

### 3. Action Plan

This section describes implementation strategies or actions in Bradford County that will advance FAC and the goals and objectives of this CWPP. These pre-fire actions are organized by mitigation category: 1) wildland fuel management, 2) community outreach and education, 3) Firewise building retrofit and landscaping, 4) policy and regulation recommendations, and 5) wildland fire response improvements.

The following action recommendations are listed in priority order within each mitigation category based upon ability to most significantly decrease wildfire vulnerability in the community.

As part of the Florida Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Program, the FFS assists in all community planning and provides guidance for the application of Firewise principles in pre-fire action plans.

#### Wildland Fuel Management

Hazardous Fuel Reduction projects help reduce the size and intensity of wildland fires and also decrease the likelihood that a wildfire will start in an area. These actions can increase the safety of people and property while reducing response and suppression costs.

Fuel management treatments designed to reduce wildfire risk are temporary. In most cases reduce the hazard in the treated area for three to five years. Periodic management is required on a regular basis to maintain fuels at an acceptable level to reduce wildfire risk. The Florida Forest Service will work with commercial land management agencies and private landowners to maintain individual fuel management goals. Inclusive would be WUI buffers of 1.5 miles around actual places where people live, as well as significant infrastructure, utility corridors and major evacuation routes.

Various fuel management methods which can be used to achieve site-specific benefits. These Pre-Fire Hazardous Fuel Reduction methods can include:

- Prescribed burning
- Mechanical treatment (e.g., mowing, mulching, disking, fire line plowing, and chopping)
- Chemical treatment (herbicide application)
- Biomass removal (pine straw harvesting, vegetation or tree thinning, and timber harvesting).