

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes February 25, 2016, 2:00 p.m. TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome & Introductions: Jesse Cox welcomed everyone and we made introductions. We had 15 attendees. This is the first day-time meeting of our Fire Safe Council as we try the approach of 2 day-time meetings and then a quarterly evening meeting. The March 24 meeting will be at 7 PM. April and May will be during the day.

FSC Email List Update: Shiloe Braxton described the situation. We have an email list that has been added to for about 15 years and it clearly is out of date. The RCD, who manages the notices for Fire Safe Council meetings could use some help updating he list. He passed a copy around and folks worked on the update.

Trinity County CWPP: The focus of today's meeting is the roll out of the CWPP Update, especially getting the community meetings scheduled. Braxton led the discussion. We had a decent response to the CWPP assessment and Shiloe went over some of the more important suggestions and comments. He will provide a written summary at our March meeting.

Other ideas/issues on CWPP that were brought up:

- Balance project specificity with being broad enough to adapt projects/priorities to meet opportunities
- Build in importance of project maintenance over time
- Prescribed Fire as tool, especially for maintenance
- Key watersheds and community water sources as a priority metric
- Importance of taking into account recent fires and build-up of fuels in these fire footprints in the WUI.
- Importance of making sure that there is a solid cross-walk between CWPP and the Safety Element of the General Plan and the Trinity County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (in review by FEMA now)
- Setting up and sticking to an annual schedule for submitting completed projects as an annual CWPP Update.

Community meetings have been set for three communities and Shiloe Braxton (RCD) and Dave Jaramillo (WRTC) will attend next Fire Chiefs meeting to see if they can get more set up. RCD has developed a flier for Trinity Center and will adapt it for every community meeting. They also will get advertisements and press releases into the Trinity Journal for each workshop. Jaramillo has developed a short slide show as an introduction to CWPP for community meetings. For now:

Trinity Center	Feb 1, 2016
Lewiston	Feb 10, 2016
Weaverville	April 12, 2016

Updates

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USFS – SFMU (Gonzalez and Rohrs) A focus is on the Post Fire Treatment Project (also called Firekill to Fuelbreak) that the Collaborative brought forward last fall. There are supposed to be draft specialists' reports around March 21st and USFS staff are working closely with USFWS staff and NOAA Fisheries, but there will be issues to resolve with both. They have completed burn projects and there are just a few piles in Kellogg to burn. Work continues on Stafford Fire. They have pretty much completed everything along the road. There is work along the top. Sims Fire – they are trying to get more done, including plantation site prep work (760 acres) with Lower Trinity. NEPA is not done. They'd also like to do some demonstration cuts and piling on some small areas so the community of Hyampom can get a feel for the prescription. The Two Chiefs Proposal submitted by the Collaborative was approved and this will bump up work load and expectations for the next 3 years with additional (supplemental) funding. They also received some funding to deal with bug and disease issues and likely will focus on Jones Burn area.

USFS –Trinity River Management Unit (Richter/Ritchey) North Lake Fuels Project is close to being signed, but an archeological site was identified and that needs a little extra work. So hope to have it done by mid-March. Burnt Ranch is coming slowly. There is a field trip with USFWS coming up that will be led by Tom Quinn (USFS Biologist). The annual stakeholders meetings that have been held before fire season in Redding are being "localized." This year there will be a meeting on May 10th in Weaverville and it is designed to be both a "partners meeting" and a community pre-fire-season preparedness meeting.

USFS Lower Trinity MU (Matt Weldon) Matt is new to the position so kept brief.

Hyampom FSC (Winters) Not much to add. They are really interested in the Sims rehab project and are looking forward to getting going on the CWPP.

Weaverville Fire Department (Alvord) Waiting for Title III agreement with County. Also there is a Coffee Fire Plan that has some really good information from that fire (2014) that should be shared and incorporated in CWPP.

CalFire (Reiling) Lots of energy is going into the Tree Mortality issue in the central Sierra (6 County) area. CalFire will send crews and equipment similar to when they send crew for fires. About \$5 million of state funds has been allocated. Starting March 7 there will be 2 firefighter hand crews from CalFire (8-9 members/crew) looking for CEQA-ready projects to implement. They'd like to have 3-day increments of projects to work on. They also are ready to implement burn plans with engine crews and would be open to pile burning if there is any to work on.

NRCS (Nicholls) NRCS is a part of the Two Chiefs Project, but with less money, to help implement projects on private land and they also were successful in the multi-county application through RCPP for oak woodland restoration. The WRTC is implementing an EQIP up in Grass Valley Watershed.

RCD (Braxton) RCD crews are still off, but hoping to get them on soon. There is funding for chipping days and the RCD will be promoting that in the spring and they are working with TRMU on submitting RAC proposal (actually resubmitting) for Greenhorn Fuels Project (Lake Forest area). RCD will be focusing on planning, including CWPP and the Collaborative's Pilot Project. And with BLM on the Little Browns Salvage and GVC Mainline Thin.

Meeting ended 3:32 PM.

Next meeting
March 24, 2016
7:00 PM
RCD Conference Room

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Trinity County FSC Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2016 2:00 p.m.
TCRCDC Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Shiloe Braxton, TCRCDC, welcomed everyone and we made introductions. Eight people attended. This is the second day-time meeting held this year, our next meeting will be a quarterly evening meeting on June 23 at 7 pm. July and August will be afternoon meetings.

Trinity County CWPP Update Project (Braxton and Jarmillo): Several CWPP Update Project community meetings were held in April:

Hayfork	4/5/2016
Douglas City	4/6/2016
Post Mountain	4/9/2016
Weaverville	4/12/2016
Mad River/Ruth	4/13/2016
Junction City	4/19/2016
Hyampom	4/21/2016

Meeting attendance varied from 3 to 26 people. Attendance was higher when the meetings were held in conjunction with a fire department or service district meeting that was already scheduled. Upcoming community meetings will be scheduled for Hawkins Bar/Salyer, Big Bar/Big Flat, and Zenia. The Tree Mortality Workshop held in Hayfork on April 28th was also discussed, about 20 people attended.

CWPP Community Meeting outreach methods were discussed, including newspaper, email lists, flyers, and social media. It was suggested that the Trinity County Collaborative Group be given the opportunity to participate, and Shiloe said he would get it on a Collaborative meeting agenda.

Agency meetings will be held in June. Shiloe will send out a Doodle Poll for scheduling, the meetings will either be held June 13, 14 or 15 or June 27, 28 or 29. It is an important opportunity to go over maps and report projects that have occurred since the 2010 CWPP Update, as well as planned or priority projects. Please bring printouts of projects or available GIS project files which will be added to the GIS data base.

Burnt Ranch Firewise Day will be held June 11, will have a booth that includes CWPP information.

Grant Opportunities (Braxton, Jarmillo and McFadin):

The RCD applied for CA FSC fuels reduction grant in partnership with the Watershed Center for work both in the Oregon Mountain area (Weaverville) and Post Mountain area (Hayfork). The RCD was also approved for two RAC grants, one for community chipping services and another for the Greenhorn fuel reduction project (near Lake Forest Subdivision). Neither the RCD nor the Watershed Center were

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awarded CalFire SRA grants this year. Trinity County Title III awarded money to the RCD for continued FSC coordination and some chipping services. The Watershed Center and Weaverville Fire Dept. were also awarded funds for fuels reduction work through Title III. The Stephens Act funding for fuels reduction in Weaverville Basin will include Watershed Center work on CEQA planning for prescribed burns and also RCD funding for chipping services. CDFW Prop 1 funding opportunity closes June 24th, includes a Healthy Watersheds Priority in support of the CA Water Action Plan which can include fuels reduction work.

Project Updates

NRCS (Nicholls): NRCS is a part of the Joint Chiefs project, through RCPP for oak woodland restoration. The WRTC is implementing an EQIP up in Grass Valley watershed.

USFS –Trinity River Management Unit (Noverr/Richter): FS has been working on Browns Phase II units, concentration burns and will be working on roadside clearing Hayward Flat/Minersville area along 2 mi of road. Blue Rock Project will likely be in the fall (outside of window now). They did some prescription burning in the Lake Forest Plantations that went well and it was a good learning experience. Will be doing some roadside clearing in Long Canyon area. North Lake Fuels Project will be starting in June, thinning and piling and some firewood for community. The NEPA process for the Burnt Ranch project is underway, recently the FS was petitioned by the community to not have any commercial logging as part of the project. The annual Wildfire Preparedness and Stakeholders meeting was on May 10th at the Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department, however, it was poorly attended.

USFS Lower Trinity MU- Six Rivers (Weldon):

Working on Hennesy plantation project, thinning and piling, CCCs are also working on it, approximately 30 acres, will also be working on prescriptions/pile burning in Sims Project area.

CalFire (Reiling): Defensible Space inspections are finished, approximately 200 Weaverville/Hayfork/Lewiston properties were inspected, there will be about 30 re-inspected. No citations have been issued. CalFire firefighter hand crews (8-9 members/crew) will be available (next fall or winter?) to implement CEQA-ready projects.

WRTC (Jarmillo): Crews are working on stand assessments in the Sims project area, on an EQIP project (Grass Valley Creek watershed), and Eagle Creek Loop fuels reduction. Upcoming work as part of the Joint Chiefs Project and Steven’s Act project funding. Hosted Trinity County’s first prescribed fire training for VFDs in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, USFS, Firestorm and local VFDs. Training included a prescribed burn on 7 acres. Another Prescribed Fire Training will be offered in October for female firefighters.

RCD (Braxton): RCD crews are working on the California Fire Safe Council fuels reduction project on Oregon Mnt. and some chipping services. RCD is also focusing on planning, including CWPP Update project and Shaded Fuel Break/Plantation Planning. Upcoming project work from Joint Chiefs Project and Steven’s Act funding. Also, assisting with the Collaborative’s coordination of a “sample mark” for the Post Fire Treatment project (also called Fire-kill to Fuelbreaks), and working closely with USFWS staff and NOAA Fisheries.

The Weaverville Community Forest Community Meeting will be held June 8th at 7:00 pm. Also the California Association of RCD’s Forestry Committee meeting will be held in Weaverville and they will be touring the Weaverville Community Forest on June 9 and 10.

Meeting ended 3:30 PM.

Next meeting
June 23, 2016
7:00 PM
RCD Conference Room

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**Trinity County FSC Meeting Minutes
June 23, 2016 7:00 p.m.
TCRCD Conference Room**

Welcome and Introductions: Pat Frost welcomed everyone on behalf of Jesse Cox, and we made introductions. Five people attended. Our next meeting will be on July 28 at 2 pm. The August meeting will also be an afternoon meeting.

Trinity County CWPP Update Project (McFadin/Frost):

June CWPP Update Project community meetings:
Down River- Big Bar 6/22/2016
Zenia 6/30/2016

Agency meetings will be held in July. Shiloe Braxton will send out a Doodle Poll for scheduling. It is an important opportunity to go over maps and report projects that have occurred since the 2010 CWPP Update, as well as planned or priority projects. Please bring printouts of projects or available GIS project files which will be added to the GIS data base.

Trinity County Community Meetings:

There were a number of meetings in the last month:

- Weaverville Community Forest Meeting (June 8)
- CARCD Forestry Committee Meeting (June 9-10)
- Burnt Ranch Fishing Derby & Fire Safe Day (June 11)
- Trinity County Collaborative Fuel Break Work Group Update

The Weaverville Community Forest Community Meeting (McFadin): Meeting was well attended by both the agencies and interested public. Tim Ritchey, USFS, gave a presentation on the recent fuels reduction projects in the WCF including the Browns prescribed fire project. Also the Stevens Act funding was discussed. This money is USFS funding that will be used on private lands adjacent to the WCF (Watershed Center got the funding and RCD is partner)

The California Association of RCDs (CARCD) Forestry Committee Annual Meeting (Frost/McFadin): Meetings were held in Weaverville for 2 days, the RCD hosted, and the meeting included tours of WCF projects.

Burnt Ranch Fishing/Fire Safe Day: Event attendance was good and it was a successful event. Andrew Spain reported that about 150 children and their families attended.

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Trinity County Collaborative Fuel Break Work Group Update (Frost): Held a field trip to review Firekill to Fuel Break Pilot Project sample mark with USFS, USFWS and NMFS. Full Collaborative will have field trip July 8. Shaded Fuel Break Pilot Project will be having a sample mark field trip.

Grant Opportunities (Frost/McFadin):

The RCD applied for CA FSC fuels reduction grant in partnership with the Watershed Center for work both in the Oregon Mountain area (Weaverville) and Post Mountain area (Hayfork). Awards will be announced August. The RCD was also approved for two RAC grants, one for community chipping services and another for the Greenhorn fuel reduction project (near Lake Forest Subdivision). Trinity County Title III 2016 grant opportunity should be advertised by the County in the near future. There was a discussion about chipping vs. the problem homeowners are experiencing with large dead trees near homes or powerlines. RCD has funding to chip, but can not do a lot of cutting and they don't really have the staff for this kind of tricky falling. Steve Emershy suggested maybe working with professional tree fallers and maybe the local arborist to donate some time to help landowners.

Andrew Spain said that Willow creek FSC did secure additional RAC funding from Humboldt County RAC for the purchase of a chipper. He know they are working on the agreement and logistics.

Fire MOU Partnership

No one in attendance was familiar with this, so it was postponed until next meeting.

Project Updates

USFS- Six Rivers (Spain): Lower Trinity District: Hennessy Ridge RAC Fuels Reduction Project is being done with CCC crew. It is mostly small diameter thinning and chipping., Sims Fire Restoration Funded Projects Jim Gonzalez with South Fork Management Unit is helping. This year they hope to get plantation prep work done and maybe some tree planting. The contract will go out to bid soon. The Roadside Fuel Reduction Project are likely going to be 2017 contracts. They also hope to do some burning this fall/winter on what is cut this summer. Some recent fire footprint work in the River Complex area. Looking at doing future community protection in the Salyer/Hawkins Bar areas adjacent to private lands.

Mad River District (Spain): Andrew talked to Dan Dill today and got a project update. Beaver Slide and Kesley Projects are on-going and have Joint Chiefs funding. They also are working on Mad Ridge Fuelbreak (maintenance?); Watts lake campground and hope to put out about 12 million board feet of sales (Little Doe, Low Gulch, Beaver Slide and Kelsey). The next project is he "1st 48" with a hoped-for decision by the end of 2016. No one at meeting knew what or where this proposed project is located. Dan also said the Phases 1 of the TCCG Firekill to Fuelbreak Project went out to bid and got no bids, but received comments for changes that USFS is looking into.

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CalFire (Reiling): Defensible Space re-inspections are finished. USFS and CalFire improving cross-jurisdiction, interagency cooperation, especially on prescribed fire on private land. He is hoping Fawn Lodge Station will be open in August. Until then they still have 2 engines in Weaverville and Hayfork & 1 “satellite” in the Douglas City-Lewiston area to maintain coverage. (At this point Andy left to respond to a call.)

RCD (McFadin): RCD crews are working on the California Fire Safe Council fuels reduction project on Oregon Mnt. and chipping services. RCD is also focusing on planning, including CWPP Update Project and Shaded Fuel Break/Plantation Planning. The Stephens Act funding for fuels reduction in Weaverville Basin on private lands includes Watershed Center work on CEQA planning for prescribed burns and also RCD funding for chipping services. Project has a “whole lands” approach to compliment work being done on adjacent Forest Service lands.

Meeting ended 8:45 PM.

**Next meeting
July 23, 2016
2:00 PM
RCD Conference Room**

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Trinity County FSC Meeting Minutes July 28, 2016 1:30 p.m. Weaverville Fire Hall

Welcome and Introductions: Shiloe Braxton welcomed everyone on behalf of Jesse Cox for this special meeting with a focus on soliciting agency input. We made introductions. Our next meeting will be on August 25 at 2:00 pm.

Trinity County CWPP Update Project (Braxton):

Today's meeting has three areas of focus-

1. Collect information from FSC members on projects that have been completed
2. Review maps from the community meetings and solicit input on these and other projects that should be included in the update of the CWPP
3. Other Issues regarding the CWPP update

There was a general discussion of where we are at in the update process, with most of the discussion centered on the prioritization of proposed projects. Some of the key points from that discussion:

We need to be clear on what the project list represents and what a "prioritization means. There needs to be clear that the project list (prioritized) is a set of recommendations, not a "promise".

Priority should be given to projects that implement maintenance of projects that were already completed. This could be a broad statement that a goal of the CWPP is to provide maintenance of completed projects, but recognize that different types of projects have different timing and prescriptions for maintenance. Clearly state that high priority is given to this category of project or each could be listed.

Identify a goal for maintenance of fuel breaks (and define what that means).

Have a statement that says something to the effect that the various types and locations of projects work together the way that all of the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle make for a "complete picture".

Prioritization is not just best locations or most important projects to protect communities/WUI, but it needs to include "readiness", which could be defined as projects that:

- Have NEPA/CEQA completed
- Have community buy-in/support
- Are within the WUI

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The CWPP needs to take into account and reference emerging conditions:

- Recent, multi-year drought and the associated mortality due to insect infestations
- Climate Change
- Sudden Oak Death

Shiloe described the maps that were displayed (they have all of the community input from the community meetings) and today's goal is for agency folk to look at them for a validation and to also add projects that would be priorities for the CWPP from the fire planning professionals' point of view. We noted that we didn't have BLM present and Shiloe will arrange to meet with them to get their input and that there are no maps from the Salyer/Hawkins Bar/Burnt Ranch area. Shiloe will work with Willow Creek FSC to get that input before our August meeting.

The group went to work with colored pens and the meeting concluded around 3:45 PM.

**Next meeting
August 25, 2016
2:00 PM
RCD Conference Room**

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Trinity County FSC Meeting Minutes August 25, 2016 2:00 p.m. RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Pat Frost welcomed everyone on behalf of Jesse Cox. We made introductions. Our next meeting will be on September 22 at 7:00 pm.

Grant Awards Tracy McFadin described the project awarded to the RCD by the CAFSC. They are still in the “pre-award” phase, which means they don’t yet have a signed agreement. The project (CWPP Implementation Phase I Project) is similar to others recently with a partnership with the Watershed Center.

Grant Opportunities: T. McFadin presented a concept that RCD is developing for the upcoming WUI grants. It involves defensible space treatments in communities around the county, with a special focus on senior citizen assistance. Like an earlier project, it would rely on some guidance from VFDs on who in their communities needs help. The consensus of the group was to support this proposal with a letter. Frost noted two more upcoming opportunities. [1] CalFire SRA and Tree Mortality. It looks like there is about \$16M total in these two RFPs that just came out. Applications are due by the end of September. [2] Title III. Frost is meeting with county staff to get this rolling this fall for the final allotment of funds in the current authorization. He’ll bring an update to September meeting.

Trinity County CWPP Update Project (Braxton/Jaramillo):

The community meetings are done and the agency meeting was held in July. Input from BLM is still needed. Shiloe will work with Kelly Sheen to get maps to BLM staff to get their ideas. It is now time to put pen to paper and get the update completed. Shiloe and Dave provided a template for a prioritization process for projects and there was a lively discussion of how to proceed. A major goal is how to balance project-level detail with the broadness of a countywide plan and how to provide priorities while not limiting opportunity when it presents itself. What became clear is that time is limited. The text needs to be updated, but “surgically” to provide current information while not losing the historical context of an effort that reaches back to 1999. Dave had some good ideas on updates to be included (Prescribed fire as a tool; climate change, etc.). The group agreed that a target of taking the CWPP Update to the Board of Supervisors should be December (likely board dates are December 6 & 20). So backing up from there, other milestones look like the following:

- September 22: 1st review of update at FSC meeting
- October 3: Set stage with briefing to Chiefs Association
- October 27: 2nd review of update (with GIS) at FSC meeting
- November 7: Ask for approval by Chiefs’ Association
- November 21: Submit agenda materials to CAO for Board of Supervisors
- December 6: Present to Board of Supervisors for acceptance
- December ?: submit to CalFire Shasta-Trinity Unit for approval

This schedule provides a little cushion of time with a grant deadline in the 1st quarter of 2017.

Project Updates

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CalFire: Andy Reiling mentioned that Watershed Center needs to start working on burn permits now to be ready for fall burning (especially for TRES projects). He also noted that the agency is stretched for equipment right now with the number of active fires.

Shasta-Trinity NF: Pat Frost presented a report (provided by Lara via email) as neither Lara nor Tim could attend in person:

- North lake – Piles are curing with plans to burn fall-winter-spring
- Greenhorn – still cutting and piling. This project implementation is being done by RCD crews working with RAC funding.
- Papoose (roadside) – start cutting & piling this fall
- Long canyon (roadside) – continue cutting & piling/chipping
- Glennison Gap (roadside) – continue cutting & piling/chipping
- Browns Unit 3 – Piles curing with fall-winter-spring burning

Six-Rivers NF: Matthew Weldon reported that Sims restoration project is out to bid.

BLM: Dan Ostmann reported that a number of projects are planned for this fall:

- Plans for Hayfork area burning (around Ewing Reservoir)
- Weaverville Community Forest plan 3 units of broadcast and pile burning
- Little Browns Fire – RCD just purchased the firewood to remove and sell as a community project
- Union Hill Pond – Shaded Fuelbreak and pile burning
- Hoadley Peak Burn Plan and Turnpike Harvest area. This will go from Highway 299 to the peak. The plan is for broadcast and pile burning this fall. The Turnpike Harvest is tied to a Grass Valley Creek pilot harvest and should be advertised for bids any day.
- Tim Bradley is working on new NEPA for a large-scale oak restoration projects in the Indian Creek/Reading Creek area.
- Little Grass Valley Creek Broadcast Burn this fall.

Watershed Research & Training Center (Dave Jaramillo): They are actively working on a number of projects:

- Sims
- Around Ruth
- Will start some work in Hayfork
- Private Property around Ewing Reservoir this fall burning with a focus on Big Creek
- They are closing in on finalizing the footprint of work on private lands adjacent to Community Forest for the Stevens Act funding (for RCD and Watershed Center – chipping and burn preparation). An issue was raised about the number of big trees that have died up East Weaver Creek area. Andy suggested that possibly some CalFire B and C Faller training could help there.

TCRCD: (Braxton/McFadin) RCD crew is moving across some projects depending on conditions. They are working on the Greenhorn Project above Lake Forest Estates and over in Grass Valley Creek. Also the community chipping project is kicking in, primarily in Weaverville, Lewiston and North Lake now.

Meeting ended around 5:00 PM

**Next meeting
September 22, 2016
7:00 PM
RCD Conference Room**

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Trinity County FSC Meeting Minutes September 22, 2016 7:00 p.m. RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Pat Frost welcomed everyone on behalf of Jesse Cox. We had 4 attendees. Our November meeting will be will need to be scheduled to work around Thanksgiving.

Grant Opportunities

- CalFire (SRA Fund & Drought-Tree Mortality): RCD and WRTC are submitting proposals similar to the ones submitted last year. Our likely source of funding would be SRA, not Tree Mortality. Proposals are due September 28th with a goal of award notices by mid-December.
- Title III: Notice/advertisement for proposals out this month with proposals due early November. Pat Frost encourages RCD, WRTC and Weaverville Fire to do as they have done in past and work together to submit a “package” that is easy for Board to base decision on. This is the final year of funding under current Secure Rural Schools authorization.
- State Water Resources Control Board Nonpoint Source Pollution - Section 319(h) RFP: It has been a while since they have opened applications up to Trinity River watershed. Tracy McFadin described the 2 programs, one of which is for Forest Restoration, which is most applicable to us. Pre-proposals are due October 10th, minimum amount is \$200,000. Proposals need to address how they will help impaired watersheds. In Trinity River case, with sediment load impairment. If pre-proposal is selected, full proposals are due in early December.

Trinity County CWPP Update Project:

- **Mapping status**
- **Text editing**
- **Project Prioritization**
- **Timeline for completion**

Shiloe and David were unable to attend, so there was minimal discussion, except that Tim Bradley (BLM) will send his GIS files to Kelly Sheen for completed and proposed projects.

As a reminder, this project is under a tight timeline, with the grant expiring next spring. Here are the notes from last month’s minutes on the proposed schedule, which has slipped some.

The community meetings are done and the agency meeting was held in July. Input from BLM is still needed. Shiloe will work with Kelly Sheen to get maps to BLM staff to get their ideas. It is now time to put pen to paper and get the update completed. Shiloe and Dave provided a template for a prioritization process for projects and there was a lively discussion of how to proceed. A major goal is how to balance project-level detail with the broadness of a countywide plan and how to provide priorities while not limiting opportunity when it presents itself. What became clear is that time is limited. The text needs to be updated, but “surgically” to provide current information while not losing the historical context of an effort that reaches back to 1999. Dave

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had some good ideas on updates to be included (Prescribed fire as a tool; climate change, etc.). The group agreed that a target of taking the CWPP Update to the Board of Supervisors should be December (likely board dates are December 6 & 20). So backing up from there, other milestones look like the following:

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Trinity County Collaborative Forestry

- **Shaded Fuel Break/Plantation “Pilot Project” Update**
- **Joint Chiefs Projects**

Frost simply said that there was a TCCG meeting on September 16 and both forests indicated that Joint Chiefs projects for FY 2016 were progressing as scheduled. The “Pilot Project” continues to move along, but maybe slower than some TCCG members had hoped.

Project Updates

CalFire: (Andy Reiling) He noted that the agency is stretched for equipment right now with the number of active fires, as was the case last month. Locally they are concentrating on inspections associated with homeowner's issues with insurance coverage. It looks like they will fund a 23-person hand crew this fall. They might be able to help with SRA defensible space and fuel breaks along roads and maybe some pile burning. He is hoping for about 2 weeks +/- of a 9-person crew in Trinity County.

Shasta-Trinity NF: No one was in attendance

Six-Rivers NF: (Matthew Weldon) Sims restoration project has had a focus of work on the Shasta-Trinity side this year (about 600 acres) and next year there will be work on the Six-Rivers side of the project. A project area that has been idle for a few years is the USFS lands adjacent to the Salyer & Hawkins Bar communities. They may need FSC to weigh in to help get the project back on the Program of Work. Matt will have Andrew Spain get with Pat Frost.

BLM: (Tim Bradley) BLM had an advertisement out for bids for the “Turnpike” project, which may also have a treatment area in Grass Valley Creek. They received no bids. Tim also is working on a concept level for a fairly large Oak Restoration project in the Indian Creek-Reading Creek watersheds. He'd like to present the concept to the Trinity County Collaborative Group. Frost will arrange for that for the November 18th meeting in Weaverville. BLM has a contracting mechanism to obligate end-of-year funds to CalFire (Conservation camp crews and they are doing that this year to have the crews work in the Hoadley Peak and Union Hill areas. Burn season is approaching and BLM likely will conduct prescribed fires in Grass Valley Creek area and some units in the Weaverville Community Forest. Frost noted that he was just out with UCCE forestry staff to set up some monitoring/research plots for oak restoration (including some uncut and unburned control plots). He'll get the GIS layers and have them sent to Tim to make sure there are no conflicts.

Watershed Research & Training Center: No one was in attendance.

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TCRCD: (Tracy McFadin) RCD crew is moving across from one to other projects depending on conditions, with a good bit of time dedicated to chipping (North Lake, Burnt Ranch and Top of the Grade) and when not chipping they are working on the Greenhorn project above Lake Forest Estates and over in for BLM in Grass Valley Creek. RCD has a new staff member Ian Erickson. Ian is their revegetation coordinator, but also has experience as an arborist. John Condon is no longer at the RCD.

Meeting ended around 8:35 PM

Next meeting
October 27, 2016
2:00 PM
RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Trinity County FSC Meeting Minutes December 15, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Pat Frost welcomed everyone on behalf of Jesse Cox. We had 10 attendees. The next meeting will be at 2:00 pm on January 26, 2017.

Grant Opportunities (McFadin, Braxton, Jaramillo and Frost):

- Cal Fire is awarding State Responsibility Area grant funds to both the Trinity County RCD (\$95,028) for fuels reduction and chipping services in the Weaverville vicinity and to the Watershed Research and Training Center (\$88,110) for fuels reduction and prescribed fire in the Hayfork vicinity.
- Title III grant proposals were submitted to Trinity County in November by TCRCD, WRTC, and Weaverville Fire. There is currently a 45-day public comment period open until the end of Dec. The Trinity County Board of Supervisors will likely make the grant awards early next year.
- State Water Resources Control Board invited the TCRCD to submit a full grant proposal to the Timber Fund opportunity based on a concept proposal that was submitted for roadside fuels reduction on private property in Weaverville, Douglas City, Lewiston and Junction City. Long-term maintenance is desirable, and is something the TCRCD can encourage the landowner to do. There may be Cal Fire grant opportunities for maintenance available. FSC approved a support letter.
- California Deer Association may have grant opportunities in the spring, nothing open right now.
- California Forest Improvement Program (Cal Fire) is an opportunity open year around for private landowners. WRTC has been working with several landowners to obtain CFIP funding. It is a funding source that can complement the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding. The FSC can promote CFIP to landowners, and maybe the TCRCD can publish an article in an upcoming newsletter or in the Trinity Journal. There is a 20-acre parcel minimum, but it is possible for multiple landowners with smaller parcels to work together on one application. It was suggested that the TCRCD should invite Cal Fire staff to give a presentation about it, either at a FSC meeting or at a community meeting. More information is available online http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance_cfip

Trinity County CWPP Update Project (Braxton/Jaramillo/Frost):

- **Text editing**-Shiloe will email a link to an online Dropbox with draft documents for others to view and edit or comment on.
- **Mapping status/Project Prioritization** -Shiloe reported that Kelly Sheen, RCD GIS Manager, has been working on the CWPP mapping updates and the maps are close to being done.
- **Timeline for completion**- Shiloe reported that the text editing and GIS mapping are moving ahead, the draft document will be presented to the BOS in January with a request for BOS acceptance in February. The idea is to give board a presentation at the January meeting and ask for acceptance at the February meeting. CalFire approval is needed and that process can take at least 6 weeks. It also needs to go to Trinity County Fire Chiefs' Association at their February meeting.

Project Updates

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

BLM Redding Field Office (Bradley/Milligan): Tim gave a summary of the Reading Creek-Indian Creek proposed project that they are initiating the NEPA process for. The project is being developed for include multiple entries over 10 to 15 years. It may include timber sales, oak woodland habitat restoration, prescribed burning, shaded fuel breaks, and mastication. Resource issues include elk rearing grounds, potential spotted owl habitat, historical sites, oak woodlands, etc. There will be a field trip offered in the future to the project area. The Trinity Collaborative will be invited, but anyone is welcome to attend. Tim also will meet with Kenneth Baldwin, RPF, who has lived in the watershed for about 40 years and can provide excellent insight.

Little Grass Valley had a 170-ac controlled burn that went well. Union Hill pile burning is complete. There are a few WCF piles still to be burned. Hoadley Peaks area work has continued but is mostly in Shasta Co. The Grass Valley Timber Sale is on hold. They have a Forester vacancy and have hired new wildlife staff.

CalFire Shasta-Trinity Unit (Larson): Shane reported that he doesn't have any Trinity County projects right now. Cal Fire hand crews will be available to work on projects with environmental clearance. They are also looking for sites to use for their "B" Faller Certification class to fall trees.

Shasta-Trinity NF (Ritchey): Tim said he didn't have any new information on the Community Defense Mapping project idea he brought up at the last meeting. It was suggested that it might be something that could be funded as part of the CWPP update project, and Shiloe said he would look into it.

Tim also reported that the Trinity Alps Prescribed Fire project has had some activity moving it ahead again. Also pile burning occurred in the Sims Project Area. The density of the piles made it difficult not to harm the remaining hardwoods. The Pettijohn project is also moving ahead slowly. Also most of the prescribed fire has been done on the Trinity Center Ball Park Project, about 350 acres completed and 55 acres remaining. Feedback from the North Lake community was that the project was very appreciated. Any additional understory prescribed fire will have to be done next fall.

Tim also reported that the Burnt Ranch alternatives will be ready in February. They are starting on WCF maintenance work to revisit past treatment areas under a CE. Later an EA will be required for a larger scale effort that will include SFMU.

Six-Rivers NF (Ritchey): Tim had spoken to Andrew Spain who indicated they have two small Trinity County projects this year, including a few acres of treatment in the "roots and shoots" restoration project.. They have burned around 35 acres. The WKRP is their current focus taking up most of their staff resources.

NRCS (Nicolls): Carrie reported that their December funding cycle has been pushed to January. Then March and April will be the next funding cycles. They have 15 projects around the County, mostly fuels reduction work. They also have the Joint Chiefs Trinity Timberland project coming up.

Weaverville Fire Department: No one present to report. Comment made that the Department is seeking a new fire chief, as Frank is no longer working there.

Watershed Research and Training Center (Jaramillo): WRTC Crews are done working for the season. He is continuing the planning work for the Stevens Authority Weaver Basin project and working on the CWPP Update.

TCRCD (Braxton): Shiloe reported that the RCD field crews are wrapping up their season. The RCD has sold about 30 cords of firewood to the community from the BLM Browns Fire location. However, it is a

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

project that is losing money and is not feasible to continue. The RCD will be advertising a forest related project coordinator position soon.

Note: The January meeting will have 2 agenda items: [a] CWPP, which should be well on its way to completion and [b] data collection and update for 2016 – everyone should bring their latest information on projects for a GIS update.

Meeting ended around 3:30 PM

Next meeting
January 26 at 2:00 PM
Trinity County RCD Conference Room