

Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI)

Meeting the requirements of H.B. 48

City Council
Discussion and possible action
February 24, 2026

**Landscaping
in the Utah
Wildland-
Urban
Interface**

*USU Cooperative
Extension*



Division of Responsibilities H.B. 48

Utah DNR

- Create a map of high-risk properties (7+ SES[†])
- Assess properties annually
- Assess a fee to high-risk property owners

Counties

- Collect fees assessed by the state
- May cover their own costs too
- Adopt the WUI* Code
 - Create a map of properties affected by the WUI Code (5+ SES)
 - Enforce WUI Code

Cities

Adopt the WUI Code

- Create a map of properties affected by the WUI Code (5+ SES)
- Enforce WUI Code

Residents

State high-risk map

- Pay state fee to county annually
- Assess property with the state annually

City map

- New construction meets WUI Code
- Existing construction requires defensible space in WUI Code

*WUI - Wildland-Urban Interface [†]SES - Structure Exposure Score.

Wildfire Risk & Preparation

1. High risk

- State will identify these properties on a map
- Required to be assessed and pay fee
- If also on City map, required to meet the WUI Code

2. Moderate-high risk

- City will identify these properties on a map
- Required to meet the WUI Code

3. Moderate & low risk

- City may assess the level of preparation needed
- No action required by the state

Tools

1. State WUI Code
2. City WUI Code
3. Education

What Does the WUI Code Require?

“Structural modifications can reduce wildfire risk up to 40%”

Center for Insurance Policy Research, NAIC



Images illustrate affected areas, rather than specific requirements:
2025 Wildfire Prepared Home™ Technical Standard 9

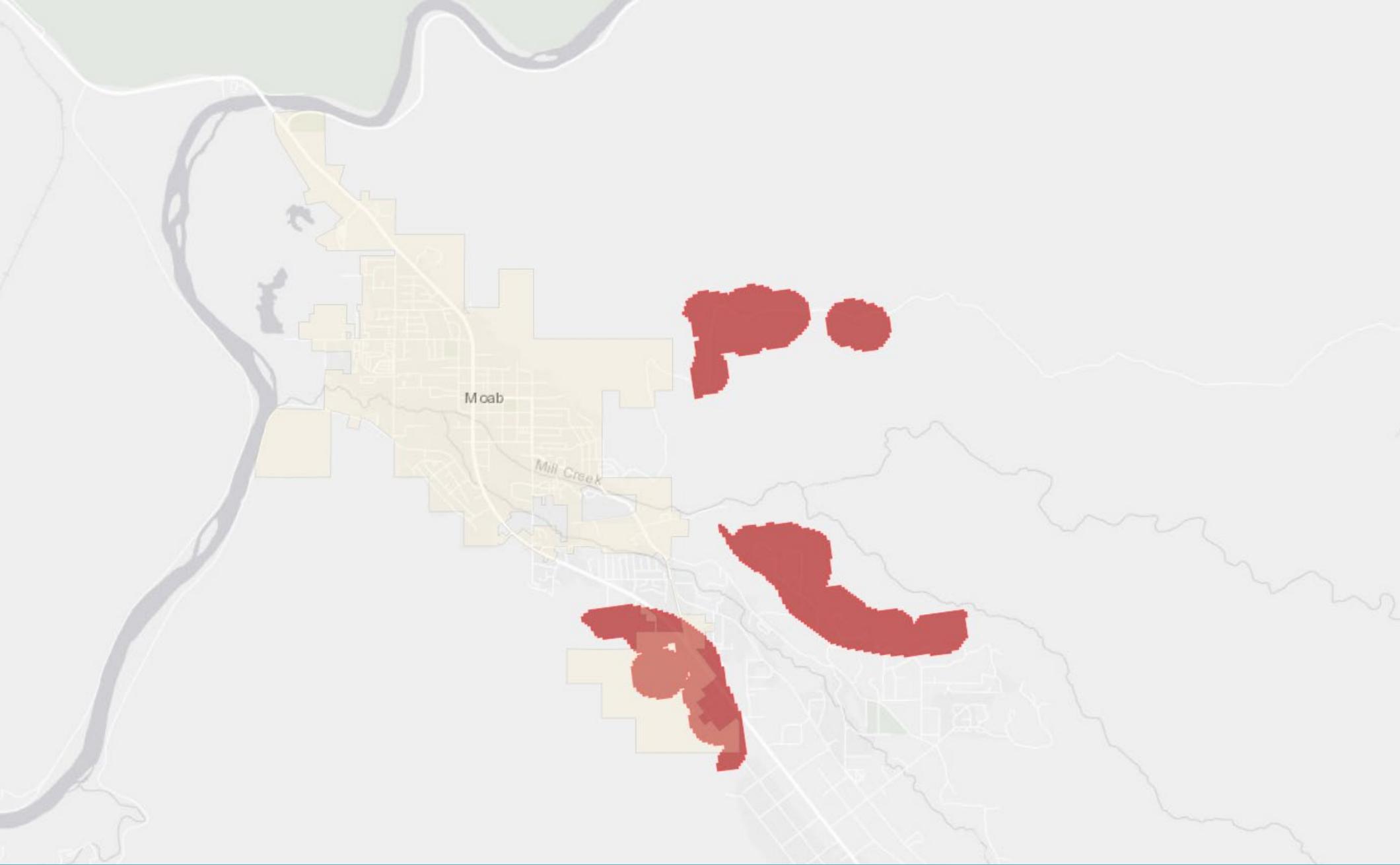
New Construction Must:

- Use fire-rated construction materials
- Provide water supply and access
- Establish defensible space prior to occupancy
- Manage vegetation

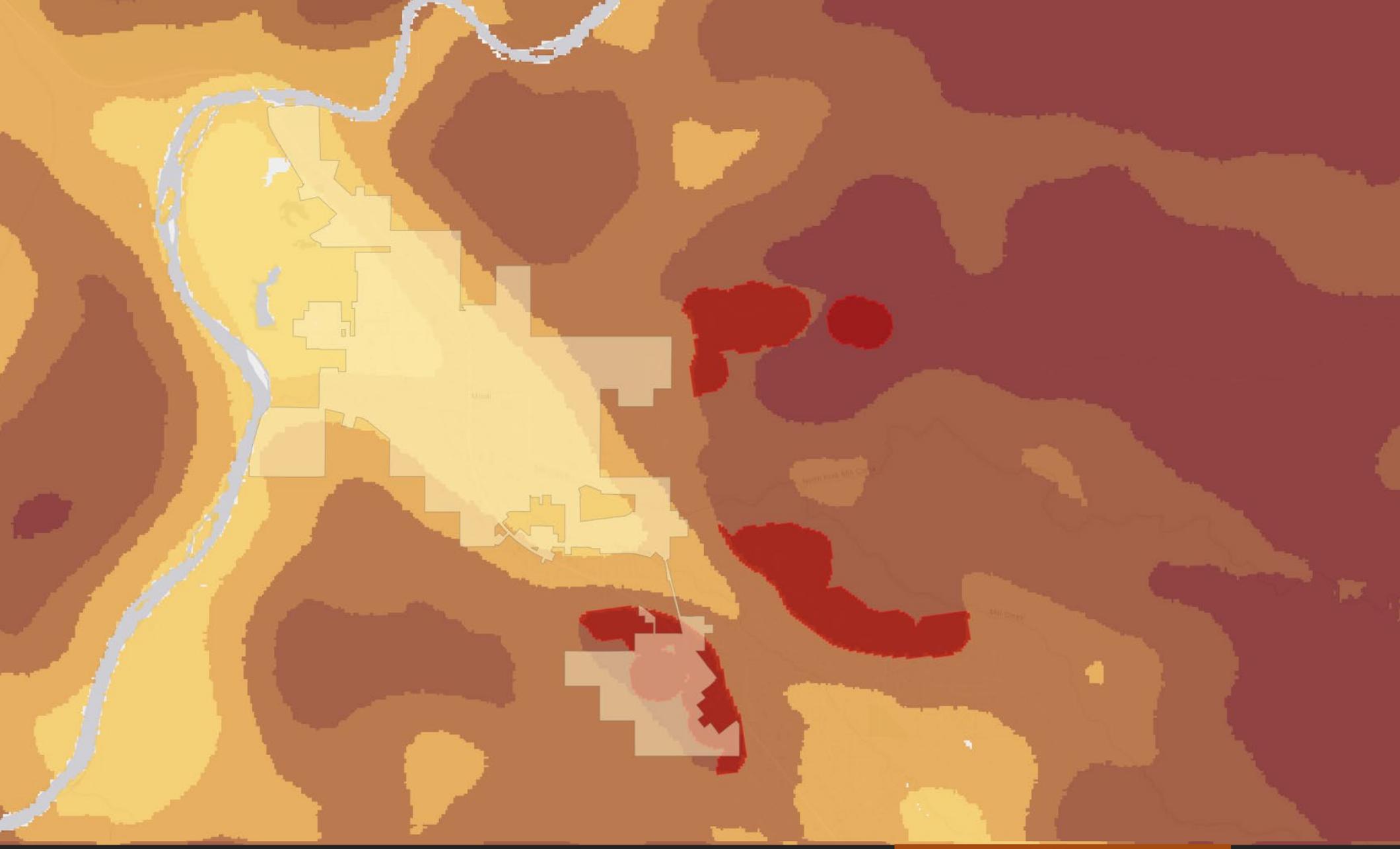
Existing Construction Must:

- Meet WUI code in new additions or construction
- Update roof to WUI Code if $\geq 25\%$ replaced a 12-month period
- Add fire arrestors to fireplaces, barbecues, etc.
- Establish defensible space
- Unsafe conditions may be required to be corrected

Utah High Risk Wildland-Urban Interface Map



Utah High Risk Wildland-Urban Interface Map

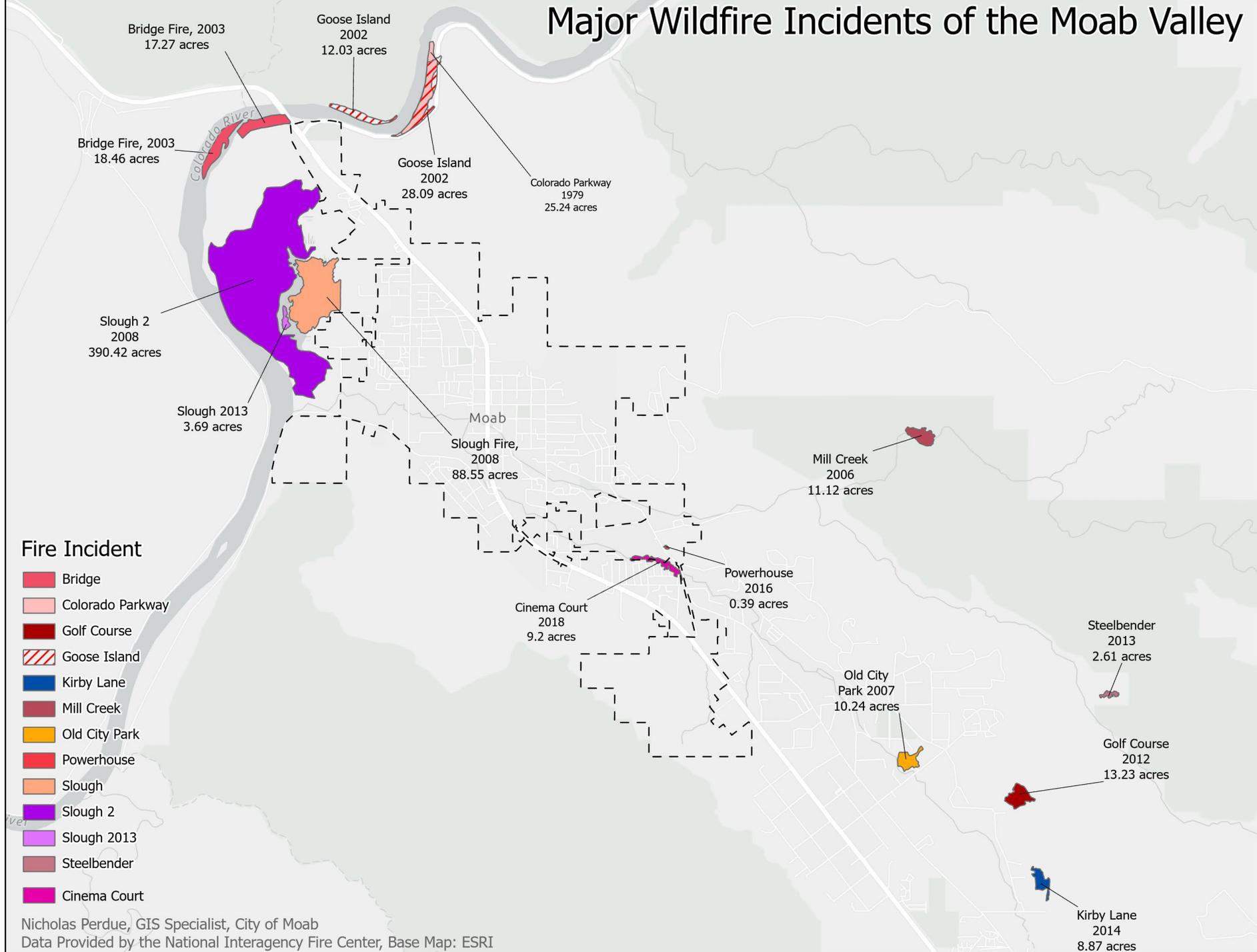


Grand County
& Moab
Community
Wildfire
Preparedness
Plan



Major Wildfire Incidents of the Moab Valley

Wildfire History Map

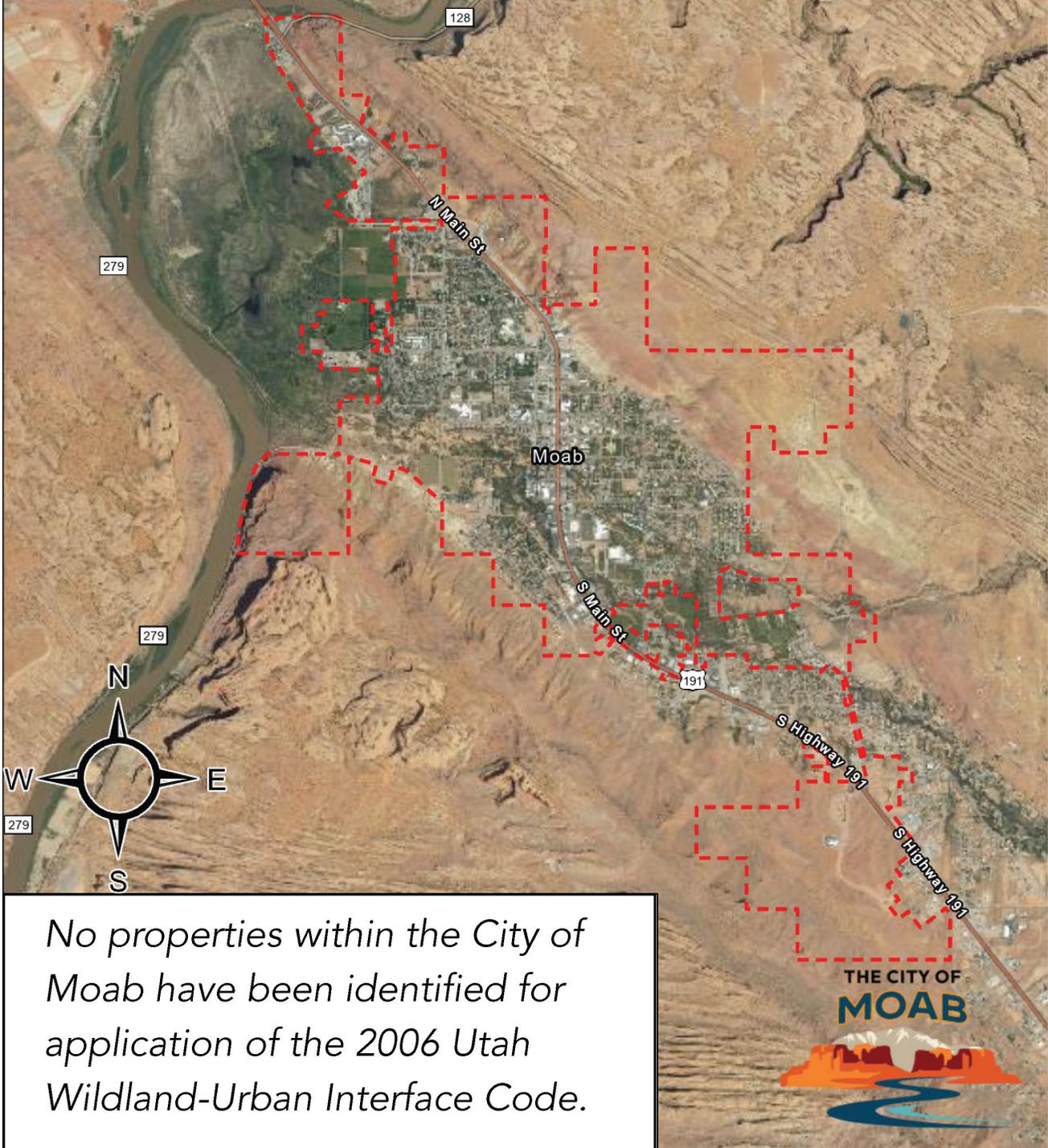


Fire Incident

- Bridge
- Colorado Parkway
- Golf Course
- Goose Island
- Kirby Lane
- Mill Creek
- Old City Park
- Powerhouse
- Slough
- Slough 2
- Slough 2013
- Steelbender
- Cinema Court

Nicholas Perdue, GIS Specialist, City of Moab
 Data Provided by the National Interagency Fire Center, Base Map: ESRI

City of Moab
Proposed Utah
Wildland-Urban
Interface Code
(UWUIC) Map



No properties within the City of Moab have been identified for application of the 2006 Utah Wildland-Urban Interface Code.

HB48: Utah Wildland-Urban Interface Code Timeline

Mar. 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signed by Governor– H.B.48: Wildland Urban Interface Modifications act
Oct. 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moab began consultation with Rim to Rim on code and map review
Nov. 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff consulted with City Attorney• Forestry, Fire & State Lands hosted public meetings on HB 48
Dec. 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utah posted state high risk map• Planning Commission discussed WUI
Jan. 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moab Valley Fire Department, Grand County Emergency Management, and Rim to Rim Restoration reviewed City UWUIC map• Moab and Grand County adopted updates to the Community Wildfire Preparedness plan
Feb 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning Commission recommended approval of the WUI map and code• City Council considers WUI map and code