

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Trinity County FSC Meeting Minutes January 26, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Pat Frost welcomed everyone on behalf of Jesse Cox. We had 6 attendees. The next meeting will be at 2:00 pm on February 23, 2017.

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

- Comments received so far have been incorporated into the document and maps.
- The final document will go to the Feb. 6 Chiefs Association meeting for signature, then to the Trinity County Board of Supervisors on Feb. 22 for signature. Willow Creek FSC will also need to sign, their meeting is Feb. 2. Shiloe will make sure it also gets to CAL FIRE for final signatures. Grant expiration is March 15.
- Meeting attendees reviewed the CWPP document on the overhead projection screen and suggested some additional edits which Shiloe will incorporate.
- Defense Mapping: The CWPP grant funding has also been used to create individual community maps showing major resources to be used during a fire incident. They will be included as an addendum to the CWPP on CD and will be available to fire organizations and emergency response.

Project Reports

BLM Redding Field Office: No one in attendance to report.

CAL FIRE Shasta-Trinity Unit (Larson/Berglund): Shane reported that CAL FIRE hand crews will be available to work on projects with environmental clearance, under Andy Reiling's discretion. May also have engine crews available. Shasta-Trinity Unit Plan final draft is due in April and will be presented to the region in May. Drought funding is going away but tree mortality funding will likely be the next focus.

Shasta-Trinity NF: No representative in attendance to report.

Six-Rivers NF: No representative in attendance to report.

NRCS: No representative in attendance to report.

Weaverville Fire Department: No representative in attendance to report.

Watershed Research and Training Center (Jaramillo): Continuing the planning work for the Stevens Authority Weaver Basin project and working on the CWPP Update. Stevens Authority project CEQA lead has not been determined.

TCRCD (Braxton/McFadin): The RCD will be advertising a forest related project coordinator position soon. Next meeting will have agenda item for 2016 data collection and project update – everyone should bring their latest information on projects for a GIS update.

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Cal Fire awarded State Responsibility Area grant funds to both the Trinity County RCD (\$95,028) for fuels reduction and chipping services in the Weaverville vicinity.

Title III grant proposals were awarded by Trinity County to TCRCDD, WRTC, and Weaverville Fire.

TCRCDD submitted a full proposal to the State Water Resources Control Board Timber Fund grant opportunity for roadside fuels reduction on private property in Weaverville, Douglas City, Lewiston and Junction City.

California Forest Improvement Program (CAL FIRE) information will be included in our next Conservation Almanac newsletter. CAL FIRE staff will be invited to give a presentation about CFIP at an upcoming Trinity Collaborative meeting.

Meeting ended at 9:00 PM

Next meeting
February 23 at 2:00 PM
Trinity County RCD Conference Room

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Trinity County FSC Meeting Minutes February 23, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Shiloe Braxton welcomed everyone on behalf of Jesse Cox and Pat Frost, who were unable to attend. Eight attendees. The next meeting will be at 7:00 pm on March 23, 2017.

Trinity County CWPP Update Project (Braxton/Jaramillo):

- The final document went to Trinity County Board of Supervisors on Feb. 22 for signature and they approved. Changes requested by CAL FIRE will be incorporated, then it will go to Fire Chiefs Association and to CAL FIRE for final signatures. Grant expiration is March 15.
- Community Defense Mapping completed. The individual community maps show major resources and are intended for use during a fire incidents. They will be included as an addendum to the CWPP on CD and will be available to fire organizations and emergency response. Examples will be presented at next meeting.

WFDSS Data Integration (T. Ritchey)

Discussion about purpose of USFS WFDSS system, includes data and treatments, helps in fire suppression prioritization. Tim will request a USFS specialist to give a presentation to the FSC about WFDSS at a future meeting. More information at wfdss.usfs.gov.

“Living with Wildfire” Trinity Journal Special Edition (Braxton):

Opportunity for agencies and organizations to purchase ads or publish informational articles in the annual edition of “Living with Wildlife”, Shiloe will find out submission deadline. David and Shiloe will create article about CWPP effort and history.

Project Reports

BLM Redding Field Office: No one in attendance to report.

CAL FIRE Shasta-Trinity Unit (Larson/Berglund): Shane reported that CAL FIRE is phasing out Drought funding and the hand crews may not be available to work on projects as previously reported. Drought funding is going away but tree mortality funding will likely be the next focus.

USFS, Shasta-Trinity National Forest (Ritchey) TRMU: Tim reported that the Burnt Ranch project is their priority right now, Draft EIS is due out in April. Pettijohn Project is back on track after USFWS consultation. Fuel Break Maintenance Prescribed Fire being analyzed for Weaverville Community Forest. New Federal saw standards are being released and may require cooperators and contractors to be certified to run saws under USFS agreements. SFMU implementing pile burning at Stafford project. Trinity Post Fire Salvage DEIS is complete but hasn't been posted on Federal Register yet. Fuel break maintenance pilot project at Knob Peak area being considered. Planning and analysis for Hayfork-Ewing Reservoir project for prescribed burning. Kingsbury project is on hold (2015 Rail Fire area).

Six-Rivers NF: No representative in attendance to report.

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NRCS (Nicolls): Carrie reported that they have some new projects funded through EQIP and Joint Chiefs Project. Looking for private landowners to work with in Mad River area, no minimum acreage. NRCS can do the Forestry Plans, help landowners with land use, range, forest or vineyard management.

Weaverville Fire Department: No representative in attendance to report.

Watershed Research and Training Center (Jaramillo): Working on Tully Creek and Big Creek area Burn plans. Seeking Oak Woodland Projects with federal partners to look at treating conifer encroachment. Crews completed Red Card Training last year, will have annual refresher in May. N. California Prescribed Fire Council Meeting in March 7-8 in Petaluma. Also working on Post Mountain fuels reduction project (CFSC funding) and CEQA for Weaver Basin treatments (Stevens Authority Funding).

TCRCD (Braxton/McFadin): The RCD has promoted Project Coordinator Ian Erickson to assist with fuels related projects. Initial planning and coordination going on for the Cal Fire SRA and CA Fire Safe Council fuels reduction projects. Crews will be brought back on to work on USFS Greenhorn and BLM Mainline road shaded fuel break projects when weather allows, as well as CALFIRE and CFSC projects.

Meeting ended at 3:15 PM

**Next meeting
March 23 at 7:00 PM
Trinity County RCD Conference Room**

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Minutes March 23, 2017, 7:00 p.m. TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Pat Frost welcomed everyone and we made introductions. We had eight attendees.

Trinity County CWPP: CWPP has been completed and signed by all agencies and sent to Sacramento.

Community Defense maps: Ian Erickson (RCD) presented a sample of the community defense maps and there was a discussion on how best to keep them current and in the hands of those needing them during suppression efforts. Larry Winter (Hyampom FSC) was interested in expanding the boundary of the map for Hyampom area and suggested that maybe they need two maps to make sure the maps cover outlying areas. Ian will work with Larry.

Annual "Data Dump": The group agreed that early February would be best for agencies to provide the RCD with data to update the CWPP database. This also provides an opportunity to make sure that community defense maps are current.

CWPP/Community Defense Maps and integration into the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS): There was an extensive discussion about what WFDSS is and how it is used by agencies as well as the time-line for its annual development. The issue for FSC is how to make sure that valuable information from the CWPP is available to incident command staff. USFS will get contact information for USFS (GIS) and initiate a discussion on how the annual database is built and when CWPP information needs to be given to them. Pat Frost will draft a letter to both forests about this issue.

Spring Outreach

- **Living with Wildfire Insert:** Everyone has gotten the latest information to the Trinity Journal. Pat Frost is going to try to get Shasta College to place an advertisement that focuses on their fire training program.
- **Community Field Trips:** Pat Frost reminded everyone that we should take advantage of spring weather to get the general public out looking at projects to help build support for our on-the-ground efforts.

New Direction on Saw Training for "Contractors": The USFS has a new regulation that will require saw training/certification for organizations working on projects on lands managed by USFS. This will include RCD and WRTC and possibly volunteer groups. It goes into effect in July, but doesn't affect existing agreements (but does affect any new agreement or modification to agreements). USFS cannot do the certification. Tim Bradley mentioned that BLM will be offering a class June 5-7 and someone should contact Jeremy Strait about including Trinity County organizations. This class doesn't however, include a certification, but may get everyone closer. Frost mentioned that possibly Shasta College could help

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provide the training/certification and maybe the College's Foundation could support the effort with some funding. He has a meeting with the Foundation Board on March 27th and will take a proposal drafted by Shiloe Braxton to the meeting.

New Grant Opportunities

CA Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse: The project proposals are due May 12th. RCD will develop a new phase of the CWPP Implementation Project. (WRTC not present, so unsure of their intentions.)

CalFire Forest Health Grant Program: Shane Larsen gave an overview of this grant program that is funded through Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Project proposals are due April 7th. The grants will be for 3 years; require a 50-year "easement"; there is no match, no maximum grant amount; must be up to 250,000 acres, but no minimum; can't be industrial timber lands; can involve public lands; special focus on tree mortality; and there is 10 years of Air Resources Board monitoring required. WRTC might be submitting for the lands they are working on in South Fork Trinity River Watershed and that RCD/USFS/BLM should develop a project this year for next round.

Waterman West Project (Lower Trinity Ranger District): Andrew Spain and Andrea McBroom led the discussion. This project is being revived and significantly revised. In 2008 it was a project that would have required an EA. Today it has a focus on fuels reduction. It was 3,500 acres and now is about 850 acres (about 250 acres in Trinity County) and will be a CE. Some key features:

- Pre-commercial thin of ≤ 6 inch dbh
- Some commercial plantations (40-55 year old) with possible "pile harvest" and then pole shrub treatment areas
- Roadside shaded fuel break with an average 100 ft. from road (combined both sides)
- Pulled back from known Northern Spotted owl areas
- Some understory and jackpot burning
- It is out for public scoping (and Andrew provided a briefing paper).
- Hope is for signature in June 2017

Group agreed FSC should send a letter of support. Frost will draft/send.

Project Updates

CalFire (Shane Larsen): No new projects to report, except rolling out new grants. The new "boss" is very into defensible space so look to more inspections by CalFire. If there are areas of federal responsibility managed by CalFire and they aren't getting inspections, let Shane know.

USFS –Trinity River Management Unit (Lara Graham) and South Fork MU (Dan Ostman): Bottom line...it has been a wet winter s limited opportunities to burn. They were able to burn about 10 acres in Mud Springs and hoping to get more. Then they will move onto Stafford project area to treat piles. There are about 50 acres to burn in Sims project area and they also hope to get replanting done.

USFS Six Rivers Lower Trinity MU (Andrew Spain) There should be some coordination starting between Six Rivers and Shasta-Trinity on Sims Project Area in near future. As already discussed, Waterman West is the next big project. Andrew really would like to get back to the community protection work around Salyer and Hawkins Bar.

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RCD (Ian Erickson): Undergoing CEQA review for the new SRA grant and the RCD has sent out letters/permission forms to landowners. They already have 13 “takers”. Hope to have RCD crews working on that project by late April. Field crews are back to work and have been working up in Grass valley Creek watershed on BLM lands (Mainline Road fuel break).

BLM (Jeremy Strait): Pile burning in Weaverville Community Forest. Tim Bradley would like to have a community meeting on the large project being developed in Reading Creek area. Looking for May 8-18 timeframe and help from Fire Safe Council.

Hyampom FSC (Larry Winters): Concerns in the community over the first pile burning in Sims units. It was too hot and there was a lot of mortality. Larry brought this up at February TCCG meeting and Alex McBath was very responsive and will work on modifying the prescription to reduce the impacts. The Hyampom FSC has been in a bit of a hiatus, but is gearing up again. They hope to organize a Sims project area “walk-about: with USFS.

Meeting ended 9:40 PM.

NOTE DIFFERENT TIME FOR APRIL

**Next meeting
April 27, 2017
10:00 AM
RCD Conference Room**

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Minutes
April 27, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Pat Frost welcomed everyone and we made introductions. We had eleven attendees. Frost welcomed Supervisor Chadwick.

May is Wildfire Awareness Month (Frost): Trinity County Board of Supervisors in the past has made a Resolution recognizing May as Wildfire Awareness Month. FSC will get the information to the County Clerk and Board Chair.

Trinity Journal Living with Wildfire special issue (Frost): The 2017 edition was published. Everyone should review and come up with ideas for what we want in it next year to keep the content “fresh.” Humboldt County FSC includes Trinity County information in an annual publication and Pat helped RCD provide current updated contacts. It is distributed through fire departments and events.

USFS Burnt Ranch Community Meeting (Graham): Event will be on May 9th at Burnt Ranch School and is advertised in the Trinity Journal and Two Rivers Tribune. The meeting will be to share with the public the three alternatives, and will be open for questions and comments. There will be maps and handouts. Frost will try to make sure the FSC is represented and that Willow Creek FSC is notified as the project is in their CWPP.

BLM Reading Creek Project (Strait): Community meeting to be held at Douglas City Fire Station. Date and time to be announced.

Hayfork Town Hall Meeting (Chadwick): Will be on May 6 at Hayfork High School. Also an opportunity for USFS to share South Fork Management Unit project information.

Trinity County Preparedness and Stakeholder Meeting (Graham): USFS will hold the community meeting in coordination with the FSC. For cooperators and public. Evening event might be better attended than daytime. Will discuss what current staff and resources are for upcoming fire season, how cooperators work together, weather predictions and related issues. June 22 date chosen. RCD will check to see if library or fire hall are available on that date. Fire Departments, CAL FIRE, USFS, Sheriffs OES, Local Area Advisors, and BLM will also be invited. Send agenda items to Graham. Meeting will be titled “Trinity County Preparedness and Stakeholder Meeting.” Chadwick recommended that the meeting be taped for later viewing or even live on Facebook. Ritchie will look into that.

Willow Creek FSC Annual Fishing Derby and Fire Safe Fair (Weldon) will be on June 10th. Opportunity to have Burnt Ranch Project and FSC information presented.

Other Outreach Events and Opportunities:

- “No One Should Go Hungry” event in Douglas City is a great place for a fire prevention information table on May 13th. Graham offered will help coordinate USFS participation. Also

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Farmers Markets are opportunities that start in May. Children's Festival is May 13th in Weaverville at park. Trinity County Fair Booth (FSC information at RCD booth) in August.

Saw Certification Training (S212) is required for USFS Contractors: Goulette reported that the Watershed Center is working on coordinating training for their employees. Covering the cost is a challenge. Training will include classroom and field work. Redding BLM training will also be held in early June. Frost reported that Shasta College is interested in providing the training in the future, the Shasta College Foundation might be able to help with the funding. Training required for all modification of existing agreements and new agreements. This new requirement is having a large impact on contractors.

New Grant Opportunities

CA Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse: The project proposals are due May 12th. RCD will develop a new phase of the CWPP Implementation Project in partnership with WRTC.

CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant Program (Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund): Goulette reported that the WRTC submitted a concept proposal, match provided by the Joint Chiefs Project. This is a landscape scale in South Fork Trinity River Watershed covering public and private lands on two national forests, NEPA/CEQA ready projects. Frost commented on the intense monitoring requirements with Air Resources Control Board for 10 years. Proposal is for approximately \$900,000 over two years.

Project Updates

CAL FIRE (Larsen): May 1 burn permits will be required statewide. North Coast Air Quality Board permits apply in Trinity County. Defensible space inspections will be occurring until June 25 in Trinity County in State Protection Areas. West Weaverville a priority area. Andy Reiling coordinating inspections. Covering 100 foot defensible space zones. Weaverville VFD helps to prioritize problem areas.

USFS –Trinity River Management Unit and South Fork MU (Graham, Ritchey and Ostman): About 16 acres of hand pile burning at the North Lake (Ball Park) project accomplished this week. Lake front focus area. New fire crews are coming on staff. About 45 acres remaining. Lake Forest- Cedar Stock area plantation burning may happen in the spring. WFDS training at Redding SO on May 30th. First half of the day covering how it works and second half of the day is for line officers. May 20 and 21 are Trinity County Preparedness Drills, East Branch focus area. On the SFMU the Mud Springs and Stafford pile burning is done. Sims site prep is continuing. Planning Trinity Post Fire Hazard Salvage, comment period ends May 1. Pilot project scoping over the next 2-3 weeks. For other upcoming fuel treatment project planning for Weaverville/WCF might want to involve the Trinity County Collaborative Group and the Weaverville Community Forest Steering Committee.

USFS Six Rivers Lower Trinity MU: (No one in attendance for reporting). Frost mentioned that he will draft the FSC letter for the Waterman Project.

BLM (Strait): Community meeting on the large project being developed in Reading Creek area is upcoming. There has not been an area Forester hired yet.

Watershed Research Training Center (Goulette): Will be broadcast and pile burning if conditions allow at West Tule Creek, but manual treatment if fire not possible. Two, 6-person crews working. Planning work continuing for the Stevens Act Project, including prescribed burning on private lands adjacent to USFS. Good landowner participation so far. RCD will be helping with the chipping and

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defensible space treatments. Also thinning and pile burning north of Hayfork in the Barker Valley area. CA FSC funding for fuels reduction work in Post Mountain area also. Two Chiefs funding for the Lower Pelletreau Ridge area to treat shaded fuel break on 78 acres.

NRCS: (No one in attendance for reporting).

Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department: (No one in attendance for reporting).

Hyampom FSC: (No one in attendance for reporting).

RCD (McFadin): RCD fuels crew working up in Grass Valley Creek watershed on BLM lands (Mainline Road fuel break). In near future they will be working on the Greenhorn fuel break for the USFS, private property fuels reduction with CA FSC and CAL FIRE funding, and later in the summer the Beaverslide Project for Trinity River Lumber. Working on project agreement to do plantation thinning for USFS in Big Creek upper watershed that might start in the fall.

Meeting ended 11:50 AM.

**Next meeting
May 25, 2017
2:00 PM
RCD Conference Room**

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Minutes
May 25, 2017, 2:00 p.m.
TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Pat Frost welcomed everyone and we made introductions. We had eight attendees.

Spring Outreach:

May is Wildfire Awareness Month (Pat Frost): Trinity County Board of Supervisors made a Resolution recognizing May as Wildfire Awareness Month. The Proclamation is posted on the FSC website.

USFS Burnt Ranch Fire Resilient Community Project Community Meeting (Dan Eiszele): Event was held on May 9th at Burnt Ranch School. The meeting had about 30 attendees. There were a lot of questions and comments, some for and some against any harvesting. Some did not want it near their property and one was against prescribed fire.

Proposed Burnt Ranch Community Forest (Pat Frost): He was contacted by a Burnt Ranch community member who is part of a community group interested in developing a Burnt Ranch Community Forest modeled on the Weaverville Community Forest.

USFS Trinity County Roads and Plantations Pilot Project Community Scoping Meeting (Pat Frost): A public scoping meeting was held in Hayfork on May 19th led by District Ranger Tom Hall to discuss the proposed Pilot project. A few people attended and it was a good meeting. The project is open for comments for 30 days from May 3rd (legal notice publication date). The next step will be formal consultations with NOAA and NMFS. The project proposes roadside fuels reduction (variable 300 foot buffer), roadwork and plantation treatments in the South Fork Management Unit.

BLM Reading Creek Project: No one in attendance to report on this project.

Trinity County Fire Preparedness and Stakeholder Meeting (Dan Eiszel): USFS will hold the community meeting in coordination with the FSC. Weaverville Fire Hall reserved for June 22. USFS staff is working on the agenda. Send agenda items to Lara Graham. FSC will assist in advertising the meeting.

Willow Creek FSC Annual Fishing Derby and Fire Safe Fair: will be on June 10th at Sky Crest Lake. Opportunity to have Burnt Ranch Project and FSC information presented. Pat can attend to share FSC information.

Trinity County Fair will be August 11-13th. TCRCD and NRCS usually share a booth, can include Firesafe information and provide active project information. WRTC David Jaramillo will help out.

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Weaverville Farmers Market: David Jaramillo plans to have a booth to highlight the Weaver Basin Community Protection Project. Date TBD. Might also include FSC information at the booth.

Saw Certification Training (S212) for USFS Contractors: Dave reported that the Watershed Center is working on coordinating training for their employees in coordination with Six River NF. McFadin reported that the TCRCD crew will be attending Redding BLM training in early June. Training required for all modifications of existing agreements and new agreements. Future funding might come in part from CFSC grant, but there is no funding for this year's training.

Presentation: Cooperative Prescribed Fire Training 2017: Dave Jaramillo, Watershed Research and Training Center, gave a Powerpoint presentation on the Cooperative Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) that have been hosted by Watershed Center on private property with multiple cooperators including TCRCD, CALFIRE, volunteer fire departments, USFS and Firestorm. The annual trainings and learning exchanges are part of a larger national effort and include hands-on trainings and lectures, allowing participants from a variety of backgrounds to learn together and share information and experiences. There is a growing interest and variety of participants. The trainings are part of the Northern CA Prescribed Fire Training Exchange and supported in part by The Nature Conservancy.

Project Updates

USFS South Fork Management Unit (Dan Ostman): Hyampom FSC is holding a meeting on June 9 at the Community Hall 9:30 am. There will be a field trip to the Sims project area hosted by the USFS. Spring pile burning is on hold. Sims site prep is finishing up. The Watershed Center crews are working on cutting and piling roadsides.

USFS Trinity River Management Unit (Dan Eiszele): Over the last three weeks the Blue Rock and Little Mule burning was done, mopping up now. Greenhorn Project work has started up with the TCRCD fuels crew. East Side Trinity Mountain will be wrapping up in the next two weeks, firewood will be available for gathering. Hiring now for Temporary Fire Fighters and Fuels positions. Dan's detail is ending and he is returning to Lassen NF.

USFS Six Rivers Lower Trinity Management Unit (Matt Weldon): The Waterman Project CE will be signed in 45 days and out for contract in 60 days.

CAL FIRE (Andy Reiling): Defensible space inspectors have been assigned to Trinity County. They were in Hayfork and Highway 3 Lake Forest Estates and are moving north, to Trinity Center vicinity. Inspections will be occurring until June 25 in Trinity County. West Weaverville is a priority area. Covering 100-foot defensible space zones in State Protection Areas.

NRCS (Carrie Nicolls): Three more EQIP contracts are in place (Del Loma, Kettenpom and Ruth). Starting to work on the Joint Chiefs' Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Restoration Project with the Watershed Center.

BLM: (No one in attendance for reporting).

Willow Creek FSC: (No one in attendance for reporting).

Weaverville Fire: (No one in attendance for reporting).

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Watershed Research Training Center (Dave Jaramillo): Attended Klamath Fire Ecology Symposium. Joint Chiefs Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Restoration Project is the next big project he will be working on, includes oak woodland restoration. October is the deadline for landowners to sign up with NRCS for oak woodland restoration under this project. Projects cannot include landowners who cultivate marijuana. Work will include site prep and cutting. Project area is mainly South Fork Trinity River Watershed, but also can include other areas of the county such as Weaverville. Dave is also working on the Weaver Basin Community Protection Project (Stevens Act funding) and archeological clearance field surveys are done. He is developing burn plans and doing landowner outreach, and is hoping to have on-the-ground implementation this fall. WRTC Chainsaw crews are working in Sims project area now and moving to Ruth project area work next. Forestry crew is doing Pilot Project stand exams and timber sale layout for Six Rivers NF. He will also be implementing CALFIRE SRA project with Hayfork and Post Mountain VFDs this year.

TCRCD (Tracy McFadin): RCD fuels crew working on Greenhorn Fuels Reduction Project above Lake Forest Estates for USFS. They have also worked on private property fuels reduction with CA FSC and CAL FIRE funding, and later in the summer will be in the Ruth area working on the Beaverslide Project for Trinity River Lumber. RCD is working on with USFS on a project agreement to do plantation thinning in Big Creek upper watershed later in the fall. Crews will be attending saw certification classes with BLM in early June. District applied for another CFSC fuels reduction project, in partnership with Watershed Center, for work on private property in Trinity Center and Weaverville.

Hyampom FSC: (No one in attendance for reporting).

Meeting ended 3:15 pm.

Next meeting (Community Meeting)

June 22, 2017

7:00 PM

Weaverville Fire Hall

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes June 22, 2017, 6:00 p.m. Fire Preparedness and Stakeholders Community Meeting Weaverville Fire Department

Welcome and Introductions: Shiloe Braxton welcomed everyone and we made introductions. We had 15 attendees.

Fire Weather and Fire Behavior: Video from Northern Ops (Northern California Geographic Area Coordination Center), Monthly and Seasonal Outlook issued June 1 for June through September 2017. Information also available online <https://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/intelligence/index.php>

Fuel Moistures: Discussion about tree mortality in Trinity County, snags are a safety concern for fire fighters. Drought stress, beetles and overstocking are all contributing to tree mortality. Also a concern when standing dead trees fall over and create extra fuel loading later.

Live Vegetation Fuel Moisture definition and measurements discussed. This year the average moisture levels are above average. Moisture levels usually peak in July then diminish until October when vegetation goes dormant. When daytime humidity levels drop below 25% fire tends to run. Topography and slopes in Trinity County can cause wind effect and fire will run.

Discussion about different policies depending on the agency. CAL FIRE has full suppression efforts on private lands. Forest Service is directed by Land Resource Management Plan. Follow "suppress, confine and control" guidelines. Some forests are adopting policy of managing fire for multiple resource benefits.

Overview of Community Wildfire Protection Plan 2015 Update: PowerPoint presentation. This was second update, original CWPP was one of the first to be adopted in the country. The CWPP update process included conducting community outreach and identifying projects. The update included a discussion of using prescribed fire tool. CWPP was approved by CAL FIRE.

Community Protection: What are Agencies doing to address issue? When fires are reported to Trinity County Sheriff's Office, Volunteer Fire Departments are notified, as well as USFS or CAL FIRE. Also, Trinity Dispatch calls Redding, location is plotted and fire assigned, either to USFS or CAL FIRE, depending on the location, state or federal Direct Protection Areas.

Coordination of Emergency Response: Structure fires are covered by local VFDs in most places, but some residents are not in a fire district. Annual Operating Plan guides how the Forest Service and CAL FIRE proceed. Forest Service, CAL FIRE and VFDs all cooperate and share resources and also have agreements to help each other out.

Trinity County Fire Resources: Discussion about resources available from the Forest Service, CAL FIRE, Weaverville VFD (engines, tenders, hot shot crews, lookouts, patrols, engine and fire crews, fallers, air support, etc.) Crews also do fuels reduction project work.

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Fire Prevention: Forest Fire Prevention Officers are doing education and outreach. One Less Spark campaign. The USFS South Fork Management Unit hosted the outreach in the Post Mountain Area. CAL FIRE was there to answer questions concerning new buildings and burn permits.

Ideas shared about how to do outreach to people who are new to the County from all over, possibly a wildfire welcome basket through realtors or chambers of commerce.

Butane canisters at transfer stations and dumpsites an increasing issue because they can't be disposed of or transferred unless they are punctured.

Roads and Storm Damage: Storm damaged roads can impact access to fires. This winter's heavy rains caused a lot of damage on the Forest. Outreach to the public needed to collect reports of storm damage. Also State and County roads. Roads around communities are highest priority.

RCD Fire Prevention: Implementing a CAL FIRE funded fuels reduction project on private lands in Lewiston. Also a CA Fire Safe Council funded fuels reduction project on private lands on Oregon Mountain, Weaverville. Just finished a USFS-RAC funded Greenhorn roadside fuel break project above Lake Forest subdivision, Trinity Center. Also have community Chipping Services. Crews will be starting to work on Beaverslide Forest Health thinning project near Ruth in July.

WRTC Fire Prevention: Multiple projects including CAL FIRE and CA Fire Safe Council funded fuels reduction near Hayfork. Also helping landowners with CFIP funded projects. Oak Woodland Restoration Project with NRCS. Prescribed fire training and TREX.

Upcoming: CAL FIRE SRA Grant Workshop in Redding on July 19th.

Raffle: Public participants at the meeting won raffle items, to include kitchen fire extinguishers and a day of fuels reduction/defensible space work by RCD crew.

Meeting ended 8:20 pm.

**Next meeting
July 27, 2017
2:00 PM
RCD Conference Room**

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes July 27, 2017, 2:00 p.m. TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome & Introductions: Pat Frost welcomed everyone. Eight attendees.

Community Wildfire Preparedness Meeting Recap: General discussion about low community participation numbers at the June meeting (and past community meetings). Ideas for increasing public participation included more direct outreach to neighborhoods, more and better raffle items? Another suggestion was to hold it during Fire Chiefs Meeting because the information is also helpful for them. Could be a “meet and greet” with local fire departments and a family event. Also good information to share with the OES Area Coordinator Meeting. Audience has not been well defined. Having a community meeting was a priority under previous Weaverville District Ranger, but direction might change with a new ranger.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

CA Fire Safe Council 2017 Grant: Preliminary award announcements expected in August. The 2018 grant opportunity might have double the amount available to awarding.

CAL FIRE SRA Fire Prevention Fund Grant: Workshop was held in Redding 7/19/17; Due to changes in source of funding, name of program might change. Grant Deadline probably will be in September. SRA fees were recently suspended in a Cap and Trade bill. Need to find out if current round includes or excludes defensible space treatments. Funding can include education and fire prevention. Two years ago FSC and WFD held a public Fire Preparedness workshop at the Weaverville Fire Hall with UC Coop Extension Service. They gave short talks on home hardening and defensible space and had hands-on fire extinguishing demonstrations. Workshop was well attended. Included some vendors with product displays and insurance agents participated.

2018 Western States WUI Grant Program: Deadline 9/15/17, highly competitive across western states. RCD applied last year but was not successful.

FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program: Deadline 11/14/17. Feedback from other grantees in Oregon were that it is a very long, cumbersome and difficult grant to apply for and administer. Includes completing all NEPA/CEQA in project. State lead agency has to approve and apply for everyone who has projects.

Summer Outreach and Events

Weaverville Farmers Market: WRTC/FSC will have a booth on Wednesday 8/2, maybe additional days as well. Highlight Weaver Basin Fuels Reduction project. Have a game that draws in kids and families to booth. RCD has FSC materials and fire history map available.

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

Trinity County Fair, Hayfork Fairgrounds, August 11-13: TCRCD and NRCS will be sharing a booth. We will have FSC literature and Trinity County fire history map on display. USFS will have fire prevention and silviculture information booth and activities. WRTC will also have a booth. Suggestion was made to find out if there are any fire prevention and informational materials available for people in the Hmong community in the Hayfork/Trinity Pines area as some residents might not be bilingual. Shasta College Foundation might have funding available to help outreach to them.

Trinity County Collaborative Group: Next meeting is Friday August 18th at the Weaverville Fire Hall 10 am to 4 pm. Also, Hayfork Ranger District Public Meeting about the Pilot Project on August 10 at Ranger District office, will be providing information about the alternatives being developed. Can be an announcement at the August 1 Board of Supervisors Meeting.

USFS Prevention Campaign (Sandy Faulkner was unable to attend this meeting. Will revisit topic during the August meeting).

Nor Cal TREX: David Jaramillo reported that the N. CA Prescribed Fire Training Exchange will be October 16-28. It is a two week opportunity for learning. It is an opportunity for hands-on training and implementation, volunteer fire fighters and fire resource people to get task book signed off. Red Card qualification is required. Shasta College Foundation might be able to help with a scholarship for someone to attend.

Project Updates

- **CALFIRE:** Shane Larson reported that SRA grant program will be changing due to SRA fees being suspended due to Cap and Trade bill. Defensible space inspections are still available.
- **USFS Shasta-Trinity:** Dan Ostman, SFMU, reported that the Westside Plantation Timber Sale has started. Pilot project is moving forward. Salvage FEIS is being put together. Harrison Gulch Prescribed fire planning for around the barracks. They will be pile burning this fall. (No one in attendance from TRMU to report).
- **USFS Six-Rivers (No one in attendance)**
- **NRCS (No one in attendance)**
- **BLM (No one in attendance)**
- **Willow Creek FSC:** Pat reported that they are looking for funds to use the chipper for implementation projects. The location might change for future Fishing Derby/Fire Safe day as the property has sold.
- **Weaverville Fire:** Todd Corbett reported that they have a seven-person crew working on their Hazard Fuels Reduction Program with Title III funding. They will also be subcontracting with the RCD to work on a CalFire SRAFPF fuels reduction project in Weaverville.
- **Watershed Center:** Dave reported the Weaver Basin Community Protection Project CEQA and NEPA should be signed off soon. Next they are doing site prep for fall burning, burn plan being developed. Chipping (RCD subcontract) will be able to move forward soon. Signing up landowners for work with CalFire SRAFPF fuels reduction project, still

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

doing the CEQA work for fall burning plans. Also same process for CFSC fuels reduction project and Title III project work in the Pines and Barker Valley areas. Have put up a Hmong language sign to inform the community about the opportunity but have no response yet. Crews are working in Ruth and Hayfork area. CFIP projects and TREX coming up (<https://thewatershedcenter.com/projects-in-action/featured-projects/>).

- **TCRCD:** Shiloe Braxton and Tracy McFadin reported that fuels crew is working on contract for Trinity Lumber in the Ruth area. Also they have been working in Lewiston area on CalFire SRA fuels reduction project. Some work earlier in the season on the CFSC fuels reduction project in Oregon Mountain Area and Greenhorn shaded fuel break project for USFS (RAC) in Trinity Center-Lake Forest Estates area. Pending projects include a Trinity River Watershed Roadside Fuels Reduction project funded through the SWRCB 319(h)/Timber Fund will start next year. Also a Plantation Thinning project funded through USFS-Joint Chiefs will start later in the fall.
- **Hyampom FSC:** No one in attendance to report. Dan did say that the Sims Field Tour happened in early June and they looked at mitigation of a burn area that got too hot, my chip some piles instead of burning to avoid affecting residual trees.

Other Discussion Items:

Bobbi Chadwick, BOS, asked if the issue that has been in the news about the USFS not reimbursing volunteer fire departments was affecting local VFDs. Todd Corbett, WFD, said it is a smaller issue locally, but may become more of a problem in the future, depending on what is decided at regional and state levels. Todd said there are good agreements in place, but other places were hit hard because they were not paid in a timely manner.

Bobbie wanted to let the group know that Cannabis Excise Tax discussion is going on, proposed initiative on Election Ballot. Funding might be earmarked or out of general fund. Fire suppression and safety agencies might be able to say how much is needed to be earmarked for work related to grows. Comments included the need for a public forum and discussion. Also a need for funding environmental cleanup and ecosystem health projects as part of public safety issue and funding.

Pat Frost announced that Jesse Cox is retiring as Chairman of the Trinity County FSC. He has been involved since 1998. Pat thinks there should be a BOS Proclamation to honor Jesse's service. Will need to figure out who can be Chair. The original intent was to have the Chair of the Fire Chiefs also be the Chair of the FSC.

Pat reported that the Trinity Center CSD raised \$9,000 at the Lake Fest event for the new fire hall.

Meeting ended 3:50 pm.

**Next meeting
August 24, 2017
7:00 PM
TCRCD Conference Room**

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes August 24, 2017, 7:00 p.m. TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Shiloe Braxton welcomed everyone and we made introductions. We had 7 attendees Shane Larsen CALFIRE, Ian Erickson RCD, Todd Corbett, Weaverville Fire, Bobbi Chadwick TCBO, Daniel Michael USFS, Pat Frost TC CSD, Shiloe Braxton RCD.

TCRCD Chipping Days – Schedule and Preparation (Ian Erickson, TCRCD) described the grant that the RCD has. It has written into it chipping for Lewiston, Weaverville & the North lake area with a focus on trying to have the chipper stationary and landowners bringing materials to the central location. Discussed using the county's transfer stations, but there are limitations. Weaverville station is mostly closed, due to the landfill capping project; Hobel (North Lake) might work. Discussed need to get plenty of advertising ahead of the selected dates to give landowners time to generate material & agreed that there should be 1 day at each community in the autumn and then again in the spring. Also there may be some landowners with larger parcels who have generated a lot of material – it might not be feasible for them to haul to a central place. So Ian will check on how much flexibility there is in the grant to also travel to landowners.

Fire Safe Materials in Hmong (Shiloe Braxton) Shiloe handed out examples of materials that already exist. Some are USFS and some seem to also involve CalFire. Shiloe will work with both agencies to see if they have them already printed up for us to distribute or whether we need to produce them ourselves. Shane Larsen (CalFire) said he'd check with his agency.

Retirement and honoring Jesse Cox (S Braxton P Frost) Group discussed how best to honor Jesse Cox for his almost 20 years of service and leadership to the Trinity County Fire Safe Council. Frost will take the lead and provide some draft materials in the next month. Supervisor Chadwick said she'd help with whatever we take to Board of Supervisors. This also led to discussion on selecting a new chairperson. Frost reminded group that the original intent was to have someone from the volunteer fire services to strengthen the link between groups. The group would like Todd Corbett, Weaverville Fire Chief to consider it.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

CA Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse 2017: The project was submitted May 12th. RCD submitted a new phase of the CWPP Implementation Project in partnership with WRTC. The proposed budget was about \$198,000. Frost indicated that successful applicants should be notified soon.

CAL FIRE SRA Fire Prevention Fund Grant 2017: Shane Larsen indicated that this is still a go, but possibly with different source of funding. The website still says applications are going to be due in late September. The group discussed strategies for successful applications – whether an RCD-WRTC-Weaverville Fire joint submittal would do better than smaller, individual applications. The three organizations will keep working on this and report back at September meeting

CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant Program (Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund) Jaramillo announced that the WRTC-submitted proposal, which is designed to complement the Joint Chiefs Project, was successful. This is a landscape scale project in the South Fork Trinity River Watershed covering public

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and private lands on two national forests, NEPA/CEQA ready projects. Proposal is for approximately \$900,000 over two years.

CA Fire Safe Council 2018: Frost reported that there likely will be more funding than in 2017, but exact numbers are not known yet. Likely timeframe will be similar to 2017.

Summer Outreach & Events:

- Farmers Market in Weaverville: Shiloe and Dave had a booth and great turn-out & fun. RCD is having a banner made to make the booth more obvious. They'll try to get back at least 1 more time this season. It did help promote the Weaverville Project (Stephens Act funding).
- Trinity County Fair Booth: FSC information was at the RCD booth. Shiloe reported that there was good traffic at booth.
- Trinity County Collaborative Group: The collaborative had a mixer/meeting with Congressman Huffman to highlight work that is on-going and planned. It gave the group an opportunity to also describe the greatest challenges to getting fuels work done on public land. Towards that end, the TCCG is sending letter to the Board of Supervisors to send to the Congressional Natural Resources Committee (Huffman & LaMalfa sit on this committee).

2018 Community Wildfire Preparedness Meeting Planning: Discussion was mostly postponed until we have Trinity River management Unit at our meeting. The idea is to start now on planning community event/outreach meeting that really draws the public. Frost suggested getting with new UCCE forester & build UCCE into the process and funding.

Project Updates

CAL FIRE (Larsen): Andy Reiling has crew working on fuels reduction work around Weaverville Airport along with Weaverville VFD. Not much else to report that we haven't covered.

USFS –Trinity River Management Unit and South Fork MU (Ostman): Sims site prep is continuing. Planning Trinity Post Fire Hazard Salvage and Pilot project community meeting was held on August 10th. They will start on alternatives next. USFS has entered in to an agreement with CAL FIRE to use crews on work on the Papoose Arm of Trinity Lake (on east side of Trinity Lake)

Watershed Research Training Center (Jaramillo): Dave is starting to line out potential dates for Weaverville Basin Project for this autumn's implementation, including on Jackass Ridge and Weaverville CSD property up East Weaver Creek (above campground). There is more work to start on their project with SRA Grant, but cultural resources surveys seem to be the bottleneck (busy consultant). And of course big effort this fall will be the TREX training modules in Trinity County.

Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department (Todd Corbett): Still working on the Title III project .

RCD (Erikson): RCD fuels crew working up on Oregon Street up above town using CA Fire Safe Council Grant and have been working in Lewiston area with the SRA Fund grant. They hope to get more chipping done in next month (SRA grant and Stephens Act). They had been working on the service work for Beaver Slide, but backed off as fires were in the area.

Meeting ended 11:50 AM.

<p style="text-align: center;">Next meeting September 28, 2017 2:00 PM RCD Conference Room</p>
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Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes September 28, 2017, 2:00 p.m. TCRCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Fifteen meeting attendees introduced themselves: Pat Frost, Trinity Center CSD; Shiloe Braxton, TCRCD; Matthew Weldon, Six Rivers NF; Tim Bradley, BLM; Dan Ostmann, Shasta Trinity NF SFMU; Andy Reiling, Cal Fire SHU; Todd Corbett, Weaverville Fire Dept.; Patrick Ake, BLM; Mike Allan, BLM; David Jaramillo, Watershed Center; Lara Graham, Shasta Trinity NF TRMU; Larry Winter, Hyampom FSC; Tracy McFadin, TCRCD; Tim Ritchey, Shasta Trinity NF TRMU; Ian Erickson, TCRCD.

Helena and Buck Fire Updates:

D. Ostmann: Buck Fire about 6,300 acres, 30% contained. Type 3 Incident Command (IC).

T. Ritchey: Fork Fire having some good ecological effects with mosaic understory burning and also burning up brush in older fire scar. Helena Fire had devastating initial burn effects through Junction City, with over 130 structures lost. There will be significant BAER work, including upper West Weaver Creek watershed area (part of Weaverville water supply).

TCRCD Chipping Services

I. Erickson: As part of the Weaver Basin Community Protection Project, RCD is offering Community Chipping Services for residents of East Weaver Creek Rd and East Branch Rd, as well as some priority areas off Barbara Ave. Crews also worked on Weaverville Community Services District property above the East Weaver Campground and private property along Weaver Bally Road. TCRCD Crews are working with Watershed Center crews to prep for prescribed fire as part of the Project. There has been good landowner response and participation on East Weaver Creek Rd, but none so far on East Branch. T. McFadin: this work is being funded by the USFS Steven's Act via a subcontract with the Watershed Center. TCRCD also has funding for Community Chipping Services in various Trinity County areas through the USFS RAC, CFSC and CALFIRE grants.

Retirement of TCFSC Chairperson

P. Frost: Jesse Cox is retiring as TCFSC Chairperson. As Lewiston Fire chief, he provided an important link between the TCFSC and Volunteer Fire Departments. Todd Corbett, Weaverville Fire Dept. was nominated as new TCFSC Chairperson. T. Ritchie made a motion to elect T. Corbett, T. Bradley seconded motion, no discussion. Vote held, all in favor, no dissent. Need to elect a Vice Chair was discussed. T. Bradley made a motion to elect Pat Frost, Trinity Center CSD. T. Bradley made a motion to nominate P. Frost, L. Graham seconded, no discussion. Vote held, all in favor, no dissent. P. Frost volunteered to write up a BOS resolution to honor Jesse Cox and his service.

Nominations for 2018 Wildfire Mitigation Awards

P. Frost volunteered to write up a nomination for Jesse Cox for the national award. The FSC accomplished a lot of great work under his leadership over the years.

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

Recovering from Wildfire Workshop

S. Braxton: TCFSC is working with UC Cooperative Extension Forester Ricky Santori and Carol Fall, Trinity County Master Gardeners, to hold a workshop. Tentative date is Oct. 19. Location and time TBA. Workshop is to help landowners on finding resources and methods to restore their property after wildfire.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

T. McFadin: CAL FIRE SRA Fire Prevention Fund Grant 2017: SRA fee program suspended and new grant program will be funded through Cap and Trade/Greenhouse Gas Reduction funds. CalFire has not announced when the new opportunity will be open for application or the new program guidelines. (http://calfire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fire_prevention_fund_grants).

SWRCB Nonpoint Source/Timber Fund Grant Opportunity: In late November or early December the Nonpoint Source 2018 Grant Program Guidelines and Solicitation Notice will be released (www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/319grants.shtml).

Project Updates

CAL FIRE (A. Reiling): Defensible Space Inspections will continue through the winter. Complaint driven. Brush and tree thinning projects will be the focus next, then defensible space near structures. The CalFire crews will be assisting with prescribed burning in the fall.

USFS Shasta Trinity NF –South Fork MU (D. Ostmann): Prescribed fire pile burns in Stafford and Simms Project areas are planned. Also Mud Springs fuel break, and Post Mt. Area work. Planning for understory prescribed burning at the Harrison Gulch USFS Compound.

USFS Shasta Trinity NF –Trinity River MU (L. Graham): Planning Trinity Alps Prescribed Fire Project, draft should be released in Oct. or Nov. Alternatives have been developed and specialist reports are being written for the Burnt Ranch Project. Browns III Project is going through USFWS re-consultation, and the Petti John Project is also in USFWS consultation stage. **(T.Ritchey)** Implementing Five Cent Gulch prescribed fire this fall, about 92 acres left to treat. Also 180 acres of pile burning as part of the North Lake Project. East Side Road and Papoose fuels reduction project continuing. Lake Forest Plantation understory prescribed burning on about 40 acres is being planned. There will be a Fall Press Release from the STNF next week about this fall's prescribed burning plans.

USFS Six Rivers NF (M. Weldon): Planning about 300 acres of prescribed burning. Waterman Project CE should be signed soon.

BLM Redding Area (T. Bradley): Planning TREX and Biomass Project work. This fall will have Hoadly Peak prescribed burning. About 30 to 50 acres of prescribed burning planned for Weaverville Community Forest this fall. Also Ewing Reservoir area, and Union Hill pile burning. Also in the planning stage of the Indian and Reading Creek Project, may include timber unit and prescribed burning. Working on fire restoration and suppression repair from Helena Fire. The Wheel Gulch area needs emergency stabilization work to avoid sedimentation issues from road runoff.

Willow Creek FSC (P. Frost): they sent an email requesting a review of the Humboldt County CWPP Update to be consistent with the Trinity County CWPP Update for the Willow Creek Area.

Weaverville Fire (T. Corbett): Crew working in the Timber Ridge and Spring Hill area on hazard tree removal.

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

Watershed Research Training Center (D. Jaramillo): Prepping for the TREX training to be held October 16th. Also, crews are working with RCD on propping areas for prescribed burning in the Weaver Basin. Continuing CFSC project work in the Trinity Pines-Post Mt. Area and SRA project in the Ewing Reservoir area.

Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department (T. Corbett): Still working on the Title III project.

RCD (I. Erikson): Weaver Basin Chipping Services response from landowners good. Crews also working on roadside fuels reduction along Oregon Street under CFSC Project. Also Lewiston fuels reduction off of Trinity Dam Blvd. under CalFire project. **S. Braxton:** In pre-award stage of CFSC project to be allowed to include Watershed Center as project partner.

Meeting adjourned 3:00 PM

Note: Just after the meeting adjourned and about half of the attendees left, the Hyampom FSC representation arrived so the remaining USFS, RCD, Watershed Center and Trinity Center FSC members continued with the following discussion until 3:30 pm.

Hyampom FSC (L. Winter): The Hyampom FSC is looking for support from the TCFSC and for getting the Hyampom Community Protection Project on the USFS Program of Work. Would like to tie the project to the existing Westside Plantation Project and Trinity Collaborative Roadside Shaded Fuel Break Project. D. Ostmann agreed to bring up Hyampom Project at the USFS (internal) Program of Work meeting. TCFSC will also add the topic to the October FSC meeting agenda. Also, need the 2015 CWPP Update online version to have the appendix added, it is currently not showing the Hyampom Project.

Next meeting

October 26, 2017 2:00 PM RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting October 26, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Weaverville Fire Hall

Welcome and Introductions: Five attendees: Todd Corbett, Weaverville Fire Dept.; Bobbi Chadwick, Trinity County BOS; Pat Frost, Trinity Center CSD; David Jaramillo, The Watershed Center; Tracy McFadin, Trinity County RCD; and Ian Erickson, Trinity County RCD .

Wildfire Updates and BAER Planning:

(USFS not present to give report).

TCRCD reported that they are drafting a Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) agreement with the USFS to implement road related erosion control work in the Helena-Fork Fire area.

Trinity County Board of Supervisors Proclamation Update:

P. Frost: Jesse Cox is retiring as TCFSC Chairperson. As Lewiston Fire chief, he provided an important link between the TCFSC and Volunteer Fire Departments. Pat has drafted a BOS resolution to honor Jesse Cox and for his service. FSC has had the opportunity to review the resolution and supports it. It will be helpful to have FSC members at the BOS meeting when it is presented. Bobbi will recommend it for the BOS Nov. 7 meeting agenda. Todd will also share it at the Fire Chiefs Meeting on Nov. 6.

Nominations for 2018 Wildfire Mitigation Awards:

P. Frost is submitting a nomination for Jesse Cox for the 2018 Wildfire Mitigation Award. The FSC accomplished a lot of great work under Jesse's leadership over the years. Please send examples of digital materials (web links, news articles, project information, etc.) to Pat that he can submit as supporting information with the nomination. Deadline to submit the nomination has been extended to Nov. 10. FSC can also provide a letter of support and the same will be requested from the Fire Chiefs Assoc.

Recovering from Wildfire Workshop:

An information workshop is being held at the Junciton City Community Center 2 to 4 pm on Sunday Oct. 29 to help landowners resources and methods to restore their property after wildfire. Carol Fall, Trinity County Master Gardeners, and UC Cooperative Extension Forestry Advisor Ricky Santori. will be at the workshop.

Humboldt County CWPP Update (Willow Creek FSC)

There will be a Community Meeting at Willow Creek on Wed. Nov. 8 seeking input for the Humboldt County CWPP Update. There is geographic overlap between the Humboldt and Trinity County CWPPs (Burnt Ranch/Salyer/Hawkins Bar). They would like feedback from the Trinity County FSC. Pat is planning to attend the meeting.

Firewise Community Renewals

Annual renewals are due for the fourteen Firewise Communities in Trinity County. Pat will submit the renewals online. Reporting includes population, community Firewise events and workshop participation,

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

and funding spent on fuels management and public education. He has been gathering the information from local agencies and organizations.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

CAL FIRE SRA Fire Prevention Fund Grant 2017: No information available.

SWRCB Nonpoint Source/Timber Fund Grant Opportunity: In late November or early December the Nonpoint Source 2018 Grant Program Guidelines and Solicitation Notice will be released (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/319grants.shtml).

Project Updates

No one present to report for the following organizations/agencies:

CAL FIRE

USFS Shasta Trinity NF –South Fork MU , Trinity River MU

USFS Six Rivers NF

NRCS

BLM

Willow Creek FSC

Hyampom FSC

Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department (T. Corbett): Finishing implementation on the Title III project. Also providing assistance to Helena-Fork fire victims, helping to remove hazardous fuels removal and cleanup.

Watershed Research Training Center (D. Jaramillo): Planning to conduct prescribed burning in Weaverville Jackass Ridge area as part of Weaver Basin Project. Pending the correct weather and fuel conditions.

RCD (I. Erikson): Crews working on Scotch Broom treatment as part of USFS RAC Priority Noxious Weed Removal which is helping to reduce fuels load in Fairview Boat Ramp vicinity. The Weaver Basin Chipping Services for private landowners in East Weaver and Barbara Ave. neighborhoods was successful, approximately 17 parcels had chipping and about 3 acres were treated.

Trinity Collaborative (P. Frost): Field Trip to the Joint Chiefs Project area was on Oct. 20. Tour group visited Westside Plantation Project thinning treatments areas, “Pilot” Project Shaded Fuel Break treatment areas and Kelsey Ridge Timber Sale mastication work areas. Treatment prescriptions were compared..

Announcement made by The Watershed Research Training Center that they are closing the firewood processing facility in Hayfork. Even though there is a market for the product, they were unable to secure enough small diameter wood from the forest to sustain the operation.

Meeting adjourned 3:00 PM

Next meeting

December 14, 2017

2:00 PM

RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes December 14, 2017, 2:00 p.m. Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Eight attendees: Dan Ostmann- USFS-SFMU; Rick Satomi- UC Coop Extension; Larry Winter- Hyampom FSC; Carolyn Rourke- NRCS; Pat Frost- Trinity Center CSD; Tim Ritchey- USFS TRMU; David Jaramillo- The Watershed Center; and Tracy McFadin- Trinity County RCD.

Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Planning and Implementation:

Helena-Fork and Buck Fire BAER work is addressing hazard trees, erosion control, noxious weeds, trails and signage. TCRCD was contracted to do some of the road work, and will also be contracted to do some erosion control work in the Connor Creek drainage. In the Buck Fire area, the RCD will also be doing some road work for erosion control.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

- **CAL FIRE- Fire Prevention and Tree Mortality Grant Program 2017-18:** No new information available, CAL FIRE website still not updated from the last round in 2016-17.
- **State Water Resources Control Board- Nonpoint Source/Timber Fund 2018 Grant Opportunity:** The Program Guidelines and Solicitation Notice have been released, proposals due Feb. 8, 2018. They do fund fuels reduction work.

General discussion about priority areas for fuels reduction work that ties into other projects on the landscape for upcoming grant proposals, including Trinity Center (Long Canyon, Covington Mill and Ridgeville), Weaverville (west-side Weaverville Community Forest), and Hyampom private lands and Community Fire Protection Project. Dave said that the CAL FIRE California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) can help private landowners with forest health plans and fuels reduction, it has an open application period. Work has been done with a couple of landowners in the Hyampom area. Rick mentioned that the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and CAL FIRE CFIP are good opportunities for landowners. Also the NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCCP) is funding an oak woodlands project on private lands in Trinity County, including in the Hyampom area.

2018 Wildfire Prevention Workshop Planning

Pat led the discussion, asked for ideas to reinvigorate the workshop for 2018. UC Coop Extension has partnered with FSC in the past and helped with successful workshops. Might be a good idea to focus not just on fire prevention, but also on homeowner readiness in the event of a fire. What to do if your area is burning and under evacuation. The San Francisco Chronicle produced "How to Survive" publication, maybe similar information could be incorporated into workshop or newspaper publication. Communities Safety Zone Maps were produced for the agencies, maybe something could be produced for general public that identifies safety zones.

Using a neighborhood approach was suggested as a way to increase interest and participation, especially if there is an on-the-ground walkthrough to show people what can be done to protect their homes and neighborhood. CAL FIRE inspection program might be able to help. Tim thought that there

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

should be education about how trees planted as visual screens can actually increase risk and propagate fire. Larger community meeting might use videos.

2018 CWPP Data Updates:

It is time to submit GIS data updates to the RCD of projects that have been implemented since the 2015 CWPP Update. There is a need to clarify what data has been updated for each organization/agency.

Wildfire Mitigation Award:

Past Trinity County FSC Chair, Jesse Cox, has been awarded the national 2018 Wildfire Mitigation Award. There will be an award ceremony in February at the Wildlife-Urban Interface conference in Reno, NV. The award is the highest national honor one can receive for outstanding work and significant program impact in wildfire preparedness and mitigation. Only 9 awards are being given nationwide. The recognition program is sponsored by the National Assoc. of State Foresters (NASF), the International Assoc. of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the National Fire Protection Assoc. (NFPA) and the US Forest Service.

The Trinity County Board of Supervisors made a proclamation at their November 7th meeting thanking Jesse for his service.

Project Updates

USFS Shasta Trinity National Forest, South Fork MU-Dan: Trinity Post Fire Hazard Reduction and Salvage Project final EIS decision should be released this month. Project is for fuels treatments within a buffer along roads that were burned in the 2015 wildfires. Trinity Collaborative Roads and Plantation Pilot Project (Indian Valley and Butter Creek Roads between Hayfork and Hyampom) is under alternative development. Planning for Ewing Reservoir Fuels Reduction, Knob Peak Fuels Treatment Maintenance, and Hyampom Community Protection Plan are also underway.

USFS Shasta Trinity NF, Trinity River MU-Tim: They are working on Browns Phase III reconsultation with USFWS. There was about 180 acres of prescribed burning this year on TRMU, about 60 more piles to burn. Burnt Ranch and Trinity Alps Projects are still in the works. Budget cuts are causing some positions to not be filled. They are looking at some job share opportunities and reorganization.

NRCS- Carolyn: Both the District Conservationist and Forester have left NRCS. Jenna Ganoung is the acting District Conservationist in Weaverville. Internal hiring freeze continues, but they are working collaboratively with other offices for assistance. NRCS program deadlines for 2018 are Jan. 19, April 6 and June 22 for EQIP. Also opportunities with the Regional Conservation Partnership and Joint Chiefs Programs.

Watershed Research Training Center-Dave: Working on CA Fire Safe Council funded fuels reduction in Post Mountain area. Also some prescribed fire on private lands funded by NRCS. Need burn windows and right conditions. Starting to plan the CAL FIRE Forest Health Project that was funded. Also precommercial thinning of plantations under the NFWF and Region 5 Partnership. Stevens Act funded some prescribed fire on private lands in Weaver Basin this fall.

Hyampom FSC- Larry: Gearing up for the Community Fire Protection Project, looking for grant funding. Attended Program of Work meeting with the USFS. Will be having a project planning meeting in January to discuss scope of project.

Trinity County RCD-Tracy: Crews working on various private land fuels reduction projects and Helena-Fork BAER project. Crews might be laid off soon due to weather.

**Trinity County Fire Safe Council
& Firewise Communities Program**

No one present to report for the following organizations/agencies:

BLM

CAL FIRE

USFS Six Rivers Nation Forest

Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department

Willow Creek FSC

Meeting adjourned 4:00 PM

Next meeting

January 25, 2018

2:00 PM

RCD Conference Room