

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



P.O. Box 1225 - Quincy, CA 95971
530 283-0829
www.plumasfiresafe.org

Meeting Notes

Thursday August 14, 2008 - 9:00 am.

Plumas County
Planning & Building Services Conference Room
555 Main Street – Quincy, CA

Board of Directors

Brian West, Chair (08)
Mike Callaghan, Vice Chair (10)
Ed Harrison, Secretary (08)
Jim Graham, Treasurer (09)
Andy Anderson (09)
Jim Hamblin (09)
Frank Stewart (08)
Dale Meese (08)
Allan Setzer (09)
Jay Skutt (10)

OLD BUSINESS

1. Welcome & Introductions- Brian West
2. Next meeting –**September 11, 2008**
3. Review/Approve minutes from June 12, 2007 meeting – Brian West – **Not Acted on**
5. Public Comment - Brian West - **None**
6. Status update of Current Grants. (Refer to Grant Summary Sheets)
 - A. PC FSC 02- 9 – NS AQMD Chipping in lieu of burning –John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - B. PC FSC 04-4 & 12 - Canyon Dam HFR - 900 acres– John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - C. PC FSC 04-6 - County Stewardship Proposal – John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**
 - D. PC FSC 05-3, 7, & 07-8 - Greenhorn HFR 30 acres – John Sheehan – **Contract awarded to Pearson Wildland Fuel Reduction. Work expected to start in September.**
 - E. PC FSC 05-4, 8 & 08-4 - Grizzly Ck. HFR- 128 acres – John Sheehan – **Two bids evaluated. Work will be gin by Firestorm within next two weeks. About .5 acre of hand piling & 10 acres of mastication.**
 - F. PC FSC 03-1, 05-5, 06-2 & 5 – Eastern Plumas HFR – 175 acres - John Sheehan – **Nothing New to Report.**

- G. PC FSC 06-4 & 10 – Little Grass Valley HFR – 111 acres - John Sheehan - **Soper-Wheeler looking for another logger to harvest as the one lined up fell out.**
- H. PC FSC 06-6 – La Porte Pines HFR – 75 acres - John Sheehan – **Not yet started, waiting on USFS to begin the mastication project.**
- I. PC FSC 07-1 & 4 - Indian Valley HFR-200 acres – John Sheehan – **Bids due 8/22. Landowner agreements are being finalized. Current landowner cash contribution is \$50.**
- J. PC FSC 07-2 - La Porte Road HFR – 100 acres – John Sheehan – **Final preparations made on 8/11. Negative Declaration needs to be approved. No sawlogs to be removed, but chips to go to SPI in Quincy. Expect up to \$100 cash cost share from landowners. Prospectus to be out next month.**
- K. PC FSC 07-4 & 08-2 - PC FSC Council Coordination 2007-2009– John Sheehan – **Work continues with providing presentations at homeowner association meetings, purchasing materials for community meetings, sharing of firesafe information, preparing a Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) grant proposals for funding of additional HFR planning & outreach.**
- L. PC FSC 07-5 – C Road right-of-way planning – John Sheehan – **RPF still working with landowners on property boundaries.**
- M. PC FSC 07-6 – Taylorsville HFR – 30 acres – John Sheehan – **Piling completed. Burning will commence in the fall.**
- N. PC FSC 07-9 – Elderly/Disabled Defensible Space – John Sheehan – **Currently 21 properties planned for treatment. Prospectus for bids is out and will be considered around the first of September.**
- O. PC FSC 07-10 - County Educational Workshops - John Sheehan – **John attended a meeting with Little Grass Valley homeowners to discuss wildfire mitigation efforts to help protect communities.**
- P. PC FSC 08- 1 - Gold Mtn. HFR - John Sheehan- **Graeagle Land & Water has begun some biomass harvesting in this project area. Mastication treatment will follow-up where needed to treat brush and stands not viable for biomass harvesting. Gold Mtn. is using some of the in-kind match for the grant to increase the harvesting viability. It is estimated that about 60 acres will require mastication.**
- Q. PC FSC 08- 3 - HFR Project Development –John Sheehan – **Funds from this project will also be leveraged toward a SNC planning grant.**

7. Status update of proposed Grant Proposals. – John Sheehan – **A \$75,000 planning grant is being prepared for SNC to fund additional outreach, obtain landowner agreements, establish monitoring plots and CEQA preparation for Indian Valley, La Porte Road and Quincy. PC FSC Board Memembers voted to pass Resolution 08-03 authorizing application to SNC fro grant funds to support a County HFR project.**
8. HFQLG –HFR project overview/relation to communities’ opportunities - Project mapping integration involving USFS, CDF and Fire Safe Council - PNF’s fuel reduction out year program of work – Allan Setzer – **Most agency personnel are focused on firefighting. No activity to report.**
9. Implementation of the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) – Jim Graham- **Nothing New to report. The Monthly Emergency Services Feasibility Study Group meting was canceled. Efforts continue to try and incorporate an umber of our CWPP recommendations into County Fire Improvement Standards.**
10. Defensible Space on Public Lands – Larry Craggs – **Nothing New to Report.**
11. Secure Rural Schools Funding – Frank Stewart – **Senator Wyden attempting to get a 4 year version attached to the spending bill.**
12. CA FSC legislative issues – Frank Stewart – **Governor signed SCR-80 (see below) recognizing the important role that Fire Safe Councils play at the local level. This resolution will also be used to gain state funding for Fire Safe Council efforts.**
13. Update of local FSC (Almanor Basin & Gold Mtn.) activities – Jerry Hurley – **Almanor Basin FSC hosted an information booth at Chester’s 4th of July activities. Dale has also spread newsletter information wildfire mitigation. Gold Mtn. is working with Graeagle Land & Water on the fuelbreak adjacent to their community. They are also working to complete Educational Defensible Space Consultation to their homeowners.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. HFR Cost contribution by participating landowners – John Sheehan – **Currently cash contributions are written into the Landowner Agreements for Indian Valley & La Port Rd,. Further discussion on a more uniform approach is necessary.**

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 80, Cogdill. Fire Safe Councils.

This measure would recognize that Fire Safe Councils serve as leading community-based wildfire preparedness organizations and the vital services provided by Fire Safe Councils for the citizens of California.

WHEREAS, The California wildfires of 2007 have garnered broad public attention due to the severity of the damage and expanse of the areas consumed by those wildfires; and

WHEREAS, The State of California has a compelling interest in reducing the threats of wildfires, including threats to lives, property, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, The state's increasing population and the threat of catastrophic wildfires will affect vast acres of private and public forests, wildland-urban interface, homes, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, Wildfire has become a significant threat to the state's environmental health and public safety; and

WHEREAS, Wildfire threats present an increased challenge for efforts to reduce carbon emissions; and

WHEREAS, The California Fire Safe Council and other Fire Safe Councils play critical roles in mobilizing Californians to protect their homes, communities, and environment from wildfire; and

WHEREAS, All local Fire Safe Councils work to educate communities, provide wildfire safety planning, fire prevention, and educational programs throughout the state and remain a critical component of statewide fire protection efforts; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature recognizes that the Fire Safe Councils serve as leading community-based wildfire preparedness organizations; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature recognizes the vital services provided by the Fire Safe Councils for the citizens of California; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.