



**Trinity County Fire Safe Council
Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2020, 1:00 pm
Trinity County RCD Conference Room**

1. Welcome and Introductions: 18 attendees. Todd Corbett (Weaverville Fire District); Dillon Sheedy (Watershed Center); Andy Reiling, Josh Faulkner, and Riley Utuick (CAL FIRE); Carol Fall (Trinity Center VFD); Amelia Fleitz and Kelly Sheen (TCRCD); Jeremy Strait (BLM); Ryan Crowe (NVCSS); Tim Ritchey, (USFS – Shasta-Trinity NF); Mark Deperro (USFS Six Rivers NF); Jen Ganoung (NRCS); Jill Cox (landowner/BOS candidate), Bobbi Chadwick, and Jeremy Brown (BOS); Erik Akana (CalTrans).

2. Grant Opportunities:

- a. **Trinity County Title III:** Awarded and contracts received.
- b. **Submitted: CAL FIRE: CA Climate Investments Fire Prevention and Forest Health Grant Programs:** Deadlines Dec. 4 (FP) and Dec. 6 (FH), (www.fire.ca.gov/grants/);
 - i. **WRTC:** The Forest Health Grant awarded \$3.8 Million to the WRTC to be used by many partnering agencies to complete cooperative fuel breaks, prescribed burning, and other landscape level treatments.
- c. **TRRP Watershed Restoration:** closes March 8.
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=323537>

3. Outreach/News:

a. CWPP 2020 Update (Amelia Fleitz) (see attached pdf): In the fall Amelia and Charlie Holthaus traveled to 12 communities across Trinity County to host Community Wildfire Protection Plan meetings with the public. They gave a short presentation on CalFire Defensible Space standards, Firewise Programs, and fuel reduction program types. Douglas City had the largest public participation, and also identified the most number of projects. There were a total of 263 projects identified at 13 meetings, the last meeting Amelia attended a CWPP meeting in Hyampom with the USFS working with the Hyampom Fire Safe Council on their own CWPP. The website has been launched feel free to check it out, it has the modeling that was done for Weaverville and Hyfork.

b. Trinity County Firewise Workshop (Amelia Fleitz): As part of the CWPP funding, Amelia will be coordinating a Firewise Workshop in Weaverville. Rather than having a 2-hour evening meeting, Amelia would

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& Firewise Communities Program

like to build a whole firewise day and have it at the meadow similar to other fairs. Amelia would like to have presentations throughout the day by different departments and agencies, every emergency response agency in the county will be invited to attend. Amelia will announce a date when she has more information. Ideas passed around for presentations included burning doll houses of different materials for home hardening and fire extinguisher demonstration. Both the USFS and NVCSS expressed support and interest in participation. It was also suggested to look into door prizes or other ways to draw people in to the event. Jill Cox offered to help make a video for the Weaverville Movie Theater if we wanted to advertise there.

c. Weaver Bally Loop Fuel Break (Joel Cox) (see attached pdf): The Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department seeks to complete a fuel break above the Weaver Ball Loop neighborhood. Then complete defensible space of the residences in the Weaver Bally Loop neighborhood. The parcel where the majority of the fuel break would go in is on Hagen's property from the USFS land swap. Joel is going to go door to door to get the temporary entry permits signed.

d. National Cohesive Strategy (Tim Ritchey): Some of the primary goals of the strategy are safe and effective response to wildfire and resilient communities. There is a crosswalk for partnerships and projects, this builds on work that the Watershed Research and Training Center and we should be looking to keep utilizing this strategy moving forward. Trinity County is in an area that, the science behind these strategies, is suggested where fire could be managed more for "benefit" and is at high risk of large fires. For comparison, Southern California has high large fire risk, but low fire benefit. Tim would like to a section on the cohesive strategy in the CWPP and how to continue to employ it in Trinity County.

Website: <https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/>

Summary:

<https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/documents/strategy/strategy/communications/NationalStrategySummary.pdf>

Full Document:

<https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/documents/strategy/strategy/CSPHaseIIINationalStrategyApr2014.pdf>

e. Trinity County Collaborative (Pat Frost): Nothing new to report, no TCCG meetings since the last.

f. TCLS Measure D and E (Todd Corbett); www.tlscsd.org: Measures D and E are working to improve the county life support services. The Trinity County Life Support non-profit may have to forfeit the company if these measures do not pass, and they need to pass together. The current TCLS model has been running deficient for the last few years and it is no longer sustainable. Passing these measures will allow to increase pay for employees and work to retain employees. If these measures pass it would mean an \$82 tax on improved properties and \$43 on unimproved parcels. TCLS was able to secure funding for an additional ambulance and that should be arriving soon. Todd asks please get the word out and share this information with the public, Trinity Life Support will be present on Facebook, Instagram, their website, and community meetings, so please share this.

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g. Set 2020 Schedule: It was determined to keep the budget as is, but to add an agenda item in the future to add or change items on the agenda at the top of the meeting.

4. Project Updates:

Trinity County Board of Supervisors (Bobbi Chadwick): Bobbi announced that on January 7th the BOS passed an endorsement from BLM and USFS to request TPUD to increase their right of way easements through federal lands from 20 to 130ft. Bobbi was unable to get support for a rotating second chair for the Fire Chiefs' Association and Fire Safe Council meetings, but Jeremy Brown has stepped up and will look to participate in the Fire Safe Council meetings in the future. Additionally, The Governor's Force Management Task Force is looking for additional members, this group meets twice a month in Sacramento, Jeremy has offered to participate in this committee unless anyone else is interested (no one stepped up). It was noted that Kelly Sheen and Nick Goulette are on the working group for this task force.

BLM (Jeremy Straight) - 1) There are approximately 500 acres they are looking to treat near Reading Creek, 150 acres of which are piles and the burn plan was just signed. There are 75 acres that will be accessible and they are looking to start burning in February and it is composed of mostly manzanita. All new burn plans will have a hazard risk assessment with them, and they will also need to retroactively write these for old burn plans. 2) BLM was unable to get a second entry to the WCF last fall, it is not likely to happen this spring. 3) From the Lewiston CWPP meeting, it was identified to complete work in the Wildland Urban Interface on BLM. This will be a priority for the field office for Trinity County, the DNA will help this and should be completed soon. 4) In Poker Bar in 2009/2010 there were 120 acres that were pile burned that are not overdue for their next treatment. It is past due for the broadcast burn for which the EA had signed. BLM is looking for other ways to treat this area. 5) Burned 10 acres in Butte last week.

CAL FIRE (Andy Reiling) – 1) The National Guard contract with CAL FIRE ends in March, they do have a tract chipper that could be used on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest in the future. 2) The Governor will be announcing plans for Enhanced Evacuations, not sure where this will come down through the legislature maybe through Cal OES. 3) Three of the six Trinity River Crews are staffed and are running at 13-15 members per day. They are not permitted to run crews of under 12 members. Sugar Pine has four crews running, and there is no expectation of the number of crews to change any time soon. At this point in time there is still a mobile kitchen unit, but that may change as there won't be people to staff it.

CalTrans (Eric Akana) – There are no new projects, the local crews are staffed and doing their best, but have few people. Eric asked to please keep him in the loop for adjacent projects and he will see what he can do.

Hyampom Fire Safe Council (Amelia Fleitz) – Amelia attended their CWPP event with the USFS in January. They had at least 30 members of the public come out to hear the proposal and participate in the process. Dan Ostmann gave a great presentation of the plans and the modeling that was used to develop the plans. Amelia was able to get some information about projects that private landowners would like to see.

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NRCS (Jen Ganoung) – There are no other full time staff in the office by Jenna, there are no program deadlines at this time but will likely have some set for the Spring/Summer. They are working with the WRTC on oak woodland forest management plans.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Kelly Sheen)- Charlie Holthaus has left, the forest health position has been flown and Kelly is reviewing resumes and conducting interviews, we hope to have someone in place by mid-February. The crew did great on their projects last year working in Junction City on funding from the State Water Resources Control Board, CalFire, TPUD, and private contributions. The crew will finish Junction City this year and then move onto Lewiston. They are working on an equip project for Meryl Bethke and then working on Joint Chief's funding to continue work in Mad River/Ruth area for Nancy Curran. The California Fire Safe Council Grant will look to treat Long Canyon and Lake Forest Estates, Oregon St and Top of the Grade. Carol Fall asked to have the intersection at Guy Covington Mill added to the grant ask, Amelia will look into the grant's flexibility to include this area. Kelly announced that he intends to have the crews back on in March, but it will depend on weather. Amelia announced that there are drafts of the Trinity River Survey available on the table and that Willow Creek will be having their Firewise event on May 16th and invited anyone to attend that was interested.

Shasta-Trinity NF (Tim Ritchey) – 1) For the Weaverville Community Forest Fuels and Recreation Maintenance Project it has been delayed due to archaeology, which is being completed now. There are 10 miles of non-system trails that are looking to be added and 7 miles of new trails to be constructed. Additionally, this project will permit all non-motorized special events to reduce the need for annual permits to be completed for the La Grange Bike Race, the Endurance Race, and other events. 2) The Flat Fire settlement money will be available soon, the target area for work will be along Big Mountain Rd near Big French Creek. There will be a lot of money for work in a small area, there will be some money to go to recreation at Hayden Flat and Del Loma and potentially provide some funding for cameras on lookouts. 3) The Bowerman Ridge Cooperative Fuel Break will be undergoing third party NEPA. There will be 12,000 acres and Nick Goulette is taking the lead, this will be a collaboration of SPI, CalTrans (HWY 3) to complete this project. There will be some understory burning. In Covington Mill, most of the work will be completed along Ridge Rd and then down to the lake, this will include burning Bowerman Meadow, and treatment to remove the sweetbriar. This project has the potential to be completed under an insect and disease categorical exclusion. 4) On the implementation side of things it has been too wet. Instead they are working to fall some hazard trees and getting things prepped in the units on Blue Rock Rd.

Six Rivers NF (Mark Deperro – Fuels Planner) – 1) The Six Rivers NF was working on jack pot fuel loading in Happy Camp Plantations prescriptions in October. They plan to burn landing piles and understory burning in the spring. This project is along the Trinity County and Humboldt County line. 2) The Six Rivers NF is looking to develop a CE/EA which would be a programmatic for hazard fuel reduction which would include thinning below 12" and prescribed fire to help connect fuel breaks. The goal is to help streamline the planning process and strategically connect the fuel breaks around Willow Creek. 3) They have completed 250 acres of pile burning already this year in Humboldt County.

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Watershed Research and Training Center, (Dillon Sheedy)- 1) This year we accomplished 60 acres of hand thinning and chipping treatments on private land in Hayfork. 2) We successfully implemented 40 acres of prescribed burning on the Tule Creek Ranch and the Big Creek Ranch. With help from our partners at CAL FIRE, Hayfork VFD, and the USFS. 3) Saw crews completed 40 acres of plantation thinning for in the Shasta Trinity NF 4) WRTC saw crews completed approximalty 300 acres of fuels treatments for Six Rivers NF. Treatments included roadside shaded fuelbreak construction with manual and mechanical treatments. 5) Forestry Crew completed 143 pre-cruise inventory plots. performed timber marking inspections on approximately 331 inspection plots. Official unit boundary marking and tagging was completed on approximately 1,250 acres (60 miles of boundary)..(Akrewoods project) *(Six rivers NF).

6) What is planned for 2020?? We currently have 4 grant funded projects on private land ready to be implemented in 2020. a) The Hayfork Community Protection Plan: Firesafe council grant that included up to 200 acres of fuel reduction treatments. b) The Trinity Community Resilience project: CALFIRE fire prevention Grant that includes up to 600 acres of fuel reduction treatments and prescribed burning in Hayfork and Weaverville. Partners for that CALFIRE grant include, Trinity county RCD, SPI, Trinity River Lumber, US forest service (Six Rivers and Shasta Trinity NFs) c) Title 3 grant The Trinity County Neighborhood Fuels Reduction Project: Community chipping project for Hayfork, Hyampom, and Peanut. d) Trinity County Community Chipping Program: 2020 Fire safe council grant that includes up to 150 acres of fuel reduction and chipping activities 7) With most of the environmental compliance work being completed we are planning a busy 2020 season. 400 acres of private land treatments of which 200 treated with prescribed fire and 200 acres of public land treatments. 8) In December of 2019 we submitted a large and ambitious CALFIRE forest Health Grant totaling 3.8 million dollars to implement 6,000 acres of fuel reduction treatments across Trinity County.

Weaverville Fire District – No report.

Carol Fall – Asked that TPUD participate in these meetings to support the Mitigation Plan recently developed.

(No representatives present from TC Planning Department, UC Cooperative Extension.)

Meeting adjourned at 2:49 PM.

Next meeting: February 27, 2020, 1:00 PM, TCRCD Conference Room

Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan 2020 Update

Community Meetings Summary



Resource Conservation District

AMELIA FLEITZ

530-623-6004

AFLEITZ@TCRCD.NET


THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED BY CAL FIRE

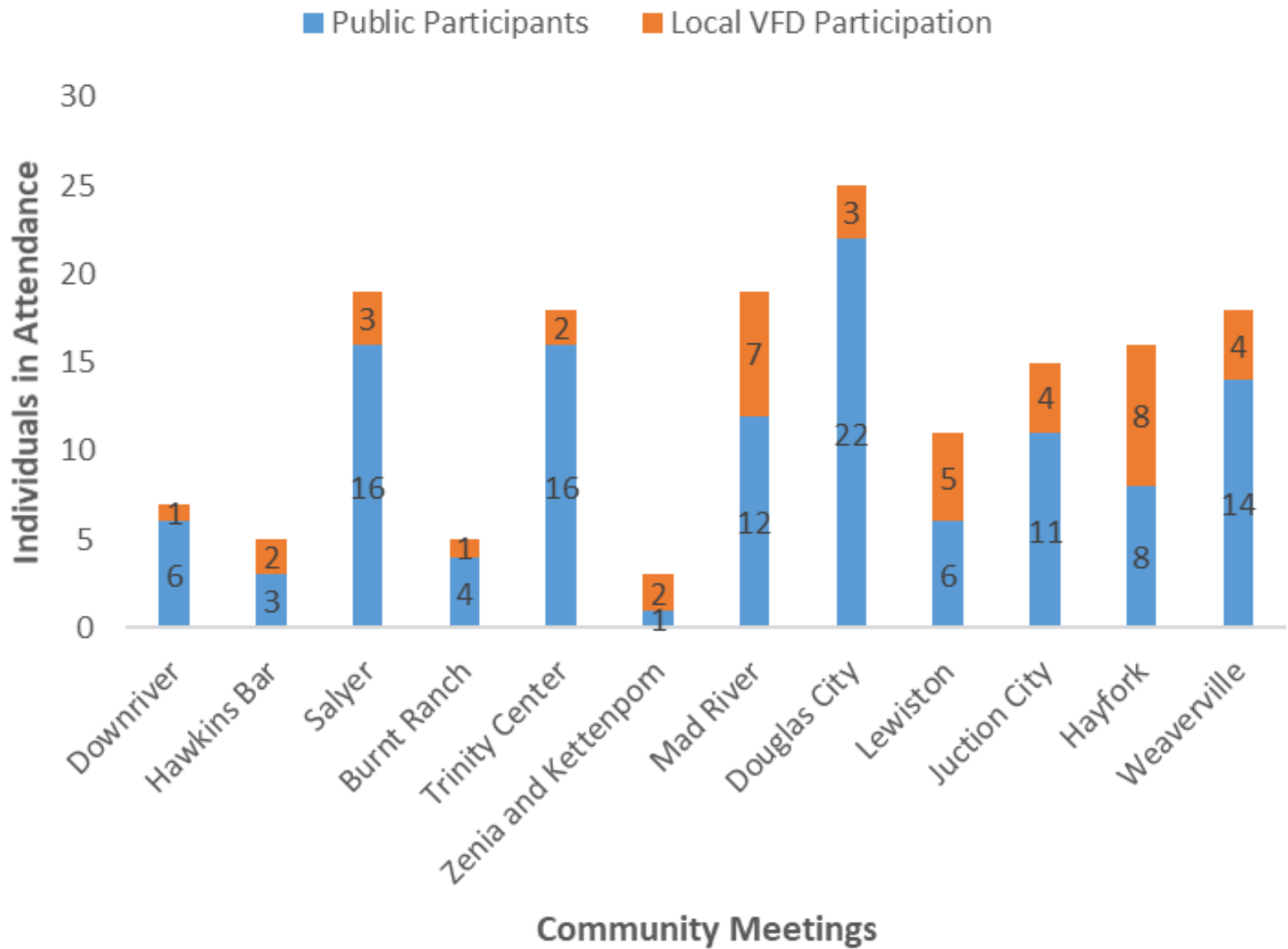


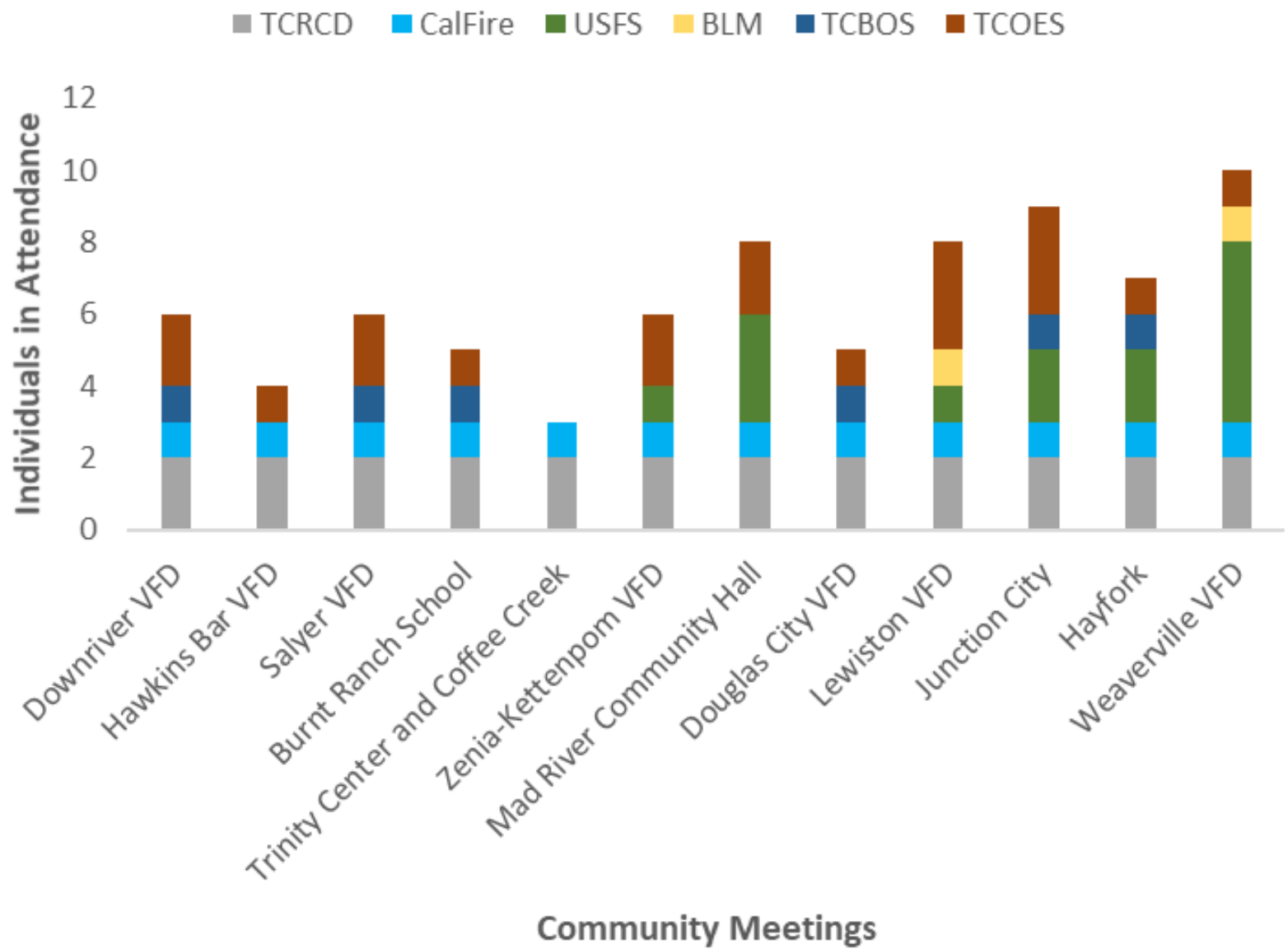
Community Meetings

- 12 Community Meetings
- Presentations
 - Overview of the CWPP and FSC History
 - Community Preparedness
 - Defensible Space
 - Shaded Fuel Breaks
 - Strategic Landscape Thinning
- Mapping Activity
 - Infrastructure/Values at Risk updates
 - Fuel Reduction Projects

Evening Stations Activity

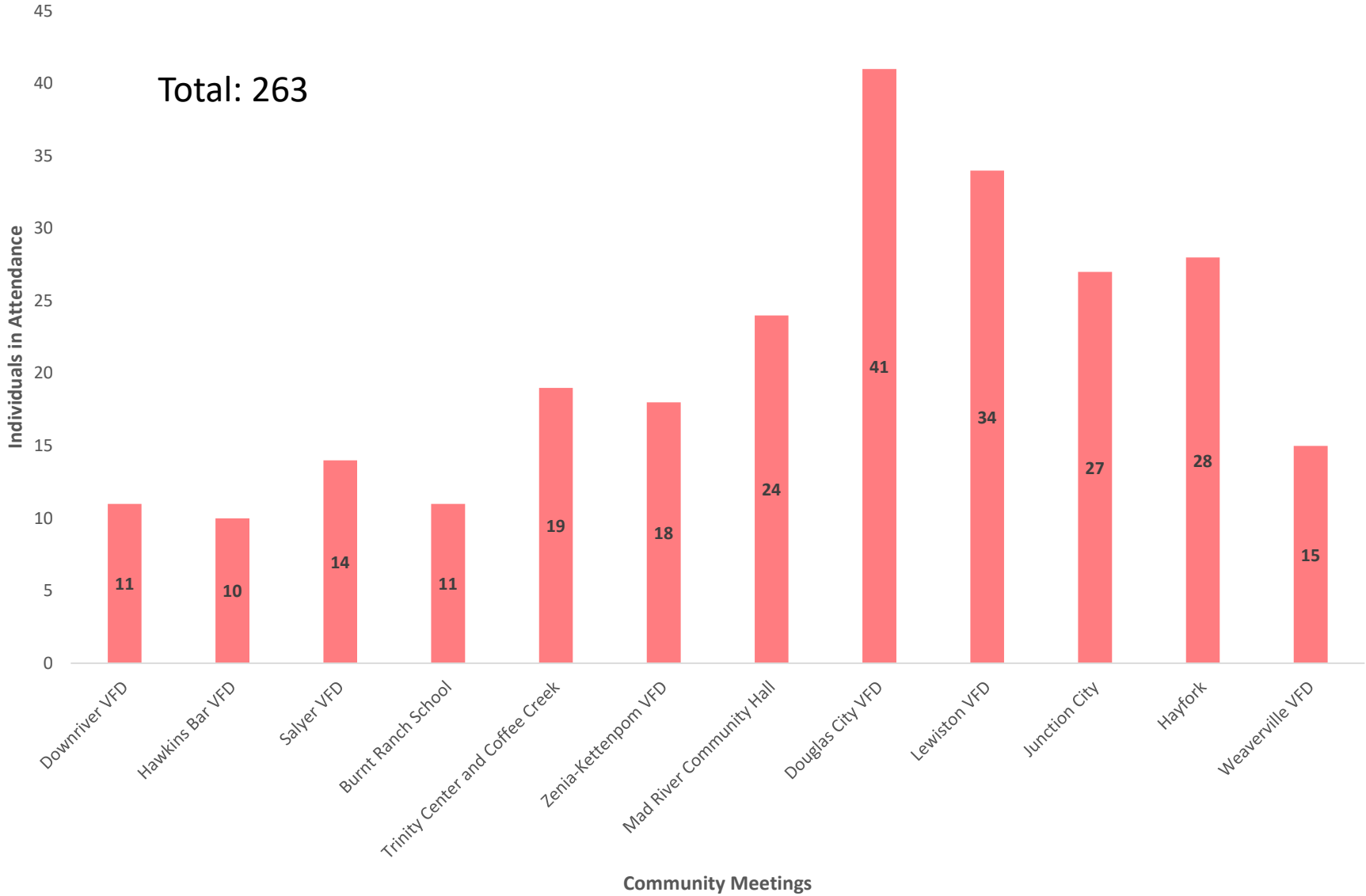
- 1. Neighborhood Groups**
 - 2. You will travel around to the stations.**
 - Mapping future fuel reduction projects.
 - Mapping new water sources and values at risk.
 - Enrollment in CodeRED and emergency preparedness.
 - Local preparedness discussions with local VFD.
 - 3. At the end, each participant will vote on the top 5 fuel reduction projects in order of importance established at this meeting.**
- 





■ Number of Projects

Total: 263



Website



The banner features the Trinity County Fire Safe Council logo on the left, which includes a stylized mountain and the text 'Trinity County Fire Safe Council'. To the right of the logo, the text 'Trinity County FIRE SAFE COUNCIL' is displayed in a large, yellow, serif font. A small image of a sunset over a forest is visible in the top right corner of the banner. Below the banner is a dark red navigation menu with white text for 'Home', 'Projects', 'Documents', 'Partners', 'Media', 'Meeting Agendas', and 'Meeting Minutes'.

PROJECTS

Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

The Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a countywide effort to help reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and protect communities and values at risk on a landscape scale. The Trinity County Fire Safe Council (FSC) was founded in 1998 and completed one of the first CWPPs in the US, which was finalized in 2005. Since then the Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) has facilitated updating the CWPP in 2010 and 2015. TCRCD is currently working with the TCFSC on the 2020 update.

The CWPP identifies and prioritizes fuel reduction projects in Trinity County. First, the projects are identified by community members and then prioritized by fire officials evaluating fire history, fuel loads, and fuel reduction project history. Next, the geographic information system (GIS) maps are created to display each project area identified for agencies to access and utilize for project development and implementation. Then the plan is written into one comprehensive document and reviewed by the public and agency officials. Finally the plan is approved by the Trinity County Fire Chiefs' Association, Trinity County Board of Supervisors, and CAL FIRE.



A photograph showing several people gathered around a large table, working on a large map or GIS display. They appear to be in a meeting or workshop setting, discussing the map's content.

The projects that are identified in the CWPP are then utilized by organizations and agencies to apply for grant funds for fuel reduction projects. In the last 5 years TCRCD has raised \$2.9 Million for fuel reduction work in Trinity County, including CWPP identified priority projects. The Watershed Research and Training Center brought in over \$1 Million in the last year, and over the last 20 years the TCRCD has brought \$8.5 Million to complete fuel reduction work in Trinity County.

Wildfire Models

Weaverville

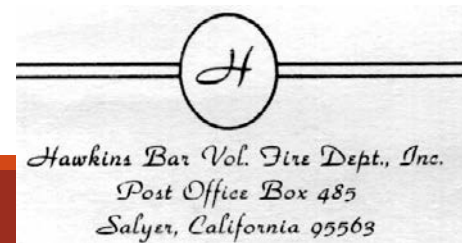
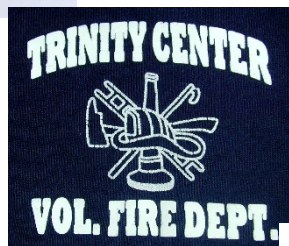
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1yVWVjv1r5jA5OxaCTHwDxfsf14moxOCl>

Hayfork

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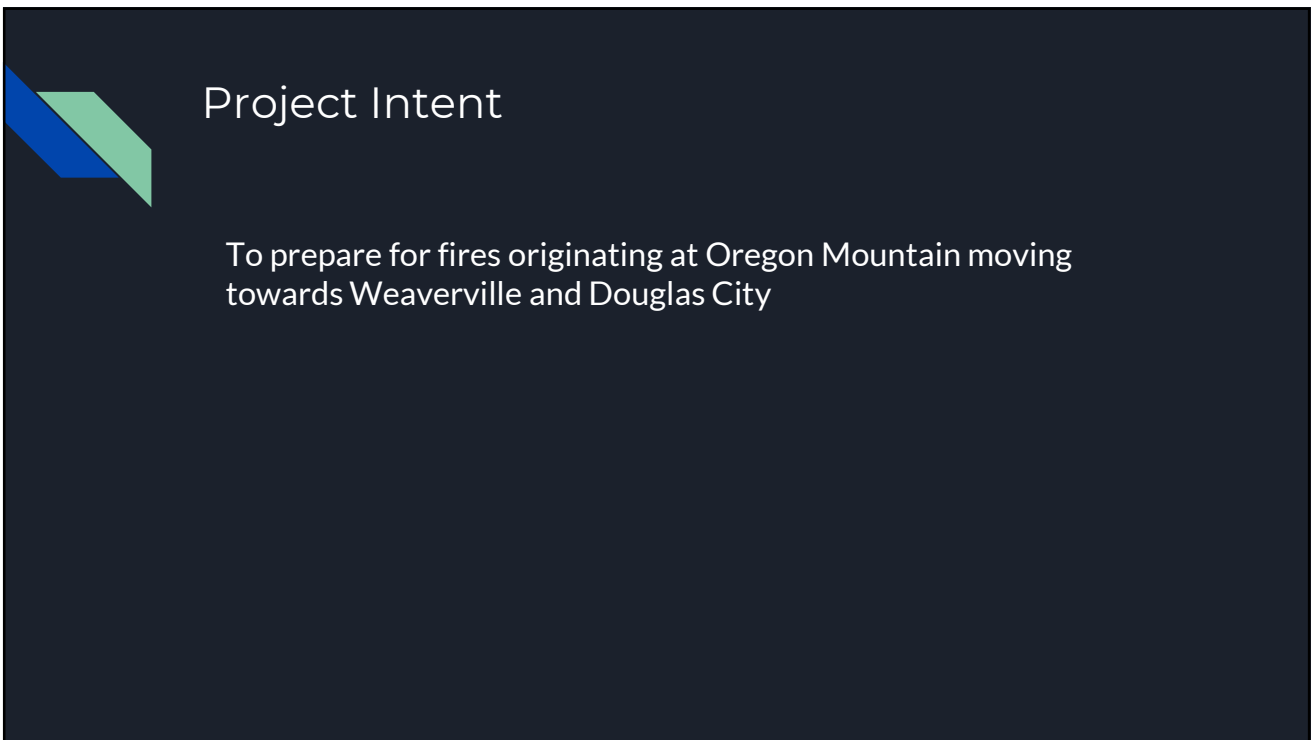


Thank you! Questions?





Weaver Bally Loop Fuel Break Project



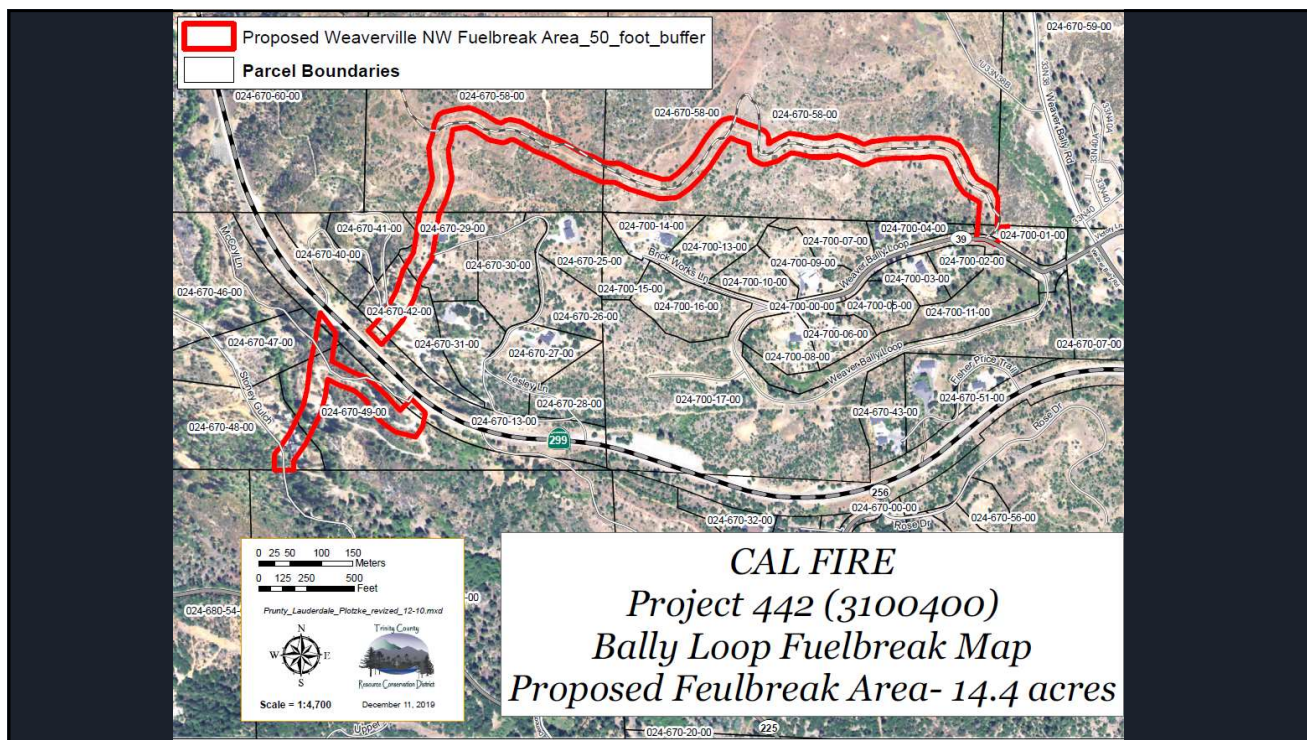
Project Intent

To prepare for fires originating at Oregon Mountain moving towards Weaverville and Douglas City

Project Objectives

- Create defensible space protecting the residence of Weaver Bally Loop, Leslie Ln, and McCoy Ln, which can be used as an anchor point to protect Weaverville
- Provide a faster and safer egress for the residence of that neighborhood
- To complete the first of several phases that will ultimately end with one large fuel break spanning from Weaver Bally Loop and ending at the top of Steiner Flat Rd in Douglas City







**Trinity County Fire Safe Council
Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2020, 1:00 pm
Trinity County RCD Conference Room**

1. Welcome and Introductions: Sandy Faulkner (USFS-SHF); Josh Faulkner and Andrew Peterson (CAL FIRE); Amelia Fleitz, Chris Cole, and Kelly Sheen (TCRCD); Dillion Sheedy (WRTC); Mark Deperro (USFS-SRF); Todd Corbett (WFD); Larry Winters (Hyampom FSC) Bobbi Chadwick (BOS) and Jill Cox (BOS Candidate).

2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

3. Grants

- a. **Action, Implementation, and Mitigation Program:** Pre-application proposal due by February 14, 2020. <https://co-co.org/get-involved/grants/aim-grant/>
 - i. They are specifically looking to fund community wildfire risk assessments in this round.
- b. **FAC Net Affiliate Member Opportunity Fund Application:** Application due Feb 11, 2020. <https://forms.gle/MjG2gcEDW2Qy4vWU8>

3. Outreach/News:

- a. **CalFire Forest Health \$3.8M Awarded to WRTC: (Dillon Sheedy)** The grant is for \$3.8 Million and then \$1.1 Million in match which will be split up to support agency efforts of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Six Rivers National Forest, Sierra Pacific Industries, Watershed Research and Training Center, Trinity County Resource Conservation District, and the Trinity River Lumber Company. The funding will treat over 6,000 acres through shaded fuel break construction and maintenance, plantation pre-commercial thinning, reforestation, prescribed fire, and biomass removal. See the attached presentation for more information and project area maps.
- b. **CWPP 2020 Update Project: (Amelia Fleitz)** A presentation was given to the Trinity County Board of Supervisors meeting this month to cover the progress thus far with the CWPP. The presentation was well received. The projects are currently being input in the geographic information system for further processing.
- c. **Trinity County Firewise Workshop: (Amelia Fleitz)** Amelia will be coordinating the Trinity County Wildfire Preparedness Day Fair in Weaverville on May 2, 2020 at the Highland Arts Center Meadows. Amelia invites all organizations affiliated with emergency preparedness, wildfire

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management, and fuel reduction in Trinity County to participate in the event. If anyone would like to give a presentation or have an agency booth at the event please email her at afleitz@tcrccd.net.

- a. The attendees supported Amelia to move forward and as the Trinity County Board of Supervisors to designate May 2, 2020 as Trinity County Wildfire Preparedness Day and May 2020 as Wildfire Preparedness Month.

4. Project Updates:

CAL FIRE (Josh Faulkner) – The road severity survey project is ongoing to evaluate ingress and egress for county roads. Each road will be given a grade based on the number of homes in the QUI, the access of engines, fuel loading, slope and more. At this point in time Weaverville is 95% complete, Hayfork is approximately 40% and they are starting to work on Douglas City, Lewiston, and Junction City. The council discussed its potential use in the CWPP, it was proposed that if the survey was completed this summer that this work could potentially be factored into the modeling, however if the surveying is not complete that a secondary report could be beneficial.

Hyampom Fire Safe Council (Larry Winters) – The USFS come to Hyampom and had a great meeting with over 30 people. Dan Ostmann is looking to find extra funding to get Third Party NEPA to get the environmental compliance completed. The project is proposed to treat over 20,000 acres. Randi Paris will be back soon to evaluate the plantation prescriptions. All prescriptions will eventually plan to maintain fuel loads through prescribed fire and maintenance.

Trinity County Board of Supervisors (Bobbi Chadwick) – Bobbi thanked Amelia for a great presentation, and asked Dillion to present to the Board of Supervisors on the funding and projects awarded here. The Pacific Forest Trust will be presenting on Tuesday.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Kelly Sheen)- Chris Cole is the new Forest Health Project Coordinator at the District. We are still waiting to hear on awards for the CalFire Fire Prevention Grants. The District is looking to have the crews back at work on Monday. The crews will be working on an Equip grant, CalFire and State Water Resources Control Board project in Junction City, and then California Fire Safe Council funding in Timber Ridge and Bear Creek. The crew will also work on a California Fire Safe Council project in Top of the Grade, Covington Mill, and Oregon Mountain and community chipping. The crews will also work for the Six Rivers and Shasta-Trinity National Forests this year.

Shasta-Trinity NF (Sandy Faulkner) – The forest will be looking to staff up to 7 days next week, and they will be continuing to burn. The understory burn on Browns was a success with 96 acres burning at low intensity. Chris Losi is the detailed District Ranger for the South Fork Management Unit, he is a NEPA coordinator from the Supervisors Office. Ron Armstrong's retirement party is coming up. Over all it has been hard to keep positions in Hayfork filled and retention of seasonal employees is difficult as the cost of living is high, the wages are low, and the barracks are expensive.

Six Rivers NF (Mark Deperro – Fuels Planner) Scoping has closed on The Hazardous Fuels and Fire Management Project is an Environmental Assessment (EA), there were some concerns of thinning up to 12" dbh in plantations. Archaeology and wildlife surveys will need to be completed before projects are

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implemented. The Forest has been able to complete 270 acres of pile burning this spring. The forest is moving out of the prescribed fire timing and limited operating periods for owls will be in effect soon, so Mark expects some of their planned work will have to wait for this fall.

Watershed Research and Training Center, (Dillon Sheedy)- 1) The WRTC will be looking to add another saw crew, for a total of three and contracting to additional agencies to complete the planned work for this year. 2) Amelia, Chris and Dillon went out to the proposed fuel break on the Weaver Bally Loop project area and determined that Dillon will take the lead. The WRTC has funding to complete the fuel break looking at 50ft on either side of the road and the District will look to complete fuel reduction work in the neighborhoods below in partnership with the Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department. 3) In other news, the WRTC is developing a third party NEPA team is will be working to complete the Bowerman Ridge Project NEPA with an expected decision date in March. This will hopefully be a catalyst for future Third Party NEPA projects.

Weaverville Fire District – No report.

(No representatives present from BLM, CalTrans, NRCS, TC Planning Department, UC Cooperative Extension, and Trinity PUD)

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 PM.

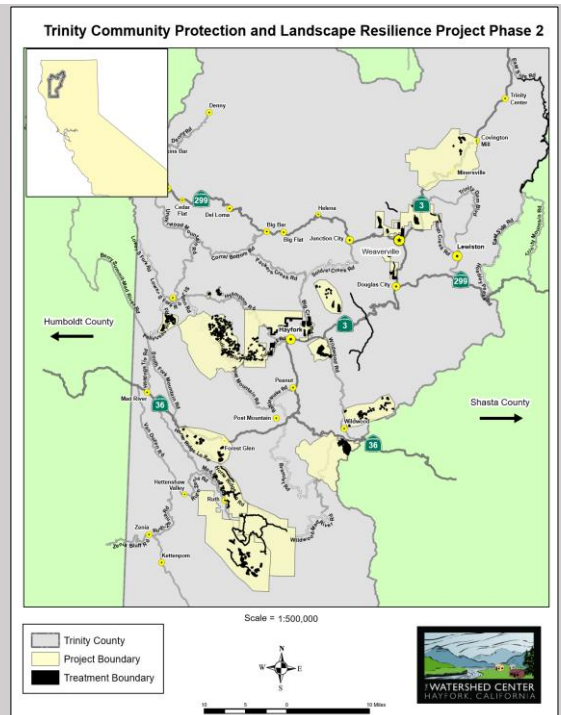
Next meeting: March 26, 2020, 1:00 PM, TCRC D Conference Room

Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Resilience Project- Phase II

A California Climate Investments (CCI) Forest Health Project.



- \$3,802,897 awarded from CALFIRE, total \$4.9 million with match.
- Partners;
 - \$1.7 million to Shasta Trinity NF
 - \$1 million to Six Rivers NF
 - \$300,000 to Sierra Pacific Industries
 - \$200,000 to WRTC
 - \$100,000 to the Trinity County Resource Conservation District
 - \$15,000 to Trinity River Lumber Co.





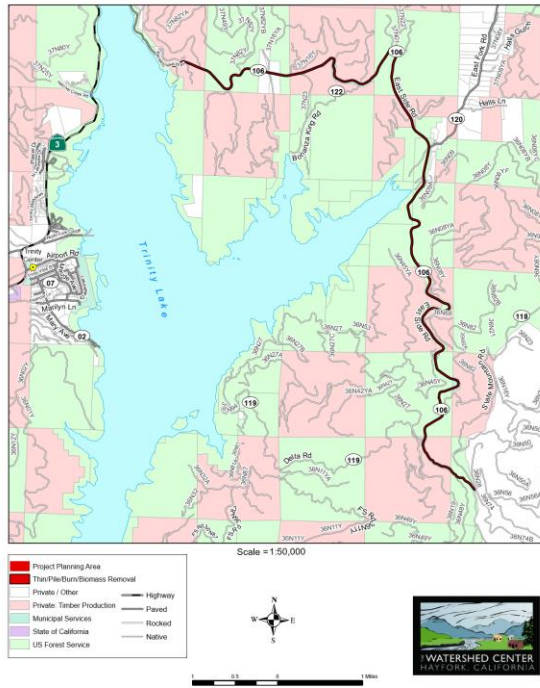
Five distinct fuel reduction activities:

- Shaded Fuel break construction/maintenance
 - 2,400 acres
- Plantation Pre-commercial thinning
 - 1,000 acres
- Reforestation
 - 300 acres
- Prescribed fire
 - 2,600 acres
- Biomass removal/utilization
 - Where feasible

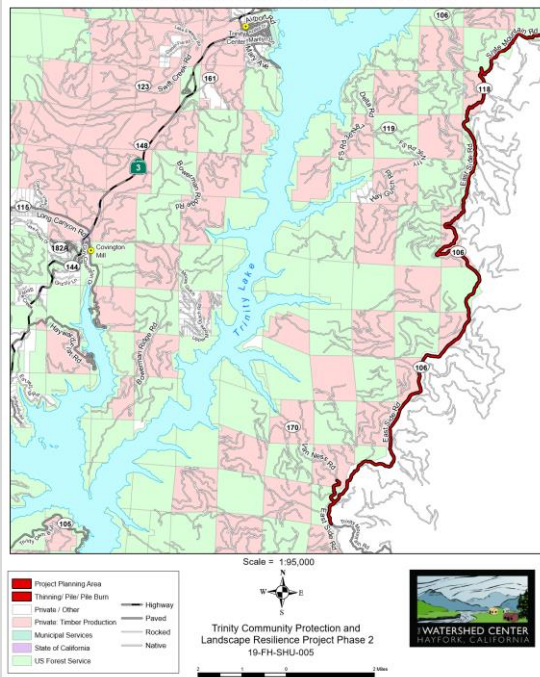
6,362 acres of total fuel reduction treatments.

- 5,400 acres of USFS land
- 922 acres of Private land
- Treatment types include;
 - Hand thinning (with chainsaws), mastication, hand pile, machine pile, tree planting, pile burning, broadcast burning, biomass removal.
- Performance period March 2020 to March 2024

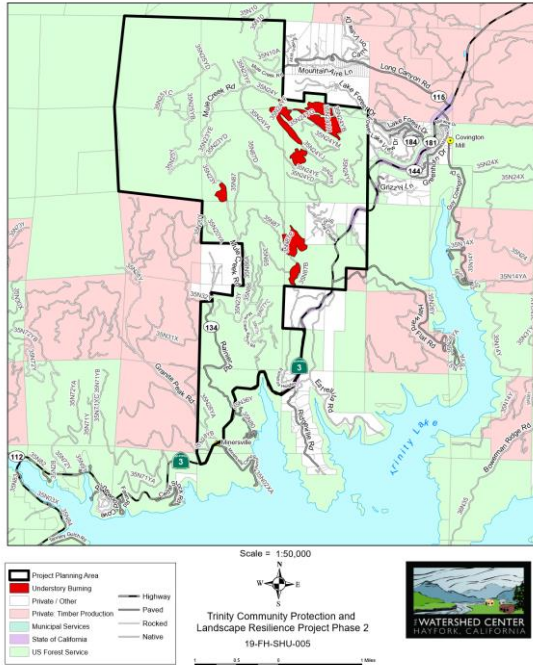
TRMU Roads (County Rd. 106)



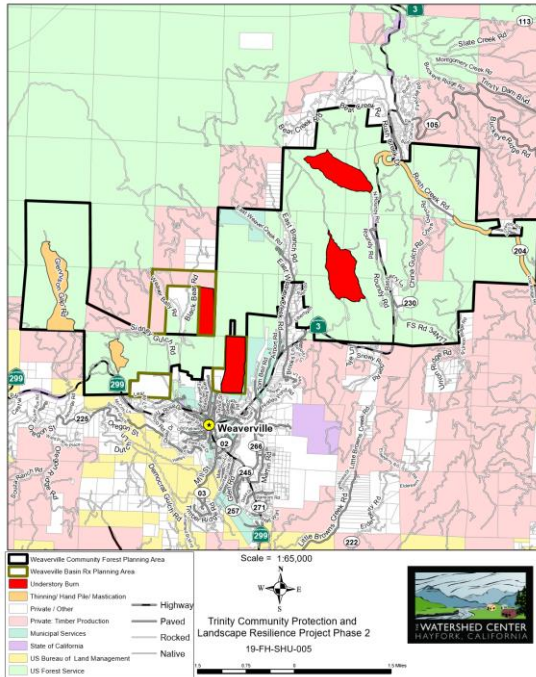
Carr/Delta Fire Road Maintenance & Safety Project



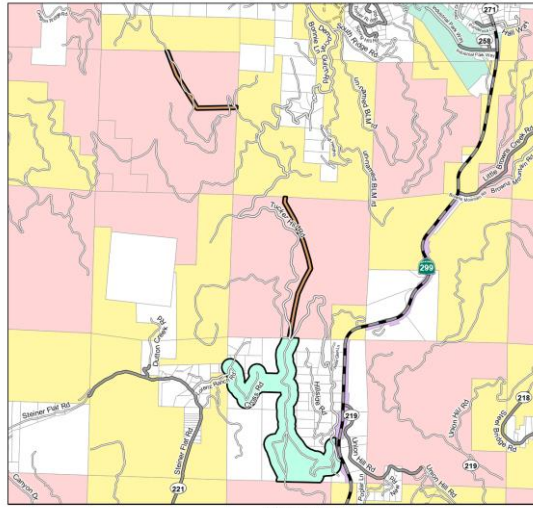
Lake Forest Fuels Project



Weaverville Community Forest Fuels



Weaver Creek Watershed & Tucker Hill Fuelbreak

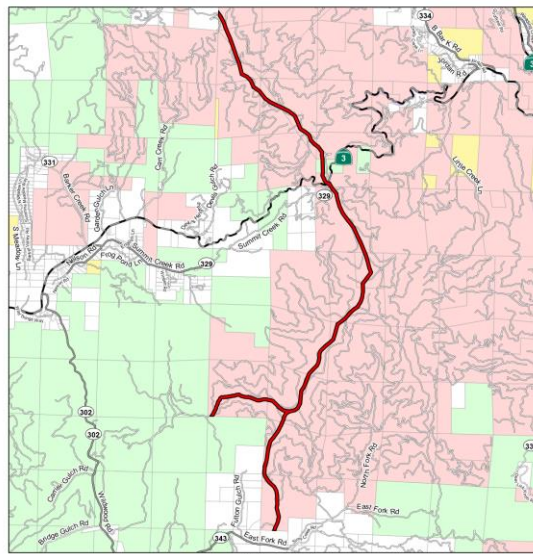


Scale = 1:30,000

Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Resilience Project Phase 2
19-FH-SHU-005

- Weaver Creek Watershed Fuelbreak
- Tucker Hill Fuel Reduction Project area
- Project Planning Area
- Private / Other
- Private Timber Production
- Municipal Services
- State of California
- US Bureau of Land Management
- Highway
- Paved
- Rock
- Native
- Jeep/Skid Trail

Wells Mountain Fuel Break

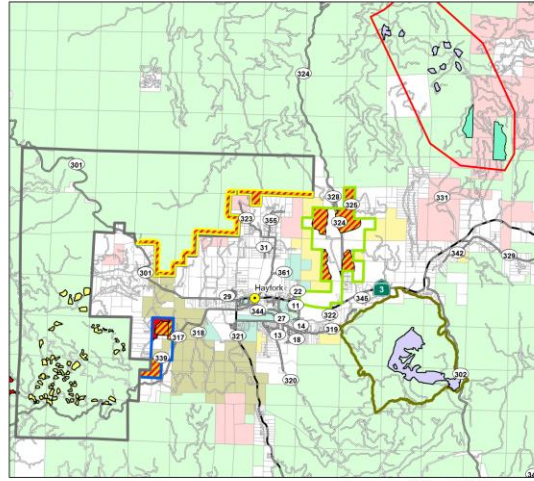


Scale = 1:75,000

Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Resilience Project Phase 2
19-FH-SHU-005

- Thinning/Classification
- Private / Other
- Private Timber Production
- Municipal Services
- State of California
- US Bureau of Land Management
- US Forest Service
- Highway
- Paved
- Rock
- Native

Project Areas Near Hayfork

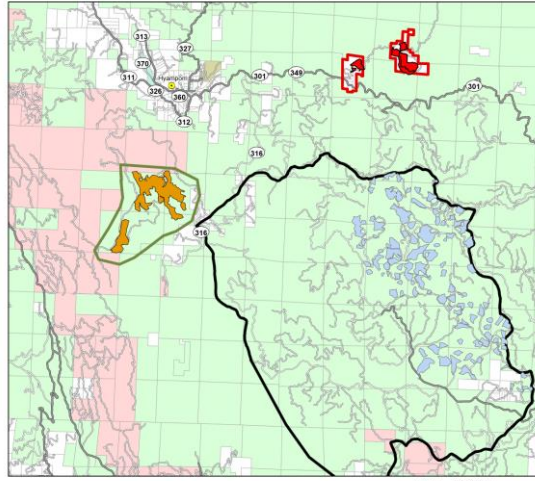


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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle Hayfork PCT/Fuels planning area Kellogg FMAZ Barker Fire Footprint Tule Creek Ranch Rx Planning Area Big Creek Ranch Rx Planning Area Stafford Fire Reforestation Planning Area Understory Burning Thinning/Hand Pile/ Pile Burn Thinning/Pile/Biomass Removal Reforestation/Tree Planting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private / Other Private: Agricultural Preserve Private: Timber Production Municipal Services State of California US Bureau of Land Management US Forest Service Highway Paved Rocked Native |
|--|---|

Scale = 1:100,000

Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Resilience Project Phase 2
19-FH-SHL-005

Project Areas Near Hyampom

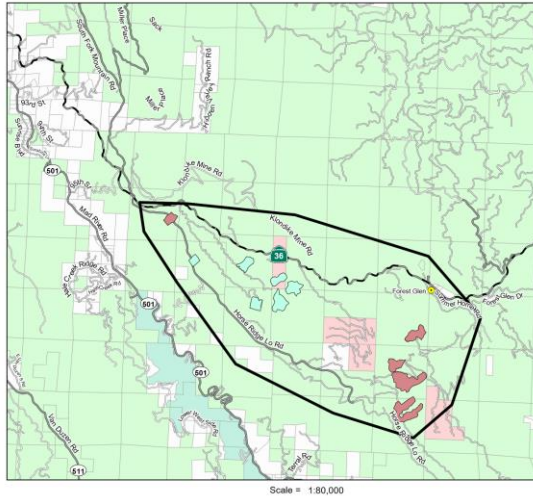


- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bar 717 Ranch Rx Fire Planning area Johnson Fire Reforestation Westside Plantations Planning Area Thinning/ Hand Pile/ Pile Burn Understory Burning Thinning/ Hand Pile/ Biomass Removal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private / Other Private: Agricultural Preserve Private: Timber Production Municipal Services US Forest Service Paved Rocked Native |
|---|---|

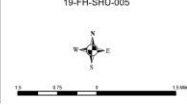
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Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Resilience Project Phase 2
19-FH-SHL-005

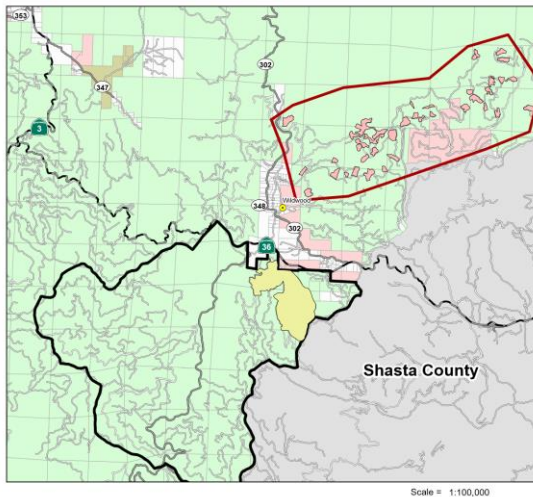
2015 Pickett Fire Reforestation



Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Resilience Project Phase 2
19-FH-SHU-005



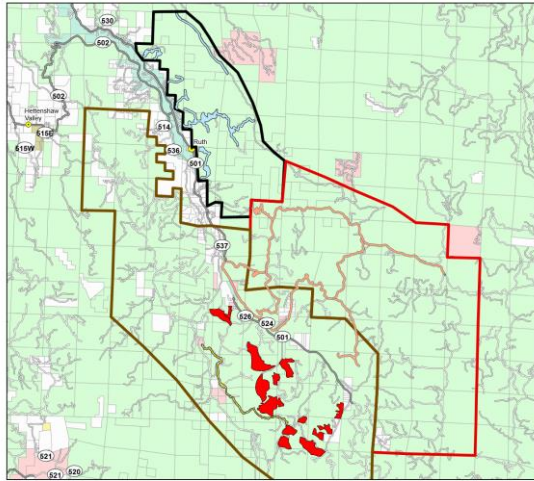
Dubakella Fuels and Schiell Fire Reforestation



Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Resilience Project Phase 2
19-FH-SHU-005



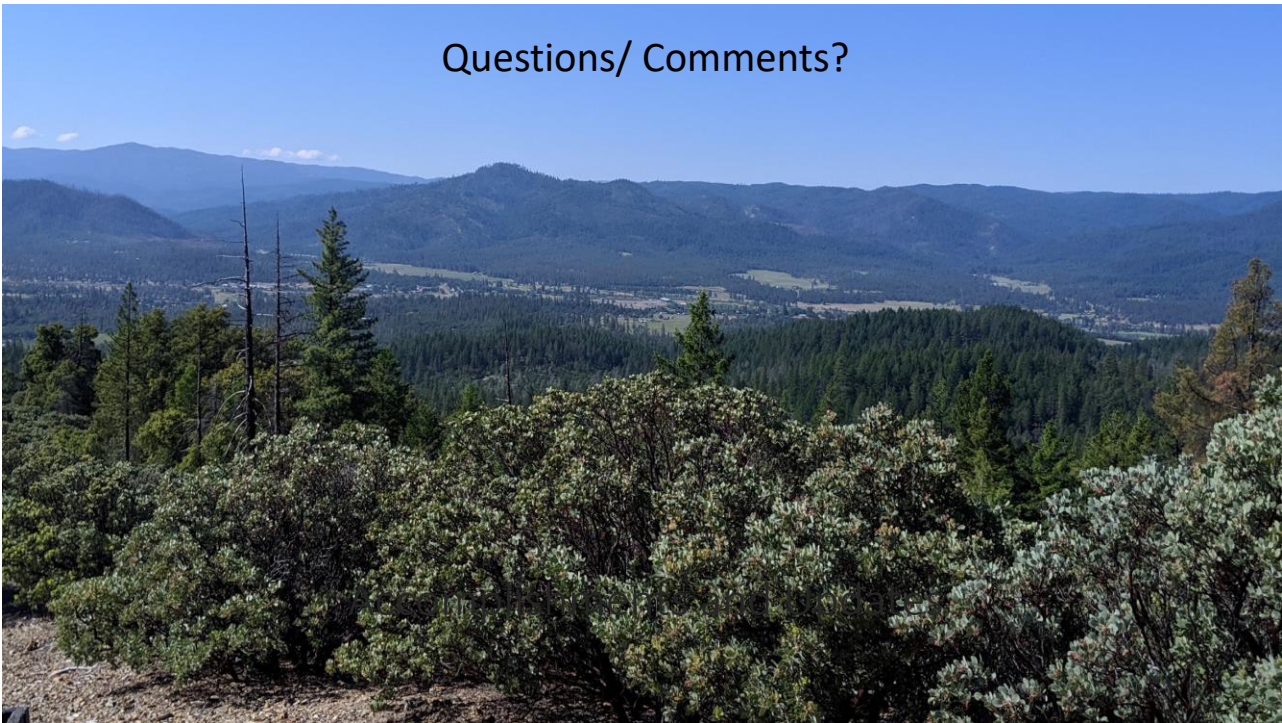
Projects Near Ruth, CA



Scale = 1:125,000



Trinity Community Protection and Landscape Resilience Project Phase 2
19-FH-SHU-005



Questions/ Comments?



**Trinity County Fire Safe Council
Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2020, 1:00 pm
Trinity County RCD Conference Room**

1. Welcome and Introductions: Sandy Faulkner and Tim Ritchey (USFS-SHF); Nick Wallingford (CAL FIRE); Jeremy Strait (BLM); Amelia Fleitz and Chris Cole (TCRCD); Jill Cox (BOS Elect); and Joel Cox (members of the public).

2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

3. Grants

- a. **Prop 84 Wildfire Resilience and Recovery Planning Grant** (Due March 18)
- b. **BLM California Wildlife Resource Management** (Due April 28) The Bureau of Land Management's California Wildlife Resource Management Program funds programs that maintain, restore, and conserve species and their habitats in cooperation with the Federal and State wildlife agencies, and other partner organizations. The program helps ensure self-sustaining populations and a natural abundance and diversity of wildlife on public lands for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations. [Click here for more information.](#)
- c. **BLM California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program Activities** (Due April 28) The Bureau of Land Management's California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program uses a risk-based approach that supports the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy goals of restoring and maintaining fire resilient landscapes, creating fire adapted communities and responding to wildfire. [Click here for more information.](#)
- d. **CAL FIRE Wildfire Resiliency and Forestry Assistance Grant** (Due April 30) Through funding provided from Proposition 68, CAL FIRE, under its Wildfire Resiliency and Forestry Assistance Grant Opportunity, expects to award at least \$2.2 million for Forestry Assistance in the 2019/2020 fiscal year for projects that propose to provide financial and technical assistance to multiple small private, nonindustrial forest landowners to provide ecological restoration of forests. Three public workshops will be offered. Public comment will be accepted until February 29. Proposals can be submitted from March 31 - April 30, 2020. [Click here for the grant page.](#)

4. Outreach/News:

- a. **Trinity County Wildfire Preparedness Day:** Originally scheduled for May 2, 2020, Amelia has opted to postpone the event to June 6, 2020 to increase the potential that the event will be available to occur in person. Amelia would also like to build social media materials for Wildfire Awareness Month for May. La Grange Classic is the same day we could look at hosting the event near the park to get more

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& Firewise Communities Program

participants. Social media push in May to get people out working and doing their defensible space work.

- b. **The Trinity Journal: Living with Wildfire**, the Trinity Journal is working on their Living with Wildfire publication. Amelia will find out the final date to accept submissions for the publication and share it with the group.
- c. **CWPP Update (Amelia)**: All of the projects identified in the CWPP community meetings has been put into the TCRCDC GIS system. GIS Coordinator Denise Wesley (TCRCDC) will attend our next meeting to discuss
- d. **Wilderness Proposal (Tim Ritchey)**: Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Proposal put forth by Congressman Huffman. Any of the areas that become proposed federal wilderness will then change the suppression response in these areas, most of the proposed areas are unroaded areas in steep terrain. The Pattison Wilderness, is from the Hayfork Divide into the Hayfork Creek Area and it pushes into the WUI around Hyampom and Bar 717. USFS is actively looking to provide feedback to the Congressman's office. If the Fire Safe Council wants to bring anything forward, it is the time to do it. The Pattison Wilderness includes a lot of the Hyampom Resilience Plan, it also does not follow district boundaries which is the ridgeline which could support fire suppression strategies. The northern edge the Pattison Wilderness is in vicinity of the Corral Infection and Disease Project; another area is the strategic fuel break from the cooperative with Sierra Pacific Industries from Pattison Peak to Hayfork Bally, and this designation would reduce the capabilities for implementation. There is a significant amount of Wilderness designation in Northern California and a lot of it is within Trinity County. This provides for the scenic trail and a visitors' center identified in Trinity County, this has been passed in the House of Representatives with other Wilderness Areas in other states. This would impact the CWPP proposed projects and would also reduce the fire suppression options in this area. The bill does not identify or allocate funding for the visitors' center or anything else.

5. Project Updates:

BLM (Jeremy Strait) – The BLM Grant opportunities the Wildlife Management Grant and Fuels Management Assistance Program. For more information, reach out to the local field office to work on these grants. Rob Winkler or Jeremy are available to work on developing successful projects. For the field office, most of the staff are telecommuting, the fuels crew has been suspended for now and they are reevaluating next week. There will be a hiatus on fuel reduction

CAL FIRE (Nick Wallingford) – Nick is the Pre-Fire Engineer currently drafting the Unit Fire Plan, he oversees the defensible space inspection in Shasta and Trinity counties, and overall fire prevention planning. Nick went to Sacramento to work on the statewide fire prevention grants, the grant quality is improving and Trinity County represented well. They are working to leverage McConnell Funding to implement projects on the Shasta side of the Unit. No projects in Trinity County were funded this round.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Chris Cole)- The CAL FIRE Prevention Grant was not funded for the TCRCDC ask, which was in partnership with The Watershed Research and Training Center. Chris is working to get landowner outreach for all active projects and has completed CEQA for all projects. The plan for this year will be to work on a CAL FIRE funded project in Lewiston on Trinity Dam Boulevard and Jessup Gulch Area, work on a California Fire Safe Council Project in Trinity Center in Lake Forest Estates and Long Canyon and a chunk of land on Oregon Mountain. All crews are not on yet to

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start the field season, we will reevaluate next week while keeping the safety of our employees and their families in mind as we make the decisions.

Shasta-Trinity NF (Tim Ritchey) – Most staff are working remotely and all prescribed fire activities are shut down. As there is high enough fuel moisture in the fuels there are no fire equipment currently staffed, all engines are on a one-hour response primarily for vegetation fires. As conditions dry out the district will look to staff engines weekly, one on the Big Bar side and one in Weaverville. Fuels and other projects are no priorities at this current time, the focus is on the safety and welfare of the employees while working to serve the communities. NEPA is continuing, Pilot is moving forward hopefully for signature this fall. Dan Ostmann is continuing with the Hyampom Resilient Community and evaluating the interaction with the Huffman proposal, and has come contracting for projects near Wildwood. Lara Graham is working on a contact with the RCD to fund 57 acres in Browns Phase III, the cable units that were dropped using the Joint Chiefs' funds. Working with the Watershed Research and Training Center to get botany technicians to do surveys for the Bowerman Ridge Fuelbreak and the archaeology is moving forward on the Weaverville Community Forest Fuels and Recreation project. Reach out if there is anything that USFS can help facilitate during this time.

Weaverville Fire District – No report.

Trinity County Collaborative (Pat Frost) – Action item the collaborative voted unanimously to ask the Trinity County BOS to write a letter of support to support the WCF Fuels and Recreation Project.

(No representatives present from CalTrans, Hyampom Fire Safe Council, NRCS, TC Planning Department, UC Cooperative Extension, Six Rivers NF, Trinity PUD, and the Watershed Research and Training Center).

Meeting adjourned at 1:42 PM.

Next meeting: April 23, 2020, 1:00 PM, TCRCO Conference Room

Trinity County Fire Safe Council
& Firewise Communities Program



**Trinity County Fire Safe Council
Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2020, 1:00 pm
Trinity County RCD Conference Room**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Tom McCubbins (Tehama County RCD); Tim Ritchey (USFS-SHF); Rob Winkler (BLM); Carol Fall (TCVFD); Pat Frost (TCGG); Michael Blackwell and Ryan Crowe (NVCSS); Nick Wallingford (CAL FIRE); Amelia Fleitz and Denise Wesley (TCRCD); Rick Satomi (UCCE); Bobby Chadwick (TC BOS), Jill Cox (BOS Candidate Elect); Kenneth Baldwin (BBW & Associates); and Dillon Sheedy (WRTC).

- 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda**
 - a. Trinity Journal Insert
 - b. Huffman Bill Discussion

- 3. Grants**
 - a. Prop 84 Wildfire Resilience and Recovery Planning Grant (EXTENDED - April 30)** The California Strategic Growth Council, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, and the California Department of Conservation have opened the application period for Proposition 84 Wildfire Resiliency and Recovery Planning Grants. A total of approximately \$720,000 is available for up to 3-5 grants between \$150,000 and \$250,000. Eligible applicants include cities, counties, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Joint Powers Authorities, Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, Council of Governments, or a combination. The application deadline has been extended to 5pm on April 30. [The Notice of Funding can be found here; follow this link for more details.](#)
 - b. CAL FIRE Forestry Assistance Grant Opportunity (May 31)** CAL FIRE's California Forest Stewardship Program will fund technical and financial assistance to forestland owners. Projects may include forest restoration activities for forestland already impacted by natural disturbance such as fire, insect, and disease, and forest management practices that promote forest resilience to severe wildfire, climate change, and other disturbances. CAL FIRE expects to award at least \$2.2M of Proposition 68 funding for Forestry Assistance in the fiscal year 2019/2020 with a minimum grant amount of \$750,000. RCDs are called out explicitly as eligible entities. This application period is between April 1 and May 31. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)
 - c. CAL FIRE Wildfire Resiliency and Forestry Assistance Grant (Due April 30)** Through funding provided from Proposition 68, CAL FIRE, under its Wildfire Resiliency and Forestry Assistance Grant Opportunity, expects to award at least \$2.2 million for Forestry Assistance in the 2019/2020 fiscal year for projects that propose to provide financial and technical assistance to multiple small private, nonindustrial forest landowners to provide ecological restoration of forests. Three public workshops will be offered. Proposals can be submitted from March 31 - April 30, 2020. [Click here to learn more.](#)
 - d. FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grants (May 29)** The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Fire Prevention and Safety Grants fund fire prevention and safety activities, including community and wildfire risk reduction. RCDs may be interested in the first activity supported under the grant, Fire

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Prevention and Safety Activity. The five project categories eligible for funding under this activity are: (1) community risk reduction, (2) wildfire risk reduction, (3) code enforcement/awareness; (4) fire & arson investigation; and (5) national/state/regional programs and studies. Note: the grant is for FY2019, but the notice was released on April 21, 2020 and will be due on May 29, 2020. [Click here to see the Notice of Funding Opportunity](#); [click here to see all documents](#).

- e. **California Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse Grants (June 18)** The 2020 California Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse Grants application period will end on June 18, 2020. Grants will fund (1) hazardous fuels reduction and maintenance projects on non-federal land, (2) Community Wildfire Protection Plans and other community hazard mitigation and planning, and (3) prevention and mitigation education and outreach opportunities for landowners and residents in at-risk communities. [Register for the workshops at this link](#); [find the grant page here](#).

4. Outreach/News:

- a. **May 2020 – National Wildfire Awareness Month**
 - a. Online presence during this month.
- b. **Trinity County Wildfire Preparedness Day**, Weaverville, June 6th, 2020. (Amelia Fleitz)
 - a. Work on online materials for this event.
 - i. CAL FIRE Inspections, Home Hardening, Defensible Space, etc.
 - b. Coordinate Ads in the Trinity Journal
- c. **Trinity County CWPP – Determining the Prioritization of Projects Exercise** (Amelia Fleitz)
 - a. *Proposed prioritization factors: Proximity to WUI, Public Prioritization, Fire Officials Prioritization, Fire History (Recent and/or frequency; Fire Severity Potential*), Fuel Reduction History, Continuity with recent Fuel Reduction Projects, Vegetation Levels, Ingress/Egress Benefit, Strategic Location (Rivers, Roads, Ridges), Number of Residences to Benefit, and NEPA/CEQA compliance in progress/complete.*
 - i. Add Critical Infrastructure Benefit; no or low weight to NEPA/CEQA compliance – plan strategically rather than what is easy to accomplish NEPA/CEQA wise; Vegetation level – is inherently built into fire history and recent project implementation – could be removed to not double bound this variable.
 - ii. Project history to work into modeling.
 - b. Plan to use the model that Dan Ostmann is using for the Hyampom Wildfire Resiliency Project, to prioritize projects across the landscape.
 - c. Tim recommended to look at the Trinity County mapping on this platform: <https://wildfirerisk.org/>
 - d. Evaluate how the 2015 was calculated and how other CWPPs are evaluating priority.
- d. **Trinity Journal** Living with Wildfire will come out next week.
- e. **Huffman Bill Discussion** – Follow up to last month’s presentation by Tim Ritchey on the proposal; no actions identified for the FSC on this topic.

5. Project Updates:

BLM (Rob Winkler) - Working on Reading and Indian Creek area for hazard thin and burn pile project about 57 acres and about 10 more acres to burn. There are two more units in that area identified in that area to work out in the future; contracts going back out soon. Planning a 300 acre project in Lewiston, working to prepare it for large scale grant opportunities this summer. Weaverville Community Forest prescribed burning was not completed this spring due to test burns not meeting objectives. Hoadley Peak project the salvage sale was completed and will be looking for post-sale rehab and handpile burning.

CAL FIRE (Nick Wallingford) – Defensible space inspectors on board, they are out doing inspections as drive by inspections right now due to COVID. Working to do landscape level fire with private land owners in Big Creek. Local projects with Carr Fire and finishing wrap up of last year’s Governor’s projects. Trinity River Camp and Sugar Pine Camp usual 5 crews per camp, is down to 2 crews per camp right now. These crews will generally be engaged with fuel reduction work, but they are struggling with staffing. Trinity River Camp has been working with BLM and the Reading Creek project and it is not a Governor’s project and they have been prioritizing projects that are directly fuels related.

Trinity County Board of Supervisors (Bobbi Chadwick) – Everything is in flux right now, no inspections on the ground for Agricultural Inspections. The Planning Department has been facing some turnover, but they are making progress to fill the positions. The Board of Supervisors Meetings are being livestreamed to provide access and comply with COVID restrictions.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Amelia Fleitz)- Crews are still not on yet. Working to move forward as possible, most staff are working remotely and some are on reduced hours. Approved to get a letter signed to support the RCD effort to secure funding for the BLM partnership to complete fuels reduction in Rush Creek in Lewiston. Amelia participated in the UCCE Forestry Seminar to discuss the Trinity County Fire Safe Council and the projects that are being completed throughout Trinity County.

UC Cooperative Extension – Cannot host or attend any meetings in person at this point in time, the office staff are all working remotely. Most projects are held up due to working remotely.

Shasta-Trinity NF (Tim Ritchey) – Engaged in reduced hazard trees along the trails and also preparing the campgrounds for when they will open. The pine beetles are having a big impact due to the warmer winter this year. The Weaverville Community Forest Fuels and Recreation Project is slowed due to staffing levels and also delays in surveys due to COVID. Looking to partner with the RCD for the Browns project to treat some cable units that were dropped from the sales. Dillon was able to secure funding to work on fuels reduction in East Side of the lake, County RD 106 to help with egress in those area. USFS will be meeting with PGE to discuss their fuel treatments and meeting the intent in these areas. Dan Ostmann is working on Dubakella Contract and will hopefully move forward this year. Dan is also working on the Hyampom and Pilot project currently reviewing smoke management options in relation to Spotted Owls. USFS is also discussion options with TPUD for their fuel reduction under powerlines.

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Watershed Research and Training Center (Dillon Sheedy) - Crews and season delayed, all essential employees are working from home. Crews looking to start May 4th at ½ capacity and work up from there. Broadcast burn 100 acres in Big Creek, will be looking to continue work in a few weeks. Forest Health Grant Final Report is coming together and he is working on presentations on the new Forest Health Grant for the BOS and will come back with the final report from the previous Forest Health Grant. Forestry Techs will likely start early June.

Weaverville Fire District – No report.

North Valley Catholic Social Services (Michael Blackwell) – We are continuing outreach efforts throughout the County and will be working to schedule some Zoom events. If anyone wants to participate please reach out to Michael.

Tehama County RCD (Tom McCubbins) – They have an active fuel reduction program with projects throughout the County with CCI and other funding sources, such as the Children’s Meadow Project. They are working on fire ecology study with the Lassen National Forest near the Ishi Wilderness to reestablish fire ecology with pineries. Tom wanted to know if there is any interested to partner in the Southwestern Area of Trinity County to do a fuel break between the two counties, Dillon will follow up with Tom. Tehama County RCD is developing prescriptions to work within riparian corridors to expedite 1600 permits for watershed resiliency projects.

Trinity County Collaborative Group - No report.

(No representatives present from CalTrans, Hyampom Fire Safe Council, NRCS, TC Planning Department, Six Rivers National Forest, and Trinity PUD)

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM.

Next meeting: March 26, 2020, 1:00 PM, TCRCD Conference Room

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& Firewise Communities Program



**Trinity County Fire Safe Council
Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2020, 1:00 pm
Zoom**

1. Welcome and Introductions: Jeremy Strait (BLM); Nick Wallingford (CAL FIRE); Amelia Fleitz and Chris Cole (TCRCD); Sandy Faulkner and Tim Ritchey (USFS-SHF); Jill Cox (BOS Elect); Pat Frost & Jerry Cousins (TCCG); Johanna Ostling (Trinity Transit & TCTC); Tom McCubbins (Tehama County RCD); Michael Blackwell (NVCSS); Larry Glass (SAFE); Bella Hedke (TC Planning); Dillon Sheedy (WRTC); & Bobbi Chadwick (TCBOS).

2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

3. Grants

- a. **CAL FIRE Forestry Assistance Grant Opportunity (May 31)** CAL FIRE's California Forest Stewardship Program will fund technical and financial assistance to forestland owners. Projects may include forest restoration activities for forestland already impacted by natural disturbance such as fire, insect, and disease, and forest management practices that promote forest resilience to severe wildfire, climate change, and other disturbances. CAL FIRE expects to award at least \$2.2M of Proposition 68 funding for Forestry Assistance in the fiscal year 2019/2020 with a minimum grant amount of \$750,000. RCDs are called out explicitly as eligible entities. This application period is between April 1 and May 31. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)
 - i. TCRCD is applying and asked for a letter of support, it was supported by the attendees.
- b. **FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grants (May 29)** The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Fire Prevention and Safety Grants fund fire prevention and safety activities, including community and wildfire risk reduction. RCDs may be interested in the first activity supported under the grant, Fire Prevention and Safety Activity. The five project categories eligible for funding under this activity are: (1) community risk reduction, (2) wildfire risk reduction, (3) code enforcement/awareness; (4) fire & arson investigation; and (5) national/state/regional programs and studies. Note: the grant is for FY2019, but the notice was released on April 21, 2020 and will be due on May 29, 2020. [Click here to see the Notice of Funding Opportunity](#); [click here to see all documents](#).
- c. **California Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse Grants (June 18)** The 2020 California Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse Grants application period will end on June 18, 2020. Grants will fund (1) hazardous fuels reduction and maintenance projects on non-federal land, (2) Community Wildfire Protection Plans and other community hazard mitigation and planning, and (3) prevention and mitigation education and outreach opportunities for landowners and residents in at-risk communities. [Register for the workshops at this link](#); [find the grant page here](#).
 - i. TCRCD and WRTC are both applying for this opportunity, it was supported by the attendees, Pat Frost abstained.

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- ii. Camps crews run about \$230 per day, TCRCDC Crews run about \$1500 per day, and acreage completion depends on terrain and the prescription as to how much is accomplished per day and per grant.

4. Outreach/News:

Trinity County Wildfire Awareness Day in June 2020 has been cancelled.

5. Project Updates:

BLM (Jeremy Strait) – Weaverville Community Forest Stewardship Agreement Modification will include forest health stand assessment. In Reading and Indian Creeks with assistance of the CAL FIRE Trinity River Camp Crews 70 acres of pile burning was completed in Unit 7.

CAL FIRE (Nick Wallingford) – Working on a BMP near Platina which will get close to the Trinity County Line. Sugar Pine and Trinity River Camp still have 2 crews at each, there is a CCC hand crew out of Magalia and there is another hand crew that was not supposed to see fire, but has due to limited resources in recent years.

Trinity County Board of Supervisors (Bobbi Chadwick) – No Report.

Trinity County Planning (Bella Hedke) – No Report.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Amelia Fleitz & Chris Cole) – Thank you to those who put ads in the paper for Wildfire Awareness Month! Azalie Welsh, a new Forest Health Coordinator, will be starting on Monday. The crews will be starting on Monday with two four man crews with safety measures in place due to COVID.

Shasta-Trinity NF (Tim Ritchey & Sandy Faulkner) – Doing a lot of planning for the upcoming fire season. Browns Phase III timber harvest should be underway later this week or next week. Prep on 5 Cent Gulch for prescribed burn is taking place with CAL FIRE crews. Work on the Weaverville Community Forest Project is moving forward. Pilot Project is moving forward; they are hoping to have a decision letter soon. On fire restrictions, the region is doing a standard fire restriction for the whole state and it will be different than in previous years. This is for COVID to reduce the number of escape fires, the information will be made available shortly. TRMU – all lookout positions are filled but not all relief are covered at this point in time. SFMU – had a hard time filling lookouts, one lookout will be primarily staffed, other locations will not be staffed this year. A few wildfire alert cameras are going up will help fill the voids.

The Watershed Research and Training Center (Dillon Sheedy) – Staff back on full time, crews started this month. Completed defensible space on 12 properties totaling 40 acres. Wildlife Crew started doing owl surveys for Six Rivers NF and the Forestry Crew starts on June 8th. Dillon will go to Hyampom in June to look at some properties for fuels work and will schedule a meeting for the Tehama-Shasta-Trinity County Fuel Break discussion.

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Trinity County Collaborative Group (Pat Frost & Jerry Cousins) – Collaborative had a Zoom on May 15, lots of agency updates. The fuel break group went to the Acre Woods project in Zenia to see how the prescription was implemented and the work group was pleased. The fuel break group also went to Ruth to see the Air Curtain Burner that Six Rivers is using. There is no smoke and in one hour can do what a burn pile takes to do in a whole day in the woods, the result is char and it can be sold as a soil amendment product. The burn window can be extended on each side utilizing this tool and at full operations it can burn up to 7 tons an hour. Costs about \$150,000 for the purchase of the Air Curtain Burner. The Air Curtain Burners were originally purchased for beetle kill in the Sierra Nevada, then were repurposed, this one was used for Camp Fire Clean-up. Six Rivers NF is primarily burning slash and tops, the larger cull is hauled to their yard for fire wood for the community.

Safe Alternatives Forestry E (Larry Glass) – Participated in the same trip as TCCG and really enjoyed the Air Curtain Burner. Impressed with how cooperative the Six Rivers NF is with the collaborative.

Tehama County RCD (Tom McCubbins) – Tehama County RCD has completed 80 miles of fuel break between Tehama and Glenn County towards Platina. Tehama County RCD would like to extend this work from Platina to Whiskeytown National Recreation Area's fuel reduction work. Tom wants to work with the local agencies to gauge interest and the see how to move forward. Pat noted that the RCD has not a lot of work in the Grass Valley Creek watershed over the years and Tom noted that he has reached out to SPI to discuss this project.

North Valley Catholic Social Services (Michael Blackwell) – Michael will be handing out disaster cards, if anyone needs information please reach out to Michael.

Trinity Center VFD (Carol Fall via Pat Frost) – TCRCD will be working to do fuel reduction in the Scott subdivision and a community chipping day on June 18th. The Trinity Center VFD walked around the subdivision and tried to encourage to get people in to participate.

California Fire Safe Council (Pat Frost) – Pat wants to know how the COVID restrictions are changing the outcomes for the projects. Will you need more time? Dillon indicated the cost per acre is increasing and could reduce the number of acre to be treated. CFSC is concerned about the projects that missed the spring burn window and the fall window is uncertain, and the community outreach events that were cancelled due to COVID.

(No representatives present from CalTrans, Hyampom Fire Safe Council, NRCS, UC Cooperative Extension, Six Rivers NF, Trinity PUD, and the Weaverville Fire Department).

Meeting adjourned at 2:01 PM.

Next meeting: June 25, 2020, 1:00 PM, TCRCD Conference Room

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& Firewise Communities Program



**Trinity County Fire Safe Council
Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2020, 1:00 PM
Via Zoom**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Jeremy Strait (BLM); Nick Wallingford (CAL FIRE); Bobby Chadwick (TC BOS); Amelia Fleitz, Kelly Sheen, Chris Cole, & Azalie Welsh (Trinity County RCD); Tim Ritchey and Sandy Faulkner (USFS-SHF); Nancy Curran & Mark Deperro (USFS-SRF); Dillon Sheedy (WRTC); Todd Corbett and Joel Cox (Weaverville Fire Department); Carol Fall (TCVFD); Pat Frost & Jerry Cousins (TCGG); and Michael Blackwell (NVCSS).
- 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda**
None
- 3. Grants**
 - a. California Fire Foundation's Wildfire Relief & Prevention Grants** (July 15) The California Fire Foundation's (CFF) Wildfire Relief & Prevention Grants funding priority will be given to proposed projects and/or programs in Tier 3 (extreme) and Tier 2 (elevated) high-fire threat areas, which focus on: personal protective equipment, specialized firefighting equipment, fuel mitigation, first responder training, fire safety and prevention education, and planning and outreach programs. CARCD contacted CFF and learned that they will accept proposals from RCDs and other special districts. The application deadline is July 15, with applications accepted on a rolling basis. Contact Sarah Howard, CFF's Grant Specialist, at showard@cpf.org with any questions.
 - b. USDA/USDOI Joint Fire Science Program** (TBA) The USDA and the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management's Joint Fire Science Program funds research and studies pertaining to wildland fire and resource management, to enhance decision-making ability of fire, fuels, natural resource, and land managers and others to meet management objectives. The interagency Joint Fire Science Program intends to request proposals through one or more formal Funding Opportunity Announcements beginning approximately July 2020 and remaining open 60 days.
 - c. California Fire Safe Council – Trinity County RCD and WRTC both applied separately.**
 - d. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – WRTC is applying for USFS funds.**
- 4. Outreach/News:**
 - a. Air Curtain Burner Presentation by Nancy Curran (USFS Six Rivers National Forest)** see slideshow attached; video of presentation to be distributed shortly.
 - b. Trinity Center** – Brush at the Trinity Center County dump is full of brush and limiting the defensible space work that can be done in the area, as Trinity Center

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dump is not accepting brush disposal. There is a concern that if those piles catch on fire they will go out onto SPI. Would this be an option for the Air Curtain burner? There is a motion to get this moving county wide to burn the fuels building up at the dumps. Solid Waste is reaching out to Weaverville Fire Department to help burn piles at the dumps.

- c. **Weaverville** – Use in the air curtain burner, at the moment the USFS out of Weaverville does not have the appropriate location
- d. **Air Quality Control** – Contact North Coast Air Quality Control to get your permitting for the air curtain burner. Contact Jason Davis or Winslow Condon @ 707-443-3093.
- e. **BioChar**- WRTC BioMass program manager is evaluating the market for BioChar in the agriculture and forestry. There are programs that will pay \$6000 an acre to create the biochar. UCCE looked at BioChar which needs to be produced in a certain way than regular ash of burn piles, there are specific requirements for the conditions to generate the biochar.

5. Project Updates:

BLM – No report.

CAL FIRE (Nick Wallingford) – Air Curtain Burner – purchased for tree mortality in the Sierra's, no discussion to get one in Shasta Unit yet. Full staffing to start June 29th, working on BMPs in Shasta County and getting ready for Fire Season. Suspending burning will likely be July 1, 2020 but no official announcement yet.

Trinity County Board of Supervisors (Bobbi Chadwick) – Bobbi met with a group of individuals between Poker Bar and Top of the Grade for seven property owners that live in an area between the two communities. Wants to have them meet with TCRCO personnel. The County is still dealing with COVID and was working to reopen. If local fire departments need more PPE please contact Marcie at Trinity County Public Health, she has a cache of equipment. The Board of Supervisors is going to cover \$1000 to cover training opportunities to work with the Shield Program out of Shasta College.

Trinity County Resource Conservation District (Kelly Sheen)- Welcome Azalie Welsh the new Project Coordinator II for Forest Health. Contracts are signed between USFS-SRF and TCRCO for Kelsey Project area work. The crews are back on and started on fee for service and CalFire project funded work. TCRCO plans to send 1 crew to Ruth to work with Nancy and then hopefully get some PGE funding to treat areas in Mad River as well. Working with USFS-SHF to complete some work in the Weaverville Community Forest – Browns Phase III. **(Chris Cole)** – Pole bridge has been deconstructed, the crew has worked with TCVFD to complete some work in Trinity Center. Crews are out in Lewiston doing roadside fuel breaks and then it will split with one Crew in Lewiston and one Crew in Ruth. **(Amelia Fleitz)** CWPP development of the prioritization formula is going. We received a mini grant from the WRTC to complete some more wildfire videos to show how fire behaves differently before and after fuel treatment projects.

Shasta-Trinity NF (Tim Ritchey) – On the South Fork Management Unit are working in Gimmel Fuel Break and the Ditch Creek RX – part of the Dubekella decision, working on control lines in there for about a 1,000 acres. Trinity River Management Unit in partnership with NRCS there is a little work on USFS side of the line and the homeowner is working on their side of the line. The Carr-Delta won one of the roadside contracts which was awarded a few days ago and will likely start in the middle of July. Covering piles during

Trinity County Fire Safe Council
& Firewise Communities Program

the Carr-Delta suppression repair activities. Crews will be back to work in the Burnt Ranch area and then up to Denny, and then mitigate hazard trees in the Weaver Basin Area. The Rec crew purchased a mini excavator and they plan to purchase a mower head to get the Bowerman Barn area mowed and then burned in the future. Browns Phase III harvest has not started yet, they are still in Paradise. **(Sandy Faulkner)** – Shasta-Trinity NF is in fire restrictions, inclusion of lake shore within 10ft of the lakeshore and 50ft away from vegetation and the wilderness. There is much higher recreational use for Shasta-Trinity NF recreational areas than normal. USFS will be sharing messaging to promote not using fireworks on the forest and also putting no fire flags in large campgrounds that should not have campfires. USFS is also planning to have a large presence for the Fourth of July weekend.

Six Rivers NF (Mark Deperro) – Received \$850,000 PGE grant to add to fuels reduction with a lot going onto the Waterman Project and in the length project with the 1 yr grant for PGE to be committed before the end of the calendar year. Planning to start some IDIT contracts to do piling and roadside buffer, plan to drop it into the IAS system in the next few months. Balance will be used for some pile burning where piles are already staged. Falling operations started on the southern end of the Waterman project which is on the boundary of Humboldt and Trinity Counties. Other projects do not have much else going on in the southern Trinity County area. Other projects across the forest include working to get a CE together to treat areas up to the Wilderness, Hoopa and then to Shasta-Trinity NF boundary.

Watershed Research and Training Center (Dillon Sheedy) – Route 16 is overgrown and WRTC is getting phone calls about treating that route from Big Bar to Hayfork. USFS – Tim announced that there is a contract in process to treat that area. Dillon – Fuels, Forestry and Wildlife crews are out and working. Three crews are finishing up Pettijohn and then moving to the Pilot Project. Fuels crews are working in Hayfork and Hyampom with CAL FIRE and California Fire Safe Council Grants. WRTC will be working on the Weaver Bally Fuel Break and applied for the next round of California Fire Safe Council in Hayfork, Van Duzen, and Mad River. They are putting in for the NFWF grant to support WRTC and TCRCDC to work more cooperatively for prescribed burning projects throughout the landscape. Few projects being planned with Shasta-Trinity NF and the third party NEPA is in the grants and agreements stage.

Weaverville Fire District – Crews are on and out working on the defensible space work in Poker Bar and Deer Lick Springs. Lots of work to do. Crews are getting questions when TCRCDC will be out to work on Top of the Grade, will not be until December or later.

North Valley Catholic Social Services (Michael Blackwell) – We will be doing some online zoom classes on the following days and topics below. If any of you want me to touch on any of your programs, or emphasis a point in any of these let me know. I will send out a longer email with more details. July 1st 12:30 pm- 1:00 pm, July 2nd 5:00p.m.-5:30p.m. Topic: Make a Plan
July 8th 12:30 pm -1:00, July 9th 5:00p.m.-5:30p.m. pm Topic: Wildfire
July 15th 12:30 pm- 1:00 pm, July 16 5:00p.m.-5:30p.m. Topic: Heat-Related Illness
July 22 12:30- 1:00 Pm, July 23rd 5:00p.m.-5:30p.m. Topic: To Go Bag

Trinity County Collaborative Group (Pat Frost) - No report, next meeting July 17th.

Trinity Center Volunteer Fire Department (Carol Fall) – Defensible space project completed in Trinity Center and it was completed very efficiently. Seventeen parcels were treated that were seniors or disabled and next to the IOOF Hall. There are very happy landowners.

SAFE – No report.

Trinity County Fire Safe Council
& Firewise Communities Program

California Fire Safe Council – The selection for the grants will be coming down the line and CAL Fire Steve Hawks is expecting to get a delay in CCI funding RFPs because pandemic has slowed things down and the last quarterly auction of GHG Emission Credits which had much lower sales than usual due to COVID and not as many pollution credits needed. Will impact future grants, but not existing grants.

(No representatives present from CalTrans, Hyampom Fire Safe Council, NRCS, TC Planning Department, UCCE, Six Rivers National Forest, and Trinity PUD)

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM.

Next meeting: July 23, 2020, 1:00 PM, TCRCO Via Zoom



Trinity County Fire Safe Council
Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2020, 1:00 PM
Via Zoom



1. Welcome & Introductions

Keith Greenwood (SPI)
Dillon Sheedy (WRTC)
Kelly Sheen, Denise Wesley, Chris Cole, Azalie Welsh (Trinity County RCD)
Pat Frost, Jerry Cousins (TCCG)
Carol Fall (TCVFD)
Larry Glass (SAFE)
Erin Taylor (NRCS)
Tom McCubbins (Tehama County RCD)
Jeremy Brown (Trinity County Board of Supervisors)
Jeremy Strait (BLM)
Kent Collard (Hyampom FSC)

2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

None

3. Grants

- a. **USDA/USDOJ Joint Fire Science Program** - The USDA and the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management's Joint Fire Science Program funds research and studies pertaining to wildland fire and resource management, to enhance decision-making ability of fire, fuels, natural resource, and land managers and others to meet management objectives. The interagency Joint Fire Science Program intends to request proposals through one or more formal Funding Opportunity Announcements beginning approximately July 2020 and remaining open 60 days.

4. Outreach/News

WRTC (Dillon Sheedy): WRTC will host wildland firefighting red card classes in August, tentative dates August 17th-20th with re-certification on August 21st. Contact WRTC if interested in participating.

FireWise (Pat Frost): Annual FireWise Community renewals coming up in August and September (due in November). There is a potential need for outreach events that are not in person due to COVID-19. Pat has contacted FireWise administrators but has yet to hear back.

RAC (Pat Frost): A USFS employee is on a detail to coordinate putting together RAC committees. RAC has previously funded education and outreach work in Trinity County. It will take a few months once the appointments are made to actually get through the process. Money that has been available to the RACs for the past two years has to be obligated by September 30, 2021. Unknown whether or not a new round of RAC funding has been approved, but Pat will enquire further.

5. Project Updates

BLM (Jeremy Strait) - Rob Winkler (BLM) met with RCD employees.

CAL FIRE - no representatives present

Caltrans - no representatives present

Hyampom FSC (Kent Collard) - nothing to report

NRCS (Erin Taylor) - Erin Taylor is the incoming District Conservationist for NRCS' Weaverville office (she is currently working remotely from the coast, will arrive in Weaverville likely end of August or early September). Wrapping up two Fiscal Year 2020 application rounds of EQIP, RCPP, and related projects. Currently converting applications to new contracts, and staying in touch with active contract holders to get forestry and fuel reduction projects done on schedule. Gearing up for FY 2021 planning mode. Now is a good time to contact the office for landowners interested in fuels or oak woodland related projects. Conservation Stewardship Program (for past EQIP participants who want to maintain treatments) has annual sign-ups in July, so next sign-ups will be in July 2021 (2020 deadline just passed).

Trinity County BOS (Jeremy Brown, sitting in for Bobbi Chadwick) - Homeowners' insurance: Homeowners in FireWise Communities can sometimes get homeowner's insurance in high fire risk areas. Otherwise, a lot of insurance renewals are being dropped in high fire risk areas. This is a statewide issue; RCRC [Rural Counties Representatives of California] is trying to come up with solutions to this issue. Platt Fire burned in Trinity County, and with a quick response and air response, it was rapidly contained. Assembly Bill 473 would limit further development in high fire risk areas. RCRC is strongly opposed to this bill and will write a letter of opposition, since the bill would prevent all further development in rural areas like Trinity County.

Trinity County Planning - no representatives present

Trinity County RCD - (Azalie Welsh) - Grant applications submitted: Action, Implementation, and Mitigation grant to hire a TCRCDD Grant Coordinator; California Fire Foundation proposal to get wildland firefighting PPE and training for RCD crews; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant in collaboration with BLM. Planning to put in monitoring plots on the Weaverville Community Forest burn units planned for Fall 2020. Ongoing State Water Resources Control Board grant work. CWPP progress: Amelia Fleitz (TCRCDD) has been working with Denise Wesley (TCRCDD) as Denise develops an application to gather input for the CWPP. **(Denise Wesley)** - Denise is developing two different applications to gather public input in addition to input gathered at in-person CWPP meetings and is working on the ranking system for CWPP project areas using proximity to infrastructure, previous burn score, and other metrics. **(Amelia Fleitz)** - The CWPP ranking system is not finalized and will be brought to TCFSC and Chiefs' Association meetings for further input before being finalized. Videos completed by WRTC via Open Canopy show

differences in how modeled fire will move across the landscape before and after CWPP projects are implemented. **(Chris Cole)** - Grant proposal through National Fish and Wildlife Foundation will be to treat 105 acres on BLM land near Reading/Indian Creek as part of a larger BLM project encompassing 300 acres. Proposal is in collaboration with Rob Winkler of the BLM. TCRCDCrews have completed about 20 acres of treatment in Lewiston. One TCRCDCrew is working in the Ruth Area under Nancy Curran. TCRCDC received funding from PG&E for work in the Mad River area; this will be completed this year. One TCRCDCrew will be working in Bear Creek and Timber Ridge for the next few weeks using California Fire Safe Council funding. Crews have also completed some fee-for-service work.

UC Cooperative Extension - no representatives present

USFS Shasta-Trinity NF (Amelia Fleitz) - Currently three lightning fires burning in northern part of the county, on TRMU: Kenny Fire (Rush Creek area; 1/3 of an acre in size), Graves Fire (east of Bear Creek Campground in Trinity Center area, T39R7 Sec. 36; 1/10 acre); Oak Fire (in wilderness in Stuart Fork area, T35R10 Sec. 1; 1/3 of an acre). One lightning fire on Shasta side. Every fire is currently manned.

USFS Six-Rivers NF - no representatives present

Watershed Research & Training Center (Dillon Sheedy) - Submitted a \$170,000 California Fire Safe Council grant proposal for Phase 2 of their wildfire mitigation and chipping. Submitted \$85,000 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant with Tim Ritchey and Lara Graham with the TCRCDC and WRTC to burn 75-100 acres on the Weaverville Community Forest burn units. One crew working with Nancy Curran on Six Rivers NF. One crew around Hayfork. Treated almost 100 acres on 30 parcels over the last few months through hand thinning and chipping. Forestry crews are laying out the Pilot Project as well as other Six Rivers projects. Owl working on crew on Six Rivers. Planning on burning 100 acres at Bar 717 Ranch and 50 acres at Tule Creek Ranch in the fall. CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant moving forward with Tucker Hill Dutton Fuel Break for Trinity River Lumber Company. Working with Keith Greenwood from SPI to get Wells Mountain Fuel Break planned as well. Working on environmental compliance and mastication on Six Rivers.

Weaverville Fire Department - no representatives present

6. Other updates:

Hobel Transfer Site brush pile (Carol Fall): Carol received a response from Solid Waste on the fire hazard issue she brought up at the last TCFSC meeting. Solid Waste was considering hauling brush away, but cannot afford it, and it's too late to burn it. **(Chris Cole)** - Gave Solid Waste a quote for chipping material, but does not think it's possible to chip. **(Carol Fall)** - Asked Solid Waste if they could use a tub grinder. Currently Solid Waste has no plan to deal with the brush pile.

Browns Mountain and Musser Hill fuel reduction projects (Keith Greenwood) - Spoke with Bob Morris about fuel reduction work on BLM land coordinating with potential SPI fuel break work on Browns Mountain. Would like more information from BLM regarding their treatment

methodology and locations. SPI will use mastication for the majority of their treatment, but may need to treat larger hardwoods another way. Fuel break on Musser Ridge has been partially masticated but is not complete, and snags are still standing. Keith would like to be included on future TCFSC meeting agendas so that he can give SPI project updates. **(Jeremy Strait)** - Heidi Rogers (BLM) is developing a timber treatment in the Browns Mountain area. Existing NEPA will allow BLM to work along Browns Mountain Road and along the utility line. **(Azalie Welsh)** - working on planning a field meeting to develop the BLM treatment in the Browns Mountain area. **(Kelly Sheen)** - Browns Mountain project on BLM land is in Weaverville Community Forest and TCRCO has funding from the Wildlife Conservation Board to work on this project with BLM. **(Keith Greenwood)** - Will stay updated on BLM work in the Browns Mountain area via Weaverville Community Forest Steering Committee meetings.

Tehama-Trinity Fuelbreak (Dillon Sheedy) - Dillon is working on developing a map for this proposed fuelbreak.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Next meeting: Thursday, August 27, 2020, 1:00 PM, Via Zoom



Trinity County Fire Safe Council
Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2020, 1:00 PM
Via Zoom



1. Welcome & Introductions

Kelly Sheen, Chris Cole, Azalie Welsh (Trinity County RCD)
Pat Frost, Jerry Cousins (TCCG)
Larry Glass (SAFE)
Erin Taylor, Tiffany Perez (NRCS)
Jill, Bobbi Chadwick (Trinity County Board of Supervisors)
Jeremy Strait (BLM)

2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

Kelly Sheen (TCRCD) -- Amelia Fleitz and Denise Wesley will not be able to discuss the CWPP rankings at this meeting, but will be able to hold that conversation at the next TCFSC meeting.

Pat Frost (TCCG) -- FireWise Program in California is hosting a Virtual Town Hall Meeting on 9/11/2020, "Wildfire Preparedness and Your Insurance". Requires an RSVP.

3. Grants

- a. **The Council of Western Foresters Wildland Urban Interface Grant Program** funds hazard fuel reduction in the wildland urban interface, information and education, assessment and planning, and monitoring through community and landowner action. Applications are due *September 25, 2020*.
- b. **The FM Global Insurance Company's Fire Prevention Grant Program** provides seed funding to help support a wide array of fire prevention, preparedness, and control efforts. For example, one major category of funding is Fire Prevention Education/Training, which includes community outreach initiatives, workshops, and publications. Deadlines for applications are *September 30 and December 31, 2020*.
- c. **The US Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management's Joint Fire Science Program** funds research and studies pertaining to wildland fire and resource management, to enhance decision-making ability of fire, fuels, natural resource, and land managers and others to meet management objectives. Applications are due by *September 30, 2020*.
- d. **USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry's Landscape Scale Restoration** program provides competitive grants focused on promoting collaborative, science-based restoration of priority forest landscapes and on furthering priorities identified in State Forest Action Plans. Applications are due by *October 30*.

Pat Frost (TCCG): California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) Grants update: Reviewers are finishing up their recommendations for awards to the California Fire Safe Council board. Funding will be very competitive, since there's a couple of million dollars of grant money and about 100 million dollars of proposals submitted. CFSC board meets again on the 25th of September and will vote on the committee's recommendations, so likely by the 1st of October applicants will hear back about whether or not they will be awarded funding.

Pat Frost (TCCG): Also, in the 2019 legislative session, CFSC had a proposal to the legislature to fund countywide FSC coordinators in every county that has a countywide FSC. That made it through the legislature and the governor's office, was approved, but got slowed down by CAL FIRE trying to figure out how to roll out the program. It turns out, they're going to turn the program over to the CFSC and the goal will be for the CFSC to contact each county BOS in the next month or so to ask what organization the county FSC coordinator is housed in--so in our case, that's always been the RCD--and then get the money out and agreements signed by January or February. Somewhere between \$50,000-\$100,000 per county coordinator. This should, for the first time since I've been involved, give real money for FSC coordination in Trinity County. I will get with Bobbi about this when the ask comes from CFSC. *(Bobbi Chadwick, BOS):* Should we have a presentation to the full board? *(Pat Frost)* Yes, once we have dollar amounts.

4. Outreach/News

Kelly Sheen (TCRCD): What normally falls under this Outreach & News section in these meetings?

Pat Frost (TCCG): Outreach and News is usually things like the Fire Safe event that was recently cancelled due to COVID, the National Wildfire Awareness Week in May, etc. In the spring, we did a concerted effort with articles in the Trinity Journal after the wildfire preparedness insert went out. We should think about, in the middle of the fire season, what should we be getting in the newspaper? Are there nuggets we should be passing on, like, be prepared with your go bags, or make sure you've cleaned the leaves out of your gutters in case there's flying embers, and that sort of thing. So there could be some things we could be doing as information in the middle of fire season.

Kelly Sheen (TCRCD): That's a good idea. We'll put our heads together and think about what kind of information we should be getting out there.

Pat Frost (TCCG): And it could be things like the BLM project that Jeremy described finishing [see minutes below], or RCD projects--we haven't really gotten any free press for the things we've been working on. I know for the federal agencies, it's trickier to send out a press release because they've got to go through their Public Information Officers, but if they could get just the facts to the RCD or the Watershed Center, the RCD could always put together an article and get it to the Journal. Same goes for NRCS--RCD can help them if they need to get the word out about enrollment without going through a Public Information Officer.

5. Project Updates

BLM (Jeremy Strait) - CAL FIRE Trinity River Conservation Camp crews completed a 30+ acre BLM project at Little Browns, hand piling, roadside chipping. Have not been able

to work in the Reading/Indian Creek Area for 10-14 weeks because of the need for fire suppression on recent lightning fires.

CAL FIRE - no representatives present

Caltrans - no representatives present

Hyampom FSC - no representatives present

NRCS (Erin Taylor) - I'm still transitioning to Trinity County, but I'm the District Conservationist. Tiffany Perez is a new Soil Conservationist for NRCS out of the Weaverville office, so now Tiffany and I are the two staff in the Weaverville office, in addition to the partner forester and the partner Farm Bill assistant. NRCS continues to close out their fiscal year 2020, and we're currently wrapping up our FY 2020 applications and transitioning to obligating them into contracts. In total, between RCPP, Joint Chiefs, and regular forest land EQIP pools, we have a total of 8 contracts for FY 2020. On the Outreach front, I just received news as of last week that our RCPP is accepting applications from our local partners, which is due on November 4, 2020. [Link [here](#); more information attached at end of minutes]. North Coast Oak Woodland project ends at end of FY 2021, so now is the time for our partners to think about if we want to pursue a new application for the next cycle. There's also some emphasis on watershed restoration, and continuing with forestland/oak woodland health component. Erin can help answer questions people may have. *(Pat Frost TCCG)*: Have you obligated all of the current money? *(Erin Taylor)*: We're working on it; we're down to the last two of the eight contracts. *(Kelly Sheen)*: The RCPP program, in Trinity County, most of that was geared toward a few landowners in south county, and mostly oak woodland restoration. Are you anticipating that that's what it will be focused on? RCPP seems like a pretty broad program. Does the local field office drive the focus, or do the partners? *(Erin Taylor)*: The way the RCPP program works is, for example, the oak woodland conservation project, there are collaborative partners that go in together to apply for a pot of money, usually for a whole Farm Bill cycle. UC Cooperative Extension on the coast are considered the primary partners for RCPP, but they can have collaborative partners work within their inner circle, because there's funding available for technical assistant dollars to support staff time. And then public landowners can apply through RCPP to implement conservation projects. There are subsets of funding within each RCPP fund pool, and it's about how the funding gets disbursed. The RCPP is only eligible for certain Trinity County landowners that fall within a certain geographical boundary. It gets mapped based off of where the priority areas are, which I think gets mapped by partners when they apply. I could be wrong, but it's all embedded in the information I'll send out [attached to these minutes]. For watershed concerns, it looks like a majority of northern Trinity County falls within that boundary, but unfortunately the southern county folks would not be eligible. But it looks like there are two separate areas this time around. It's called the Critical Conservation Area that's been identified already for watershed conservation, but there's also a separate pot of money that each state can apply for. *(Chris Cole, TCRCD)*: If we have landowners who are interested in getting funding from you to get work done on their land, would it be best to send them to you, or to someone you contract with? *(Erin Taylor)*: It

depends on what the landowner or leasee wants. If they want, they can contact NRCS directly, or the RCD or Watershed Center if they prefer. They could give us a call or an email. It's a case by case situation. *(Chris Cole)*: That's helpful for landowners who need work beyond what the RCD can do.

Trinity County BOS (Bobbi Chadwick) - On the News side of it: When I've been going to different parts of my district and talking to people, preventative measures are really important, but questions also came up on what to do in an evacuation and how to find out how to volunteer. The Office of Emergency Services (OES) has some really good pamphlets about that; there's a form you can pre- fill out, so that during the time of disaster they have people to call on. Coordinating with CAL FIRE for the individual districts to have pull outs for the evacuees so that emergency vehicles can get into communities. Every community needs to know where to go and how to get out of the way of the emergency responders. I can't see anybody but the Fire Safe Council taking this on, and I think it's really vital--the evacuation, and what to do afterwards. *(Pat Frost, TCCG)*: Early on, in the first or second CWPP, we tried to include evacuation routes and safety zones, but we got quite a lot of pushback from CAL FIRE and the Volunteer Chiefs Association saying that that's something more complicated than it sounds, and they like to have the ability to decide which direction people should be going and where they should be evacuating to at the time of the incident, because it's so specific to that fire. But I think the pullout kind of thing is pretty simple. Not cheap necessarily, but something we could begin to work on. *(Bobbi Chadwick)*: Andy and John Holland have been great. I can't emphasize enough the importance of individual community evacuation plans. I'd like to see more representation on the FSC from at least one person per district throughout the county. The Districts are so different and unique. I don't know how to promote the FSC to get more people like Larry Winter participating. *(Pat Frost)*: Afternoon meetings are much harder for homeowners to attend than evening meetings; the switch to afternoon meetings decreased homeowner participation a lot. We've discussed having evening meetings at least once a quarter, and moving the meeting around. With Zoom, people could be anywhere, but we haven't promoted the general public attending these Zoom meetings. *(Bobbi Chadwick)*: People need to fill out the form about helping in the event of a disaster, for example people could help if they can take in livestock during a disaster. If you do advertisements, include this need as a way of recruiting. There are people who want to help who don't know how. *(Kelly Sheen)*: With additional funding for facilitation, it might be easier for us to accomplish some of these goals. With past CWPPs, we've had issues with the level of funding needed to work with VFDs throughout the county, but apparently that's not uncommon in other places. I can talk with Amelia about what it would take to make that happen in our current updating process.

Trinity County Planning - no representatives present

Trinity County RCD - (Kelly Sheen, Azalie Welsh, Chris Cole) - *(Kelly Sheen)*: Amelia Fleitz has taken a job with the USFS but is also working part time for the RCD, focusing on the CWPP update. We have questions about the ranking process, but we'll have to revisit next month because Amelia got pulled off on a fire. *(Azalie Welsh)*: RCD GIS manager Denise Wesley is available if people have questions about the CWPP ranking process. Her

contact information is: Cell phone - 530.351.5918; Email – dwesley@trcd.net. Thanks to funding from the USFS and hosting of the training through the WRTC, pretty much all of our fuels crew members are red carded wildland firefighters. The RCD wants to become more of a resource for prescribed fire work in the county. In terms of implementation, we've completed 17 acres in the Bear Creek area, work in the Timber Ridge area to tie into BLM fuelbreak. We have a crew in south county working with Nancy Curran on Six Rivers NF; they will start work in the Mad River Area when we receive the PG&E funding we've been awarded. We've also been working on a fee-for-service project, about 15 acres of fuel reduction work on a property in Ridgeville. We've also done community chipping on about 5 properties in the Weaverville Area. We also held a field meeting for a project that's a collaboration between the RCD and the BLM in the Little Browns Creek area, and determined that it will be more fuel reduction and less timber harvest, but will still meet stream enhancement goals. Kelly and I presented to the National Association of Conservation Districts about our "pre-fire" work at the RCD. We're preparing for the arrival of a GrizzlyCorps member, which is an AmeriCorps program. Her name is Kathleen.

UC Cooperative Extension - no representatives present

USFS Shasta-Trinity NF - no representatives present

USFS Six-Rivers NF - no representatives present

Watershed Research & Training Center - no representatives present

Weaverville Fire Department - no representatives present

6. Other updates:

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Next meeting: September meeting is now CANCELLED due to wildfires.

Next meeting is Thursday, October 22, 2020, 1:00 PM, Via Zoom

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Natural Resources Conservation Service



USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service offers voluntary Farm Bill programs that benefit both agricultural producers and the environment.

Overview

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) promotes coordination of NRCS conservation activities with partners that offer value-added contributions to expand our collective ability to address on-farm, watershed, and regional natural resource concerns. Through RCPP, NRCS seeks to co-invest with partners to implement projects that demonstrate innovative solutions to conservation challenges and provide measurable improvements and outcomes tied to the resource concerns they seek to address.

Benefits

RCPP makes available a variety of NRCS conservation activities to help partners, ag producers, and private landowners address local and regional natural resource challenges.

How It Works

Partners apply to NRCS for RCPP project awards. Once projects are selected, NRCS works with partners to set aside a certain pool of funding for an awarded project. Producers, landowners, and partners then enter into producer contracts and supplemental agreements with NRCS to carry out agreed-to conservation activities.

Who is Eligible?

Only eligible organizations interested in partnering with NRCS on conservation projects can develop applications for the RCPP competition. The lead partner for an RCPP

project is the entity that submits an application, and if selected for an award is ultimately responsible for collaborating with NRCS to successfully complete an RCPP project.

See the RCPP funding announcement for details about what types of organizations are eligible to apply.

RCPP projects must be carried out on agricultural or nonindustrial private forest land or associated land on which NRCS determines an eligible activity would help achieve conservation benefits.

Conservation Activities

RCPP projects may include any combination of authorized, on-the-ground conservation activities implemented by farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners. These activities include:

- Land management/land improvement/restoration practices
- Land rentals
- Entity-held easements
- United States-held easements
- Public works/watersheds.

How to Apply

Interested partners must apply through the RCPP portal (nrcs.my.salesforce.com). Applications are being accepted through December 3, 2019.

Once RCPP projects are selected, producers and landowners can apply to participate in projects that cover their geographic area. Interested producers should visit their local USDA Service Center to see if their land is included in the scope of any existing RCPP projects.

What's New in the 2018 Farm Bill

RCPP is now a standalone program with its own funding—\$300 million annually.

NRCS may award up to 15 Alternative Funding Arrangement projects, which are more grant-like and rely more on partner capacity to implement conservation activities.

RCPP now has two funding pools—Critical Conservation Areas and a State/Multistate pool.

RCPP partners must develop and report on environmental outcomes.

More Information

For more information, visit nrcs.usda.gov/farmbill or farmers.gov.

Find your local USDA Service Center at farmers.gov/service-locator.

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Trinity County Fire Safe Council
and Firewise Communities Program



Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting
Thursday, October 22, 2020, 1:00 pm
Zoom Call

Agenda

Teleconferencing available through: +1-669-900-9128, Meeting ID: 828 328 725#

No participant IDs required; press # to access the call.

Videoconferencing available through: <https://zoom.us/j/828328725>

Please note: There was no meeting in September 2020 due to a large proportion of members involved in wildfire response.

1. Welcome & Introductions

- a. Tehama RCD: Tom McCubbins, Emmy Westlake, Rob Rianda, Rose Joseph (AmeriCorps fellow)
- b. Trinity County RCD: Kelly Sheen, Azalie Welsh, Chris Cole, Amelia Fleitz, Kathleen McCully (AmeriCorps fellow)
- c. USFS TRMU: Tim Ritchey
- d. Trinity County BOS: Bobbi Chadwick (District 3), Jill Cox (District 2)
- e. BLM: Rob Winkler, Jeremy Strait
- f. WRTC: Dillon Sheedy, Tracy McFadin
- g. Trinity Center VFD: Carol Fall
- h. Trinity County Collaborative, CFSC, TCVFD: Pat Frost

2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

3. Grants

- a. **USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry's Landscape Scale Restoration program** provides competitive grants focused on promoting collaborative, science-based restoration of priority forest landscapes and on furthering priorities identified in State Forest Action Plans. Applications are due by *October 30*.
- b. The **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)** promotes coordination of NRCS conservation activities with partners that offer value-added contributions to expand the collective ability to address on-farm, watershed, and regional natural resource concerns. Through RCPP, NRCS seeks to co-invest with partners to implement projects that demonstrate innovative solutions to conservation challenges and provide measurable improvements and outcomes tied to the resource concerns they seek to address. This year, \$360 million dollars is available. Applications are due by *November 30, 2020*. Grants range from \$250,000 to \$10 million.
 - i. Azalie Welsh will email Tom McCubbins, Pat Frost, Dillon Sheedy, and Erin Taylor with a blurb about a potential RCPP proposal.
 - ii. Link to NRCS RCPP information:
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/rcpp/>
- c. The **Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Grants** fund educational programs and environmental protection programs. Grants typically range from \$1,000 to \$20,000.

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Applicants are instructed to submit letters of request through snail mail. The two yearly deadlines are *November 10 and May 10*. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits.

4. Outreach/News

a. Pat Frost- FireWise Update

- i. TCRCO, Shasta-Trinity, and WRTC submitted information and all 14 communities in Trinity County were submitted for FireWise renewals
- ii. We need an updated CWPP to qualify for 2021 FireWise renewals
- iii. Would be good to get out into communities and do walk-arounds around neighborhoods, talk to homeowners about things they could do
- iv. Amelia: We will have CWPP by 2021

b. Tom McCubbins – Tehama RCD

- i. West side of county: 75 miles of fuelbreak completed from Glenn County Line to Platina and a little bit north. Project idea: to continue those fuel treatments from Platina/State Route 36 to work done at Whiskeytown Recreation Area.
- ii. Dillon Sheedy mapped already-treated areas. We need to do landscape treatments in addition to roadside fuelbreaks.
- iii. Tom McCubbins: Yes, we need landscape area treatments.

5. Project Updates

- BLM
 - Rob Winkler: busy with emergency stabilization and repair on large incidents; need to transition into fall prescribed burning and mechanical operations. Continuing fuel treatments in Reading/Indian Creek area, using Cal Fire inmate crews, adjacent to NFWF-funded work that will be implemented by Trinity County RCD. Recently decision record signed on ~237 of WUI fuel reduction in Lewiston. ~100 acres of prescribed burning planned in WCF this year, pending weather and air quality. Also may broadcast burn in Reading/Indian creek. Pile burning abounds. Using CCC crews to do some mechanical fuel reduction as well. We should talk with SHU Unit of CAL FIRE about project around Graves Ranch, since it may be relevant to Tehama RCD Platina-Whiskeytown fuelbreak project area. Some areas are very steep and tend to re-grow chamise after treatments, so it can be difficult to do effective fuel reduction. BLM is starting the scoping for an update of the Resource Management Plans for both Redding and Arcata field offices.
- CAL FIRE – no representatives present
- Caltrans – no representatives present
- Hyampom FSC – no representatives present
- NRCS – no representatives present
- Sierra Pacific Industries – no representatives present
- Trinity County BOS
 - Bobbi Chadwick: The County has been working on FEMA for people impacted by wildfire in terms of loss of homes, vehicles, etc.
- Trinity County Planning – no representatives present
- Trinity County RCD

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- Chris Cole: Finished 16-acre fee for service in Ridgeville; 8 acres in Jessup Gulch; SWRCB work on Deadwood Road to protect waterways; 2019 CFSC grant funded work on Top of the Grade; TPUD work for powerline clearing coming soon. Awarded NFWF grant to treat 50 acres in Indian Creek/Reading Creek area next year. Both crews are currently downriver in Hawkins Bar on PG&E funding, because they had to move due to the August Complex.
- Azalie Welsh: Been working with Rob Winkler (BLM) on getting NEPA process begun for treatment near Little Browns Creek/Browns Mountain, using Wildlife Conservation Board funding. Beginning process of updating strategic plan meeting; Weaverville Community Forest (WCF) annual public meeting on Zoom on Wednesday, 10/28. Spreading word about CAL FIRE seedling program for landowners that want to request seedlings to reforest after the fires.
- Amelia Fleitz: CWPP ranking formulas will be discussed in a separate meeting. Wildfire Public Information Office experience this year: need for communication between locals and firefighting personnel who come from elsewhere to fight fire.
- Tehama County RCD:
 - Two CAL FIRE grants, working with landowners. One is west side roadside fuelbreak, other is for disadvantaged/elderly community members that need fuel reduction assistance. Work implemented by CAL FIRE inmate crews and Tehama RCD chipper.
- UC Cooperative Extension – no representatives present
- USFS Shasta-Trinity NF
 - Tim Ritchey: Focused on NE Zone of August Complex for assessment and on Red-Salmon Complex. South Fork is doing a lot of assessments in Forest Glen, etc., to determine effects of wildfire. On TRMU, Joe Smailes retired; detail District Ranger is now Tara Jones. Burned piles in Denny area. Piling on dozer lines from fire suppression. Browns Phase III contractor is fighting fire instead of harvesting. WCF project set to be signed this fall. Region does not have appetite for prescribed fire given the fire season, so they may say no and put us out of the window for prescribed burning this fall. Burns would occur on Jackass Ridge and Long Canyon this fall if allowed.
- USFS Six-Rivers NF – no representatives present
- Watershed Research & Training Center
 - Dillon Sheedy: WRTC has not started on NEPA for Bowerman Ridge yet. Was in Upper Mad River watershed yesterday; anticipating 50 years of sediment input in one season because of wildfire soil effects. Crews were hired as Administratively Determined emergency hires for USFS, and are

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now acting as Resource Advisors. WRTC got a new grant from the CFSC (\$140,000) to continue efforts for defensible space work. WRTC has two areas ready to burn if a window occurs: one unit on Jackass Ridge (CAL FIRE and Stephens Act funding from USFS) and some units at the Bar 717 Ranch.

- Weaverville Fire Department – no representatives present
- Pat Frost – CFSC just finished hiring process to bring on three regional coordinators, who will start in early November. These coordinators are going to work with all local FSC coordinators in their region. CFSC is also working with CAL FIRE still to get money to local FSC coordinators early in 2021.

Tracy McFadin: FAC Net has a Post-Fire Recovery Resource Round Up that has great information, see fireadaptednetwork.org

6. Next Meeting: TBD, via Zoom. Will send out Doodle poll to find date for next meeting, since neither Thanksgiving nor Christmas Eve (the two next 4th Thursdays) are viable.