a year based on the timing of when grants are available

**2026 Cost** – 0\$

**Point Person(s)** – Abby Silver, Alan Kirton, other volunteers?

#### 11.0 Use CWPP Money to Encourage Tree Work Needed to Bring Resident’s Driveways in Compliance with Boulder County Emergency Egress Requirements

This project would only address tree work necessary to bring a driveway into compliance with the Boulder County Emergency Egress Requirement. The requirement is a drivable width of 12’ with a 2’ shoulder on each side. Meaning there should be no trees/shrubbery within 2’ of the road on either side. The other requirement is that there is a vertical clearance of 13’ 8”. Both requirements are critical to avoid damage to SFPD’s fire apparatus when they are responding to an emergency. The details are to be worked out, but the work involved would be to evaluate the driveway to determine what needs to be done then pay for all of part the tree work required to accomplish it.

**2026 Cost** - \$?

**Point Person(s)** – Volunteer(s) needed

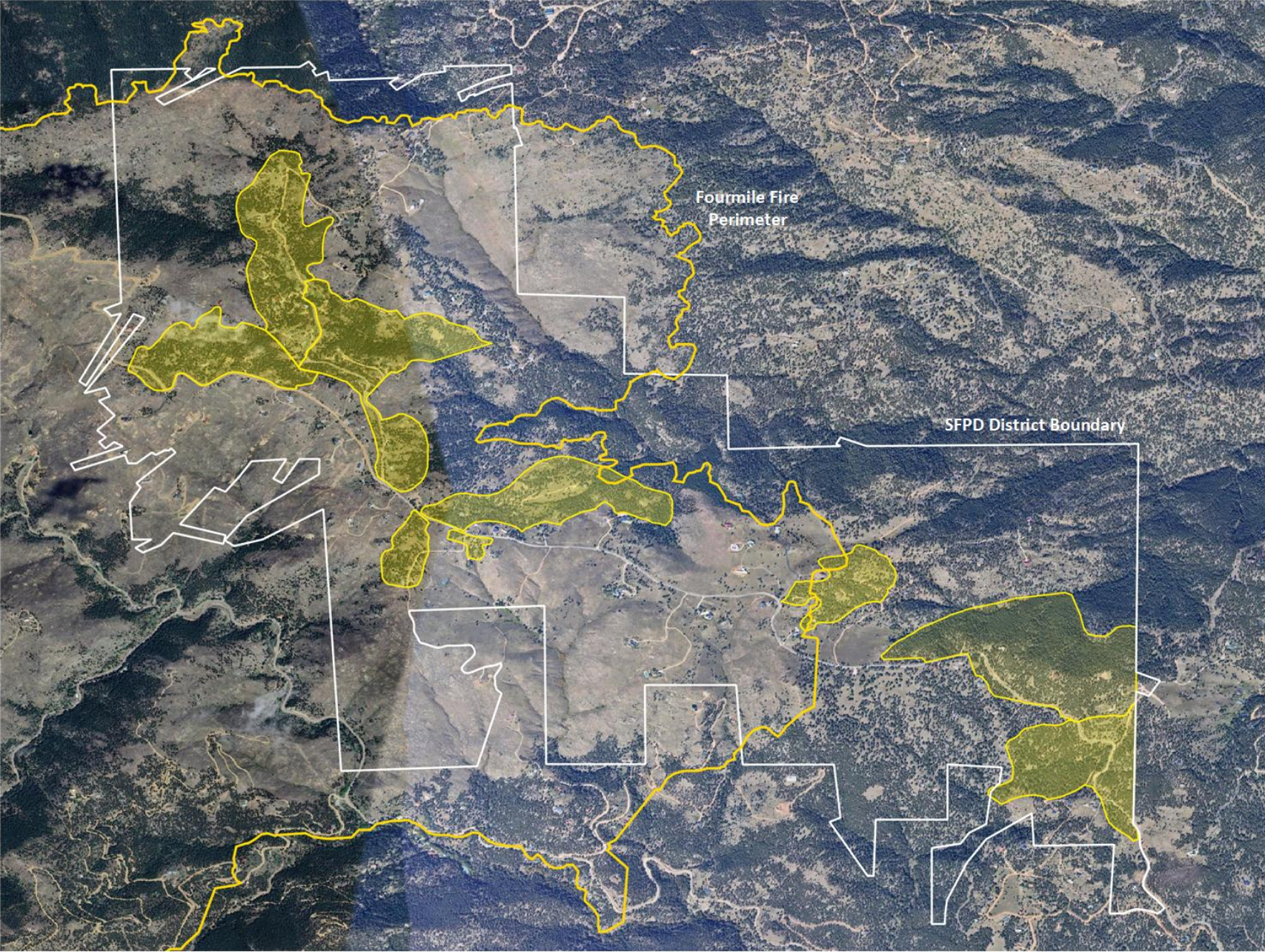
#### **12.0 Tree Thinning at the Sunshine Saddle**

Discuss in meeting.

#### **13.0 Mitigation Around Xcel Poles and Wires to Prevent Damage During Windstorms**

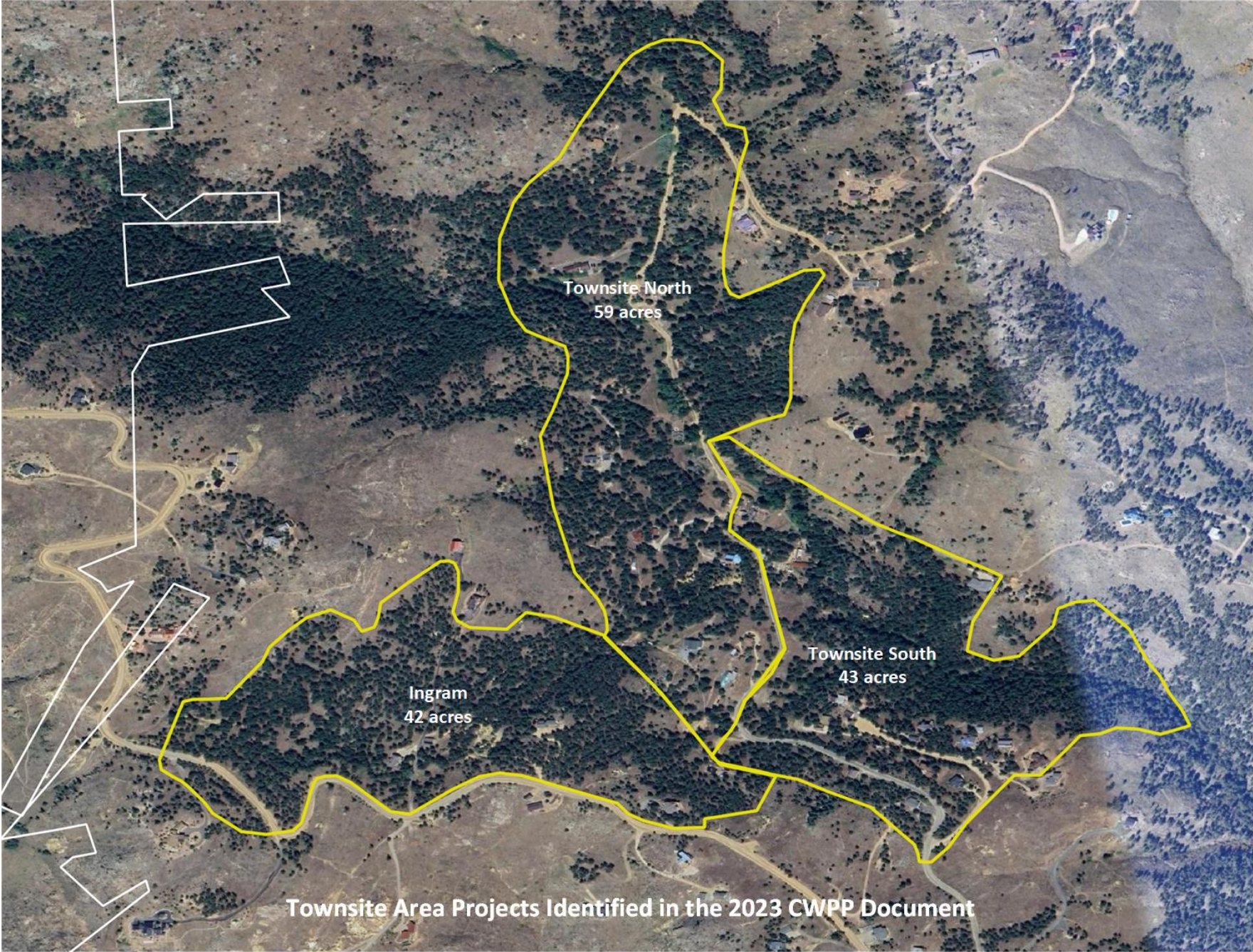
Discuss in meeting.

Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda  
March 16, 2026



SFPD Proposed Fuels Reduction Projects in the BWWA CWPP

Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda  
March 16, 2026



# Sunshine Fire Protection District – CWPP Planning Meeting Agenda March 16, 2026

