

Austin Fire Department Wildfire Division



Wildfire Update – March 2014

2013 Accomplishments

- Burned 200 Acres
- Community Wildfire Protection Plan work
- Training
- Comm. Symposiums (2)
- Firewise Programs
- Fully Staffed
- Equipment Acquisition
- AWU/AARAL Fireline

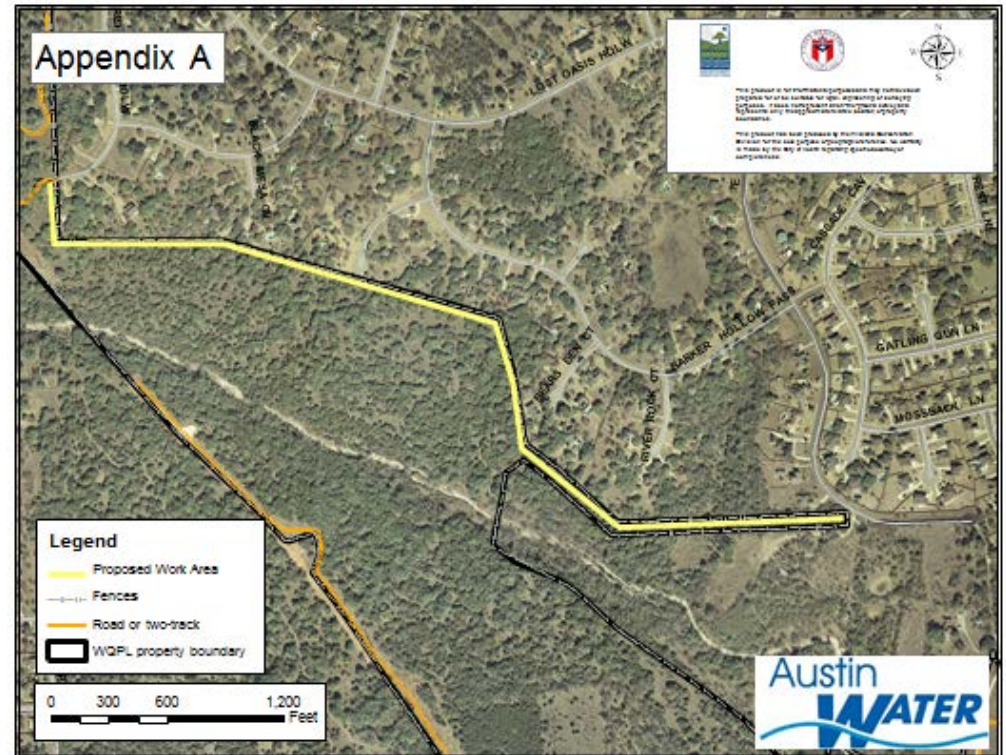


Wildfire Division Fleet

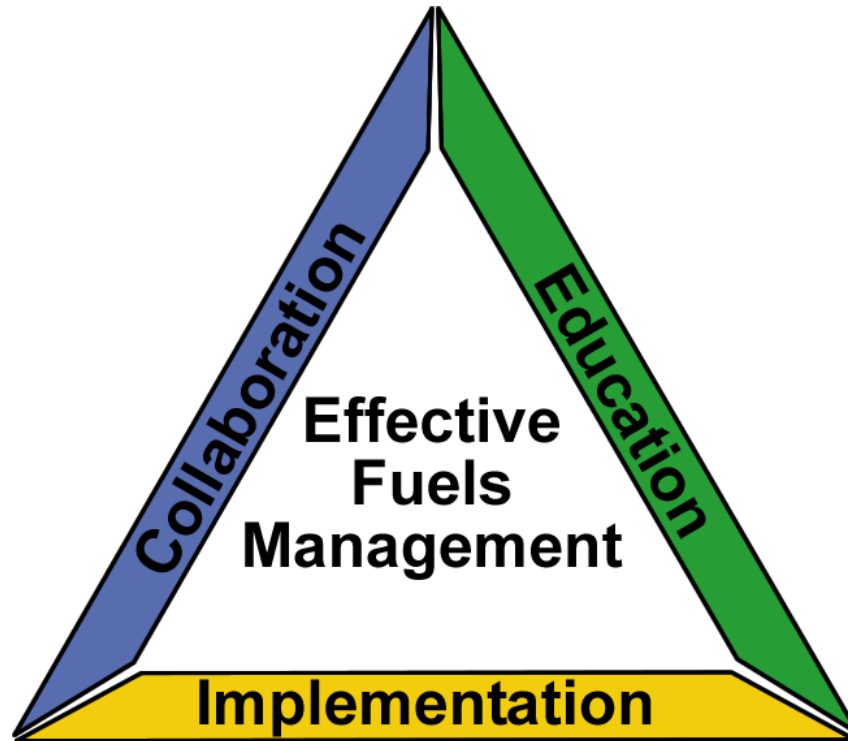


- 4 F-350 Trucks
- 4 Small UTV Brush Trucks
- 2 UTV Crew Haulers
- 2 22 Foot Trailers
- 3 Flatbed Trailers
- 1 Incinerator
- Tools Cache

AWU - AARAL Project



What Makes Us Tick?





Fire Adapted Communities

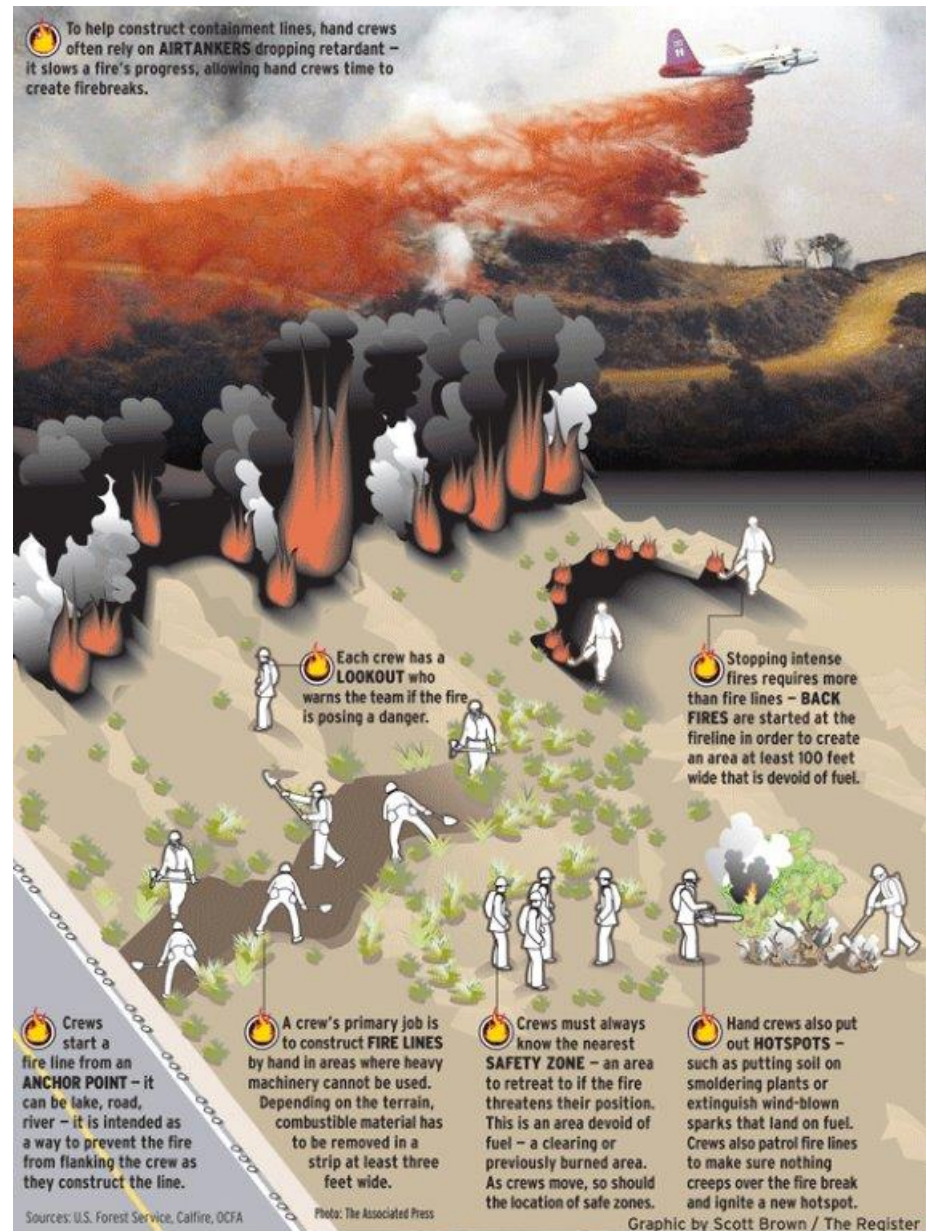


Collaboration

- APD-AIR1
- Sustainability Office
- Austin Energy
- Austin Resource Recovery
- Austin Water Utility*
- Parks and Rec Dept**
- Public Works
- Real Estate Services
- Watershed Protection
- Travis County
 - STARflight
 - TNR
- Texas A&M Forest Service*
- US Fish and Wildlife Service*
- North Lake Tahoe Fire*
- GSA*
- Other Fire Departments

What is a Wildland Fire Module?

- “Short” Hand Crew
- 7-10 Personnel
 - Staff and Adjuncts
 - Logistically Self Sufficient
 - Fire Monitoring
 - Prescribed Burns
 - Planned and Unplanned Events
 - Training and Projects
 - Wildfires/Mop up
 - NWGC Type 2 Standards



Wildfire Division Goals for 2014

- Pilot Projects
 - Jester Estates Fuel Break
 - Spanish Ready, Set, Go! (IAFC)
 - Austin FAC Pilot Community (NFPA)
 - Step Up Plan
 - NFDRS (Smokey Bear)
- Develop 2 Wildland Fire Modules
 - More acres treated
 - More acres burned
 - Building capacity
 - Building procedures
 - Building partnerships
 - Continued training

Fuels Projects October 1, 2014 to Present

AFD Led

- PARD Fireline Construction
- AE Fireline Construction
- AE RX Burn (2)
- AWU Jester Estates Shaded Fuel Break

Project Totals:

- 215+ Acres treated
- 1,600+ AFD Hours
 - 27 Days

AFD Assisted

- Wildflower Center RX Burn (2)
- USFWS RX Burn (3)
- AWU RX Burn (2)

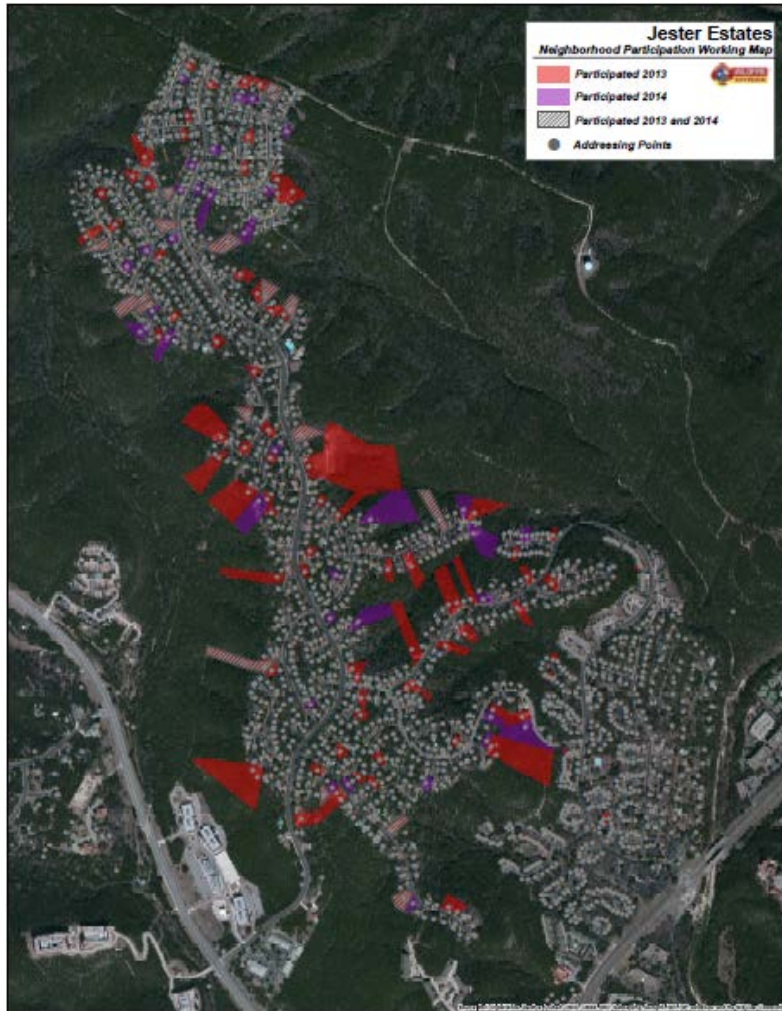
Project Totals:

- 500+ Acres treated
- 215+ AFD Hours
 - 7 Days

Prescription Burn



Jester Estates Community Clean Up Events



2013 & 2014 30' Clean Up Day



2014 Shaded Fuel Break

Jester Estates/Balcones Canyonlands Preserve

Shaded Fuel Break



Before



After

Community Outreach October 1, 2014 to Present

- 9 COA Department Safety Training Presentations
 - LCRA
 - AE/Asplundh
- 2 Community HOA Presentations
 - Valburn Alliance
 - Onion Creek
- 5 Community Events
 - Lego League
 - Wildfire, Wildlands, and You
 - Jester Estates Firewise Recognition Ceremony
- 2 Conferences
 - NFPA Firewise Conference
 - Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategies

Outreach Totals:

- 18 Events
- 840 People

Training October 1, 2014 to Present

AFD Led

- Continuing Education
 - AFD Department wide
 - Fire Shelter
 - Home Assessment
- NWCG Taskbooks
 - TIFMAS Team

Cooperator Led

- 9 NWCG Courses – Including 2 Regional Academies
 - AFD Instructed/Attended
 - Firefighter Training/Intro to Wildland Fire Behavior
 - Firefighter Type 1
 - Wildland Fire Chainsaws
 - Fire Ops in the WUI
 - Field Observer
 - Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior
 - Intro to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations
 - Intermediate NFDRS
 - Followership to Leadership

Future -

How can the Wildfire Division add Value?



- Early Smoke Detection Research
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Research
- CWPP Completion
- Partnering with Environmental Agencies
- Converting Pilot Projects into Standard Procedures

Thanks! Questions?

