

Wildfire Checklist

While the threat of wildland fire is significant, the direct impact to life and property is minimal. Sufficient paved surfaces and the nonflammable exterior of nearly all perimeter buildings reduce the likelihood of any wildland fire igniting any structure fire of consequence.

Grossmont College Specifics:

Areas of concern at Grossmont College are the "district yard", observatory, and outbuildings in the athletics area. There are exposed wood structures in these areas that are very close to wildland areas. The Child Development Center (Buildings 32) also lies at the top of a drainage that could see increased topography enhanced fire threat. One building (32B) has some wood exterior, and presents a greater ignition risk than the larger 32A. A fire on this west facing slope could produce a significant quantity of smoke, making relocation of the CDC a consideration. The challenges present in a wildland fire incident surround ingress and egress of emergency vehicles. There does exist a potential need to relocate building populations to the inner campus, but this is unlikely in a fast moving fire event. More important is allowing emergency vehicles unrestricted access to the fire region.

Cuyamaca College Specifics:

Cuyamaca has a significant amount of foliage surrounding its outer campus core. Special populations such as the CDC, Museum and Water Garden should be included in the campus plans for evacuation and notification.

Paying attention to fire behavior and weather will help planning as an event develops.

Mitigation

1. Ensure appropriate defensible space around all buildings. Pay special attention to outbuildings, and those located at the perimeter.
2. Practice and refine the campus evacuation and relocation plan
3. Practice and refine the campus emergency communication plan

Response

1. With direction from fire services, decide whether the campus will shelter in place or evacuate.

Evacuate

1. Initiate the Emergency Communications Plan
2. Initiate the Evacuation Plan
3. Initiate Vital Records Plan
4. Initiate appropriate Continuity of Operation depending on threat.

Shelter-in-Place

1. Initiate Emergency Communications Plan
2. Close campus to all traffic to allow for emergency vehicle access.
3. Consider a low level activation of the EOC if threat might change.
4. Keep all students in classrooms and other facilities until threat is past, or it is safe to move elsewhere.
5. Depending on location of the fire, and the amount of lead time, you may consider moving special populations. For example the children at CDC.
6. Initiate appropriate Continuity of Operation depending on threat.