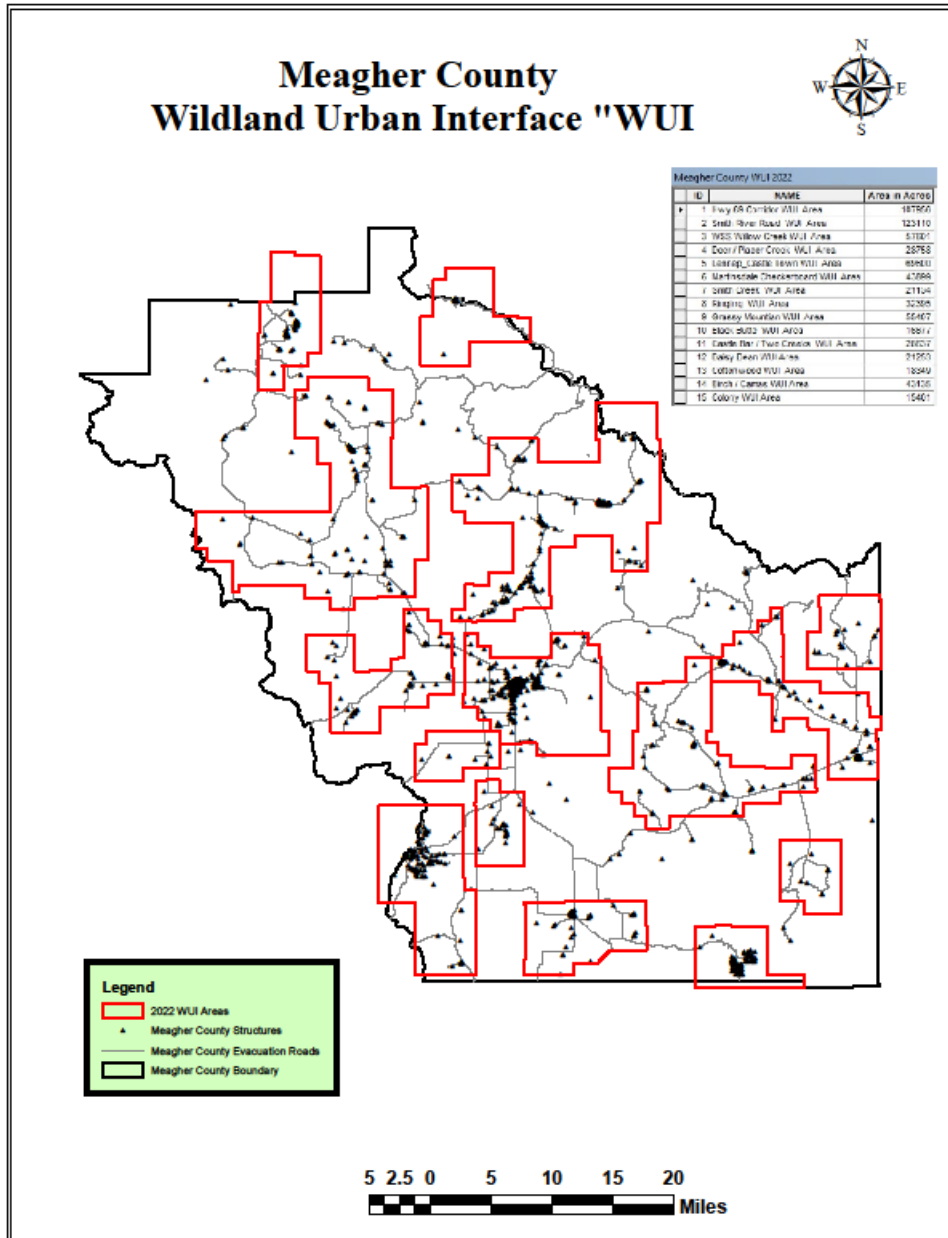


Meagher County Wildfire Protection Plan 2023

5. g. Meagher County's Wildland Urban Interface Areas



The wildland urban interface (WUI) has gained attention through efforts targeted at wildfire mitigation; however, this analysis technique is also useful when considering other hazards, because the concept looks at where people and structures are concentrated in any particular region.

A key component in meeting the underlying need for protection of people and structures is the treatment of hazards in the wildland-urban interface. The wildland-urban interface, or WUI, refers to areas where wildland vegetation meets urban

developments or where forest fuel meets urban fuel such as houses. The WUI encompasses not only the interface (areas immediately adjacent to urban development), but also the surrounding vegetation and topography. Reducing the hazard in the WUI requires the efforts of federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private individuals. Structural fire protection during a wildfire in the wildland-urban interface is largely the responsibility of local governments. Property owners share a responsibility to protect their residences and businesses and minimize danger to firefighters by creating defensible areas around them as well as by taking other measures to minimize the risks to their structures. With treatment, a wildland-urban interface area can provide firefighters with a defensible area from which to