

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes February 22, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions:

Fourteen attendees: Andy Reiling, CAL FIRE; Rick Satomi, UC Coop Extension; Bobbi Chadwick, TCBOS; Todd Corbett, WFD; Ed Fitzgerald, Salyer resident; Ian Erickson, TCRCD; Jenna Ganoung, NRCS; Susan Marie, WRTC; Nick Wallingford, CAL FIRE; Pat Frost, Trinity Center CSD; Larry Winter, Hyampom FSC; David Jaramillo, The Watershed Center; Tracy McFadin, Trinity County RCD; Dan Ostmann, USFS-SFMU (via phone).

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

- **CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Fund and Tree Mortality Grant Program 2017-18:** No new information available, more information later this spring? (www.fire.ca.gov/grants/grants).
- **CAL FIRE CA Forest Improvement Program (CFIP):** forestry incentive program for landowners for management plans, RPF supervision, site prep, tree planting, thinning, etc . Ongoing, open enrollment.
- **Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry:** Grant opportunity was just announced, focused on larger urban areas.
- **PG&E:** There may be fire prevention grant funds available for PG&E service areas this year, but there hasn't been an announcement yet.
- **National Fish Wildlife Foundation Conservation Partners Program:** Oak woodlands are one area of emphasis in Trinity County that WRTC/NRCS is working with this program on.

Wildfire Mitigation Award:

Past Trinity County FSC Chair, Jesse Cox, has been awarded the national 2018 Wildfire Mitigation Award. He was unable to attend the award ceremony in February in Reno, NV. A local award ceremony is being planned for late March or early April. The Trinity Journal had an article about the award in the Jan. 31st edition.

2018 CWPP Data Updates:

It is time submit GIS data updates to the RCD of projects that have been implemented this past year. The RCD GIS Dept. will let everyone know what format of data is best to submit. The idea is to keep projects updated between CWPP updates so it is more of a "living" document. The data updates would also help identify areas that are underserved. Past fire areas are taken into account in the CWPP mapping, however, CWPP planning is not detailed enough for project level work. Fire severity/fuel loading is not part of fire history map in CWPP. Fire Management Plans are created for specific areas, not countywide. A Firewise assessment might be a more useful tool.

FSC Letter of Support for Fuels Treatment Maintenance Plan:

The past NEPA didn't cover maintenance work for fuel breaks. Suggested that we request the Forest Service create a NEPA document to cover all kinds of maintenance activities in the Weaver Basin. Need to submit a request to the District Ranger for the NEPA Project to get onto the Shasta-Trinity NF Program of Work. A draft Letter of Support from the Weaverville Community Forest Steering Committee was shared regarding fuels treatment maintenance needs in WCF. Other communities might also want to do the same, it also might help to bring the project to the Trinity Collaborative Group. FSC is in support of submitting a letter of support for a Fuels Treatment Maintenance Plan.

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“Living with Wildfire” Trinity Journal Special Edition April 2018:

There is opportunity for both paid ads and articles in the upcoming publication. Deadline to submit to Journal is late March. CalOES and HRN might be interested in an article about what has been accomplished after the Helena Fire and a “Thank You” for all of the support. Fire Chiefs Association might be interested in participating. Examples of other publications and the 2017 TJ edition shared around the room. FSC members will work with TJ editor to include fresh content. FSC will include an open letter from FSC to the community.

2018 Wildfire Prevention Workshop Planning

UC Coop Extension is currently planning the annual Wildfire Prevention Workshop to include ½ day presentation and ½ day community walk through. Focus will be on fire prevention, homeowner readiness in the event of a fire, and what to do after a fire. Looking for ideas and topics: ingress/egress issues, fire insurance (include industry reps?), fire prevention, or community success stories. Volunteers needed, draft agenda will be presented at March FSC meeting. The event will be a good time to coordinate or advertise RCD’s Community Chipping Days.

CA Department of Forestry Programmatic EIR:

Vegetation Treatment Program EIR will address all fuel types in SRA. The process was started 5 years ago, there have been 2 different public review processes. The final might be released in summer 2018. The EIR will be of value to any entity doing private land work that requires CEQA, it is intended to streamline the process. CAL FIRE has goals for acres of broadcast burning for each Unit.

Project Updates

CAL FIRE (A. Reiling)-There is now a state funded engine and crew available for fuels reduction, CEQA cleared project assistance including pile burning. Landowners will have to sign entry permit/release of liability. Contact Andy if you have project work.

USFS Shasta Trinity National Forest, Trinity River MU (Email Report submitted by L. Graham)- The WCF Fuel Treatment Maintenance Project is in pre-planning stage, it is not a priority for the Forest for various reasons (e.g., Legacy projects, Pilot project, and Insect and Disease projects are the current priority). A letter of support (from the FSC) may be helpful.

USFS Shasta Trinity National Forest, South Fork MU (D. Ostmann via phone)- Mud Springs pile burning complete. Simms reforestation site-prep pile burning coming up. Working on Pilot Project, Dubakella Planning and Ewing Reservoir projects. 2015 Post Fire NEPA signed, roadside fuel breaks will be contracted.

USFS Six Rivers NF- *No one present to report.*

NRCS (J. Ganoung)- NRCS Program deadlines for 2018 are April 6 and June 22 for EQIP. Also opportunities with the Regional Conservation Partnership and Joint Chiefs Programs. Forest management plans are required for their programs. Currently they do not have a forester on staff, hoping to add someone part time.

BLM (T. Bradley emailed report)- Working on burning in Butte County on a collaborative effort near forest ranch. Also doing lots of pile burning in Shasta County with CAL FIRE crews. They are in the process of interviewing for a forester - hopefully will have that position filled by late spring or sooner. Fuels captain position vacancy that they hope to be hiring for in the next month or two. Also hiring a seasonal fuels crew in the next month for the summer and fall season.

Weaverville Fire Department (T. Corbett)- WFD will be doing some project work with CAL FIRE funds (through RCD) and also Title III funds.

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Willow Creek FSC- *No one present to report for Willow Ck FSC.* E. Fitzgerald, resident from Salyer, did mention that they hope the Willow Ck FSC will be bringing a chipper into their area. Projects in their area need funding.

Watershed Research Training Center (D. Jaramillo)- Crews will be back to work in a couple of weeks on the Sims Project first, then CFSC Project in Post Mountain area (with RCD). CAL FIRE SRA Hayfork Project is in environmental clearance stage for prescribed burning. Weaver Basin Project still have Ten Cent Gulch piles to finish burning. NCAL TREX was cancelled due to wildfires last fall, they are planning on having it in Spring. Working also on RCPP with NRCS, there is technical support funding available for oak woodlands areas to treat conifer encroachment. CAL FIRE Forest Health Project moving through NEPA/CEQA process. Also working on a Fire Ecology article series for Trinity Journal. N CA Prescribed Fire Council meeting is April 23-24 at Mt Shasta (www.norcalrxfirecouncil.org/events.html).

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (I. Erickson)- Crews will be back to work mid-March. Will be working on Weaverville Oregon Mt and Trinity Center fuels reduction for CFSC Project. Project planning and environmental clearance have to be done first. CAL FIRE SRA Project will continue this year in Coffee Creek area. Also, SWRCB Timber Fund Roadside Shaded Fuel Break Project work is pending an agreement.

Hyampom FSC (L. Winter)- Gearing up for the Community Fire Protection Planning Project, Coordinating with TCCG Roadside Fuel Break Project and USFS prescribed fire projects. Looking at critical fuel breaks and cleanup of past burned areas. Also, Fire-kill to Fuel Break (Trinity Post Fire Hazard Reduction and Salvage) Project has treatments in the Hyampom Area, just cleared NEPA process.

Meeting adjourned 4:30 PM

Next meeting

March 22, 2018

2:00 PM

RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes
March 22, 2018, 2:00 p.m.
Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions:

Nine attendees: David Jaramillo, The Watershed Center; Jeremy Strait, BLM; Paul Johnson, USFS Six Rivers NF Lower Trinity District; Scott Watkins, Trinity County Planning Dept., Susan Marie, The Watershed Center; Kelly Sheen, TCRCD; Ed Fitzgerald, Salyer; Patrick Flynn, TCRCD, Tracy McFadin, TCRCD.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

- **California Fire Safe Council Grant Clearinghouse:** 2018 State Fire Assistance grant opportunity, online application deadline May 15, for hazardous fuels reduction and maintenance on non-federal land, CWPP and other planning; prevention and mitigation education and outreach for at-risk communities (www.cafiresafecouncil.org/2018-grant-program/).
- **CA Dept. Fish and Wildlife, Prop 1 Watershed Restoration Grant:** draft Proposal Solicitation Notice released in March, might be open for application in May? Includes a wildfire recovery response category (www.wildlife.ca.gov/conservation/watersheds/restoration-grants).
- **CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Fund and Tree Mortality Grant Program 2017-18:** No new information available on the website (www.fire.ca.gov/grants/grants).
- **CAL FIRE CA Forest Improvement Program (CFIP):** forestry incentive program for landowners for management plans, RPF supervision, site prep, tree planting, thinning, etc. Ongoing, open enrollment.
- **National Fish Wildlife Foundation Conservation Partners Program:** Oak woodlands area of emphasis in Trinity County. WRTC/NRCS are working with this program.

Wildfire Mitigation Award:

Past Trinity County FSC Chair, Jesse Cox, has been awarded the national 2018 Wildfire Mitigation Award. A local awards ceremony has been scheduled for May 3rd. More details to follow.

2018 CWPP Data Updates:

Kelly Sheen shared a handout showing GIS data that has been used for the CWPP. Discussed ways to keep annual data collection as simple as possible. Currently the mapped project data includes polygon, point and line data. The CWPP is a "living" document and annual updates of new project and previously identified CWPP projects is important. Would like to have consistent data brought together in a cohesive package that avoids duplication and lists accomplishments. Kelly will provide a template/format for providing data with suggested treatment types to be captured. Ok to submit legacy projects, but priority is for 2017 project work that has occurred since the 2016 CWPP. The information can be useful for reporting accomplishments, renewing Firewise Community status, and seeking funding. The data updates may also help identify underserved areas.

"Living with Fire" Trinity Journal Special Edition April 2018:

Publication will have fresh content. Submit your content and ads to TJ editor, Wayne Agner, by 4/4/18. Dave will ask for permission to reprint some of the new material from other sources. Three categories: understanding the role of fire; preparing your family; and communities participation. There will also be an open letter from the FSC. Discussion about how to outreach to growers, this publication might not reach them. Consider different venues for different audiences.

2018 Wildfire Prevention Workshop Planning

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UC Coop Extension is currently planning the annual Wildfire Prevention Workshop. Discussion tabled until the April meeting.

Oak Woodlands Workshop: Jenna (NRCS) and Dave (WRTC) are planning outreach. Public events are difficult to get people to, they might have a booth at the post office to get information out.

Project Updates

USFS Six Rivers NF (P. Johnson) - Current Projects include the Waterman West Commercial / Pre Commercial Thinning, Sims Fire Restoration roadside clearing and fuels reduction and Plantation Thin Project. Full fire resource staffing this year, same as last year.

NRCS (Report submitted by J. Ganoung read aloud) - Jenna is officially an employee of Weaverville NRCS office as of mid-April. There is potential for sharing an employee with forestry background from Redding office with Weaverville office. April 6 and June 22 are NRCS program deadlines (EQIP, RCPP, Cropland and CSP). Regional Conservation Partnership Program, oak restoration focus, is open now for application. Working on getting client permission for reporting work completed as part of CWPP update.

BLM (J. Strait) - Outreach for fuels position hiring. Planning project ongoing for the Reading – Indian Creek Woodlands Restoration Project EA. Planning for Helena Fire Project work, including commercial salvage and fuel breaks. Also Grass Valley Creek commercial timber sale project.

Watershed Research Training Center (D. Jaramillo) - Working on Trinity Journal Fire Publication. Chainsaw crew on hold due to weather. This season will be working on Sims, Ruth, Hayfork and Weaverville fuels reduction projects. Forestry Tech starting next month. Also supporting USFS to complete NEPA mainly on USFS Six Rivers and CAL FIRE Forest Health projects.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (K. Sheen) – Field crews will be back to work soon. New agreement being drafted to work with Six Rivers NF in Ruth area on Beaverslide Fuels Reduction Project. New PG&E proposal submitted for downriver fuels reduction. Crews will also be working on USFS Helena-Fork Fire BAER Connor Creek area stabilization and mulching, CAL FIRE and CFSC fuels reduction projects, and USFS Middle Hayfork Plantation Thin Project.

CAL FIRE - *No one present to report.*

USFS Shasta Trinity National Forest - *No one present to report.*

Weaverville Fire Department - *No one present to report.*

Willow Creek FSC - *No one present to report.*

Hyampom FSC - *No one present to report.*

Meeting adjourned 4:20 PM

<p>Next meeting April 26, 2018 2:00 PM RCD Conference Room</p>
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Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes
April 26, 2018, 2:00 p.m.
Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions:

Seven attendees: Pat Frost, Trinity Center CSD; Tim Ritchey, USFS Trinity River Management Unit; Bobbi Chadwick, Trinity County B.O.S.; Scott Watkins, Trinity County Planning Dept., Jenna Ganoung, NRCS; and Tracy McFadin, TCRCO.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

- **Secure Rural Schools** funding has been reauthorized by Congress for two years. Title II funds will be available for implementation projects on Public Lands under Resource Advisory Committees, which will have to be re-established (they expired in when the 2015 reauthorization expired). Title III grant funds will eventually be advertised for application by Trinity County.
- **California Fire Safe Council Grant Clearinghouse:** 2018 State Fire Assistance grant opportunity, online application deadline May 15, for hazardous fuels reduction and maintenance on non-federal land, CWPP and other planning; prevention and mitigation education and outreach for at-risk communities (www.cafiresafecouncil.org/2018-grant-program/).

Wildfire Mitigation Award:

Past Trinity County FSC Chair, Jesse Cox, has been awarded the national 2018 Wildfire Mitigation Award. A local awards ceremony has been scheduled for May 3rd and award is to be presented by Congressman Huffman. Event will be held at the Young Family Ranch, 12:45 to 1:30 pm.

Wildfire Awareness Week

May 6 through 12 has been declared Wildfire Awareness Week by CA Governor Brown. FSC will place information on website, Facebook Page and send an email to the mailing list as a reminder. Pat will try to bring to the Board of Supervisor's attention at their May meeting during the public comment.

Project Updates

USFS Shasta-Trinity NF, Trinity River Management Unit (T. Ritchey) - Grape Fire in Hyampom area is now declared a wildfire and has grown to about 150 acres. It started in prescribed fire area in Sims 2015 burn scar on Six River NF and spread to the Shasta Trinity NF. Crews are keeping it in the project area footprint.

Five Cent Gulch prescribed fire project is complete, 350 acres treated over 4 years. FS is working to get the WCF Fuels Treatment Plan on the Program of Work. They are also in consultation with PG&E regarding fuels treatments under power lines and within easements. Burnt Ranch Project held a field trip with the new District Ranger and community members, working to refine prescriptions.

NRCS (J. Ganoung) – They funded two forestry projects in April and next deadline is June 22 for NRCS programs (EQIP, RCPP, Cropland and CSP). Regional Conservation Partnership Program, oak restoration focus, is open now for application. Two IDIQ Forestry Plans are being prepared by Black Fox. Also, NRCS is looking for ways to fund stewardship and maintenance contracts after EQIP projects are complete.

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Trinity County Resource Conservation District (T. McFadin) – Field crews are back to work. New agreement being drafted to work with Six Rivers NF in Ruth area on Beaverslide Fuels Reduction Project. Crews have been working on USFS Helena-Fork Fire BAER Connor Creek area stabilization and mulching, CAL FIRE and CFSC fuels reduction projects. Site visits were done in Trinity Center to introduce fuels reduction project and discuss with residents. There has been a lot of interest expressed by the residents to complete fuels reduction work.

Hyampom FSC (L. Winter) – They will be meeting with Forest Service Hayfork Ranger District staff to define Hyampom project scope. May present the project to the Trinity County Collaborative Group at their June meeting. They are also looking for a home for the FSC, Mt. Valley School District property is being considered (schools are closed).

Trinity County BOS (B. Chadwick) – CA Rural Counties (RCRC) sponsored AB2727 and Board of Supervisors sent a letter of support. It would give a tax credit to volunteer fire fighters. FSC might also consider sending a letter of support.

(No one present to report from BLM, Watershed Research Training Center, CAL FIRE, Weaverville Fire Department, and Willow Creek FSC).

Meeting adjourned 3:25 PM

Next meeting

May 24, 2018

2:00 PM

RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Minutes May 24, 2018, 2:00 p.m. Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions

Fourteen attendees: Pat Frost, Trinity Center CSD; Bobbi Chadwick, Trinity County BOS; Joe Smailes, USFS Trinity River Management Unit; Sandy Faulkner, USFS TRMU; Daniel Michael, USFS TRMU; Tim Ritchey, USFS TRMU; Dan Ostmann, USFS South Fork Mgt. Unit; Lara Graham, USFS TRMU; Glen Tingley, USFS TRMU; Ian Erickson, TCRCD; Ricky Satomi, UCCE; Larry Winter, Hyampom FSC; Jeremy Strait, BLM; and Tracy McFadin, TCRCD.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- **California Fire Safe Council Grant Clearinghouse** 2018 State Fire Assistance grant opportunity closed May 15. TCRCD applied for a fuels reduction project to help private landowners in the Bear Creek and Timber Ridge Subdivisions. The CFSC may reopen the opportunity because they had fewer applications than funding available. Applicants may be able to increase the amount of their application or submit additional applications.
- **Secure Rural Schools** funding has been reauthorized by Congress for two years. Title II funds will be available for implementation projects on Public Lands under Resource Advisory Committees. New RAC Committees are being actively recruited. There is no new information regarding Title III grant funds being available from Trinity County.

Outreach 2018

- Firesafe Workshop: Outline presented and tentative date June 30th for a Weaverville Workshop was discussed. Might conflict with July 4th activities. Will see if it can be moved up to mid-week. Outreach is important, title needs to gain attention. Drawings and burning demonstrations are popular. If funding is available it should be offered to other communities next year. This year's focus is on homeowners and structure resiliency.
- CAL FIRE has defensible space inspection funding and they will do neighborhood visits on request.
- Trinity County Fair in Hayfork at Fairgrounds (June 9-11): TCRCD will have a booth that includes Fire Safe Council information.
- Trinity Pines/Post Mountain annual BBQ and fire prevention event is May 25th.
- Trinity Center is holding an annual BBQ event to benefit their Volunteer Fire Dept. next month.

Weaverville Community Forest Fuels Treatment Maintenance Plan

Maintenance of past fuels reduction treatments is needed. TRMU is proposing a several thousand acre plan. District Ranger Smailes thanked the FSC for sending a letter of support for the project. Over the past few years other projects have taken priority, but this one is important. The level of analysis needed is being decided (CE or EA?). NEPA is being built into new projects moving forward so that planning is more strategic and causes less delay in implementation.

Ewing Reservoir Fuels Reduction Treatment Project

D. Ostmann presented project information. Planned treatment of 40 acres adjacent to private property and BLM treatment areas. Goals to build resilience to fire, protect WUI and water quality. Majority of acres are planned for prescribed fire, but some hand cut/pile and burn on boundary. Scoping open until May 30th.

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Project Updates

USFS Shasta-Trinity NF, South Fork Mgt. Unit (D. Ostmann)

Working on Ewing Fuels Reduction, Hyampom Community Roads and Ridges, and Dubakella Plantations (mid-June scoping) Projects. Trinity County Collaborative Roads and Plantations Pilot projects is ongoing. Post Fire EIS, might be implemented in Summer 2018. Cutting and piling south of Grape fire area, also

USFS Shasta-Trinity NF, Trinity River Mgt. Unit (T. Ritchey)

Musser Homestead Trailhead expansion fuels reduction project is being planned, thinning and piling. Ties with other East Weaver Creek area neighborhood projects. (J. Smailes) Burnt Ranch Project continues to be a priority for the District. Expecting a decision in the 4th quarter of 2019. Completing supplemental NEPA report for the Pettijohn project, in litigation still. Trinity Alps Wilderness Prescribed Fire project still being planned for, decision expected later this year. They are also in consultation with PG&E Special Use Aughtorization Renewal Project, including maintenance of fuels under and near power lines and within easements.

BLM (J. Strait)

Fuels crew is starting next week. BLM campgrounds are opening next week. Implementing 35 acres of mastication, and cut-pile as part of Indian Creek Fuels Reduction project, along roads and power lines. NEPA for larger project is still underway. Forest Health project planning with TCRCD for parcel in Little Browns Creek drainage. Resource Management Plan Revision still continues to be their big focus right now. GVC Thin (commercial sale) implementation in 2018.

NRCS (J. Ganoung via email)

New Soil Conservationist hired at Redding office, will be able to assist Weaverville office. Permanent NRCS District Conservationist position in Weaverville will be advertised within the next month. Next deadline is June 22 for NRCS programs (EQIP, RCPP). Goal for one or two Joint Chiefs Forestry Project Conservation Plans and 2 General EQIP Forestry plans. Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) ranking deadline June 8, they have 1 application.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (I. Erickson)

Fuels reduction implementation will be occurring in the larger private parcels surrounding Timber Ridge subdivision. RCD is applying for more funding for the area. Also defensible space and chipping services implementation in Trinity Center. Over 50 landowners responded. Project adjacent to USFS fuels reduction treatment area. WVFD will be subcontracted to help with fuels reduction on Lance Gulch area private parcels outside of defensible space areas.

Hyampom FSC (L. Winter)

Would like more information regarding Grape Fire, how much of the Sims treatments areas burned in the fire?

Meeting adjourned 4 PM

Next meeting

June 28, 2018

1:00 PM

RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Meeting Minutes June 28, 2018, 1:30 p.m. Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions

Eight attendees: Todd Corbett, WVFD; Kelly Sheen, TCRCD; Ed Fitzgerald, Salyer resident; Tim Ritchey, USFS; Tracy McFadin, TCRCD; Sandy Faulkner, USFS; Larry Winter, Hyampom FSC; and Scott Watkins, Trinity County Planning Dept.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- **California Fire Safe Council Grant Clearinghouse** closed May 15. The CFSC announced that they will reopen it's 2018 State Fire Assistance grant opportunity because they had fewer applications than funding available. Applicants may be able to increase the amount of their application or submit additional applications. The application period will be August 1 to August 30. More information at www.cafiresafecouncil.org.
- **FY 2019 Wildland Urban Interface Grant Program** (Western States can apply, applications have to go through the CA Dept. of Forestry). Open June 18 to Sept. 14. More information at www.westernforesters.org/wui-grants.

2018 Fire Outlook (Tim Ritchey, USFS)

- Northern Operations Seasonal Outlook was reviewed. Late spring rains have led to taller grass and more fine fuel, but with warmer temperatures and rapid drying in June elevated fire risk is occurring in Sacramento Valley and Sierra Foothills. July and Aug may have increased monsoon moisture and lightening storms, especially on east side. Weaverville area is not at an extreme risk at this time. Forest-wide fire restrictions haven't been issued on the STNF yet, but likely will be by mid to end of July. September is generally when the Klamath Mnt. region has the most elevated risk. For the online report visit https://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/outlooks/Outlook_NOps.pdf.
- The National Fuel Moisture Database is a resource for information about fuel moisture levels (<https://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/fuelsFireDanger.php>). You can see actual USFS data collected at various locations on the forest, including Hwy 3/Rush Creek, Mule Creek, Hayfork, Mad River and more online <https://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/fuelsFireDanger.php>.

Outreach 2018

- Sandy and Rick (USFS) will be organizing an outreach event. Sandy is working with the Forest Public Affairs Officers on a "Not a Careless Camper" campaign. Also getting the Trinity and Humboldt County residents to use 1-866-Burn Day to check for burning restrictions. Number one cause of fires in CA are escaped debris burns, more than campfires. By educating the public on how to find out if it is a Permissive Burn Day or a No-Burn Day, it will reduce fires and need for fire response. Burn day decisions are based on air quality (for more information visit <http://www.ncuaqmd.org/index.php?page=burn.day.status>). Campfire permits
- Trinity County Fair in Hayfork at Fairgrounds (June 9-11): TCRCD will have a booth that includes Fire Safe Council information. USFS will also have a booth, activities and handouts. Fire Chiefs usually have a booth as well.

Project Updates

USFS Shasta-Trinity NF, Trinity River Mgt. Unit (T. Ritchey)

Musser Homestead Fuels Reduction Project (thinning and piling) is coming up. Burnt Ranch Fire Resilient Community Project still underway and decision expected this year. The Trinity Alps Wilderness Prescribed Fire Project still being planned for (decision expected later this year). Pettijohn Project litigation is being resolved (completing supplemental NEPA report) and this

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project might move forward. Browns Phase III is also in process. PG&E Hazard Tree Treatment (up to 300 feet on either side of power lines) is being considered and NEPA underway.

Larger Planning Projects, including Dubakella and Pilot Projects on the South Fork Mgt. Unit, and Burnt Ranch and Trinity Alps Projects on the Trinity River Mgt. Unit. Larger Projects "in the pipeline" include Hyampom Community and Weaverville Community Forest Projects. Smaller Projects are done as they can be fit it. For more information, the STNF Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) is available online <https://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/current-sopa.php?forest=110514>.

NRCS (J. Ganoung via email)

The new Soil Conservatorist, Andrew Lee, has started in Redding as of 5/14/2018. His background is Forestry and Wildlife; he is available to assist with the Weaverville office as needed for forestry and biology workload. They are one step closer to approving a Cooperative Agreement with RC&DC to hire for forestry assistance. We have a potential Forester with NRCS experience interested. 1100 NRCS positions were approved to be flown nationwide. CA was approved for 21 positions in the first batch, including the Weaverville DC position which was flown and closed on 6/5/2018.

NRCS Farm Bill Program Updates: FY 2018 Funded Forestry Contracts - EQIP: Thinning projects: \$76,694 to 246.8 acres (includes Joint Chiefs & Technical Service Provider assistance). IDIQ Forestry Plans - 442 acres Forest Management Plans will be completed by Black Fox Timber (McCloud, CA). Eligible Forestry Applications/Pending Funding - EQIP: Thinning projects: \$5,402 to 39 acres, Road Work: \$6,670 (Includes Helena Fire rehab). FY 2018 Completed Forestry work to date ~\$23,000 to oak restoration projects. Next presumed funding deadline will be January 2019.

Weaverville Fire Department (T. Corbett)

Hazard Reduction crew completed 28 jobs including Buckhorn, Douglas City, Lewiston, Junction City and East Weaver with Title III funding. Also working under contract for RCD in Lance Gulch area, outreach has been done (funding is from CALFIRE grant). Five to eleven people work on their hazard reduction crews. Some of the projects have come via word of mouth and some by outreach.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (K. Sheen)

RCD has a new master participating agreement with the Six Rivers National Forest, two new project agreements are being implemented, both in the Ruth vicinity: the Beaverslide Thinning Project and the Kelsey Smallwood Removal Project (community firewood service project). The Middle Hayfork Plantation Thinning Project will start later this year. The CA Fire Safe Council funded fuels reduction work in Trinity Center (Trinity Knolls). TPUD also hired RCD for fuels reduction in adjacent powerline right-of-way. Upcoming is the SWRCB Timber Fund Roadside Fuel Break Project.

Hyampom FSC (L. Winter)

Met with USFS, early in the planning process for Hyampom Community fuels reduction. They are outlining different opportunities for fuel breaks and treatment areas to prioritize and map. July 25th is their next meeting. Not a lot of management has happened in the area's plantations and they are "time bombs." The Westside Plantations Project doesn't reach to Hyampom.

Trinity County Planning Department (S. Watkins)

Looking at how cannabis activities/licenses intersect with fire issues. Researching how other areas are approaching the issue and will report back more later. To find out if cannabis operations water can be tapped into for fire resources, looking at mapping wells and storage capacity.

Meeting adjourned (approximately) 3 PM.

Next meeting: July 26, 2018, 1:00 PM, RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Meeting Minutes July 26, 2018, 1:00 p.m. Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions

Seven attendees: Ian Erickson, TCRCD; Daniel Michael, USFS; Lara Graham, USFS; Larry Winter, Hyampom FSC; Pat Frost, Trinity Center FSC; Scott Watkins, Trinity County Planning Dept.; and Tracy McFadin, TCRCD.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- **California Fire Safe Council Grant Clearinghouse 2018 State Fire Assistance:** CFSC will be reopening the fire prevention grant opportunity August 1 through Aug. 30. More information is at their website <http://www.cafiresafecouncil.org/2018-grant-program/>.
- **CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grants Program:** FY2017-18 Grant Awards should be posted in July (http://calfire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/firepreventiongrants).
- **Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000:** Congress passed 2018 spending bill that included reauthorization of the SRS program and payments to states will resume, including retroactive payments to states for FY 2017. An announcement seeking new Resource Advisory Committee members for the Six Rivers NF has been advertised, but not for the Shasta Trinity NF (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/srnf/workingtogether/advisorycommittees>).

Outreach 2018

- **Trinity Center VFD Open House and Firewise Event (August 4):** As part of the One Less Spark Campaign they are going to hand out pieces of old fire hose for people to put on their trailer chains to reduce the chance of train drag and sparks. The VFD is being awarded a PG&E grant for defensible space and will have a booth at the event to sign up landowners. They plan to hire the RCD crew to do the work. The USFS has One Less Spark brochures to hand out. They will try to have an engine there but it will depend on availability.
- **Firesafe Workshop:** The annual workshop is planned to be held in Weaverville in the fall, date tbd. UC Cooperative Ext. is planning the event. It would be good to offer it in the spring in Hayfork if possible.
- **Weaverville Farmers Market:** If the FSC/RCD/WRTC have a booth at the market, the USFS has 1-866-Burn Day bags to hand out to help people to remember to check for burning restrictions. Number one cause of fires in CA are escaped debris burns, more than campfires. By educating the public on how to find out if it is a Permissive Burn Day or a No-Burn Day, it will reduce fires and need for fire response. The RCD has Firewise brochures for homeowners.
- **Trinity County Fair in Hayfork at Fairgrounds (June 9-11):** TCRCD will have a booth that includes Fire Safe Council information. USFS will also have a booth, activities and handouts.
- **One Less Spark Highway Signs:** Current Carr Fire was started by a vehicle on Hwy 299 causing a spark. Sparks along the highways are a persistent and dangerous problem leading to many preventable fires. Installing signs reminding drivers about "One-Less-Spark" along Hwy 299 and Hwy 3, as people are entering Trinity County, was discussed. FS fire prevention staff said they would look into the cost and RCD staff said they would look into adding to a grant request.

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Ridgeville Subdivision Request for Fuels Reduction Assistance: Ridgeville Subdivision landowners sent a letter to the FSC and the Shasta-Trinity National Forest Supervisor requesting fuels management on the FS lands surrounding the Ridgeville community, Trinity Center. There is concern that recreational lake users and campfires, especially at the Ridgeville Boat in Campground. There are also concerns about limited access into/out of the Ridgeville Subdivision. The CWPP objectives for community protection were highlighted in the letter. Pat noted that RCD has done roadside fuels reduction in the subdivision in the past. The National Recreation Area needs to take the lead on NEPA planning.

Trinity County Planning Department Draft Fire Protection Plan for Cannabis Permits: The Planning Department is developing a framework for evaluating Cannabis permit applications as they relate to fire protection. The draft guidelines were shared and Scott said they are looking for feedback and ideas. One suggestion was to ask landowners to install large reflective address numbers for emergency responders to be able to identify property locations easier. Sprinkler system requirements were discussed. Also reviewing non-cannabis operation fire protection requirements was suggested. The importance of hazard materials signage for emergency responders was discussed. Code Compliance has agreed to distribute "Farmer Brown Bags" to Cannabis cultivators. Open to providing additional flyers etc. in the bags, if available, from the Fire Safe Council or partner organization. It was pointed out that Trinity County does not have a fire marshal and getting a fire marshal position funded should be a high priority.

BLM Public Comment: BLM is seeking comment on Hazard Removal and Vegetation Management Project Programmatic Environmental Assessment until August 8. (<https://www.blm.gov>)

Project Updates

USFS South Fork Management Unit (SFMU) (Dan Ostmann via email): A little over 100 acres of TPFHRS buffers were completed before contractor left for fires and waiting for local fire danger to subside. Ewing Reservoir Fuels Reduction CE Project signature should be in the next week or two. Met with Hyampom FSC to discuss fire-relieint community project. Pilot and Dubakella Project planning is ongoing.

USFS Trinity River Management Unit (TRMU) (L. Graham): Hazard Tree Roadside Project, Trinity Alps Wilderness Prescribed Fire Project EA, Burnt Ranch Fire Resilient Community EIS, and Musser Homestead Fuels Reduction Project CE. Also, Browns Phase III will be advertised soon, big tree analysis has been completed. Brush disposal will be funded by the FS now after the sale.

Weaverville Community Forest Maintenance Plan is not yet on the schedule of work. The FSC would like to help move the project forward as a priority. There was a discussion of possible ways to bring more funding to the table to assist with the project, possibly through a Joint Chiefs proposal in 2019. There was a lot of RAC funding invested in the past for the initial fuels reduction, some of it more than 10 years ago.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (Jen Ganoung via email): A Weaverville Forestry position will be advertised in August.

Watershed Research Training Center (D. Jaramillo via email): WRTC completed work in Trinity Pines for the CA FSC grant. They started fuels work, including a bit of mastication, on the CAL FIRE SRA grant. They need to get the burning done this fall. Three crews are working in Ruth and on the Sims project. They are getting ready for fall burning in Weaverville and Hayfork. They are moving the CAL FIRE GGRF Forest Health project forward.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (I. Erickson): CA Fire Safe Council funded fuels reduction implementation in Trinity Center is completed on approximately 30 private parcels. In Weaverville, more work was completed on the Oregon Street fuel break. Timber Ridge Subdivision cultural resources report completed and implementation is waiting for CEQA review by CFSC Forester. Later in the season the Beaverslide Thinning Project and Kelsey Smallwood Removal Project (Six Rivers NF) will be started. Approximately 7 acres fuels reduction was completed just north of Weaverville as part of an EQIP funded project on a private parcel. Also, the planning for a forest health improvement project

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on a Weaverville Community Forest BLM parcel adjacent to Little Browns Creek has started (Wildlife Conservation Board Stream Flow Enhancement funding).

Hyampom FSC (L. Winter): USFS and Hyampom FSC met July 25th for Hyampom Community Fuels Reduction Project planning. Project size may be five or six thousand acres with approximately thirteen treatment units identified, including prescribed fire, plantation thinning, fuels reduction, roadside fuels reduction treatments. Goals and objectives are being developed. Another meeting will be held next week.

Trinity County Planning Department (S. Watkins): Planning staff has received a request from Lewiston residents to address excessive weeds and potential fire hazards on Goose Ranch Road in Lewiston. There is a reported lack of funding in current grants to address the weeds right now. RCD staff encouraged the Lewiston residents to organize neighbors and line up fee for service work to remove weeds and fire hazards.

Meeting adjourned 3:15 PM. Next meeting: August 23, 2018, 1:00 PM, RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Meeting Minutes August 23, 2018, 1:00 p.m. Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions

Seven attendees: Ian Erickson, TCRCD; Lara Graham, USFS; David Jaramillo, WRTC; Larry Winter, Hyampom FSC; Pat Frost, Trinity Center FSC; Jenna Ganoung, NRCS; and Tracy McFadin, TCRCD.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- **California Fire Safe Council Grant Clearinghouse 2018 State Fire Assistance:** Fire prevention grant opportunity open until Aug. 30. More information is at their website <http://www.cafiresafecouncil.org/2018-grant-program/>.
- **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)/ Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Partners Program** grant opportunity closed 8/22/2018. More information here <http://www.nfwf.org/conservationpartners/Pages/2018rfp.aspx>.
- **Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000:** Congress passed 2018 spending bill that included reauthorization of the SRS program and payments to states will resume, including retroactive payments to states for FY 2017. An announcement seeking new Resource Advisory Committee members for the Shasta Trinity NF has not been made yet. Trinity County will be advertising Title II opportunity soon in the Trinity Journal. (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/pts/>).

Outreach 2018

- **Trinity Center VFD Open House and Firewise Event:** August 4th event was delayed due to the Carr Fire. It will be rescheduled for later in the fall.
- **Firesafe Workshop 2018:** The annual workshop is planned to be held in Weaverville in the fall, date tbd. UC Cooperative Ext. is planning the event, but UCCE staff not present to report.
- **Hyampom Good Time Fair:** September 1st. Larry will have a Hyampom FSC booth with Firesafe/ Fire wise brochures, and will have information about the Hyampom Fire-Resilient Community Project.
- **Salmon Festival in Weaverville:** October 13, RCD booth will have Fire Safe/Firewise brochures and information.

Trinity County Collaborative Group Update (Larry and Pat)

- The TCCG has a meeting August 17 in Weaverville. Roads and Plantation Pilot Project is moving along slowly (decision expected Spring 2019). The Carr Fire is taking a lot of federal agency staff resources. Fire borrowing continues.
- Congressman Huffman's proposed Northwest CA Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act is not supported by the Trinity County Board of Supervisors at this time, nor by some TCCG members. Many concerns raised include more information is needed about guidelines and criteria to be used in forest management and restoration priorities in the proposal.

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- Comprehensive, collaborative community-based planning projects discussed. Hyampom project given as an example (handout with project map of proposed treatment areas). Other collaborative project examples include Somes Bar Integrated Community Fire Project (Six Rivers NF) vs. First 48 Project (Shasta-Trinity NF).
- TCCG members voted in favor of a 2019 Joint Chiefs Proposal that would focus on community wildfire protection, including Weaverville Community Forest maintenance project. Letter of support from the Fire Safe Council will be presented to the BOS at their next meeting. Shifting focus from remote landscapes to Trinity County community protection.
- TCCG subcommittee proposed for Fire Prevention and Outreach. Fire Safe Council updates would be presented at TCCG meetings.
- There will be a stewardship agreement presentation by the USFS next TCCG meeting (Oct. 19).

Carr Fire Update (Lara)

Carr Fire is approximately 95% contained. Over 60,000 acres of BLM managed lands impacted, including some of the GVC project area. There may be sedimentation issues due to DG soils. Need to follow up with BAER team to find out effectiveness of past fuels treatments, including roadside shaded fuel breaks that the RCD has done over the past couple of years. NRCS has contractor doing site assessments on private lands timber and roads.

Project Updates

USFS Trinity River Management Unit (TRMU) (Lara): Still trying to get the Weaverville Community Forest Fuels Maintenance project on the Shasta-Trinity NF Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA). Draft EIS for the Burnt Ranch Fire Resilient Community Project should be out this fall. Same with the Trinity Alps Wilderness Prescribed Fire Project draft EA. They are working also on the Musser Homestead Fuels Reduction Project CE (about 50 acres, removal of large hazard trees, understory thin, pile and burn, and conifer encroachment in oak woodlands). Staff is also working on Helena and Carr Fire areas. Dozer lines have trees felled that may be removed or chipped. The East Fork Shaded Fuel Break treatment allowed for a low or moderate intensity burn in the Carr Fire area.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (Jen): Forestry position has been filled. They are developing collaborative agreements for forestry assistance.

Watershed Research Training Center (David): Working on fall prescribed burning prep work for CALFIRE SRA project in Hayfork and Stevens Act Weaver Basin Community Protection project. They are also working on the CAL FIRE Forest Health project, USFS Sims and Kelsey projects, and NRCS RCCP Oak Woodlands project. They have a new CALFIRE project approved for 400 acres prescribed fire projects in Weaver Basin and Hayfork areas. There will not be a Northern California Prescribed Fire Council Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (Nor Cal TREX) this year, it will be every other year.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Ian): Crew working on CA Fire Safe Council funded project in Timber Ridge subdivision fuels reduction work including thinning, roadside fuels reduction and chipping. Also the USFS Six Rivers NF Kelsey Small Wood Removal project near Ruth. Later crew will be working on USFS Joint Chiefs' Middle Hayfork Plantation Thinning Project and Trinity Center Roadside Thinning Project (for Trinity Center VFD). Fuels reduction in priority CWPP areas funded in new agreement with SWRCB Timber Fund for Roadside Fuel Breaks projects (Junction City, Weaverville, Douglas City and Lewiston). Also, CALFIRE approved funding fuels reduction in Junction City and Lewiston.

Meeting adjourned 3:40 PM. Next meeting: September 27, 2018, 1:00 PM, RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Meeting Minutes September 27, 2018, 1:00 p.m. Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions

Seven attendees: Todd Corbett (WFD), David Jaramillo (WRTC), Tracy McFadin (TCRCD), Nick Goulette (WRTC), Tim Ritchey (USFS), Dan Ostmann (USFS), Ian Erickson (TCRCD), Thomas March (CalTrans), Daniel Michael (USFS).

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- **Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000:** Trinity County advertised the 2018 Title III opportunity for public service agencies in the Sept. 12 edition of the Trinity Journal. Opportunity is open until Nov. 3, 2018. Weaverville Vol. Fire Dept., RCD and Watershed Center interested in applying for Firewise USA Program, fuels reduction/chipping program, Fire Safe Council coordination, and Community Wildfire Protection Planning funding. For more information, contact Tina Duong at tduong@trinitycounty.org or 530-623-1382.
- **Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership** (USFS and Natural Resources Conservation Service) funding opportunity for restoring landscapes, reducing wildfire threats to communities and landowners, protecting water quality and enhancing wildlife. The RCD and Watershed Center helped craft a proposal for Shasta-Trinity NF, Six Rivers NF and NRCS project funding focused on community wildfire, municipal watershed, and critical wildlife habitat protection on federal and private lands in Trinity County. FSC and Trinity County Collaborative Group endorsed proposal.
- **Prop 68 Restoration Grant Program** draft guidelines from CA DF&W and Wildlife Conservation Board opportunity. For more information see <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Watersheds/Prop-68>

Fire Adapted Communities Network & The FAC Learning Network (Nick)

The FAC Learning Network was started in 2013 by the Watershed Center, in partnership with the Nature Conservancy and the US Forest Service, to demonstrate and share practices to improve wildfire community resilience. It is a national network of people working to build wildfire resilience capacity in fire-prone communities. Fire adaptation involves everyone from homeowners to fire departments to land managers and businesses. Fire Adapted Communities take action before, during and after a wildfire. FAC practices can include preparedness, prevention, response, recovery, and more. The network connects practitioners through workshops, learning exchanges, webinars, social media, blogs and more. For more information or to sign up <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/subscribe/>

There will be a workshop in Sonoma next spring with a north coast focus, stay tuned.

Outreach

Oak Woodlands Project (Dave): Watershed Center and Natural Resources Conservation Service (Weaverville Office) will be doing outreach for Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCP) North Coast Oak Woodlands Project for private landowners. The goal of the project is to restore deciduous oak-dominated stands structure and ecosystem resilience in order to conserve and expand wildlife habitat and range values. There is a minimal cost share for the landowner, the program will cover almost all of the cost of the conservation plan and

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implementation. For more information contact Jenna Ganoung, Jenna.Ganoung@ca.usda.gov or (530) 784-2031, or visit NRCS [online](#).

Musser Homestead Fuels Reduction Project (Tim/Tracy): Shasta Trinity National Forest is accepting public comment on the Musser Homestead Fuels Reduction Project until Oct. 1. The 51-acre project is in the Weaverville Community Forest on NF managed land, between East Weaver Creek Road and Musser Hill Road and bordering private property. The Musser Trail runs through the project area. Other fuels reduction work has been done near the project, but this area has not been included in recent projects. Project proposes removal of large hazard trees, understory thin, pile and burn, and conifer encroachment in oak woodlands. FSC agreed to submit a letter of support for the project to the USFS.

Humboldt County Draft 2017-2019 Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update: Available for public comment and review through Sept. 28. More information [online](#).

Trinity County Collaborative Group Update (Nick).

Current topics are Roads and Plantation Pilot Project EA moving forward, First 48 Shaded Fuelbreak Project (was sold to Trinity River Lumber), and Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Project Proposal supported.

Project Updates

USFS South Fork Management Unit (SFMU) (Dan): The Ewing Reservoir Project decision should be released next week. It proposed prescribed fire and thinning 40 acres in Hayfork and implemented could start this fall. The Dubakella Plantations Insect and Disease Project is under analysis. Hyampom Fire Resilient Communities Project is being developed, they are working with Hyampom FSC to identify priorities, will be having another meeting next month. Will also be doing maintenance burning this fall, including Harrison Gulch Compound. Gemmell Project sold yesterday to Trinity River Lumber.

USFS Trinity River Management Unit (TRMU) (Tim): Browns Phase III Stewardship Timber Sale sold to Warner Enterprises Inc. Project is at the northeast side of Weaverville Community Forest. Carr and Delta Fire suppression repair work is being done. In the Carr Fire area they are working to keep some of the dozer lines created as effective fire breaks, and not planning to rehab/cover with slash all of the fire breaks created. Some of the fire breaks were 100 feet wide, some areas may require reforestation. Many trees that were felled in dozer lines were decked and will be sold. There is over 300 miles of road damage to repair for the Carr Fire on Shasta-Trinity NF lands. Hazard tree removal is being done. Most areas were low to moderate severity burns, but some high severity areas did occur. Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) teams looking at rehab of fire areas and treating erosion/sedimentation issues. This fall the FS will also be doing prescribed fire operations when weather and conditions allow, including plantations in Cedar Stock area.

Watershed Research Training Center (Dave/Nick): Crews have been working in Sims, Ruth and First 48 Project areas. Working on fall prescribed burning prep work for CALFIRE SRA project in Hayfork and Weaver Basin Community Protection project. Plan on 100 acres prescribed burning in Weaverville this year on Jackass Ridge. Also about 200 acres of private lands in Hayfork area. WRTC is helping get two Cal-TREX projects in Butte and Calaveras Counties. Submitted a Western States Grant application to fund eight Cal-TREX projects around the state working with local cooperative organizations to increase prescribed fire training and capacity.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Ian): Crew are working on Six Rivers NF Kelsey Small Wood Removal project near Ruth. Later crew will be working on USFS Joint Chiefs' Middle Hayfork Plantation Thinning Project and Trinity Center Roadside Thinning Project (for Trinity Center VFD). Fuels reduction in priority CWPP areas was funded in new agreement with SWRCB Timber Fund for Roadside Fuel Breaks projects (Junction City, Weaverville, Douglas City and Lewiston). Also, CALFIRE approved funding fuels reduction project in Junction City and Lewiston and the purchase of a new chipper for the RCD chipping program.

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Caltrans (Eric): Has a goal of improving Caltrans work on fire and fuels reduction implementation projects, let him know of projects they can assist with. Tim brought up the state property on west side of Weaverville that borders Hwy 299 would be good to incorporate with other fuels reduction work in that area, most fire starts threatening Weaverville are from that direction. Ian brought up the need for traffic control assistance during fuels reduction implementation projects. Daniel brought up need to coordinate with Caltrans to get fire prevention signs up along Hwy 3. Discussion about what is best for roadside vegetation management for fire prevention, but varying site conditions make it difficult to have a blanket standard. Tim said brush and ladder fuel removal is very important along roadsides, and that keeping a couple feet of dirt between the roadside and hydroseeding can help reduce fuel load for sparks to catch fire. Eric said four feet of bare ground is the standard.

Meeting adjourned 2:45 PM.

Next meeting: October 25, 2018, 1:00 PM, RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Meeting Minutes October 25, 2018, 1:00 p.m. Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions

Twelve attendees: Todd Corbett (WFD), David Jaramillo (WRTC), Tracy McFadin (TCRCD), Tim Ritchey (USFS), Ian Erickson (TCRCD), Andy Reiling (CAL FIRE); Sandy Faulkner (USFS); Flavia Dexheimer (USFS); Tim Bradley (BLM); Johanna Ostling (USFS); Kenny Winter (USFS); and Larry Winter (Hayampom FSC).

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- **Title III (Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000):** Trinity County Title III opportunity is open until Nov. 3, 2018. Weaverville Vol. Fire Dept., TCRCD and Watershed Center will be applying for funding. For more information, contact Tina Duong at 530-623-1382 or tlduong@trinitycounty.org.
- **CAL FIRE Fire Prevention** grant opportunity open until Dec. 19, 2018 (more information online at http://calfire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/firepreventiongrants). TCRCD will be applying for Trinity County CWPP Update 2020 funding, also fuels reduction implementation project funding. WRTC will also be applying to this opportunity.
- **CAL FIRE CCI Forest Health** grant opportunity open until January 29, 2019 (more information online at http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_foresthealth_grants). Focus is on larger landscape projects, \$750,000 minimum. Planning (NEPA/CEQA) can be included in the funding. Allows one year to complete environmental clearance.

SWRCB Timber Fund Project (Ian): TCRCD has a new agreement for roadside shaded fuel break treatments in CWPP Priority areas with State Water Resources Control Board. Currently in the planning and outreach phase, implementation will be in 2019 and 2020. Maps and a landowner outreach letter were shared. Work locations will depend on landowner permission. Goal is to treat 25 miles of roadsides in Lewiston, Junction City, and Douglas City. Treatment will average 50 feet on either side of the roads.

Outreach:

- Weaverville Community Forest Meeting tonight at 6 pm at the Parrish Hall. Open to the public.
- Firewise Communities Workshop: Date TBA. Rick from UC Coop Ext. is organizing, FSC will provide support.

Trinity County Collaborative Group: (Larry) At the recent TCCG meeting there was a presentation by Fish and Wildlife Service about facilitating a programmatic EA for roadside shaded fuel breaks. The Mad River Ranger District 10-year project was presented with road and plantation treatments as a focus. Also the Integral Ecology Research Center gave a presentation about the environmental impacts of illegal cannabis cultivation. A new subcommittee was formed to work on stewardship agreements. Larry thinks there isn't enough community wildfire protection focus by the TCCG and would like to see a more comprehensive integrated community approach and discussion.

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Project Updates

CAL FIRE (Andy): They have the engine crew funded through Dec. 31. They are looking for projects to work on with CEQA clearance. They are starting on Hayfork airport brush removal. They will be trying to treat star thistle at Weaverville airport next year with prescribed fire. Mid-May other engines will come back on. They have Carr Fire cleanup money in SRA.

USFS South Fork Management Unit (SFMU) (Tim R. for Dan): The Ewing Reservoir Project decision signed for prescribed fire and thinning 40 acres in Hayfork and implementation could start this fall. Contract crews working in Hyampom area Post Salvage. Also pile burning as conditions allow.

USFS Trinity River Management Unit (TRMU) (Tim R.): Completed understory burns in plantations in Lake Forest Plantation Project, 3 units for around 30 acres near Mule Creek Station. Minimal fire behavior observed. More to be done in the as burn windows allow in the Blue Rock project area, 2 units for 79 acres near China Gulch Road. It is a study area and they plan to apply to larger plantation areas in the future such as Dubakella area. Musser Homestead NEPA not signed yet, but hoping to implement this winter.

BLM (Tim): Carr and Delta fire suppression repair and emergency stabilization work is being done. Prescribed fire operation preparations are underway for a Weaverville Community Forest 60 ac prescribed fire when weather and conditions allow. TRCC crews are burning piles as part of Indian Ck-Reading Ck Project. Statewide EA for Shaded Fuel Breaks, not sure of status, but it will allow more to be done.

Watershed Research Training Center (Dave): Crews have been working in on plantation thinning, also Cal Fire Greenhouse Gas Forest Health project mastication, thinning, and piling work. TREX in Butte and Calaveras Counties coming up. Also working on TCCG/First 48 Project layout. Working on fall prescribed burning prep work in Hayfork and Weaver Basin Community Protection project. Plan on 100 acres prescribed burning in Weaverville this year on Jackass Ridge as windows allow. Also about 200 acres of private lands in Hayfork area.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Ian): Crews are done working on Kelsey and Beaverslide projects in S. Trinity. They are working in Trinity Center on a contract for the VFD, thinning and fuels reduction on private and school property. Will be giving the kids a demo on why thinning vegetation can protect houses. are working on Six Rivers NF Kelsey Small Wood Removal project near Ruth. Later crew will be working on USFS Joint Chiefs' Middle Hayfork Plantation Thinning Project. District is also doing some road work in GVC in area impacted by Carr Fire. Timber Ridge fuels reduction will be finishing up in the spring, will be some pile burning later in spring or fall.

Hyampom FSC (Larry): Working with USFS on Community Protection planning project. Future maintenance is being built into the project.

Meeting adjourned 2:15 PM.

Next meeting: November 15, 2018, 1:00 PM, RCD Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program



Meeting Minutes November 15, 2018, 1:00 p.m. Trinity County RCD Conference Room

Welcome and Introductions: Twelve attendees: David Jaramillo (WRTC), Hugh Ashley (Landowner); Andy Reiling (CAL FIRE); Ricky Satomi (UCCE); Tracy McFadin (TCRCD), Jenna Ganoung (NRCS); Ian Erickson (TCRCD); Pat Rost (Trinity Center CSD); Scott Alvord (WVFD); Larry Winter (Hayampom FSC); and Jeremy Strait (via phone, BLM).

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- **CAL FIRE Fire Prevention** grant opportunity open until Dec. 19, 2018 (more information online at http://calfire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/firepreventiongrants). TCRCD will be applying for Trinity County CWPP Update 2020 funding, also fuels reduction implementation project funding. WRTC will also be applying to this opportunity. Environmental clearance has to be complete within one year of agreement (CEQA, and NEPA if on federally managed lands). Local governments, including fire districts or RCS, and 501©3 organizations can apply. Discussion of various areas in the County that need more work on private lands and along roadways such as outlying rural areas such as downriver communities and Hyampom, and also critical areas around Weaverville. WRTC and RCD have agreements funding work from CFSC, CAL FIRE and SWRCB that will be working in some of those areas. RCD, WRTC, and USFS staff also met this past week to discuss the CAL FIRE grant opportunities and CWPP priority project areas to refine the areas considered in the proposals.
- **CAL FIRE CCI Forest Health** grant opportunity open until January 29, 2019 (more information online at http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_foresthealth_grants). Focus is on larger landscape projects, \$750,000 minimum. Planning (NEPA/CEQA) can be included in the funding. Allows one year to complete environmental clearance. The grant does require Greenhouse Gas calculations as part of the project.
- National Forest Foundation Matching Awards Program grant opportunity is open for work on National Forest lands. More information online at www.nationalforests.org/grant-program/map, deadline for proposal Jan. 23, 2019. They have an online workshop available.
- Title II RAC funding opportunity has still not been opened up. Forest Supervisor of Shasta Trinity NF has said they will be working on it. They are responsible for getting the RAC committee set up. There should be about \$400,000 a year for two years available to Trinity County for projects. Discussion about the importance of the funding to our county, especially for fuels reduction work and chipping services to our communities. The County has to obligate the funding by Sept. 30, 2020, and then has 3 years to expend it.

Outreach/Education:

- **Living with Wildfire / Firewise Communities Workshop:** December 18, 6-8:30 pm, location Weaverville Library Conference Room. Rick from UC Coop Ext. is organizing, FSC will provide support and help to advertise. Draft agenda shared, topics may include wildfire basis, what insurers look for, making your home resistant to wildfire, and community resources. Feedback gathered.
- **Firewise Communities USA Program (Pat):** Firewise Community renewals submitted for fourteen communities in Trinity County. More information is being requested than in past, including number of residences, population and dollars spent on fuels reduction.
- Trinity Center VFD/CSD held a workshop last Saturday. Successful, over 50 people attended, food was served. Trinity County OES assisted people in signing up for the CodeRED emergency

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program. More information online (flyer)

www.trinitycounty.org/sites/default/files/OES/documents/CodeRed%20Flyer%204.6.18.2.pdf

Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update: It is the time of year when completed fuels reduction project GIS data needs to be submitted for the next CWPP Update. Please submit data to Patrick Flynn, GIS Manager at the RCD. He can be reached at pflynn@tcrccd.net or 623-6004, ext. 203. CWPP update could include a map storyboard, hosted by an ArcMap site, showing an aggregate of projects that have happened as well as other data such as fire history and regime. Discussion about how to update the CWPP to include more community participation and engagement in the Fire Safe Council and CWPP, and more specific local area fire risk assessment information. Discussion about hosting field trips to demonstrate examples of before/after fuels treatments, especially in areas that have one way in/one way out situations and overgrown roads.

Project Updates

CAL FIRE (Andy): They have four engines funded through Dec. 31 due to elevated fire risk. They are looking for projects to work on with CEQA clearance. They are assisting WRTC with prescribed fire prep and RCD with project work.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (Jenn): Implementation season being held up by archeological reviews. Camp Fire has affected staff. No Farm Bill yet so are on limited funding. December 7 deadline for RCPP, EQIP, and Joint Chiefs projects. Forester has not been hired yet.

BLM (Jeremy): Very dry conditions. Small prescribed burn was done on Oct. 30 in the Weaverville Community Forest, about 16 acres out of a 60 ac unit. Still patrolling and mopping up. No windows for prescribed fire right now. Might be able to burn piles Mainline Road in GVC after rain.

Watershed Research Training Center (Dave): Timber crew working on USFS project in Zenia area. Also doing NRCS field work for RCPP Oak Woodland Program. Prepping for prescribed fire in Hayfork and Weaverville areas. Crews also doing illegal grow site solid waste cleanup and plantation thinning.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Ian): Crew is done working Trinity Center VFD contract, thinning and fuels reduction on private and school property. Will be working on USFS Joint Chiefs' Middle Hayfork Plantation Thinning Project. Timber Ridge fuels reduction on private property will continue if weather allows.

Hyampom FSC (Larry): Met with USFS on Community Protection planning project. Working on how to get community involved and putting priority projects on the draft maps with treatments. Getting input from landowners and fire department, planning on field trips later this spring.

UC Cooperative Extension Service (Ricky): Planning workshop, will send out an updated agenda.

Private Landowner (Hugh): Would like to know how to get adjacent timber property owner to manage grasses on their land that are posing fire risk. Suggested that he contact landowner to get permission to use a weed eater on their land.

Meeting adjourned 3:30 PM.

Next meetings:

- **Living with Wildfire /Firewise Community WORKSHOP December 18, 6:00 pm**
- **FSC Meeting January 24, 2019, 1:00 PM, RCD Conference Room**

Trinity County Fire Safe Council
& Firewise Communities Program



Living with Wildfire Workshop Minutes
December 18, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
Trinity County Library Conference Room

Welcome Remarks: Carol Fall, UC Coop. Ext. Master Gardeners

30+ attendees

CAL FIRE Andy Reiling: Current Climate and Fire Conditions Overview

- We are experiencing drier than average conditions, fire season extending longer (earlier and later)
- Little snow melt leads to plant stress and higher fire danger
- This year spring rains brought thick and high grass that quickly dried out increasing fire danger
- They can use fuels moisture levels to help determine fire danger
- Trinity County has topography and weather that drives fires, commonly west winds (example Carr Fire was wind driven)
- Typical/Historic fire regime is 15 to 20 years with lower fire intensity, but now with 100-plus years of fire suppression and little forest maintenance/management, we are now experiencing higher intensity fires
- Forest that has dense shrubs and vegetation in the understory can carry fire and it spreads

UC Cooperative Extension Ricky Satomi: Fire Basics- Fire Fuels and Home Ignition

- Fire Triangle- oxygen, heat, fuel
- Experiencing large incident type fires, >1,000 ac
- Weather, topography and fuel: fuel is what can be controlled for
- Three categories fuel- surface, ladder and canopy
- Fire just in the surface is lower intensity, but if it spreads through ladder fuels it can be carrier higher and fire behavior becomes severe and more dangerous
- Low humidity and increased winds can increase crown fire probability
- Surface fire preheats other fuels in advance of fire
- Crown fires become independent of surface fuels
- Wind events don't require surface fuels to spread
- Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) living surrounded by forest
- Defensible Space Zones to 100 or 150 feet (< 5ft perimeter no burnables, < 30 ft, low fuels, green grass, 30 to 100 feet keep fuels and trees separate, not connected enough, to carry fire)
- Extended treatment outside Def. Space also important, 300 feet o 1/ 2mi thinned forest reduces energy, embers and heat can be thrown long distances
- Perspective of forest treatment may differ depending on if defensible space or for wildlife benefit
- Examples of different fires
- Beneficial preventative work can be done before fire, but not really during
- Fuel breaks created by removing surface and ladder fuels and thinning smaller trees, improves forest health, tree grown and fire safety

Trinity County Office of Emergency Services Ed Presley

- Code Red Services, evacuation notification
- Easy to sign up, he can help or see brochure
- Add phone number and address to database
- Will be contacted in the event of an emergency

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

State Farm Insurance Kevin Cahill: What Insurers Look For

- CA has long had fire risk, now damages paid out are going up.
- Assets are in the hills now where they didn't used to build, more nice homes in the way of fires
- Catastrophes including hail, hurricanes, earthquakes and fires
- Rates for coverage are approved by commission in CA, carriers can't always charge what they think they need
- Fires are now happening in urban zones
- What can homeowners do? Defensible space, be prepared
- CAL FIRE can do inspections, given 12 months to do the work
- New buildings might have additional requirements (enclosed eaves, non-combustible siding, etc)
- Use photos and video to document your belongings, back up somewhere else, will help if you have to fire a claim later

UCCE Specialist Steve Quarles: Home Structure Design for Fire Resistance

- Video of windblown embers igniting mulch, deck and siding of demonstration house
- Ember ignition scenario, embers directly ignite what it lands on such as deck or roof
- Indirect ignition can happen with embers igniting gutter debris, bark mulch, wood piles, etc.
- Use metal gutter, keep clean of debris
- Defensible space-both horizontal and vertical zones
- Keep 5 foot non-combustible zone around structures
- Radiant heat important to consider
- Cabin to cabin example of radiant heat spreading in neighborhood
- Important what you do and what your neighbors do
- Roof ratings Class A for fire resistance
- Vents can let embers in, use screens, minimize stuff in attic, windward vent acts as an "inlet" vent
- Box in eaves, not open rafters
- Exterior walls important
- Look at house as a system
- Coatings: best done with professional application, might be better spending time on other prevention
- Decks, can be combustible from below, keep clean, use flashing
- Fences, only connect non-combustible to structures

UC Master Gardeners Carol Fall Fire Safe Landscaping Tips

- Defensible space important
- Do regular maintenance- remove dead and dying vegetation, eliminate ladder fuels, breakup continuous vegetation
- Have a 30 foot Lean and Green, well-watered zone
- Drought tolerant plants might be highly flammable
- Use lower water vegetation farther away from house
- All plants burn
- Choose plants with higher moisture, not a lot of material accumulation or dead wood, not a lot of resin
- Time of year affects flammability
- Examples of trees and shrubs
- Layout your landscape to help fire fighters have access/clearance/turnaround, reflective address
- Mark firefighter water hookup/ storage tanks with reflective blue dots

Trinity County RCD Ian Erickson Community Resources and Grants

- Trinity County Fire Safe Council meets monthly, open to the public, come and ask questions or voice concerns, 4th Thursday of the month, 1 pm at RCD conference room
- TCRCD has many fuels reduction projects, several focus on roadside fuels reduction (already providing a buffer, ingress/egress corridors important)
- Need landowner permission to do work on private property

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

- Want as many landowners to sign up as possible for fuels reduction work to be effective, please submit entry permits if you receive them

Watershed Research and Training Center Dave Jaramillo Community Resources and Grants

- We are in a fire dependent ecosystem, historically there were 5 to 10 year fire return intervals
- 75% of Trinity County hasn't seen fire in over 100 years
- Using prescribed fire on the landscape to help
- Neighbors working with neighbors- Example Weaver Basin project prescribed fire treatments on both USFS and private lands, removing surface fuels to reduce fire danger
- Landowners can talk to the Fire Safe Council about funding opportunities
- Community Wildfire Protection Plan helps guide strategic fuels reduction implementation

Trinity County Board of Supervisors Judy Morris: Closing Comments/ Raffle Prize Giveaway

- We all need to be prepared, you have to take matters into your own hands
- Title III funding applications will likely be approved in January, include Firewise/Firesafe community projects and chipping services
- Trinity County Collaborative Group also developed Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Proposal for more maintenance work (Weaverville Community Forest, Mad River, etc.), funding pending.
- Raffle drawing to give away fire extinguishers and smoke alarms

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM.

Next meeting:

- **Trinity County FSC Meeting- January 24, 2019, 1:00 PM, TCRCD Conference Room**

Trinity County Fire Safe Council & Firewise Communities Program

Living with Wildfire: Preparing for New Extremes

Tuesday, December 18th, 2018

6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Weaverville Public Library

Please join us for an evening discussion of living with fire under new fire extremes. Stay with us after the workshop to meet with Funding and Technical specialists to help plan individual projects at the meeting. Snacks and hot drinks will be provided.

6:00 pm	Introduction	
	Welcome Remarks	Judy Morris , <i>Trinity County Supervisor</i>
6:10	Wildfire Overview	
	Climate and Fire Update	Andy Reiling , <i>Cal Fire Battalion Chief</i>
	Fire Basics	Ricky Satomi , <i>UC Cooperative Extension</i>
	Evacuation Notification	Ed Presley , <i>Trinity County OES</i>
6:40	Insurance Perspectives on Fire	
	What Insurers Look for	Kevin Cahill , <i>State Farm Insurance</i>
7:00	Break	
7:10	Building Resistant Homes and Gardens	
	Home Structure Designs	Steve Quarles , <i>UCCE Specialist</i>
	Fire Safe Landscaping Tips	Carol Fall , <i>UC Master Gardeners</i>
8:15	Community Resources and Grants	
	Upcoming Fuel Projects	Ian Erickson , <i>Trinity County RCD</i>
	Current Funding Opportunities	Dave Jaramillo , <i>Watershed Research and Training Center</i>
8:30 pm	Conclusion	

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