



# Position Statement

## **Recommended Wildland Fire Mitigation Practices for Property Owners and Guidelines for Use of Private Resources**

**The IAFC adopts the position which encourages homeowners to take proper steps to defend their home prior to a wildland fire event. It additionally provides guidance for local fire departments that may find themselves working with private resources during an significant wildland fire incident.**

The IAFC encourages property owners to protect their homes before they are threatened by wildfires and recommends that property owners follow FIREWISE and Fire Safe Program provisions (defensible space), retrofit their homes to modern wildland building standards and install fixed fire protection systems (internal & external). These proactive measures have proven themselves highly effective in protecting homes in the wildland urban interface areas. Private fire protection resources engaged to prepare homes threatened by wildland fires must adhere to evacuation orders if and when issued. Many homes are destroyed during the early stages of a wildfire when fire resources, including public & private, are limited. Homes and communities located in the wildland urban interface zones should be designed to withstand fire without any fire resources assigned to them.

**Adopted by: IAFC Board of Directors  
Date of Adoption: 12 August 2008**