

STARWEATHER COMMUNITY FIREWISE INFORMATION

This document outlines the following information:

1. Starweather Firewise Committee
2. What is Firewise?
3. Free personal property risk assessment
4. Blaine County's Starweather Community Risk Assessment
5. Starweather Fire Hydrant Map

1. STARWEATHER FIREWISE COMMITTEE:

Starweather has started a homeowner volunteer Firewise Committee whose goal is to educate the community on how to make our homes and common area's more "wildfire - fire resistant". We are working in conjunction with Chris Corwin, Blaine County Disaster Services Coordinator to evaluate our community risk and develop a community plan to help us become a more fire-resistant community.

If you are interested in joining the Starweather Firewise Committee, please contact Amanda Porino at aatwill@gmail.com

2. What is Firewise and how do I educate myself?

Below is a link to the Idaho Firewise website. This site is full of information around what Firewise is, what you can do as a homeowner not just for wildfires but for other emergency situations.

<https://idahofirewise.org/firewise-homes/home-evaluations/>

3. Free Homeowner Risk Assessments:

Blaine County offers free home risk assessments that provide homeowners with an evaluation of their home's existing conditions & recommended steps to protect your property in case of a wildland fire situation. This information is completed through the Blaine County Disaster Service and is not shared with any person or organization.

If interested fill out the form using the following link:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/88c0dfff48e44a07a2fa27718f6432de>

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4. COMMUNITY RISK ASSESSMENT *(Completed by Chris Corwin)*

Wildfire Risk Assessment of Starweather Subdivision

Location:

Starweather Subdivision is located in unincorporated Blaine County, Idaho. It is approximately 4 miles north of Hailey, Idaho.

Population:

The population of the Starweather subdivision is estimated to be about 75 full-time residents and about 25 part-time residents.

Access:

Starweather is accessed by State Highway 75 at the intersection with Starweather Road. It is approximately 4 miles north of the City of Hailey on State Highway 75. Starweather Road and the other roads in the subdivision are privately owned and maintained by the HOA. They are all paved roads. Starweather Drive has an 80 ft Right of Way, Teal Drive has a 60 ft Right of Way, and Mallard Lane has a 60 ft Right of Way. All roads are accessible 365 days a year.

Community Infrastructure:

Starweather Subdivision currently consists of 64 lots. Nine (9) of those lots are owned by the HOA and are “common areas” for use by all residents. There are 43 homes on the other lots. There are 12 empty lots in 2023 (according to aerial images). All structures are residential homes. According to the HOA, approximately 75% of the homes are primary residences and the other 25% are second homes. The homes have a wide range of construction types. Homes are addressed according to NENA Next Generation 911 standards. Each home has its own well and septic system. There is land line service by Century Link (owned by Lumen). There is internet available by Cox and Century Link. Cell service by Verizon, AT&T and T-Mobile is available in the area. There are 11 pressurized hydrants and one Fire Department Connection to a pond to pump water from. Electricity is provided by Idaho Power and natural gas is provided by Intermountain Gas.

Governance:

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Starweather is governed by an active HOA and has developed a Wildfire Preparedness Sub Committee.

Fire Protection Services:

Starweather is located within the BC South Fire District. This fire district was formerly named Wood River Fire and Rescue. There are talks about it merging with another fire district within the next 2 years. BC South's Fire station is located in Hailey, ID, about 5 miles away from the entrance to the subdivision. There is another fire station run by North Blaine County Fire District that is located 1.5 miles north of the entrance to the subdivision.

Geography:

Starweather Subdivision sits in the historic river bottom of the Big Wood River. It is bound on the west side by the Big Wood River, and then further west by private land and BLM land. This land consists of hills and sage brush, with the forest about 2 miles west of the border of the subdivision. The east side of the subdivision is bound by State Highway 75 and a valley bottom that is mostly developed around it. About 2 miles to the east, the land becomes BLM land that is mostly sage covered.

Vegetation:

Vegetation within the subdivision is mostly cottonwoods, aspens and landscaped conifers like blue spruce. From my observations, all lots that have been built on have manicured and landscaped lawns around the homes, with grass and trees. Work was completed in 2018-2019 to remove wild vegetation in the common areas. The HOA is working on a plan for maintenance of the areas previously treated.

Fire History:

Starweather was affected by the 2015 Beaver Creek Fire as it burned on the west side of the subdivision and embers started fires within the common area on the west side of the subdivision. No homes were ignited or lost.

Wildfire Risk:

The wildfire risk for Starweather subdivision is HIGH because of the high fuel load, houses with wood shake roofs and high wildfire potential in the lands that surround it. I would not list it as very high, as the area is in a riverine area that does afford the community a good deal of continued moisture throughout the year. But with potential drought conditions, the vegetation could quickly become stressed during the late summer and early fall, greatly increasing the fire potential.

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5. STARWEATHER FIRE HYDRANT MAP

