Community Wildfire Protection Plans

Social and Economic Indicators

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Topics

- Monitoring social and economic impacts of CWPPs
- Selecting social and economic indicators
 - Assessment
 - Implementation
 - Monitoring
- Monitoring realities





Social and Economic Impacts of

- Standard biophysical elements of risk assessments
- Social and economic community characteristics contribute to a community's vulnerability to wildfire
- Concept of community capacity

CWPPs

 Some communities have less capacity





Selecting Social and Economic Indicators

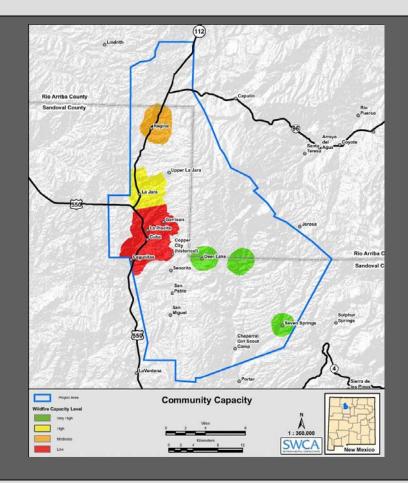
- Select indicators that will help you measure progress toward your social and economic goals
- It's a matter of scale
- Measure what is most important and realistic.
- Assessment, Implementation, and Monitoring





Socioeconomic Indicators – NM Examples

- The Guild developed a community capacity index based on Census data for 5 CWPPs in New Mexico
- The CCI is designed to integrate social, human, financial, and political capital indicators into a single measure.



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Socioeconomic Indicators – NM

Examples

Social Capital

- Vulnerable populations (Age Dependency Ratio)
- Vulnerable populations (Percent without disabilities)
- Vulnerability of minorities (Female head of households)
- Human Capital
 - Education (Percent with high school diploma)
 - Employment (Percent employed)
 - Cultural diversity (Percent of population who speak English)
- Financial Capital
 - Income (median income)
 - Poverty (percent of community below the poverty line)
- Political Capital
 - Political participation (voter turn out)



Realities

- Data collection can be difficult, time consuming, and costly
- There are publicly available tools, resources to help communities collect and use socioeconomic data.
- Measuring progress toward social and economic goals is easier if information is collected up front
- Balance with local data and knowledge

