

ERS Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Aging and Wildfire Risk to Communities

Type of Report
(ERR, EIB, EB) EIB

Agency: Economic Research Service [X] Influential Scientific Information
USDA [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: Climate change, expanding housing development into wildlands, and legacies of fire suppression and forest management policies have led to dramatic increases in wildfire risks to communities. At the same time, the average age of the population of the United States is increasing as the number of older people grows while the proportion of younger people contracts (population aging). This is especially true in rural areas where aging in place, out-migration of young adults, and in-migration of older people change the population composition. Older people need different kinds of resources and programs to mitigate their risk to wildfire. Despite this growing risk to a particularly vulnerable population, current research does not capture the extent to which (or where) older people live in locations that are at higher risk of wildfire impacting their homes with geographic specificity. This study provides that information, reporting on the growing number of people 60 years and older living in high-risk blocks by state, county, and fireshed (a wildfire management unit developed by the Forest Service).

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: [] Panel Review [X] Individual Reviewers
[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 2/9/2024 Completed: ---

Number of Reviewers: [] 3 or fewer [X] 4 to 10 [] More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [] Designated Outside Organization

Opportunities for Public Comment? [] Yes [X] No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How:

