Effective 1/1/2026

Part 4
Wildland Urban Interface Property

65A-8-401 Definitions.

As used in this section:

(1) "High risk wildland urban interface property" means property located within the boundary of high risk wildland urban interface as designated by the wildfire risk assessment tool in Subsection 65A-8-203(8)(a) and defined by rule made in accordance with Subsection 65A-8-402(5)(a).

(2) "Triage scale" means a scale with three classifications adopted by the division to evaluate and classify property located within the wildland urban interface as to what actions are needed to prepare the property for fire.

(3) "Wildland urban interface" means the same as that term is defined in Section 65A-1-1.

(4) "Wildland urban interface building standards" means the edition of the Utah Wildland Urban Interface Code adopted under Section 15A-2-103.

(5) "Wildland urban interface coordinator" means a representative of the division or a county who evaluates and classifies wildland urban interface property in accordance with Section 65A-8-402.

(6) "Wildland urban interface property and casualty insurer" means the same as that term is defined in Section 31A-22-1310.

Amended by Chapter 324, 2026 General Session

65A-8-402 Evaluation of wildland urban interface property -- Fee amounts -- Rulemaking.

(1)

(a) The division shall establish a program under which a wildland urban interface coordinator evaluates and classifies high risk wildland urban interface property using a triage scale.

(b) The wildland urban interface coordinator shall be:

(i) a representative of the division; or

(ii) if the evaluation and classification is assigned to a county, a representative of the county.

(c) At the beginning of each calendar year, the division shall determine whether to assign evaluation and classification under this section of high risk wildland urban interface property to a county.

(2) After completing the evaluation and classification under this section, the wildland urban interface coordinator shall inform a property owner of property described in Subsection (1)(a) of:

(a) the classification assigned to the property described in Subsection (1)(a) under the triage scale;

(b) the fee the property owner shall pay under Section 17E-7-401; and

(c) resources from the division or county that the property owner may access to bring the property described in Subsection (1)(a) to the first or second classification by applying wildland urban interface building standards.

(3) As part of the program established under this section, the division:

(a) may provide resources to a property owner described in Subsection (2)(b) to facilitate the property owner bringing the property described in Subsection (1)(a) to the first or second classification under the triage scale; and

(b) beginning on January 1, 2028, shall develop and maintain a database that may be accessed by a wildland urban interface property and casualty insurer to learn the classification under the triage scale for any portion of high risk wildland urban interface property to be covered by the wildland urban interface property and casualty insurer.

(4)

(a) The division shall annually set a fee amount that is based on the square footage of a structure within the high risk wildland urban interface to pay for the costs associated with the implementation of this part to be assessed and collected by a county in accordance with Section 17E-7-401.

(b) The division may tier the fee amount to account for what level on the triage scale a property is assigned by a wildland urban interface coordinator.

(5) The division may make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to:

(a) define high risk wildland urban interface property and wildland urban interface property that is not high risk as provided in Subsection 65A-8-203(8)(b);

(b) establish the criteria used to evaluate and classify property located within high risk wildland urban interface property;

(c) create a process by which the division and counties communicate classifications assigned to property described in Subsection (1)(a);

(d) create a process for communicating to a property owner the information described in Subsection (2);

(e) establish how the division may provide resources under Subsection (3);

(f) create a process for a wildland urban interface property and casualty insurer to learn the classification described in Subsection (3)(b); and

(g) establish how the fee amount described in Subsection (4) is set.

Amended by Chapter 17, 2025 Special Session 1

65A-8-403 Liability.

This part does not create a cause of action against the state, the division, an officer, employee, or consultant of the division, a county, or a wildland urban interface coordinator for an act or failure to act under this part and does not waive governmental immunity in accordance with Subsection 63G-7-201(5).

Enacted by Chapter 74, 2025 General Session