

WESTERN SLOPE

WRWC partners with Colorado Realtors

PLAINDEALER STAFF REPORT
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On Wednesday the West Region Wildfire Council announced its partnership with Colorado Association of REALTORS® to provide educational programming for property owners in Colorado's southwest counties. The announcement was made at the Log Hill Volunteer Fire Department, where wildfire mitigation experts provided an informational session and tour of both mitigated properties and those in need of mitigation.

The announcement is the next step in the expansion of CAR's Colorado Project Wildfire.

"We are very excited to partner with the West Region Wildfire Council on this

event," Colorado Project Wildfire Chair, Bonnie Smith said. "Their experience in bringing together residents, fire districts, agency representatives and other partners in educating, promoting risk reduction and providing resources to help homeowners and communities reduce risk will be invaluable to our members."

CAR launched the wildfire project initiative last year as an educational program designed to help reduce and prevent destruction of land and property, injuries and loss of life by raising awareness of and access to wildfire mitigation resources.

Joining representatives from CAR and West Region Wildfire Council on Wednesday were representatives from Log Hill Volunteer Fire Department, Ouray County commissioners, Colorado State

Forest Service, Firewise of Southwest Colorado, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, and the Office of Emergency Management.

"Our highest priority is the safety of our residents and firefighters," said Tom Austin, Log Hill assistant fire chief. "By collaborating with the West Region Wildfire Council, we have enabled our homeowners to take concrete steps to protect their homes and therefore reduce the danger to them and our firefighters."

According to the Colorado State Forest Service, more than two million Coloradans live in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), an area where man-made improvements are built close to, or within, natural terrain and flammable vegetation, and where high potential for wildland fire exists. With con-

tinued development throughout the state's WUI areas estimated to grow by 300 percent in the next 15 years, the wildfire threat is real and it is not going away.

"As a regional organization that works to reduce wildfire risk and promote fire adapted communities, we're excited to collaborate with CAR," said Lilia Falk, director of the West Region Wildfire Council. "We have a collective responsibility to prepare our homes, properties and communities for the possibility of wildfire. Colorado Project Wildfire helps promote this message while connecting residents with local resources, like the West Region Wildfire Council, that are available to assist with wildfire education, mitigation and preparedness efforts."

Wednesday's announcement and tour provided an opportunity for property owners to become more aware of the fire situation in western Colorado.

"Safety is of the utmost importance to our members," said Smith. "We act out that concern with each of our clients through careful selection of safe properties, the use of professional inspections and providing access to resources homeowners can use themselves to enhance the safety of their properties."

For more information, visit CAR's project website, coloradoprojectwildfire.com.

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Property owners tour a fire mitigated property on Log Hill Wednesday morning. The event was hosted by the West Region Wildfire Council and Colorado Association of Realtors.

Courtesy photo

WEATHER

LAST WEEK

OURAY

DATE	HIGH	LOW	PCP	SNOW	S.O.G.	SKY
May 17	59	34	0.03	0	0	MC
18	55	33	0	0	0	MC
19	61	37	0.01	0	0	PC
20	67	43	trace	0	0	PS
21	68	49	0	0	0	MS
22	67	50	0	0	0	MS
23	67	37	0	0	0	MS

Real-Time City of Ouray's weather, go to wunderground.com and click on Ouray, CO.
■ From NWS weather observer Karen Risch, lower 9th Ave., Ouray.

RIDGWAY

DATE	HIGH	LOW	PCP	SNOW	S.O.G.
May 17	61	32	0.02	0	0
18	64	31	0.07	0	0
19	68	37	trace	0	0
20	73	39	0	0	0
21	75	39	0	0	0
22	74	40	0	0	0
23	71	300.02	0	0	0

■ From NWS weather observer Jen Coates, Ridgway.

FORECAST

	OURAY	RIDGWAY
Fri. May 27	HI 61° LO 42° Sunrise: 5:51 a.m. Sunset: 8:24 p.m. Rain	HI 64° LO 40° Rain
Sat. May 28	HI 64° LO 43° Sunrise: 5:55 a.m. Sunset: 8:25 p.m. Partly Cloudy	HI 69° LO 43° Partly Cloudy
Sun. May 29	HI 68° LO 45° Sunrise: 5:50 a.m. Sunset: 8:26 p.m. Partly Cloudy	HI 73° LO 43° Rain
Mon. May 30	HI 71° LO 44° Sunrise: 5:50 a.m. Sunset: 8:26 p.m. Partly Cloudy	HI 72° LO 43° Partly Cloudy
Tue. May 31	HI 67° LO 44° Sunrise: 5:49 a.m. Sunset: 8:27 p.m. Partly Cloudy	HI 72° LO 43° Partly Cloudy
Wed. June 01	HI 68° LO 44° Sunrise: 5:49 a.m. Sunset: 8:28 p.m. Sunny	HI 74° LO 44° Sunny
Thur. June 02	HI 70° LO 46° Sunrise: 5:49 a.m. Sunset: 8:28 p.m. Partly Cloudy	HI 75° LO 45° Partly Cloudy

AVALANCHE DANGER:
MODERATE

LUNAR PHASES
May 27: Waning Gibbous 66%
June 02: Waning Crescent 08%

Compiled by: Evan Vann

WATER FLOWS cfs.

Uncompahgre	
Near Ridgway	386
Below Reservoir	397
Gunnison	
Below Gunnison Tunnel	5,120
Near Delta	8,490
San Miguel	
Near Placerville	735
Brooks Bridge, Nucla	731
Cimarron	
Near Cimarron	404
Dallas Creek	
Near Ridgway	32
Lake Fork	
Near Gateview	683
Animas River	
Near Durango	2,900

SNOW PACK

Red Mtn. Pass	11,200ft.	N/A
Schofield Pass	10,700ft.	21.6"
Upper Taylor	10,640ft.	0"
McClure Pass	9,500ft.	0"
Lizard Head Pass	10,200ft.	0"
Molas Lake	10,500ft.	0"
Wolf Creek Summit	11,200ft.	N/A
Lone Cone	9,600ft.	0"
Upper San Juan	10,200ft.	8.9"
Idarado	9,800ft.	0"

Latest readings available May 23. Snow pack inches equal snow water equivalent.

AREA WEEKEND WEATHER

	Sat		Sun		Precip.	
	HI	LO	HI	LO	Sat	Sun
Grand Junction	77	52	80	51	20%	20%
Lake City	61	38	65	39	30%	20%
Gunnison	65	36	70	37	20%	20%
Durango	71	44	76	44	10%	0%
Telluride	59	39	63	40	40%	20%
Dolores	70	44	74	44	0%	0%
Crested Butte	59	34	64	33	60%	40%
Denver	74	48	77	50	20%	20%
Colorado Springs	71	46	77	46	50%	30%
Moab, UT	82	55	85	55	0%	0%