

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



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www.plumasfiresafe.org

Meeting Notes
Thursday March 13, 2014 - 9:00 am.
Plumas County
Planning & Building Services Conference Room
555 Main Street – Quincy, CA

Board of Directors

Mike De Lasaux, Chair (14)
Chuck Bowman, Vice Chair (15)
Mike Callaghan, Sect/Treasurer (14)
Jim Hamblin (15)
Deb Bumpus (15)
Shane Vargas (14)
Jerry Sipe (14)

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 Corp 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 Annual Goals:

- Implement and amend as necessary the Plumas County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP),
- Increase public knowledge and awareness of wildland fire hazard and efforts they can make to reduce their vulnerability,
- Develop additional community-based involvement and Firewise Communities,
- Implement community hazardous fuel reduction projects,
- Continue to pursue grant funds,
- Develop a strategy to provide for sustainable and renewable project funding and reduce the Council's dependence on grant funding.
- Explore green waste disposal options and community chipping options.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Welcome & Introductions- Mike De Lasaux
2. Review Agenda – Mike De Lasaux –[Approved by Chuck Bowman, seconded by Jim Hamblin](#)
3. Next meeting – April 10, 2014
4. Public Comment - Mike De Lasaux
5. Plumas County HFR Map – Presentation & Update Process – Mike De Lasaux-[Mike discussed the HFR mapping process and how it can lead to additional projects. These have included Long Valley,](#)

Graeagle, and Whitehawk. There are over 5,000 acres of projects planned for Soper Lands pending an outlet for biomass materials.

6. Discussion of potential PC FSC funding assistance programs - Mike De Lasaux-Mike discussed potential funding sources including the new California Lumber Tax; 1% of revenues from the sale of lumber are allocated to a variety of state agencies to reduce the cost of THP development, and forest restoration. Additionally, there may be funding coming in through the California Cap and Trade Program (up to \$50 million).

7. HFR Presentation Process Overview –Mike De LasauxPC FSC

Countywide HFR Map --Nils will be gathering GIS data from all stakeholders in order to develop a new database for the PC FSC. DCR has supplied a new work station that will house all data in one place. Nils will get data from Kyle Felker, Ralph Martinez, Soper, SPI, NRCS, and other partners.

1)

2) 2013 Completed HFR Projects

3) 2014 Active/Planned HFR Projects

a. Collaborative Landscape Forest Restoration Project (CLFR)

La Porte Rd. II-**192 planned acres dropped due to landowner opting out.- Acres reduced to 119**

50 acres of hand thin/ chip or swamper burn. Work halted due to dry weather conditions. Expect Firestorm to start burning. **Acres reduced to 39.**

X% completed

142 acres of Mastication in progress by Dan Winningham – **Acres Reduced to 80 X% completed**

Many of the acres have been treated. Wunningham has removed equipment due to wet soils on a number of parcels. Firestorm has been actively thinning and burning.

Cutler Meadows **Project needs NEPA Decision Memo**, NEPA, layout & developing prospectus. Funding with SNC & CAL FIRE appears sufficient to treat the properties with signed landowner contracts for La Porte Rd II, so these funds would go down the road to treat properties in Cutler Meadows. Treatments identified.

b. Crescent Grade II-Preparing the release of RFP to solicit RPF for future projects. Danielle/Kyle to freshen up flagging, prepare a prospectus, decide on acres that can be completed using funds

c. C Road- 2010 Stevens- Treatment option on 33 acres of planned biomass being reevaluated in light of the difficulty of selling chips from biomass treatments. Possibly MASTICATION WITH POSSIBLE FIREWOOD COMPONENT

d. Whitehawk - 2010 Stevens- Should funds remain after completion of the parcels on C-Road there is an opportunity to treat a 20-acre parcel inside Whitehawk Ranch, along the highway.

e. West Quincy Hwy 70 – 2014 Stevens-RFP will be released this week, landowner outreach is being conducted by coordinator.

4) Firewise Community HFR Projects

West Almanor HFR-2013 - The planned 1 acre treatment of a community parcel around the tennis courts was indeed completed, but we also added another 5 acres of treatment (thin, limb, cleanup) on a community parcel near Hwy 89.

2014 - The planned activity this year is basically oriented towards long-term maintenance of fire tolerant conditions. We will revisit the 16 acre greenbelt parcel that was treated about a decade ago under grant funding administered by PCFSC. That previous work has held up very nicely but, not surprisingly, we've got some regrowth to deal with. My estimate as that the actual ground to be treated will come to about 5 acres as we thin young trees and remove dead or emerging Manzanita

Graeagle FPD-FireWise is focused on Home Owner Associations. This district includes the communities of Mohawk Vista, Valley Ranch, Sierra Estates, and Graeagle. Last May a FireWise event was held with numerous volunteers, but landowner participation was disappointing to some of the event coordinators. This year Whitehawk Ranch will change their CC&Rs and their Architectural Review Committee to increase fire safety.

- a. Gold Mtn.-Gold Mountain has 600 acres of residential parcels that have not been treated. Of the total 400 parcels there, 318 are vacant. The community is hoping to treat approximately 15-30 acres each year. Most of the lots are 2 acres, some are as large as 10 acres.
- A. Sopher-Wheeler
 - a. Chandler/ Lee Summit – 2012 Stevens- NEPA DECISION MEMO SIGNED FROM MT. HOUGH RD. – PAUL VIOLETT LOOKING FOR A MARKET FOR CHIPS May drop a mastication unit. Will be seeking a Grant Extension
 - b. East Quincy/ Bufords – 2012 Stevens-Have THP in the works next to Chy Property in E. Quincy. Finished Massey Creek project in Meadow Valley last summer, but have additional work to do before it can be considered fire safe. Have projects coming up in Poplar Valley, Sloat, Big Hill and Squirrel Creek. Are in second review with Cal Fire on a project (not sure which project).
 - B. Graeagle Land & Water Co.-Barry Creek Project with Mohawk Ranger District, have submitted RPF information for NEPA Decision Memo's Pending – Company seeking a chip buyer.
 - C. Sierra Pacific Industries-Has a number of projects near Chester, the Lake Almanor Peninsula, along County Road A-13, near the Last Chance Campground, collaborated with the Lassen Fire Safe Council and others on a WUI thinning project at Clear Creek. Are planning on a project along State Route 89 West of Chester where they will be treating approximately 300 feet on either side of the highway.
 - D. Collins Pine
 - E. W.M. Beatty - No Planned Treatments
 - F. Chy
 - G. Fruit Growers
 - H. Feather River Land Trust-Approximately 50 acres of the Heart K Ranch have been thinned and burned by the Rancheria crew. This work has incorporated Maidu elders in the process and has become a platform for traditional land management teachings for all involved. The FRLT will be participating in a burn project with the Mt. Hough RD on lands in Genesee Valley in the near future.
 - I. Greenville Rancheria-Have a contract with the FRLT/FRRCD to thin 100 acres at the Heart K Ranch, have completed approximately 50 acres so far. Have some projects with NRCS/FRC in the near future. Have completed all mandatory burning along Highway 89 as a part of a collaborative project with the USFS-Madiu Cultural Group. Remaining piles are now responsibility of the USFS.

- J. PG & E-Did not attend, Nils will develop a contact there and try to get GIS data for the FSC database.
- K. Cal Fire-New regional forester named Scott Roskiwitz based in the Susanville office. Also will begin inspections April 1.
- L. CA State park
- M. City Of Portola-Received grant funds to thin approximately 160 acres of their land near their water supply infrastructure.
- N. Feather River RCD-Involved with the administration of grant funds to thin 100 acres of land on the Heart K ranch in Genesee Valley.
- O. BLM Eagle Lake Field Office
- P. Lassen NP-Moving on a timber sale in the part at this time.
- Q. PNF - Mt. Hough RD-
 - Wild Cat Project (north of Antelope Lake to treat some of the areas that were not burned in the Moonlight Fire.
 - Keddie Project around Indian Valley. Will be working near Round Valley.
 - Canyon Dam project is nearly completed
 - Chipmunk (Chips Salvage)
 - Green Flat Underburn
 - Genesee Valley burn with FRLT (first cross boundary burned planned in a long time)
 - Empire (Greenhorn to the Greenville Wye)
 - Twain Halsted (Hand thinning and piling with \$ from Storrie Fire)
 - Twain Butterfly-2016
 - Ridge DFPZ maintenance
 - Spanish Camp Treatment
 - Buck Lake (Thinning and fuels reduction)
 - Meadow Valley (underburn, mastication near Tamarack Flat)
 - American Valley (East Quincy treatment of small USFS inholdings, they can do very minimal treatments if there are private landowners who live less than 100 feet from USFS lands in order for those homeowners to comply with PRC 4291)
 - South Park Project (Proposed treatment to deal with fuels near recreational areas)
 - Elizabethtown Project (Collaborative with USFS, FRC, NRCS)
 - Middle Fork
- R. PNF - Beckwourth RD-
 - East Site Under Burn (20,000 acres or re-entry to DFPZ for maintenance)
 - Engles DFPZ (4095 acre under burn post mechanical treatment)
 - Grizz DFPZ (3900 acre treatment and sale (Pano Sale))
 - Grizz Walker DFPZ
 - Freeman DFPZ (ongoing treatment and fuel wood sale (5400 acres)
 - Jackson DFPZ (2,800 acres and three timber sales)
 - Happy Aspen sale and meadow enhancement

Planning

 - Heyden Project 4,600 acre under burn and timber sale
 - Maybe DFPZ 430 acre burn
 - Lakes Basin 5,500 acre down into Graeagle with timber sales and under burn
 - Dotta Canyon Burn 500 acre under burn
 - Conklin Park burns for Wildlife habitat improvement

- Plumas Eureka
 - Big Hill
- S. PNF - Feather River RD
- Wat Dog
 - On Top
 - Sugar Loaf
- T. LNF - Almanor RD
- West Dusty Underburn (Near Feather River Rod and Gun Club)
 - Elk Aspen Enhancement
 - Mud Plant (fragmented project consisting of 546 acres of biomass and mastication)
 - Poker Chip (Service Contract 727 acres)
 - Poker Chip Tree Salvage
 - Scammer Grapple Pile (482 acres near Camp Flicheman)
 - Fox Farm (281 acre underburn near Big Meadows)
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- U. NRCS-Butterfly Valley, Maybe, Maintenance in Seneca, Gellipi Ranch, Forgay Point

8. Process Discussion, Review & unfinished business – Mike De Lasaux

Other Notes:

At this time, 90% of USFS WUI projects must be identified in the CWPP, in the future this will be 100%. This means that the FSC will need to maintain an appendix in the CWPP that identifies these projects. Coordinator will be responsible to update the CWPP as necessary in order to ensure that projects are listed.

There was a discussion about the development of a prescribed fire group that could assist with burning on private lands in conjunction with the fire districts.

Quincy High S Club are developing a program that will provide assistance with disabled and senior landowners with yard clean ups.