



To: Curry Wildfire Protection Team
From: Kathy Lynn, Resource Innovations
Date: March 2, 2007
Re: Meeting Notes from the 2/22/07 CWPT Meeting

Curry County Wildfire Protection Plan Meeting Notes

Meeting Participants:

- Michael Brace, Curry County Emergency Services Coordinator
- Earl Burke, Retired BLM
- Toni Fisher, Curry County GIS Coordinator
- John Flannigan, Coos Forest Protective Association
- Paul Flanagan, Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District
- Bruce Floyd, Gold Beach Fire District/Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest
- Megan Harper, Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District
- Kathy Lynn, Resource Innovations, University of Oregon
- Jim Wolf, Wildfire Planning and Analysis

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

Event	Lead	Date/Time
CWPT Conference Call	Kathy will send out an agenda and call-in number in mid-March	Tuesday, March 29, 2007 10:00 am
CWPT Meeting	Kathy will send out an agenda in mid-April	Thursday, May 3, 2007 Gold Beach 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Curry County Fire Chief's Association Meeting	Kathy will prepare a summary about the CWPT and public outreach process; Chief Sharp will present this at the meeting and solicit input	Tuesday, April 17, 2007 Gold Beach
Curry County Fire Chief's Association Meeting	Presentation to the Chief's Association about the CWPT and opportunities for involvement (<i>Contractors and other CWPT members?</i>)	Tuesday, July 17, 2007 Brookings

Background Information

Earl provided background information on fire planning efforts in Curry County to date. The Biscuit Fire acted as a catalyst in raising public and government awareness about wildfire risk in the county and the need to plan and implement fuels reduction and fire mitigation actions. Curry County received National Fire Plan grant funds and contracted with the Coos Forest Protective Association to conduct home structural vulnerability assessments throughout the county. CFPA



collected data in 2005 and 2006, which has resulted in a database of structural vulnerability throughout the county.



Kathy provided background information on the Healthy Forests Restoration Act, the National Fire Plan, and Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP). Jim presented information on the State of Oregon Assessment for Communities at Risk. (PowerPoint presentations are available online at: <http://ri.uoregon.edu/programs/CCE/curry.html>) More information on the statewide risk assessment can be accessed at: <http://www.oregonexplorer.info/wildfire/>.

CWPT Goals and Objectives for the CWPP

The Curry Wildfire Protection Team discussed their goals and objectives for the planning process and the for plan implementation. These goals and objectives are listed below.

Goals and Objectives for the Planning Process

- Lean how to prioritize given limited funding
- Coordinate with the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Help focus county action
- Educate people, government, planners, contractors on fire protection, safety issues, etc. through the planning process
- Devise a process that results in practical benefits for the county and partners.

Goals and Objectives for the Plan

General notes

- Make people and county better prepared
- Make sure that it is All-Hazard in nature
- How it affects the county as a whole
- Look at relevant issues with a broader perspective
- Identify problems and good solutions
- Meet requirements to be competitive for grants
- Start actions now – not until the plan is completed
- Keep the plan and reports small and usable
 - Manageable length
 - Use appendices

Risk Assessment

- Break information out into geographic areas (by community, watershed, or whatever is most appropriate)
- Use good photos and Maps
- Connect to the Southwest Oregon Fire Management Plan (SWOFMP)

Emergency Services

- Integrate it within the Emergency Operations Plan
- Identify whether or not there are adequate services to meet needs in the county
- Address evacuation issues



Public Education and Outreach

- Focus on opportunities for communication and education in the plan.
- Talk with the Coos Forest Protective Association about their experiences and what they learned during data collection for the structural vulnerability assessment
- Increase awareness about roles of the various agencies and the fact that they are being proactive and working together.
- Understand the public’s perception of risks
- Target:
 - Homeowners
 - Realtors
 - Media
 - Web users
- Identify which communication methods are best for diverse groups? Keep in mind that Curry County has a diverse population and demographics that affect social vulnerability:
 - Shift in population results in fewer volunteers (more retirees, no family wage jobs, rich and poor residents, not much in the middle.) There are also seasonal demographic change and recreational opportunities that bring more people into the county.
- Integrate existing materials and information in the public outreach process (fire resistant plants, etc.) Residents still remember the Biscuit Fire were cooperative and energetic when CFPA came to do the assessments. Following up this year with public meetings will help continue that line of outreach.
- Work closely with Megan Harper, BLM PIO on outreach efforts.

Additional Stakeholders

New committee members: <i>Invite to join the CWPT</i>	Key stakeholders: <i>Send informational letter; invite to participate in the process.</i>	Other stakeholders: <i>target during outreach efforts for public meetings.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Coast Watershed Council • County and City Planners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jody Ferrin, Curry County/Gold Beach Planner • ○ Planning, Building & Sanitation 541-247-3304 888-811-1520 541-247-4579 ○ http://www.co.curry.or.us ○ Diane Morris, Planning Director Brookings 898 Elk Drive Brookings, OR 97415 Phone (541) 469-1136 Fax (541) 469-3650 dmorris@brookings.or.us 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coquille Indian Tribe • Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians • Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde • Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians • Smith River Rancheria • Curry County Weed Advisory Board • Golden Gate Development Company • Borax Development • ODFW • State Parks • Rural Fire Districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media • Lower Rogue Watershed Council • Schools • Local emergency managers and services • Vacation/tourism industry • Chamber of commerce • Rotary clubs • Realtors • Insurance agents • Utilities (power, communications) • Gated Communities • Environmental Organizations • Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands • Umpqua Watersheds • FS/BLM scoping list • Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation



<p>dmorris@brookings.or.us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Patty Clark, Port Orford Planner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o patty@portorford.org - send info to review; call on 3/22 <p>City of Port Orford 555 W. 20th St. POB 310 Port Orford, OR 97465 Phone: 541.332.3681 FAX: 541.332.3830 http://www.portorford.org/</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southwest Oregon Provincial Advisory Committee
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Review of the Scope of Work

The CWPT reviewed the scope of work. Changes/additions to the scope of work include the following:

- Add additional stakeholders into the outreach process (listed above)
- Coordinate with the BLM on the Draft Forest Plan (data used and public outreach (including public meetings))
- The updated timeline is available on the web site at: <http://ri.uoregon.edu/programs/CCE/curry.html>.

Risk Assessment Notes

Jim Wolf presented on the various sets of data and layers for the risk analysis, including the structural vulnerability assessment. Comments on the risk assessment from CWPT members follow:

Technical Advisors

- Charley Martin, BLM Medford District
- John Dimwitty (sp?), Forest Service
- Someone who knows fuel types in the region (Tom Atzet?)

Structural Vulnerability discussion items:

- How will this data be used: as an indicator/snap shot of conditions or as a way to monitor changes over time? If it is the latter, then there needs to be a plan for updating and maintaining the data and database over time.
- We will need to discuss the use of the data in terms of privacy. Will we show individual home data at public meetings, or aggregate it to a community level?

Hazard/Vegetation data

- There are three options for the kind of vegetation that is used for this layer. The data used in the Oregon Communities at Risk Assessment, the data used in the Southwest Oregon Fire Management Plan, and the LANDFIRE data. Jim will work with Charley Martin (BLM, Medford district) and present various data sets at the May 3rd meeting.



Wildfire resource inventory and baseline assessment

Kathy presented the draft inventory form and the CWPT made minor suggestions. We will review the Curry County Mutual Aid Resource Inventory for information about the individual fire districts.

Special Needs Assessment

Kathy talked about the opportunity to develop a special needs assessment and community capacity index as part of the fire plan. The assessment would include both data and maps illustrating the special needs population (using an index for community capacity), as well as findings and recommendations from interviews with local social service agencies. The CWPT agreed that it would be good to include the special needs assessment as part of the fire plan, but that it should be all hazards in nature.

Agenda Items for the upcoming meetings:

- Review the draft outline for the CWPP
- Discuss findings from the resource and capability assessment
- Review risk assessment data and maps
- Review preliminary findings from the structural vulnerability assessment
- Begin to strategize for the public outreach process
- Talk with Coos Forest Protective Association staff about their experiences in collecting data and talking with homeowners about the structural vulnerability assessment.