



El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

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"Public and Private Partners Working Together to Protect People, Homes, and Natural Resources"

Stakeholders Meeting Notes

May 24th, 2016

USFS Headquarters, 100 Forni Road, Placerville

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

1. Meeting Call to Order 1302

- Introduction and review of Stakeholders purpose by Steve Willis
- Self-introductions

2. Public Comment –*Time limit is 3 minutes per person.*

None

3. Presentation and Discussion:

General Update w/ Special Focus on County Initiatives including Tree Mortality

4. Fire Safe Council Grant and Project Status

- Review of EDC FSC purpose
- California FSC has a new director who will be coming June 8th for a tour of the area including a chipping demonstration
- Currently have three Forest Service grants: chipping, Pollock Pines fuel reduction and Logtown fuel reduction
- Received \$100,000 grant from PG&E, will be used for senior assistance and fuels reduction in Lakehills and Grizzly Flats
- Still working on CWPP, half way through collecting information needed to design mitigations
- Collaborating with many other agencies on projects

5. Agency Updates:

i. CAL FIRE – Darin McFarlin

- Will be doing a prescribed burn of 30 acres in the next week or so
- Will be having heavy equipment operator training at Bacchi Ranch
- USFS did aerial flight for tree mortality, results should be on map viewer in 2-3 weeks
- Completed Mosquito and Grizzly Flats defensible space, next will be Volcanoville
- Still working with DOT on county road clearance

ii. Fire Chief's Association - Rob Combs

- Participated in annual readiness meeting yesterday
- Number of agencies receiving new Type III engines which will enhance wildland response
- Mosquito and Garden Valley Fire Departments have new fire chiefs
- Chief Combs announced his intent to retire from Diamond Springs Fire in August, Ransdell has been appointed new chief

iii. Fire Prevention Officers Association - Marshall Cox

- Meet once a month to discuss codes and adoptions
- Just adopted rural property water standards, all new one and two family dwellings and additions will require water on site, this is an update to existing standard
- Going through the every three year code cycle adoption

iv. US Forest Service - Duane Nelson

- Started crews along Highway 50 around Strawberry and from Twin Bridges to Ice House
- Nearly ready to sign agreement between Forest Service and CalFIRE to implement Pollock Pines to Slab Creek fuel breaks through RCD using Growlersburg crews
- Caples project, prescribed burning, starting to do layout and line construction, hope to start burning in fall
- Silver Saddle project, logging project from a couple of years ago, ready to do prescribed burning
- Still on track to start thinning in Ice House and Cleveland plantations this summer
- On track to get decision signed for thinning of Pilliken Plantation fire area
- King Fire salvage is ongoing, will also be doing road work in area
- Suppression crews are on board, seven day staffing starting week after next
- June 8 and 9 live fire action exercise in Baltic Ridge and Boneti Road
- South Fork of the American River project stakeholder interviews have been completed
- June 24th will be an open house for the South Fork of the American River watershed at 1300, no location yet

v. Office of Emergency Services (OES) - Todd Crawford

vi. El Dorado Irrigation District - Dana Strahan/Matt Heape

vii. Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) - Jeff Mussel

- EDC FSC received \$100,000 grant from PG&E
- Two focused patrols, annual preliminary count of dying trees-1,000 in Grizzly Flats/Somerset area, second patrol to manage dying trees-800 trees have died in Pollock Pines area within last 6-8 months
- Building up work force to get contractors that can manage the dying trees, usually 5% of budget now at 20%, trying to get equipment that can manage felled trees
- All SRA areas are being looked at twice a year

viii. Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) - Dave Crespo

- Forest Service will be working on transmission corridor between Slab Creek and reservoir
- Trying to broaden FSC reach into community, EDC FSC will be joining EDC Chamber of Commerce
- Finished final stages of Iowa Hill project
- Will be starting Slab Creek Powerhouse project soon
- SMUD has been providing grant funds every year

ix. Sierra Pacific Industries - Rich Wade

x. El Dorado County Transportation Division - Don Spear

xi. Resources Conservation District - Mark Egbert

- Met with many stakeholders yesterday
- Lots of interagency coordination and cooperation, federal, state and local
- Finnon Lake reservoir was reconstructed several years ago, EID now has supplemental water rights
- Chrome Ridge is almost done, Auburn Lake Trails is nearing completion also
- Six different proposals out for professional forester services, lots of local respondents

xii. El Dorado Disposal - Debi Harlow

xii. Farmers Insurance - Carl Hagen

- Consistent inquiries about neighboring property clearance and insurance rate increases and denials
- NFPA has partnered with DisclosureSave LLC that provides natural hazard disclosure statements, NFPA also sponsors Firewise Communities which get special consideration with insurance companies
- Insurance industry presented \$100,000 to California Fire Safe Council
- State Farm provided grant for wildfire preparedness day
- ISO rates the community, not just fire department, based on eastern U.S. standards, are revamping evaluation process and adopting many NFPA standards but do not give credit for rural water supply, sprinklers or Firewise Communities

xiii. California Conservation Corps (CCC) - /Brian Lussier

- Ramping up for 40th anniversary celebration at Capitol in June
- Brought special projects manager, Dana Brazelton, to meeting
- Expecting that El Dorado County will be getting more hours from CCC
- EDC has been underserved in number of hours in the past and may get 70-80% of CCC hours in the future
- Dana also serves on tree mortality task force

xiv. California State Parks Gold Fields District - Rich Preston

xv. US Bureau of Reclamation - John Hutchings

- Planning for next fiscal year which begins in October
- Targeting Auburn Lake Trails next year

xvi. US Bureau of Land Management - Jerry Martinez

- Ongoing projects are Pine Hill Preserve and Kanaka Valley
- Looking at continuing fuel bread in Auburn Lake Trails
- Cronin Ranch has sheep grazing on 800 acres
- 15 counties in this area are hard hit with tree mortality, not so may in El Dorado County
- Folsom Lake hand crew started last week
- Hired a fuels battalion chief last week but he then took a job with the Forest Service and will be leaving
- Hired a prevention battalion chief that will be coming to FSC meetings
- Putting prescribed grazing in long term planning

xvii. Auburn State Recreational Area - Bill Deitchman

xviii. Office of EDC Supervisor District IV - Michael Ranalli

- Board of Supervisors did declare state of emergency due to tree mortality, approved a plan and directed staff to submit application to OES for CDAA funding
- Will start outreach now for partners and planning
- June 17 will be workshop on tree mortality
- In process of doing tree count for state as part of cost estimate

ix. CALTRANS - Chris Brackmann

- First time attendee
- Working on projects all over county, cleaning up for fair, highways, dead trees
- Clearing 27 miles of Highway 193, almost done
- Upcoming projects on Highways 50 and 49
- Mowers are back in action now that ground is dryer

xx. Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District - George Sanders

- Water storage reservoir is Stumpy Meadows, there was lots of damage due to King Fire
- Worked with SPI and Georgetown Fire
- \$10,000,000 upgrade funding
- Approx. 3,500 customers, couple hundred ditch water customers
- Conveyance lines work as fuel breaks also

xxi. California Fire Safe Council - Liron Galliano

xxii. Sierra Nevada Conservancy - Chris Dallas

- Ongoing Prop 1 grant program, taking recommendations to board meeting next week
- Nothing being recommended for El Dorado County, hope to have some in September, need strong direct water relationship

6. Announcements:

- **NRCS**-funds available in 2017 for private land owners for tree hazard removal, timber stand improvement and fuel load reduction, contact RCD for more information
- **Senior assistance program**-received \$6,000 from PG&E, this will do approximately 20 senior homes through October

Good of the Order

Adjourn at 1425 to the August 23rd, 2016 Stakeholders Meeting