

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



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Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 12, 2015 - 9:00 am.
Plumas County
Planning & Building Services Conference Room
555 Main Street – Quincy, CA

Board of Directors

Mike De Lasaux, Chair (16)
Chuck Bowman, Vice Chair (15)
Mike Callaghan, Sect/Treasurer (16)
Jim Hamblin (15)
Deb Bumpus (15)
Shane Vargas (16)
Jerry Sipe (16)

PC FSC will comply with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) by making every reasonable attempt to accommodate any attendee or participant at our meetings needing special assistance beyond what is normally provided. Please contact the Plumas Corporation at 530-283-3739 at least 5 business days prior to a scheduled meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible. Please advise us at the time you call if special assistance is required to attend or participate in meetings on a regular basis.

Mission Statement:

“To reduce the loss of natural and human made resources caused by wildfire through Firewise Community programs and pre-fire activities.”

2014 Goals:

- Implement and amend as necessary the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP);
- Increase public knowledge and awareness of hazards associated with wildland fire and inform the public about efforts that can be made to reduce their vulnerability to wildland fire;
- Increase community-based involvement in fuels reduction and facilitate the development of additional Firewise Communities in Plumas County;
- Identify, develop and implement community hazardous fuel reduction projects;
- Develop a strategy to provide for sustainable and renewable project funding and reduce the Council's dependence on grant funding;
- Explore green waste disposal and community chipping options for all communities in the County.

1. Welcome & Introductions--Mike De Lasaux
2. Review Agenda--Mike De Lasaux
3. Review Meeting Minutes--Mike De Lasaux
4. Public Comments--Mike De Lasaux
5. Discussion of potential PC FSC funding sources--Nils Lunder, Mike De Lasaux
 - Update on SRA and GHG concept proposal submissions
 - California Fire Safe Council 2015 Grant Program
6. Status update of Current Grants-- Nils Lunder

- A. PC FSC 09-1- SNC-Community HFR Planning & Project Development-Nils **announced that this grant is in its last month and that the PC FSC is taking advantage of the remaining funds to develop landowner contact information for numerous communities. Also the forester is using these funds to develop HFR projects**
- B. PC FSC 10-7 –Stevens 2010- In-kind, C Road-Nils **reported that the remaining in-kind funds from these grants are being used to complete HFR projects in Whitehawk and C-Road. A prospectus is being finalized and prepared for distribution by mid February for the Whitehawk project and the C-Road Narrows project is being developed at this time**
- C. PC FSC 11-3- PC FSC Council Coordination 2014-2015-**Funds remain to cover the coordination of the Council**
- D. PC FSC 11-2 –Stevens 2011– 200 acres of Soper-Wheeler lands in 3 areas-Nils **reported that Soper Wheeler is taking advantage of a demand for biomass at SPI in Quincy. They will be working with Doug Stoy logging to treat lands near Lee Summit**
- E. PC FSC 11-4 – RAC – Cutler Meadow/La Porte Rd II HFR (partial) 75 acres-A **decision memo has been submitted to the PNF, once signed, then the Council will enter into contracts with landowners and will develop a prospectus for treatment of lands near Culter Meadows**
- F. PC FSC 12-3 – SNC Prop 84 – La Porte Rd. II HFR-The Council was recently **approached by a landowner seeking assistance with the treatment of 7 acres in the project area. Dan Martynn of the NRCS urged the Council to work to include an adjoining property owned by the Farnsworth family into the project. Nils will inquire with the SNC regarding the process of doing so. Time is of the essence as the grant expires in late June. Nils will contact the SNC to see if this is possible.**
- G. PC FSC 12-1 –Stevens 2012 – 698 acres of Soper-Wheeler, GL&W, & BNRRL lands-**Nothing to report on this project**
- H. PC FSC 14-1 – Stevens 2014 -West Quincy Highway 70 – HFR 65 acres-Nils **is working to secure landowners to move this project forward**
- I. PC FSC 13-4 – RAC – Crescent Grade II. HFR-68 acres-A **contractor will begin work in mid-February to treat the remaining 40 acres of this project**
- J. PC FSC 13-5 – RAC - Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project-The **project is rolling forward, the first public meeting occurred on February 11 in Quincy, three additional public meetings are scheduled for the next three weeks, the website is functioning and innovative**
- K. PC FSC 13-1 - CA FSC Clearinghouse - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance-**This grant will be expiring in late February, approximately \$4,000 will be returned to the CA FSC due to difficulties securing adequate matching funds, Nils and Mike will work to complete the final report**
- L. PC FSC 13-2– Greenhorn CSD -Firewise Communities USA & CWPP Development-**The community is now recognized Firewise, the next step is to develop a CWPP for the Greenhorn area. The Council will support this effort**
- M. PC FSC 13-6 – Title III - Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance –Coordinator-**Funds will be used to cover Mike McCourt’s coordination of the program**

Updates

- 1. Review and approve 2015 Goals-Mike DeLasaux-After a review of the 2014 Goals and a discussion, Don Fregulia made a motion to approve those goals for 2015, Jim Hamblin seconded, the vote was unanimous**
- 2. Plumas County OES activities-Jerry Sipe/Sue McCourt-Jerry Sipe was not in attendance; Sue McCourt discussed their efforts to improve evacuation maps for numerous communities throughout the County. Ryan Bauer of the USFS opened a dialogue regarding the Butt Valley Reservoir; his concern was that the main road that passes the reservoir is an important evacuation route for residents of Seneca, but that the route was not shown on a recent version of the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) map. He recommended that this detail should be reconciled before another WUI map is generated.**
- 3. Implementation of the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), fuel reduction projects, local Firewise Community activities, community events – Nils Lunder, Mike Callahan, Chuck Bowman, Sue McCourt-Cary Curtis attended the meeting on behalf of the Gold Mountain community as a board member of their Firewise Committee. She reported that their community has adopted a Hazardous Fuels Reduction program that is supported by their Codes, Covenants and Restrictions (CC&Rs) and that this program will increase the leverage of that Home Owners Association to enforce residential HFR maintenance.**

The goal of the program will be to increase the resilience of their community to wildfire by 2017. The group decided that it would be good to develop a news article on this effort and to showcase Gold Mountain as an example of how local communities can work together to get residents to make efforts to ensure that all property owners are held accountable for their properties. Cary and Nils will coordinate with others to develop this effort.

Nils discussed progress that is being made on the development of HFR projects in Whitehawk, C-Road and La Porte Road. A prospectus for treatment in Whitehawk will be sent next week and a pre bid tour has been scheduled. Nils has been in communication with Union Pacific Railroad regarding the clearance of vegetation on their property at the base of C-Road and he is optimistic that this relationship will lead to future collaboration between Union Pacific and the PC FSC on future projects.

When discussing the La Porte Road project, Dan Martynn of the NRCS recommended that the PC FSC considers assisting the Farnsworth family to treat a strategic property adjacent to the project area. Dan also mentioned that it would be helpful for there to be maps of the project areas during discussions of PC FSC efforts in order to help attendees visualize where the projects occur. Nils will work on developing some type of visual representation of project areas.

Nils also shared with the group that Bailey Creek, Mohawk Vista and Grizzly Ranch have draft Firewise Community Assessments and those drafts have been circulated to residents and are all nearing final status.

A discussion occurred regarding the prioritization of future projects. Mike D asked if staff from the USFS would be able to revisit the 2004 Plumas County Hazardous Fuels Assessment in order to help determine which communities in the County have the strongest need for projects. It was agreed that these efforts will help us to develop future HFR projects, especially as the Feather River Integrated Regional Watershed Management plan is developed.

4. **CAL FIRE Update-Shane Vargas-Shane was not there. Scott Roskiewitz attended on behalf of CAL FIRE. Scott announced that Greenhouse Gas letters will be sent out shortly. He also said that the LMU had 9 applications for the first round of SRA Grant funds. Of those 5 came from Plumas, 2 came from Lassen and 2 came from Modoc County. Nils announced that he will be sending the Board of the PC FSC a draft of the updated plan for review early next week.**

Sue McCourt asked if we could have a County green waste disposal section added to the Updates portion of the meeting.

Ryan Bauer asked if we could have a USFS HFR update in the same section. Nils will add those to the March Agenda.

5. Adjournment, next meeting March 12, 2015