



Curry County Wildfire Protection Plan Conference Call Thursday, March 29, 2007

Meeting Notes

Participants:

- Patty Clark, Port Orford
- Paul Flanagan, BLM, Coos Bay District
- John Flannigan, Coos Forest Protective Association
- Toni Fisher, Curry County GIS
- Bruce Floyd, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest/Gold Beach Fire District
- Megan Harper, BLM, Coos Bay District
- Kathy Lynn, Resource Innovations
- Michael Murphy, Port Orford
- Bill Sharp, Brookings Fire Department
- Jim Wolf, Wildfire Planning and Analysis

Key Issues/Next Steps

- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 3rd from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the County Sheriff's Office in Gold Beach.
- Prior to the next meeting, Kathy will send out draft versions of the goals and objectives and the resource and capability assessment for review by the CWPT.

Welcome and Introductions

Two new people have joined the Curry Wildfire Protection Team – Michael Murphy and Patty Clark from Port Orford. Kathy has also spoken with and invited Jodi Ferrin from Gold Beach, Dianne Morris from Brookings, Harry Hoogesteger from the South Coast Watershed Association and Dana Hicks, Lower Rogue Watershed Council. They have all been added to the CWPT email list and will participate as their time allows.

Kathy asked participants how useful the website is as a planning tool. People generally agreed that it is helpful to have materials and information all in one place. One participant mentioned it is not coming up on their computer; Kathy will follow up.

Review of goals and objectives for the fire plan

Prior to the May 3rd meeting, Kathy will develop and distribute draft goals and objectives for the plan. These goals and objectives will come from the brainstorm session conducted at the February meeting, as well as information gathered from phone calls with CWPT member and other stakeholders. Kathy did present the categories for the goals and objectives, as follows:

- Emergency Services
- Public Education and Outreach
- Risk Assessment
- Fuels Reduction
- Planning and Development

Any feedback or additional categories should be sent to Kathy by email.



Draft outline for the CWPP

Participants on the call were asked for feedback on the draft outline for the plan. Kathy was asked to provide more detail on the poverty and special needs section in Chapter 2. She explained that the special needs information would assist the county in understanding the vulnerable populations and better direct resources. The group agreed that this information should be part of the fire plan.

The group expressed interest in learning more about biomass utilization and how it relates to both the fire plan and economic development in the county. Kathy will bring someone to an upcoming CWPT meeting to present on biomass utilization.

Stakeholder outreach

The group has no comments on the stakeholder outreach letter that Kathy drafted in late February. Kathy will send it out to the list of stakeholders that the group brainstormed at the February meeting. Megan will also use the letter as the basis for a press release in late April or early May. John also asked that the press release include a notice that CFPA will be offering seasonal home assessments for any residents interested.

Resource and Capability Assessment

- Ryan Ojerio is working on a draft of the resource and capability assessment. The group agreed that they would like to review the draft prior to the May 3rd meeting.
- After the call, Bill Sharp sent Kathy a digital version of the Curry County Mutual Aide Resource Inventory.

Structural Vulnerability Assessment and Risk Assessment

Jim Wolf provided an update on the risk assessment and structural vulnerability analysis.

Data Format

Jim suggested that he could send out draft maps using Google earth. However, a number of people on the call stated that they cannot download Google Earth on to government computers. Jim agreed that he would send files out in both the Google Earth format and as a PDF so that all people could access the information. Kathy will also post drafts on the Curry Fire Plan web page. Toni reminded the group that we cannot post any county data that has not yet been aggregated. Data format with Google Earth

Risk Data

Jim clipped all the statewide risk assessment data (22 layers) to Curry County.

Fuels Data

Jim has been working with data from the statewide fuels layer and the Southwest Fire Management Plan fuels data. LANDFIRE data applicable to Curry County is due out May 5th, and Jim will play around with some of the preliminary files.

Structural Vulnerability

Jim has worked with Toni Fisher to start processing the data, and spoken with John Flannigan to clarify some of the data collection issues. John will help Jim organize a conference call with



some of the CFP data collectors. They will also attend the next CWPT meeting. Jim reviewed some specific questions about the structural vulnerability analysis with the CWPT. Information below summarizes both the ideas presented by Jim and comments from others on the call.

- *What are the expected outcomes of the assessment?*
 - An understanding of the factors that influence structural vulnerability and how that affects overall risk?
 - An additional layer for the risk assessment
 - Help us to identify what problems we do or don't have and in which geographic areas. This will help the county and fire districts know where to focus specific kinds of efforts (e.g., access, signage, etc.)

- *What types of strategies or actions might result from this analysis?*
 - Emergency management and signage
 - Targeted education efforts
 - Community meetings, newspapers, direct mail, one-on-one visits
 - Woody debris disposal days
 - Planning and Development
 - Fuels priorities
 - Where are structures most vulnerable – guide priority fuel treatments
 - Planning and development/County ordinances (roof, access)
 - The County is experiencing a lot of growth. The planning aspect is really important for this plan. If we don't address these problems now, it will be too late once it's occurred. Can we assess the effect of codes and regulations on existing and new construction? Mike Murphy suggested that we look at the codes and ordinances in the three cities and the county within the structural vulnerability assessment.

- *Which variables might have relationships that you want us to explore through the analysis?*
 - Access
 - Lots
 - Buildings
 - Burn barrels, debris burning
 - Special needs
 - Consider that on some of the lots there is more than one main structure. E.g., mobile home parks, etc.

- *What is the geographic scope of the analysis?*

The group agreed that the analysis should be conducted county wide and by jurisdiction (municipality and fire district.) The North, South, Central designations were just used in data collection and should not be used for the current analysis.

- *Is there additional data that we should be used for the structural vulnerability assessment?*
 - Census, poverty, assessor's data, etc.
 - Planning codes and ordinances



Data Maintenance

The group discussed whether or not CFPA should continue to collect data as they conduct home assessments in the upcoming season. In the short-term, the group agreed that CFPA should collect data while they have the opportunity to do so. Further discussion is needed, however, to determine whether or not data should be maintained and updated regularly throughout the county. (And also whether or not there are resources to do that.) One suggestion was to tie data collection in with building permits as they are issued.

Agenda items for the next meeting

May 3rd – 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the County Sheriff's Office in Gold Beach

- Review goals and objectives for the plan
- Review draft Resource and Capability Assessment
- Discuss the public meetings
 - Dates (*Megan will bring a list of other events that we might need to work around*)
 - Public outreach strategies
- Presentation of draft risk assessment and structural vulnerability data
- Review of special needs assessment criteria