

MEGGAN HERINGTON, AICP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Date: May 26, 2025

To: Industry Partners and Planning and Community Development Staff (PCD)

From: Meggan Herington, AICP, Executive Director

Re: Acceptable qualifications for determining a qualified professional

Section 6.3.3 (D)(2)(a) of the Land Development Code requires that wildland fire risk and hazard mitigation plans shall be prepared by qualified professionals. Section 1.15 of the Land Development Code defines a qualified professional as:

"A professional acceptable to the County, and who is either licensed by the State of Colorado to perform the type of work involved, who is accredited by or registered with a professional group and who is operating within the scope of accreditation or registration, or who is specifically or specially qualified to perform the type of work involved".

One or more of the following are acceptable to the County for the purpose of creating and submitting a wildland fire risk and hazard mitigation plan:

- Bachelor's degree in forestry, natural resource management or other similar fields and 2 years' experience in wildfire operations
- Fire Protection Professional Engineer's License and the following wildland fire fighting training:
 - S-130 Basic Wildland Firefighting
 - S-190 Basic Fire Behavior
 - S-215 Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface
 - S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior
 - S-390 Introduction to Wildfire Behavior Calculations

- Five years of documented WUI firefighting and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) workshop “assessing wildfire hazards in the home ignition zone” or NFPA Certified Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (CWMS) and the following wildland fire fighting training:
 - S-130 Basic Wildland Firefighting
 - S-190 Basic Fire Behavior
 - S-215 Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface
 - S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior
 - S-390 Introduction to Wildfire Behavior Calculations

For any degree, experience, certificates/licensing not listed above, please contact Mindy Schulz, Deputy Executive Director, at mindyschulz@elpasoco.com.