

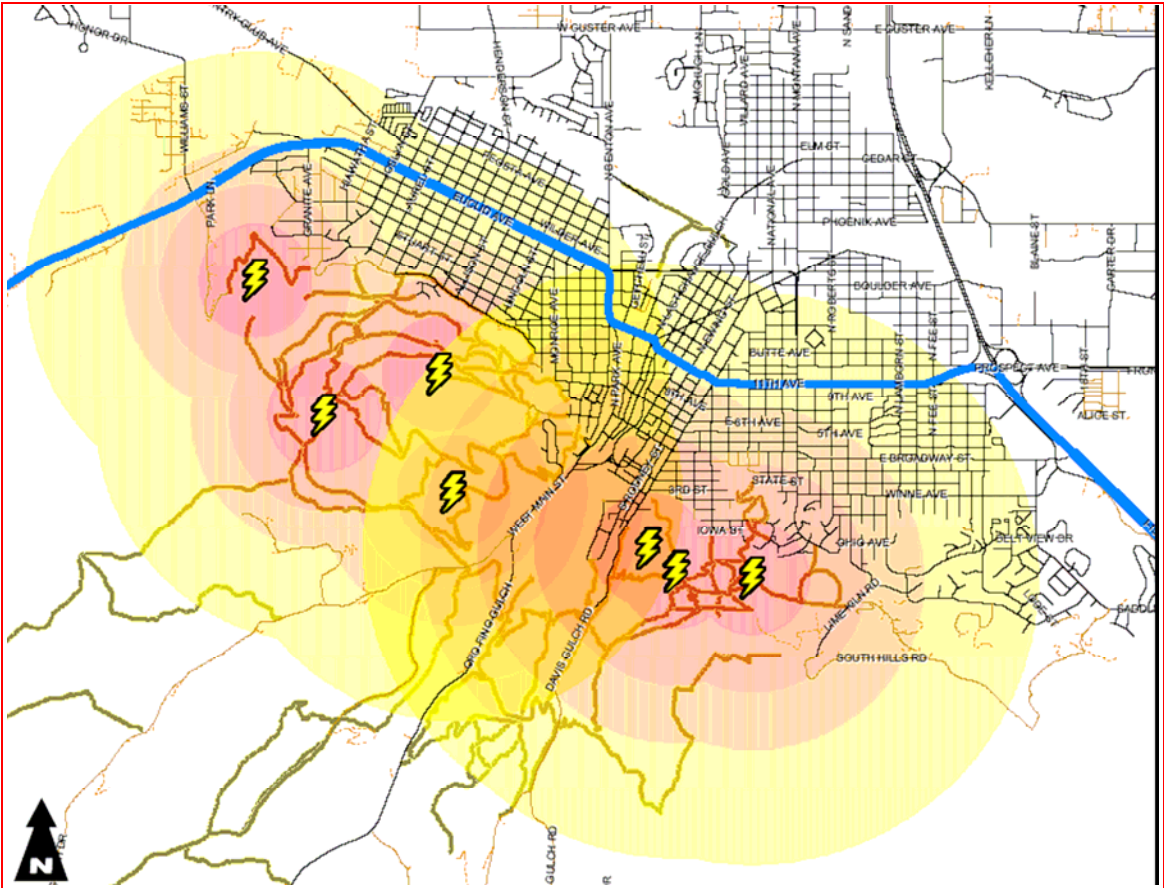


WILDFIRE

The community of Helena is vulnerable to wildfire. Forested areas run the entire length of our southern boundary. This area provides beauty and recreational opportunities for all. More and more homes are being built and our recreational opportunities are increasing in these areas. Historical data shows us that our forests are overgrown; science shows that the climate is becoming dryer and warmer, and sound judgment indicates fires (both natural and human caused) will continue to occur. One major wildfire could potentially devastate our community. Whether by a wildfire front, where the fire burns into our community, or by firebrands (embers) traveling long distances on air currents in front of the main fire igniting susceptible fuels, **the potential is real.**

The map below shows the possible **Wildfire Impact Zone** (Wildland Urban Interface Zone) that could be threatened by fire in the event of a wildfire on the City of Helena's southern boundary. The colors indicate the distance firebrands will travel on air currents in front of the main fire igniting susceptible fuels. Homeowners in this Zone should prepare their home and property to survive without assistance.

RED = 10-20 MPH WIND
ORANGE = 30-40 MPH WIND
YELLOW = 50- MPH WIND



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