As the wet winter changes to summer, the Plumas County Fire Safe Council maintains its focus on a mission to reduce the loss of natural and human made resources caused by wildfire through pre-fire activities. One of these activities is monitoring tree mortality – and all residents of Plumas County can participate.

Despite an official end to the multi-year drought that contributed to the death of 102 million trees throughout the state, it is yet to be determined if Plumas County will experience a decline in dying trees. Why the uncertainty? Drought allowed beetles to more easily attack trees that were stressed for water. Trees that were infested by these beetles at the end of last summer may not show decline until the tree is water-stressed again. Even with the abundance of water this winter, there may be additional beetle caused mortality as trees develop the capacity to utilize increased soil moisture.

Plumas County residents can learn about how to identify beetle attacks and what measures should be taken at the next meeting of the Plumas County Fire Safe Council on Thursday, June 8th, 2017 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the Plumas County Planning & Building Services office, 555 Main Street in Quincy. Council meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month and are attended by citizens, business owners, and representatives from local, state, and federal government agencies, who share a common interest in preventing loss of life and minimizing loss of property from wildland fires.

For more information about the Plumas County Fire Safe Council or the upcoming meeting, visit plumasfiresafe.org or contact Hannah at 283-3739. For additional information about tree mortality visit: http://plumascounty.us/index.aspx?nid=2484