

## **News Release**

April 29, 2021

## Clearwater County receives second grant to extend Wildland Urban Interface program for twelve months

(Rocky Mountain House, AB) – Clearwater County through Clearwater Regional Fire Rescue Services' (CRFRS) Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) program recently received confirmation of a second grant in the amount of \$465,000.00 for continuation of the WUI structural protection team to support the 2021-22 wildfire season.

The WUI project has been funded from the Province of Alberta through the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association (AFCA) with the term of the second grant from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

The AFCA grant covers Clearwater County's four-person WUI response team's operational costs and means enhanced training program for municipalities in wildland urban interface response and a team (one of two) that is deployment ready to respond to provincial wildfire emergencies when requested by the Province.

-30-

In 2019, CRFRS was selected as one of two municipal fire departments to host a WUI structural protection team for 18 months (August 2019 – January 2021). This project was funded from the Province through the AFCA, equating to \$580,000.00 in grant funding.

In 2021, CRFRS received approval from the AFCA to utilize unexpended WUI structural protection team grant dollars, to extend WUI contracts until March 31, 2021.

Media Inquiries: <a href="mailto:communications@clearwatercounty.ca">communications@clearwatercounty.ca</a> 403-845-4444