During the latest ten-year period, Bradford County has experienced 308 wildland fires, burning 6945 acres. One fire in particular, the Dairy Road Fire of 2007, had a heavy impact on Bradford County and the resources of all agencies involved in its suppression. This fire consumed 14,626 acres. Affected were 23 owners. 13,164 acres of those burned were dense pine, commercial forests. 4 structures were lost. It should be noted that the acreage burned in this fire skews the 10-year acreage totals and average.

Risk analysis for wildfires takes into account fuel types and density, fire history and dwellings within the area. These factors as well as others are combined in the Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal (SouthWRAP), administered by the Florida Forest Service. SouthWRAP displays maps depicting the greatest areas of concern in Bradford County. Attachment A contains maps and the Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal Summary Report for Bradford County.

Additional information is needed at the community level, such as maps of current and anticipated fire prone areas, information on access routes, a warning system to alert residents of fire-related evacuations, and real-time data on the location and availability of water and other firefighting resources. Certain of that needed information follows in the body of the Plan.

3. Planning Process - A forward-looking process that facilitates Fire Adapted Communities

The CWPP planning process is a collaborative effort among local, regional, state, and federal agencies that have a role in protecting the community from wildfire. This plan was produced through a project led by the Florida Forest Service (FFS). An initial project of the Lake Region in extreme southern Bradford County involved Clay County, the City of Keystone Heights, the Keystone Airpark Authority and partnering agencies. The information gained from that project was incorporated into this plan.

CWPP Working Group Members

Brad Witt, Emergency Management
Wendy Russell, Emergency Management
Rod Crawford, Building & Zoning Department
Jason Dodds, Bradford County Public Works
Regina James, Property Appraiser's Office
Allen Parrish, Bradford County Fire Rescue Director
Ben Carter, BCFR Fire Division Chief
Lisa Harley (City of Lawtey)
Mary Lou Hildreth (City of Hampton)
Charlene Thomas (Town of Brooker)
John Holman (City of Starke)
Doc Bloodworth, Florida Forest Service
Philip Glover, Florida Fish and Wildlife