

APPENDIX A: SURVEY INSTRUMENT

2005 WILDFIRE SURVEY

**WITH SUPPORT FROM THE NATURAL HAZARDS RESEARCH & APPLICATIONS
INFORMATION CENTER**

Hello, my name is _____ and we're undertaking a study of your wildfire experiences, would you mind answering a few questions for us? The questions will take about ten minutes to answer.

We appreciate your participation in this study; questions asked pertain to your recent experience with the 2005 Deer Creek wildfire. The purpose of this study is to document the wildfire experiences of individuals and households in your community in an effort to reduce the potential losses associated with future fires. Your participation is voluntary, your responses are confidential and your privacy is protected.

Thank you for your participation.

Interviewer will read each question and circle the appropriate response. Provide limited prompts and clarification. Space is available on the last page to record comments made by respondent.

PERCEPTION and EXPERIENCE

The first section of questions explores your experience and perceptions related to wildfires.

- | | <u>No</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Don't Know</u> | |
|---|------------|------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Have you experienced a wildfire prior to 2005? | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
|
 | | | | |
| 2. Are you aware of the _____ | <u>No</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Don't Know</u> | |
| a. Josephine County Integrated Fire Plan | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| b. Illinois Valley Fire Plan | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
|
 | | | | |
| 3. To what extent do you consider the following groups | Not at | | | Very great |
| knowledgeable about wildfire hazard? | <u>all</u> | | | <u>extent</u> |
| a. federal government..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| b. state government..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| c. fire district | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| d. local government | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| e. media (paper, TV, radio)..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| f. friends, relatives, neighbors and coworkers..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| g. yourself and your immediate family | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
|
 | | | | |
| 4. To what extent do you consider the following groups | Not at | | | Very great |
| responsible for protecting you from wildfire hazard? | <u>all</u> | | | <u>extent</u> |
| a. federal government..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| b. state government..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| c. fire district | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| d. local government | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| e. media (paper, TV, radio)..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| f. friends, relatives, neighbors and coworkers..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| g. yourself and your immediate family | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
|
 | | | | |
| 5. How certain are you that you have... | Not at | | | Very great |
| a. all the <i>information</i> you need to protect yourself, family, | <u>all</u> | | | <u>extent</u> |
| and property from wildfires | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| b. all the <i>tools and equipment</i> you need to protect yourself, | | | | |
| family, and property from wildfires..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| c. all the <i>financial assets (money, credit, insurance)</i> you need to | | | | |
| protect yourself, family, and property from wildfires..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| d. <i>taken all the precautions</i> you need to protect yourself, | | | | |
| family, and property from wildfires..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
|
 | | | | |
| 6. Is this statement true about your experience with wildfires? | <u>No</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Don't Know</u> | |
| a. Your family's property has been damaged..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| b. You or a family member has been injured..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| c. Property of someone you know directly has been damaged | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| d. Someone you know directly has been injured | 1 | 2 | 3 | |

7. What do you consider the likelihood of a fire causing each of the following in the next 10 years?

	<u>Not at all likely</u>				<u>Almost a certainty</u>
a. major damage to property in your community	1	2	3	4	5
b. major damage to environmental resources in your community	1	2	3	4	5
c. major damage to your home.....	1	2	3	4	5
d. injury to you or members of your family	1	2	3	4	5
e. disruption to your job	1	2	3	4	5
f. disruption to your daily activities.....	1	2	3	4	5

PREPAREDNESS and RESPONSE

This section of questions explores your preparedness and response to wildfires.

8. Have you

	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Don't</u>
<u>Know</u>			
a. prepared a household emergency plan			
b. removed dry vegetation surrounding your home.....	1	2	3
c. created and maintained a fire break	1	2	3
d. created a defensible space around your home	1	2	3
e. landscaped with fire resistant plants or rocks.....	1	2	3
f. learned the location of nearby medical emergency centers.....	1	2	3
g. cleaned gutters and roof regularly.....	1	2	3
h. installed a fire-resistant roof material	1	2	3

9. In taking the actions above did you receive assistance from

	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Don't</u>
<u>Know</u>			
a. local government	1	2	3
b. fire district	1	2	3
c. state government.....	1	2	3
d. federal government.....	1	2	3
e. Was the assistance financial	1	2	3
f. Was the assistance recommendations or guidance.....	1	2	3

10. Attending meetings such as this one help to...

	<u>Not at all</u>				<u>Very great extent</u>
a. protect <i>residents/individuals</i>	1	2	3	4	5
b. protect <i>property</i>	1	2	3	4	5
c. protect <i>environmental resources</i>	1	2	3	4	5
d. require specialized knowledge and skill on my part.....	1	2	3	4	5
e. require a lot of effort on my part	1	2	3	4	5

11. Did you evacuate your home during the 2005 wildfire?

<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
1	2	3

IF NO or DON'T KNOW, ASK QUESTION #12 AND THEN SKIP TO QUESTION #19.

12. In deciding to evacuate or not evacuate, how much did the following influence your decision?

	<u>Not at all</u>				<u>Very great extent</u>
a. Previous wildfire experience.....	1	2	3	4	5
b. Previous evacuation experience.....	1	2	3	4	5
c. Seeing wildfire conditions (size, containment, direction of movement)	1	2	3	4	5
d. Proximity of fire to home	1	2	3	4	5
e. Watching area businesses closing	1	2	3	4	5
f. Watching friends, relatives, neighbors, or coworkers evacuating	1	2	3	4	5
g. Official recommendations to evacuate	1	2	3	4	5
h. Experience with an unnecessary evacuation	1	2	3	4	5

- j. Concern about protecting my home from looters 1 2 3 4 5
- j. Concern about protecting my home from fire damage 1 2 3 4 5
- k. Concern about evacuation expenses such as gas, food, and lodging 1 2 3 4 5
- l. Concern about evacuating with pets or animals 1 2 3 4 5

13. Were you content with the information you received and based your decision on? 1 2

READ STATEMENT TO RESPONDENT:
The Deer Creek Fire started Thursday, August 25th at approximately 5:00 pm. A conflagration was issued at 8:45 pm on the 25th and a voluntary evacuation was announced on the same day.

14. Which day did you make your evacuation decision? No Yes
- a. [Thursday, August 25, 2005] 1 2
 - b. [Friday, August 26, 2005] 1 2
 - c. [Saturday, August 27, 2005] 1 2
 - d. [Sunday, August 28, 2005] 1 2
 - e. Other 1 2

15. At approximately what time did you make your evacuation decision? (circle the time):

←----- AM ----- Noon ----- PM -----→
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 Midnight

16. Which of the following best describes your evacuation destination? No Yes
- a. Home of a friend or relative 1 2
 - b. Hotel or motel 1 2
 - c. Public shelter 1 2
 - d. Other 1 2

17. In (or near) what city or town was this located? _____

18. During your evacuation, how many days did you spend away from home? _____ days

Do you have any additional comments about wildfire hazard?

DEMOGRAPHIC

This final section of questions provides reference for analysis and is confidential.

19. How old are you? _____ years old
20. What is your sex? _____ Male _____ Female
21. What is your highest level of education? _____ Less than high school _____ High school
_____ Some college/vocational school _____ College graduate _____ Graduate school
22. What is your *yearly* household income? _____ Less than \$15,000 _____ \$15,000–30,000
_____ \$30,000–45,000 _____ \$45,000–60,000 _____ More than
\$60,000
23. Do you own or rent the home where you now live? _____ Own _____ Rent
24. How many years have you lived in this community? _____ years
25. Are there children living in your household that are... No Yes
- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| a. under the age of 6? | 1 | 2 |
| b. between 6 and 18 years old? | 1 | 2 |
26. Do you have special needs that would make it difficult for you to evacuate without assistance?..... No Yes Don't Know
1 2 3

Thank you for the time you have taken to respond to these questions.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the final report for this project please add your name to the list – this request will not compromise confidentiality in anyway.