



Point Protection

CAFMA

PLEASE REFER TO NWCG/IRPG AND FIRELINE HANDBOOK FOR MORE DETAILS

What is point protection?

- ▶ A wildfire response strategy which protects specific assets or highly valued resources from the wildfire without directly halting the continued spread of the wildfire.

When to implement point protection

- ▶ Point protection, is used on wildland fire incidents to protect assets when the forward spread of the wildland fire is unable to be stopped.

Safety considerations

- ▶ Apply LCES, each firefighter must be informed, Re-evaluate as conditions change.
- ▶ 10 standard firefighting orders.
- ▶ 18 situations that shout watch out.
- ▶ Use risk management process
- ▶ Look up look down look around
- ▶ Wildland-urban watch-outs assessment(Pages 12-16 in the IRPG/2018)
- ▶ Upslope = more heat impact = Larger safety zone.
- ▶ Heavy fuels=more heat impact= larger safety zone.

Attempt to save structure may be to dangerous if...

- ▶ There is no safety zone
- ▶ There is no place to park engine safely
- ▶ Fire is making sustained run and there is little or no opportunity to do good work
- ▶ Fire behavior is extreme
- ▶ Water supply will not last as long as the threat
- ▶ Roof is more than ¼ involved
- ▶ Fire inside structure
- ▶ LCES becomes compromised

Defensible – Prep and hold

- ▶ Determining factor is, that there is a safety zone present- this is mandatory for prep and hold
- ▶ Structure needs work to become defensible
- ▶ Firefighters need to stay on site to implement structure protection tactics during fire front contact

Defensible- stand-alone

- ▶ Structure has very few tactical challenges
- ▶ Firefighters may not need to be directly assigned to protect structure
- ▶ Structure is not likely to ignite during passing fire
- ▶ Structure has little or no work

Non-defensible Prep and leave

- ▶ NO safety zone at structure
- ▶ Structure has some work
- ▶ Set trigger points for safe retreat

Non-defensible-rescue drive-by

- ▶ No safety zone at structure
- ▶ Structure has large amounts of work
- ▶ Not enough time to complete work
- ▶ Ensure occupants have left structure
- ▶ Relay to Law enforcement for evacuation help

Structure considerations

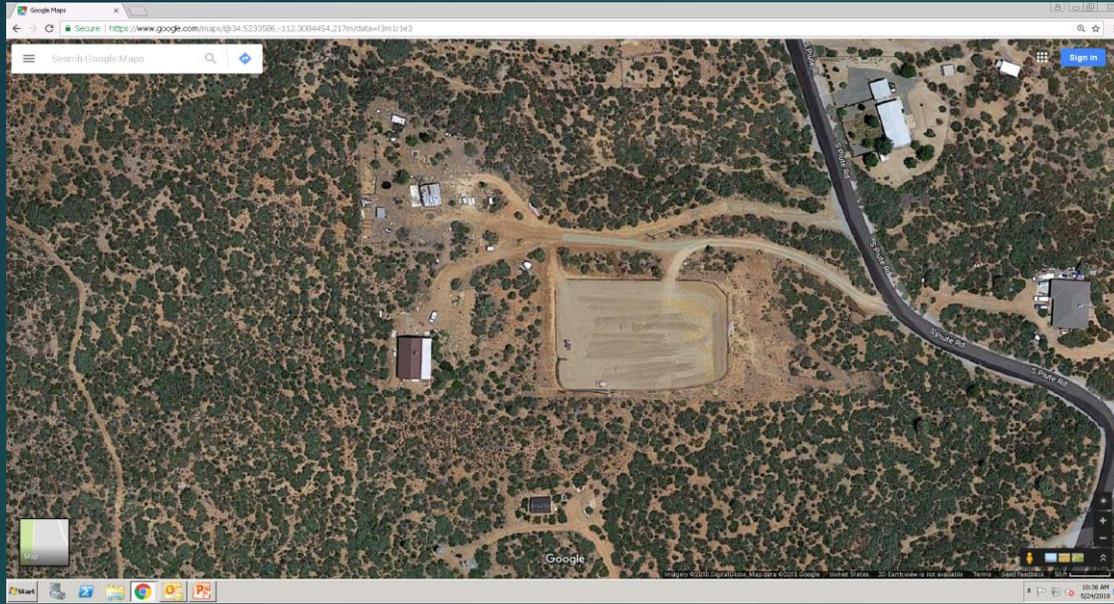
- ▶ Hazardous materials on property (LPG tank, Fuel storages, Drug lab)
- ▶ Turn off gas but leave electricity to run pumps
- ▶ Siding and roof construction (stucco, wood shake)
- ▶ Wood deck
- ▶ Large amounts of work to prep (Lots of clearing of fuels or other combustibles)
- ▶ Position in terrain (chimney, mid-slope)
- ▶ Power lines
- ▶ Water sources (swimming pool, storage tanks, hot tubes, ponds)

Equipment Placement

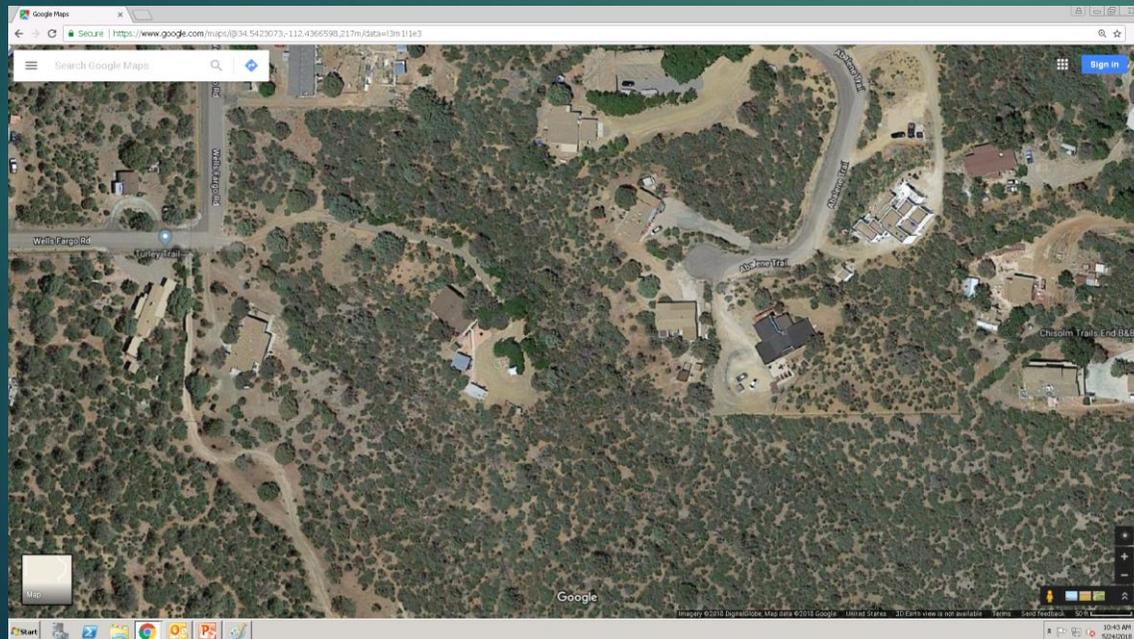
- ▶ Identify escape routes and safety zones Make them known to entire crew
- ▶ Back Equipment in for quick escape
- ▶ Flag road system out on complicated road systems (Identify what color flagging and design used).
- ▶ Keep in contact with all crew members
- ▶ Park in black or clear areas
- ▶ Keep hose available for Equipment protection
- ▶ Watch for septic tanks, large ditches or large holes.

Point protection tactics

- ▶ Clear fuel around structure, to bring fire from canopy to ground fuels. (thin and remove ladder fuels)
- ▶ Don't jack pot fuels, but instead scatter cut fuels
- ▶ Close windows, and doors of structure
- ▶ Use hose lines to knock down spreading fire, consider having hose accessible to move around structure
- ▶ Scratch line where necessary around structure to add additional fuel break
- ▶ Once fire front has passed, return to structure to put remaining fire out and mop up



- ▶ Safety zone is present
- ▶ Structure needs work but not a ton
- ▶ Good turn around
- ▶ South Piute Rd. Blue hills area



- ▶ NO safety zone at structure
- ▶ Structure/property has more work than potential time allows
- ▶ Poor turn arounds
- ▶ Wells Fargo RD. Behind frontier village. Government canyon area