

# Crowsnest Pass Fire Rescue

## ***MEDIA INFORMATION***



### **Crowsnest Pass Fire Rescue hosts a Structure Protection Training & Operational Exercise**

Crowsnest Pass, Alberta ..... On June 4-6 Crowsnest Pass Fire Rescue will be hosting a Structure Protection Training and Operational Exercise.

The Municipality of Crowsnest Pass – Crowsnest Pass Fire Rescue has received Grant Funding from the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) to conduct a multi-agency field exercise to setup, test and evaluate our Wildfire Community Protection Guides for the Pineview, Kananaskis Wilds and Southmore sub-divisions.

In 2016 and 2017 Alberta experienced significant interface forest fires (i.e., Fort McMurray, Waterton/Kenow), this project's goal is to continue and further refine the Community FireSmart Program which supports the protection of life and property within the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass.

This Field Exercise is scheduled for *Pineview & Kananaskis Wilds – Saturday, June 5 and Southmore – Sunday, June 6* from 08:00 AM to 5:00 PM

### **Description of Field Operations**

Wildfire Preparedness Guides (WFPG) have been developed for each of the five communities, Coleman, Blairmore, Frank, Bellevue, and Hillcrest. The WFPG's identify values at risk, including special and critical infrastructure values, water sources, fuel types, perimeter sprinkler lines, staging areas, communications plan, resource lists, and values protection strategies and tactics.

This field exercise will use a series of water supplies (hose lines) connected to fire pumps and hydrants to feed a network of sprinkler systems for the purpose of protecting residential structures and other critical infrastructure. Activities will be conducted on Municipal lands – no Private lands will be involved.

### **Public Safety and Environmental Protection**

The Crowsnest Pass FireSmart Wildfire Mitigation Plan (2017), Structural Protection Plan (2020) and associated Wildfire Preparedness Guides have been approved by the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (FireSmart) and the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta.

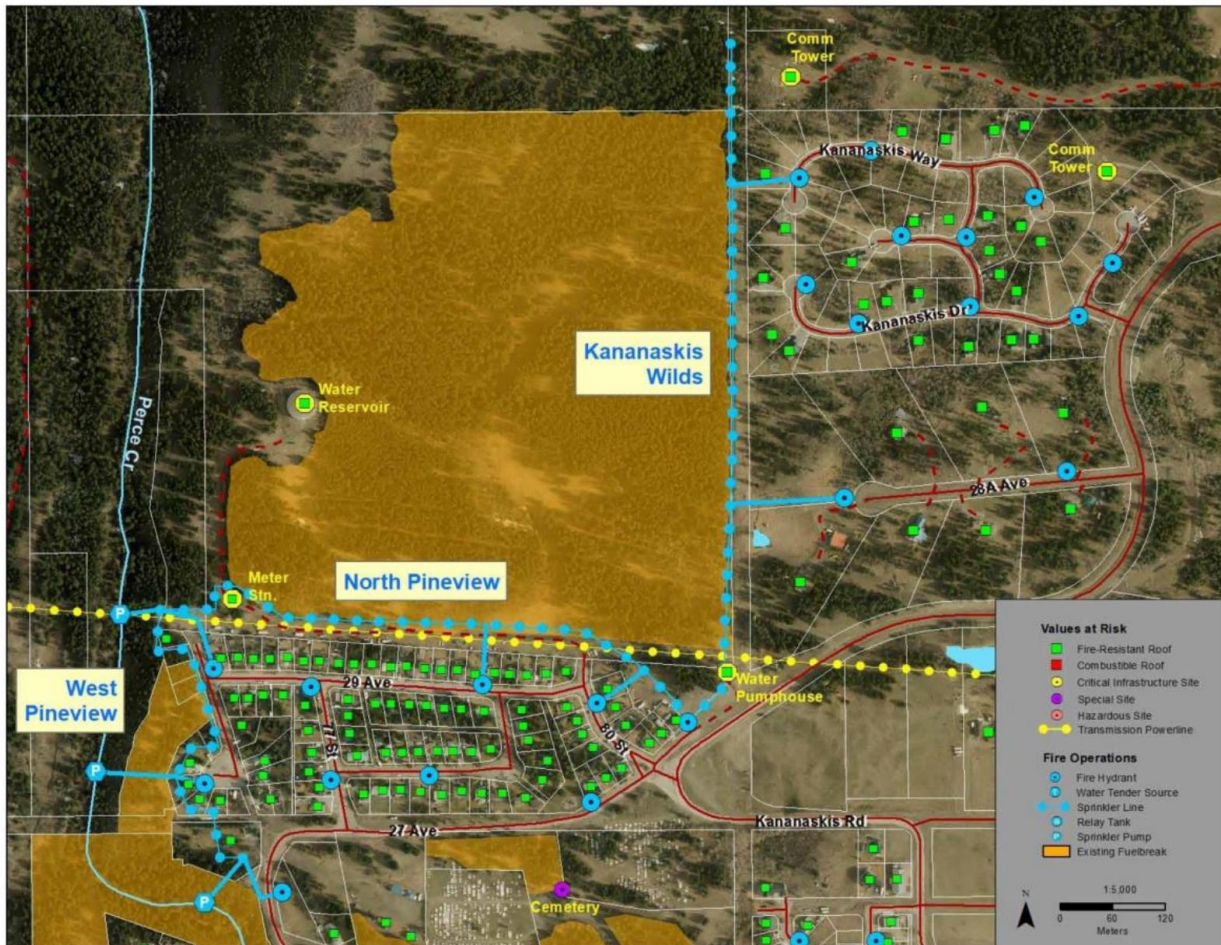
A *Safety Plan* has been developed for this project and a *Safety Officer* will also be on-site during field operations. CoVid19 Restrictions and Operational Protocols for Emergency Services will be followed during all event activities. Standard Operating Procedures from both Crowsnest Pass

Fire Rescue and Alberta Agriculture & Forestry will be followed to protect water, vegetation, and land resources.

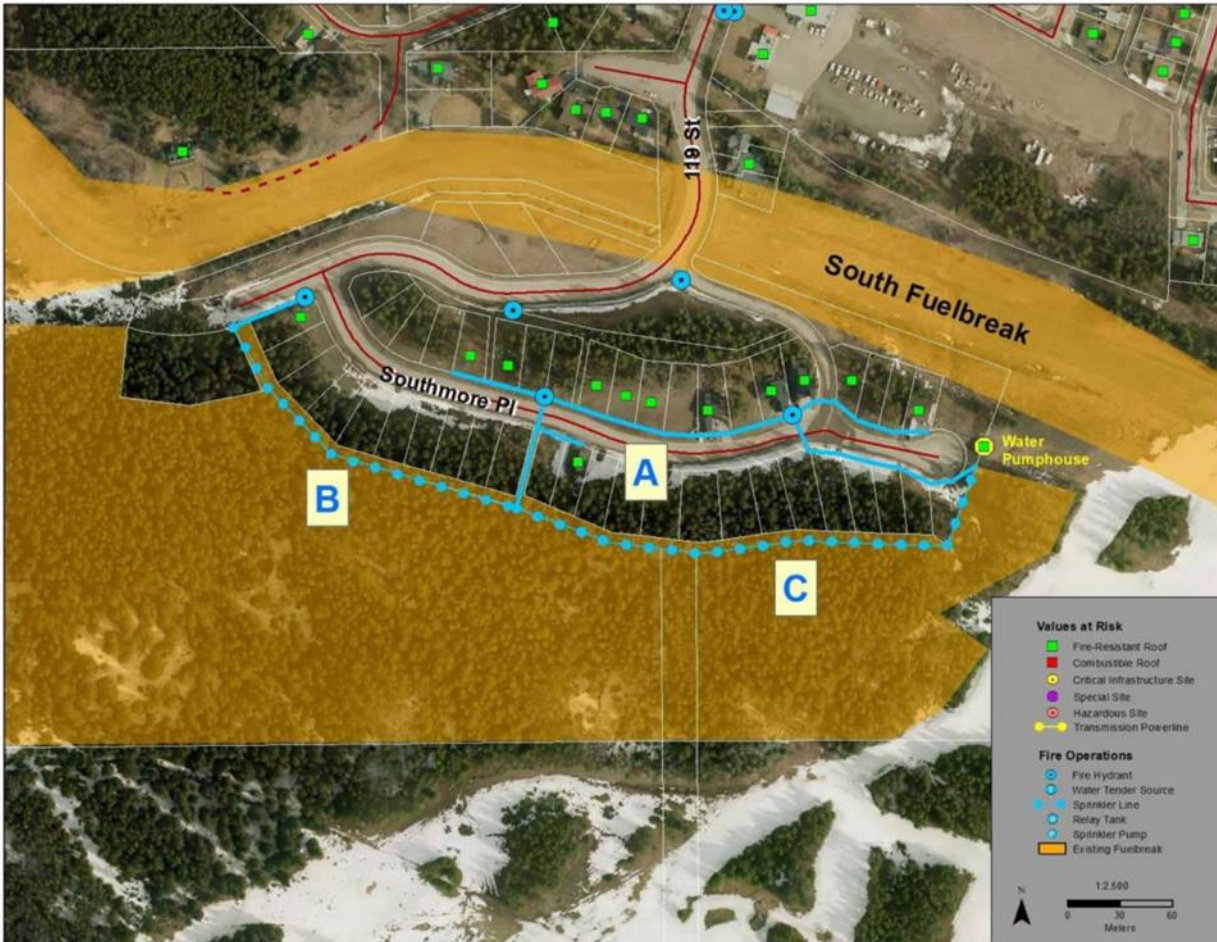
Public awareness and safety signage will be placed adjacent to and on-site during field operations. Residents and public are asked to avoid areas around fire apparatus and all other associated equipment (30m buffer zone).

An Information Officer will be on-site to facilitate any resident, public or media information needs.

### Map – Pineview & Kananaskis Wilds – Community Protection Zone



## Map – Southmore – Community Protection Zone



### Project Coordinator:

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### Backgrounder Information:

- Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) – FireSmart Program
  - <https://friaa.ab.ca/programs/friaa-firesmart/>
- FireSmart Canada – Programs and Education
  - <https://www.firesmartcanada.ca/programs-and-education/>
- Alberta Wildfire – FireSmart
  - <https://wildfire.alberta.ca/firesmart/>

### Media inquiries may be directed to:

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