

WUI housing density is categorized based on the standard Federal Register and U.S. Forest Service SILVIS data set categories, long considered a de facto standard for depicting WUI. However, in the SWRA WUI data the number of housing density categories is extended to provide a better gradation of housing distribution to meet specific requirements for fire protection planning activities. While units of the actual data set are in *houses per sq. km.*, the data is presented as the *number of houses per acre* to aid with interpretation and use by fire planners in the South.

In the past, conventional wildland urban interface data sets, such as USFS SILVIS, have been used to reflect these concerns. However, USFS SILVIS and other existing data sources do not provide the level of detail for defining population living in the wildland as needed by Southern state WUI specialists and local fire protection agencies.

The new SWRA WUI 2012 dataset is derived using advanced modeling techniques based on the SWRA Where People Live (housing density) dataset and 2012 LandScan population count data available from the Department of Homeland Security, HSIP Freedom Data Set. WUI is simply a subset of the Where People Live dataset. The primary difference between the WPL and WUI is that populated areas surrounded by sufficient non-burnable areas (i.e. interior urban areas) are removed from the Where People Live data set, as these areas are not expected to be directly impacted by a wildfire. Simply put, the SWRA WUI is the SWRA WPL data with the urban core areas removed.

Data is modeled at a 30-meter cell resolution, which is consistent with other SWRA layers. The following table shows the total population for each WUI area within the project area.

WUI – Population and Acres

Housing Density	WUI Population	Percent of WUI Population	WUI Acres	Percent of WUI Acres
LT 1hs/40ac	815	3.0%	37,610	41.5%
1hs/40ac to 1hs/20ac	1,046	3.9%	15,335	16.9%
1hs/20ac to 1hs/10ac	2,467	9.2%	14,963	16.5%
1hs/10ac to 1hs/5ac	3,487	13.0%	10,424	11.5%
1hs/5ac to 1hs/2ac	7,213	26.8%	8,431	9.3%
1hs/2ac to 3hs/1ac	8,552	31.8%	3,644	4.0%
GT 3hs/1ac	3,336	12.4%	206	0.2%
Total	26,916	100.0%	90,613	100.0%