



## Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting

Thursday, January 26, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



# Minutes

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

No participant IDs are required; press # to access the call. Password is 123456

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/828328725?pwd=a05MeVZNMkxoUmNyVG14K2VjUjcwZz09>

*Trinity County Fire Safe Council seeks to improve the cooperation and coordination of all aspects of wildfire management in Trinity County. The Trinity County Fire Safe Council's goal is to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in Trinity County by establishing priorities for reducing risk of catastrophic fire on a landscape-level scale in order to improve forest health, water quality and quantity, and community well-being.*

### 1. Attendees

Amelia Fleitz, Rebekah Wolfinbarger, Kelly Sheen, Miles Raymond, Charlie Curtin, Bethany Llewellyn, Chris Cole, Denise Wesley, Mary Ellen Grigsby (TCRCD); Nancy Curran, Sandy Faulkner, Nate Ulrich, Todd Hamilton, Sara Acridge, Aaron McBride, Dan Montgomery (USFS); Xander Winter, Randi Paris (WRTC); Jerry Cousins, Larry Glass (SAFE); John Flurey, Mary Flurey (Downriver Fire Company); Carol Fall (TCVFD); Todd Corbett (Weaverville Fire); Oliver Rogers (TRRP); Philip Simi (TCOES); Regina Moon (Willow Creek FSC); David Jaramillo (CAL FIRE); Ren Winter (TRL); Pat Frost (TCCSD); Debra Harris (NCUAQMD); Keith Greenwood (SPI); Mike Ammon (South Fork resident); Nancy Anderson (Lewiston resident)

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

- a. Amelia noted that the Forest Service provided her with maps of funding prioritization zones to be added to the discussion.

### 3. Discussions

- a. Northern Trinity (Trinity Lake Area) Project Collaboration - Please send past, existing, and future project shape files to [dwesley@tcrd.net](mailto:dwesley@tcrd.net) for her to incorporate into 1 map for our planning purposes
  - i. Amelia began by walking through TCRCD's CWPP mapping application, created by Denise Wesley. Amelia mentioned that the application is intended to map projects that are in planning, planned, in implementation, and implemented. The goal is to use the next few months of Fire Safe Council meetings to go over each unit of the CWPP and open discussions between partners on current and future projects.
  - ii. Sara Acridge started by talking about the NRA's Trinity Camps project in Northern Trinity. They are partnering with the USFS TRMU on the Bowerman Ridge fuels management project. Carol Fall stated that she wanted to go over the projects in the North Lake area to address any gaps or concerns. Todd Hamilton began by going over the Trinity Camps PIL. The NRA area extends almost all of the way around Trinity Lake. The stand stock chart begins at trees with a DBH of 10 inches and extends upwards in DBH in 2 inch classes. Todd

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stated that the chart shows there is an excess of Douglas Firs in the project area, especially in the classes between 10 and 20 inches DBH. These represent a lot of ladder fuels. The Stand Density Index shows that 85% of the tree species in the area (in descending order of frequency) are Douglas Fir, Incense Cedar, Ponderosa Pine, Black Oak, White Fir, and Sugar Pine. Each species has a different relative max stand density. The average SDI for any given site is 320. Todd stated that areas approaching 60% SDI for any species will likely see mortality due to overstocking. Many of the overstocked species and areas have almost no sap flowing through, lowering their resilience to fire and pests like the Flatheaded Wood Borer. The modeling on the next page shows increased mortality from 2020 until 2023. Woodpeckers are moving into Ponderosa Pines and even Douglas Firs because of the increase of insect larvae. Recreation use shows that the NRA receives about 10,000 visitors annually. Tannery Gulch, Hayward Flat, Alpine View, and Minersville sites account for around 75% of visitors. The proposed action follows three different treatments. Treatment I involves commercial removal area around campgrounds. Treatment areas defined as “in campgrounds” include areas 400 feet from “furniture” or campground amenities. Treatment III also involves commercial removal. The treatment zones considered time as a constraining factor, which is why total acreage isn’t listed. The area around Ridgeville is also included in the project area. Treatment for the airport is broken up into two phases, with Phase I being near completion. Phase I involves preparation for fuels treatment such as clearing brush and moving rocks, and Phase II involves overstory removal to clear taller trees from the airport flight path. Treatment I involves pile burning in campgrounds, while Treatment II includes pile and broadcast burning outside of campgrounds.

- iii. Carol Fall clarified the number of treatment sites in the project area, which Todd confirmed as 19 total with the airport. She asked if the Ridgeville treatment extends into the neighborhood outside of the campground. Todd offered that Treatment I will be executed in and around the campground, while the Forest Service is working with CDFW to clarify objectives relating to habitat to propose treatments outside of the campground. The project is still in planning, with scoping being conducted in February. Carol voiced the need for shaded fuel breaks on access roads to and from campgrounds in the event of a wildfire. Todd noted that it is outside the scope of this particular project, but the Forest Service is attempting to address these gaps, especially alongside roads and in areas with different ownership status. Carol mentioned that Lakeshore Trail, Mule Creek, and Pinewood Cove aren’t part of the project. Todd mentioned that Mule Creek Station is a part of the project, but Lakeshore Trail is part of a separate project. Pinewood Cove is a concessionaire to the Forest Service, meaning it is considered private but some of their amenities and activities are conducted on federal land.
- iv. Nate Ulrich mentioned that TRMU has a small project near Carrville that was completed. They are looking at projects for the spring at the north end of Trinity Center. Bowerman Ridge is their biggest planning effort in the North Lake area right now. The ballpark will include broadcast and understory burning, with 50 acres targeted.

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- v. Randi Paris mentioned that the Bowerman Ridge project was initiated by the Forest Service in response to the impacts of the Carr and Delta Fires. Bowerman Ridge was selected as an area because of the opportunity to collaborate across boundaries with SPI. The goal is to create fuel breaks on Forest Service land, across SPI land, and then back onto Forest Service land. The scoping letter is in draft form and headed to the Supervisors' Office for their input. Units include roadside treatments, plantation treatments, and general forest thinning. Treatment I includes the best potential for commercial opportunities using ground-based equipment on the most accessible parts of the landscape. Additional Forest Service parcels around Covington Mill were added later in the planning process to address gaps. Xander mentioned that the project area is disjointed because of the checkerboard pattern of ownership. Treatments of the federal portion include roadside treatments along Highway 3 north of Preacher Meadows Campground Road. Carol voiced concerns about different treatments and the disjointed area of the project. Randi mentioned that the intention is to write prescribed fire into the entire footprint of the project area, which is around 2,200 acres. 44 acres include only prescribed fire as the treatment. The goal is to be done with the analysis and NEPA processes before the next fuels season. The project timeline also depends on scoping comments.
- vi. Amelia emphasized that the CWPP project footprints map shown at the meeting doesn't include everything and is still a work in progress. Additional projects are to be added which show cross-partner and cross-boundary collaboration, which will fill in some key gaps.
- vii. Keith Greenwood mentioned that SPI has new upcoming projects in their South District in the Browns Creek Watershed that include fuels reduction and fuel breaks. They are also working on drought mortality operations and focusing harvests on these areas.
- viii. Chris Cole talked about the RCD's projects in the North Lake area. The main one is the McConnell Foundation project funded by a FEMA grant. TCRC is subcontracted for implementation. The project area is all private land, just north of Trinity Center, down along Highway 3, and through Guy Covington. The intent is to masticate SPI land, especially around Forest Service land and the dump. The project is in the outreach and environmental compliance phase, requiring both CEQA and NEPA. Phase II will include implementation, which involves all fuels treatments and no commercial removal. It will be a mixture of hand treatments as well as mastication. The goal is to work on 2,500 acres. All of the work will be done by contractors managed by the RCD. Another project is the Lake Forest plantations on federal land. Treatments include cutting, piling, burning, and broadcast burning to treat the plantations. Most of the plantations are on Rainier Road, with some on Rush Creek Road. Carol mentioned Rainier Road as being a bypass route if Highway 3 is closed. Chris mentioned that this project is CCI funded, and could be built off of to include roads. Bethany Llewellyn displayed the web map showing the current private properties that have signed onto the McConnell Foundation project, granting right of entry. The project footprint is set, and TCRC is working on addressing gaps and receiving the last right of entry agreements.

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- b. MOU, CWPP revisions, and Firewise Community Renewals
- c. Forest Service funding prioritization zones

4. **Grants**

- a. CAL Fire Prevention and Forest Health Grant Planning

5. **Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update**

6. **Project Updates**

- a. BLM
- b. CAL FIRE
- c. Caltrans
- d. Hyampom FSC
- e. Lower Trinity PBA
- f. NRCS
- g. NCUAQMD
- h. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu
- i. SAFE
- j. SPI
- k. Southern Trinity FSC
- l. Tehama-Glenn FSC
- m. Trinity Center VFD
- n. Trinity County BOS
- o. Trinity County Collaborative Group
- p. Trinity County Planning
- q. Trinity County RCD
- r. Trinity PUD
- s. Tsnungwe
- t. UC Cooperative Extension
- u. USFS Shasta-Trinity NF
- v. USFS Six-Rivers NF
- w. The Watershed Research & Training Center
- x. Weaverville VFD
- y. Willow Creek FSC

Due to technical difficulties, the last 53 minutes of the meeting recording are inaccessible. Please note that these minutes are incomplete.

Next Meeting: February 14, 10 am.



## Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



# Minutes

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### 1. Welcome & Introductions

- a. Trinity County RCD: Amelia Fleitz, Denise Wesley, Charlie Curtin, Chris Cole Jacob Johnson, Miles Raymond, Rebekah Wolfinbarger, Kelly Sheen
- b. Trinity River Lumber: Ren Winter
- c. Trinity Center: Pat Frost
- d. Rush Creek Neighborhood Ambassador: Charlie Holthouse
- e. BBW: Kenneth Baldwin
- f. Down River VFD: Marry Flurry
- g. NRCS: Tiffany Perez
- h. USFS: Tim Ritchey, Kristen Lark, Amanda Ewing
- i. Orleans Ranger District: Alex Miyagishima
- j. Kurt McCray: CAL Fire
- k. Hyampon FSC: Larry Winter
- l. Weaverville VFD: Todd Corbett
- m. Trinity Center VFD: Carol Fall
- n. North Coast Air Quality Management District: Debra Harris
- o. Tsnungwe Tribe: Dina Magdaleno
- p. Larry Glass: SAFE
- q. BLM: Garret Dunn, Rob Winkler
- r. CAL Fire: Kurt McCray
- s. SAFE: Larry Glass
- t. WRTC: Megan Kilian, Randi Paris, Xander Winter
- u. Trinity County OES: Mike Ketone
- v. Trinity County Collaborative Group: Jerry Cousins
- w. Willow Creek FSC: Regina Moon

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

- a. Pat Frost: We should not leave the discussion items to the end if they are going to take a lot of time

### 3. Grants

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- a. CAL FIRE Prevention and Forest Health Grant Planning
  - i. LOS from TCRCD and WRTC

- 1. Randi: The Forest Health Proposal is on the South Fork of the Trinity River. There are private and public lands with fuel breaks proposed as well as breaks along roads into Hyampom. The road into Hyampom is Belachew Rd. The plan is to work these into FS projects. We are looking for a letter of support from the FSC.
- 2. Pat Frost: I say we approve it
- 3. Jerry: I second it
- 4. Amelia: All in favor raise hands
- 5. Todd: A majority approves

4. Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update

- a. Amelia: I am stepping away from the FSC coordinator. We are looking forward to finding an individual who can carry on this position. Outreach has already gone out and people can apply.
- b. Amelia: The Neighborhood Ambassador Program is going well. We have been participating with VFDs to get the Big Red Truck Program growing. We have also been working with Regina Moon and Charlie Holthouse to do some events later. Trinity County OES has been working with designating Local Area Advisors. We have also just completed the WFAP Home Assessment Training with the Lewiston VFD and are working with other VFDs to get them trained. This includes Hayfork and Down River VFDs.
- c. Amelia: I am putting the resolution in as May for Wildfire Awareness Month.
- d. Amelia: Wildfire Preparedness Day Fair: I want to do it in Hayfork but the fairgrounds are already taken. Should we do it in Weaverville or still in Hayfork? This will be on May 6<sup>th</sup>. I see no preference from anyone so I will keep you informed.
- e. Amelia: Lewiston and Willow Creek have their Wildfire Preparedness Day.
- f. Carrol: April 29<sup>th</sup> is the opening day for the new station and we will have information about home hardening, defensible space, etc. available on that day as well.
- g. Pat: Amelia, Have you had any contact with the Trinity Journal about the annual Living With Wildfire Insert?
- h. Amelia: They have not reached out except the opportunity for bulk adds
- i. Pat: You may want to let them know about May 6<sup>th</sup> so they can get it on the calendar

5. Project Updates

- a. BLM:
  - i. Rob: **Figure 1:** Weaverville Community Protection Yr 1: This is a project we are working with the RCD on. The contract has been awarded and will start this month. It is strictly hand-cut and pile with the piles to be burned in the fall and winter. The other projects on Browns Mountain Rd are to be started in 2023-24
  - ii. Rob: **Figure 3:** Weaverville Community Protection YR 2: This is a 4 year contract. The first year of treatment is at West Weaver Creek, Oregon St, Democrat Gulch and Stoney Gulch. The Second year of treatment covers West Weaver Rd out to the SPI border. This is 154 acres. This will include some prescribed fire.
  - iii. Rob: **Figure 4:** Weaverville Community Protection Year 3: 120 acres and includes Glenison Gap, West Weaver Creek and on the 299 at the confluence of Little Browns Creek RD.

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- iv. The 4<sup>th</sup> year is a maintenance option, treating 1 or 2 or both. This project is funded and is being contracted.
  - v. Rob: **Figure 5,6,7: RIC Expansion A\_B:** We are working cultural and botanical surveys. This is a proposed expansion to the Reading Indian Creek Project. The red is treated and the green is untreated. The expansion in green is around 400 acres. The expansion will be a mix of treatments including mechanical treatments and hand cut and pile. The RCD has awarded some contracts in here.
  - vi. Chris: What is the treatment in the WCF stuff near West Weaver Creek? What is the treatment buffer around water?
  - vii. Rob: There is a treatment buffer. No riparian vegetation can be cut and pulled outside the buffer. The perennial stream has a 150 ft buffer and the seasonal streams have a 50ft buffer.
  - viii. Kelly: We get a lot of calls about cutting and piling along Old Lewiston Rd and Rush Creek Rd. What is the plan for the piles
  - ix. Rob: We currently have a go-no-go deal going on at Rush Creek. We are looking to complete the piles in Lewiston within the next couple of weeks, weather dependent.
  - x. Rob: Garret Dunn is the Fire Management Position for the Redding and Arcata Field Office. He is the point of contact for the FSC for activities with BLM up here. We have also made a selection for the fuels specialist at BLM.
  - xi. Tim: If smoke is an issue for Lewiston, give us a call and we can help with impacts.
- b. CAL FIRE:
- i. Kurt: The air curtain burner is still being used in the Mad River District. Other than that we are in conversation about a shaded fuel break along highway 299 to highway 36.
- c. Caltrans: None
- d. Hyampom FSC:
- i. Larry: The Hyampom project went to scoping 2.5 years ago but communication had broken down. I had a meeting with Terra Jones to start discussions again. She suggested we go on a field trip and have another meeting. It may go back to scoping but we are really just trying to get the ball rolling again.
  - ii. Amelia: Larry do you need any support from the FSC to progress it?
  - iii. Larry: We want to see another South Fork Management Unit. Communication has broken down a bit. I think that Terra is a bit overwhelmed and having another ranger would increase the ability to get work done.
- e. Lower Trinity PBA: None
- f. NRCS: None
- g. NCUAQMD: None
- h. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu: None
- i. SAFE:
- i. Larry: We want to encourage people to come to the field trip this Friday. We meet at the RCD at 9 am and go to the WCF from there.
- j. SPI: None
- k. Southern Trinity FSC: None
- l. Tehama-Glenn FSC: None

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- m. Trinity Center VFD:
  - i. Carol: Thank you everyone for working with me last week and figuring out where the gaps are. The VFD just submitted a grant to the NCRP to see if we could do a top-down look at where there are gaps in our fire resilience planning.
  - ii. Tim: Will the land tender plan provide a lot of answers to your questions?
  - iii. Carol: Land tender may work for some things but we still need the top-down approach.
  - iv. Randi: The WRTC has gotten the funding to stand up land tender so we could help you get set up with that.
- n. Trinity County BOS: None
- o. Trinity County Collaborative Group: None
- p. Trinity County Planning: None
- q. Trinity County RCD
  - i. Chris: The Forest Health program is up and running. We are burning piles up in Oregon Mountain and are going to fully staff up in early March. Our McConnell grant is moving forward and we are doing our last round of outreach
  - ii. Kenneth: I am working on a grant with the RCD to get landowners some funds to get work done on their land.
- r. Trinity PUD
- s. Trinity River Lumber: None
- t. Tsnungwe
- u. UC Cooperative Extension
- v. USFS Shasta-Trinity NF
- w. USFS Six-Rivers NF
- x. The Watershed Research & Training Center: None
- y. Weaverville VFD:
- z. Willow Creek FSC:
  - i. Regina: The curtain burner is going to stay with us. We have a fundraiser St Patty's Dinner on March 17<sup>th</sup>. We have spoken with Monique about our RAC to get some work done. We are also applying for material to store a chipper. May 20<sup>th</sup> is the fire-wise community fair.

**6. Discussions:**

- a. IRL Funded Projects - USFS
  - i. Tim: We are trying to burn in the WCF. This will be WCF phase 1 and phase 2. The big project we are working on is the Petty John Project. The definition of the WUI cuts the 1700 acres of fuels work and 800 acres of timber harvest in half. Burning out on Trinity Dam Blvd is being worked on. We are going to try and get this done this year. Moving into the future, Bowerman fuel breaks in the WCF phase 2 are being looked at.
  - ii. Carol: So you are supposed to be doing 6,855 acres? So that is prescribed fires, Petty John, and whatever Six Rivers has?
  - iii. Tim: Yeah, around 500 acres of thinning, 1000 acres of prescribed fire, 1200 acres of fuel breaks and some more other stuff. On the

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South Fork, they are working on plantations. Next year they want to start doing some work on the pilot project. They also want to reevaluate the Kellogg fuel break to the north of Hayfork and some other areas that have been impacted by fire.

- iv. Carol: Are there thoughts to include Trinity Camps in the project next year?
  - v. Tim: Some of it's not in the WUI so it would be a different pot of money but yes, those areas are being looked at. That along with areas from the Carr fire footprint as well as roadside hazards.
  - vi. Tim: Lake Forest Plantations is included and the RCD has gotten the grant money to work on it and burn. If we get the money we will also burn north of Trinity Center.
  - vii. Kristen: We have other funds that we are going to put into monitoring and surveying efforts. Planning will be done for management along county roads as well.
  - viii. Alex: **Figure 8: Trinity Overview** In year 1 we have planned to create a 300-500 ft. buffer around all properties that have a structure and then create and burn the piles on the property. Year 2 will be to add a 300ft buffer or shaded fuel break along all class 2-4 roads. Year 3 is to create fuel breaks along strategic ridgelines. Year 4 is to start to burn in the areas that have not been managed. This is especially in areas that have been affected by fire in the past couple of years.
  - ix. Tim: On the Shasta Trinity side of the Willow Creek area, we are going to be doing roadside maintenance. This will include the Big French Creek area.
  - x. Pat: A bottleneck is the regional office for grants and agreements as well as contracting. Is there a way to increase staffing in the units? With all the new projects coming in I am worried that you will be overwhelmed. How can the FSC help?
  - xi. Kristen: Grants and Agreements has a streamlined process and is hiring people. These projects are taking priority. We are also working to create a master agreement for the whole footprint instead of lots of small agreements. It is well-recognized that support is needed and it is being addressed.
- b. Six Rivers - WUI Boundary Variation Request
- i. Amelia: **Figure 9: WUI Expansion:** A bit of background, the USFS has received a large amount of funding. Some of that funding is tied to the WUI. Areas outside of the WUI are not eligible to be treated using that funding. The proposal is to expand the WUI.
  - ii. Kristen: We are part of a National Priority Landscape. The current focus of this discussion is on the Mad River Ranger District; however, the results of this discussion could have implications for Shasta Trinity.
  - iii. Kristen: The Mad River Ranger District looked at the municipal watershed for its boundary. This included Mad Ridge and the

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upper watershed. Additionally, there is the WUI boundary which was developed by the FSC for the 2020 CWPP. Perhaps there was a missed opportunity for input into that. We were busy with the August Complex Fire at that point in time.

- iv. Kirsten: The designated WUI has left out some critical areas on the landscape that we want to treat. These areas were analyzed under the Mad River, August Complex, and Environmental Analysis. The map highlights roads that we want to be treated. Only a portion of these roads is included in WUI. We are proposing to have these roads be included in the WUI. This is an opportunity to treat the hazard trees along the county roads. These were going to be treated any way but the new funding will help us do this as well as help the community, ecosystems, and firefighters in this area.
- v. Pat: The CWPP has a definition of the WUI. I want to know that we are adding areas because they meet this definition, not just because there is a funding source and it would be better if these areas were in the WUI.
- vi. Amelia: Our WUI takes the FS, CAL Fire, and BLM definitions into account. These are on the CWPP on pages 34 and 35. Denisse is there additional room for expansion under our current definition of WUI?
- vii. Denisse: I will have to get back to you with an answer.
- viii. Amelia: It is my understanding that we will need to change our definition of the WUI
- ix. Kelly: It was in 2006 when we made the model. It was primarily created through understanding density. We did not try and minimize things but there was a reason why we did not want to have it be all-encompassing. The areas proposed in the Upper Mad would not fit into this density definition. I personally have discomfort including these areas unless there was a new WUI definition that could be used and we stated that outright as we move into the new update.
- x. Kristen: We would have a changed condition of the current definition. We do have a map (figure 8) of added WUI areas. These are highlighted in purple. This would include a number of homes as well as some main ingress and egress routes.
- xi. Kristen: I hope that this discussion may help inform other projects as new proposals arise.
- xii. Pat: What is your timeline?
- xiii. Kristen: Today
- xiv. Pat: The CWPP is under the Forest Restoration Act. The approval process for changes is under the Fire Chiefs Association, the Board of Supervisors, and Cal Fire. That could take a while and you will need someone pushing it. The FSC makes the CWPP but it is not approved by us.

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- xv. Ren Winter: What are the downsides to changing the WUI definition?
- xvi. Pat: It dilutes its value. But It has been a while since we have made the definition
- xvii. Randi: As we work through proposals lately, we have been focusing a lot on evacuation routes. It is human infrastructure that is part of the landscape that speaks directly to human safety. My thinking has gravitated towards including evacuation routes in the WUI or as part of the CWPP.
- xviii. Pat: I think that in the CWPP we do address the need for maintaining evacuation routes but they are not necessarily designated as WUI.
- xix. Randi: Do these areas have to be designated as WUI or can they just be designated as areas that needed to be treated in the CWPP?
- xx. Amelia: Between 2010 and 2020 we expanded the WUI definition to include certain areas. This included evacuation routes to these new homes.
- xxi. Carol: There are areas in the North Lake CWPP where houses are not included in the CWPP but the roads were included as a priority project due to its necessity to be open.
- xxii. A map of the WUI is shown. It is argued that the human infrastructure, despite the density of human inhabitants, should be considered to be WUI. The federal register definition: The WUI is the line area or zone where structures or other human development meet with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuel. It can be interpreted that some of homes and infrastructure that are not included be included
- xxiii. Dena: As a private landowner who has had fires come close to their property, it seems like the Forest Service is trying to get us to change the WUI definition to include the new, unanticipated areas. We need to be able to be more responsive to the changing times. We should not have to go through 20 steps to do something that we know needs to be done.
- xxiv. Kristen: We have the language within the Healthy Forest Restoration act and the CWPP to include these areas to be covered. I understand there is a process so maybe the FSC could support a motion to approve the changing of the definition.
- xxv. Kelly: Why is the funding tied to the WUI?
- xxvi. Kristen: Yes
- xxvii. Pat: Do you have enough work in areas that are defined as WUI to use the funds that you have up, while we discuss this?
- xxviii. Kristen: We have disaster funding to treat areas as well. The definition of the WUI cuts the work in about half.
- xxix. Amanda: I just want to make a point that the money is not driving the work. The routes we are looking at are identified as critical

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infrastructure but the way that we are viewing them is not alignment with the CWPP.

- xxx. Nancy: The ingress and egress are critical infrastructure. Many of the roads that are named are part of the evacuation corridor. The fuel loading on these roads is going to create some problems. There are many roads that are currently out of commission at the moment as well that makes the roads that are intact even more important
- xxxi. Tim: There are many roads in the North Lake that are prioritized but do not have many people. Also a Cal Fire camp is not considered WUI but is very important. High use rec sites are also not always considered WUI. These sites could have hundreds of people and they may be at risk. Power infrastructure should also definitely be taken into account.
- xxxii. Carol: I think that Six Rivers FS should add the projects to the CWPP web map and we can continue with the definition of what the WUI is
- xxxiii. Larry: I think some are right that we don't want to fit the definition of WUI to be able to use funding from certain pools
- xxxiv. Pat: What if we include these proposed projects in the CWPP instead of including them in the WUI?
- xxxv. Kristen: We more were interested in looking at the mapped WUI and then re-evaluating what we think the WUI should be. We do not want the rules to drive us away from what we think is right. I am still proposing the idea of a change to the WUI definition
- xxxvi. Pat: The RCD is looking for money for an update to the CWPP. Would the FSC be able to provide some of that?
- xxxvii. Kristen: I think we may be able to rearrange some of the money to help with that
- xxxviii. Amelia: I want to note that the roads that we are already talking about it part of the CWPP
- xxxix. Larry: The NEPA process is streamlined when the area is included in the WUI vs when it is outside the WUI. Would this affect the ability to complete the projects?
  - xl. Jerry Cousins: How do we help the Forest Service move forward with work?
  - xli. Kristen: We are not letting the rules drive us. We are trying to drive us to where we need to be as a group. Your support for working together helps us. We need to work outside the box.
  - xl.ii. Jerry: I find it surprising to hear the FS say we need to think outside the box. This may be a sign for the FSC to start thinking and working outside the box.
  - xl.iii. Pat: I will try to find language in the CWPP so you can argue that the projects you are proposing are covered and so we can avoid the whole mapping process.

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- xliv. Kristen: Even just documenting the support from the FSC could be beneficial
- xlv. Amelia: It says on pg. 44 of the CWPP there is discussion that identifies these roads in the headwaters as designated projects.
- xlvi. Randi: Do people feel comfortable with some sort of documentation from this conversation? It seems like this discussion of the WUI and the new threats we are facing may need a discussion and a letter to the Six River FS.
- xlvii. Pat: Would the minutes do the trick?
- xlviii. Kristen: They would not hurt as well as maybe some additional documentation
- xliv. Amelia: I can draft a letter tomorrow and will get it out to the group to revise.
  - I. Carol: Just to be clear, we are not changing the definition and geographic areas of the WUI, we are just explaining that the evacuation routes are covered in the CWPP already because they connect to the WUI
  - ii. Amelia: If we plan to change the WUI it is going to be a drawn-out process so this hopefully will give Kristen some immediate support.
  - lii. Kristen: I am proud of all of us for getting out in front and solving these problems. Other will follow.
  - liii. Amanda: Kristen is leading the forefront on this but if there is an effort being put out that discusses the importance of ingress and egress, I would appreciate it including both forests since these are landscape level projects we are looking at.

Next Meeting: March 23, 1pm.

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
and Firewise Communities Program

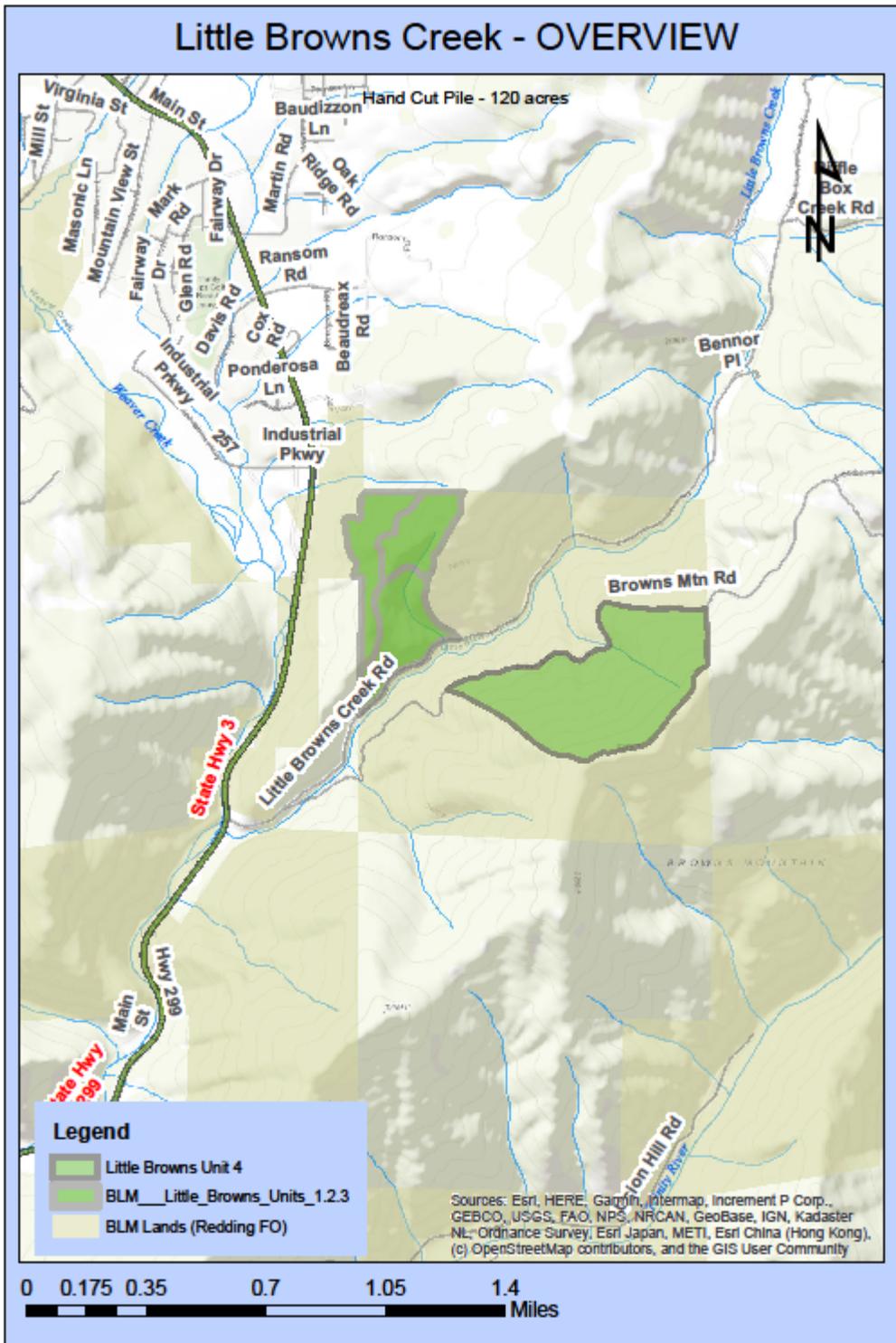


Figure 1: BLM Little Browns Creek

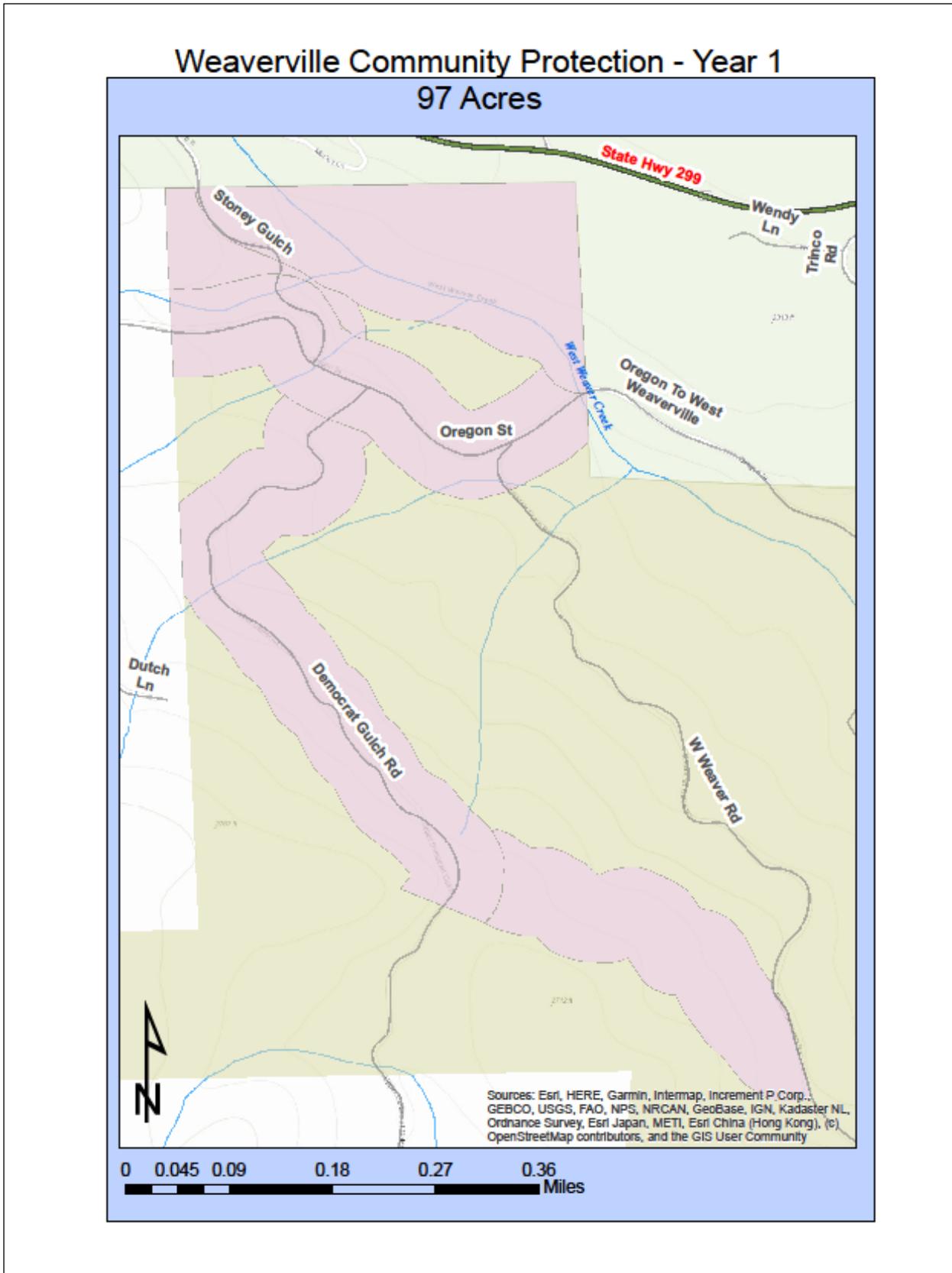


Figure 2: BLM Project Update: Weaverville Community Protection Yr. 1

## Weaverville Community Protection - Year 2 154 Acres

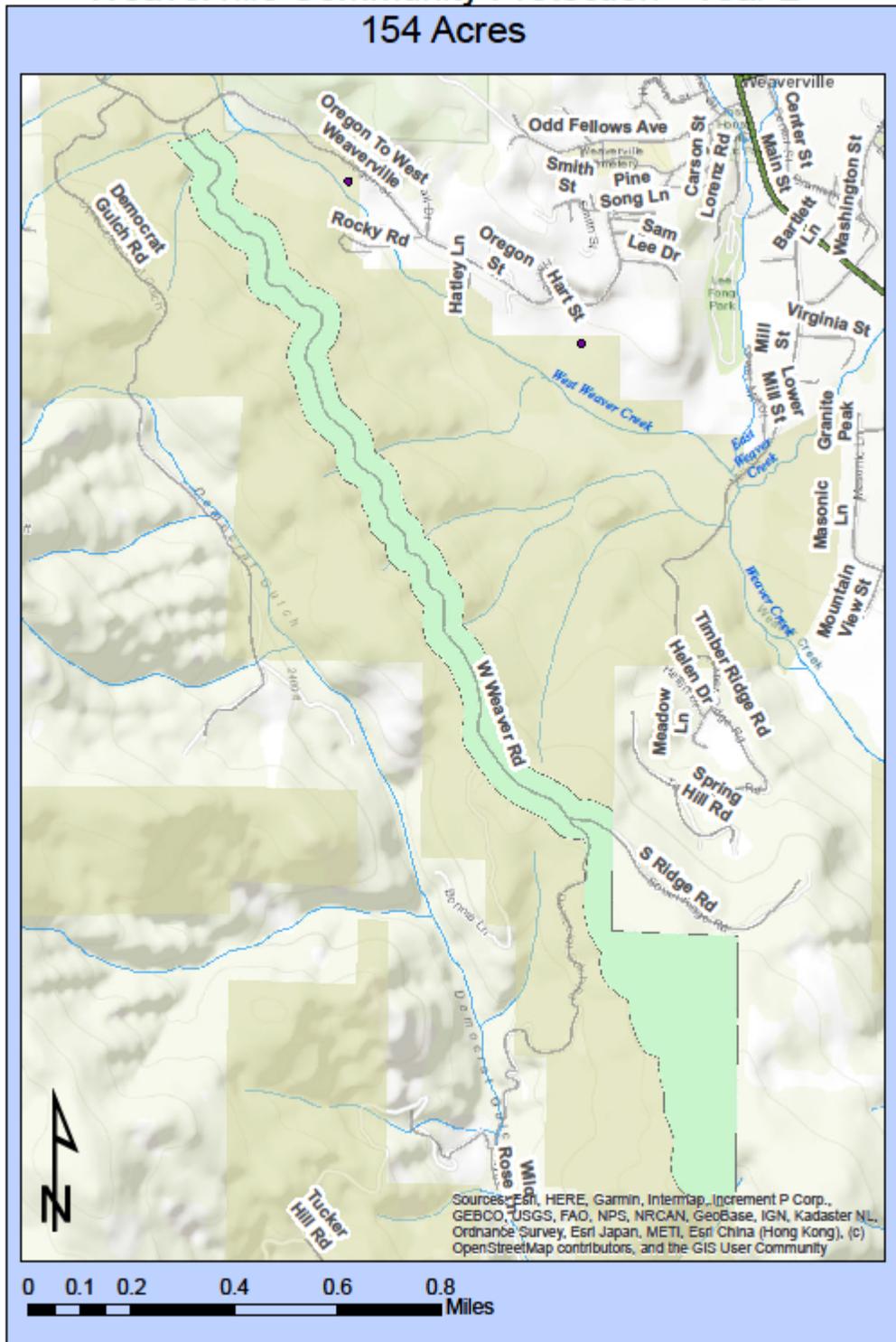


Figure 3: BLM Project Update: Weaverville Community Protection Yr. 2

**Weaverville Community Protection - Year 3**  
**128 Acres**

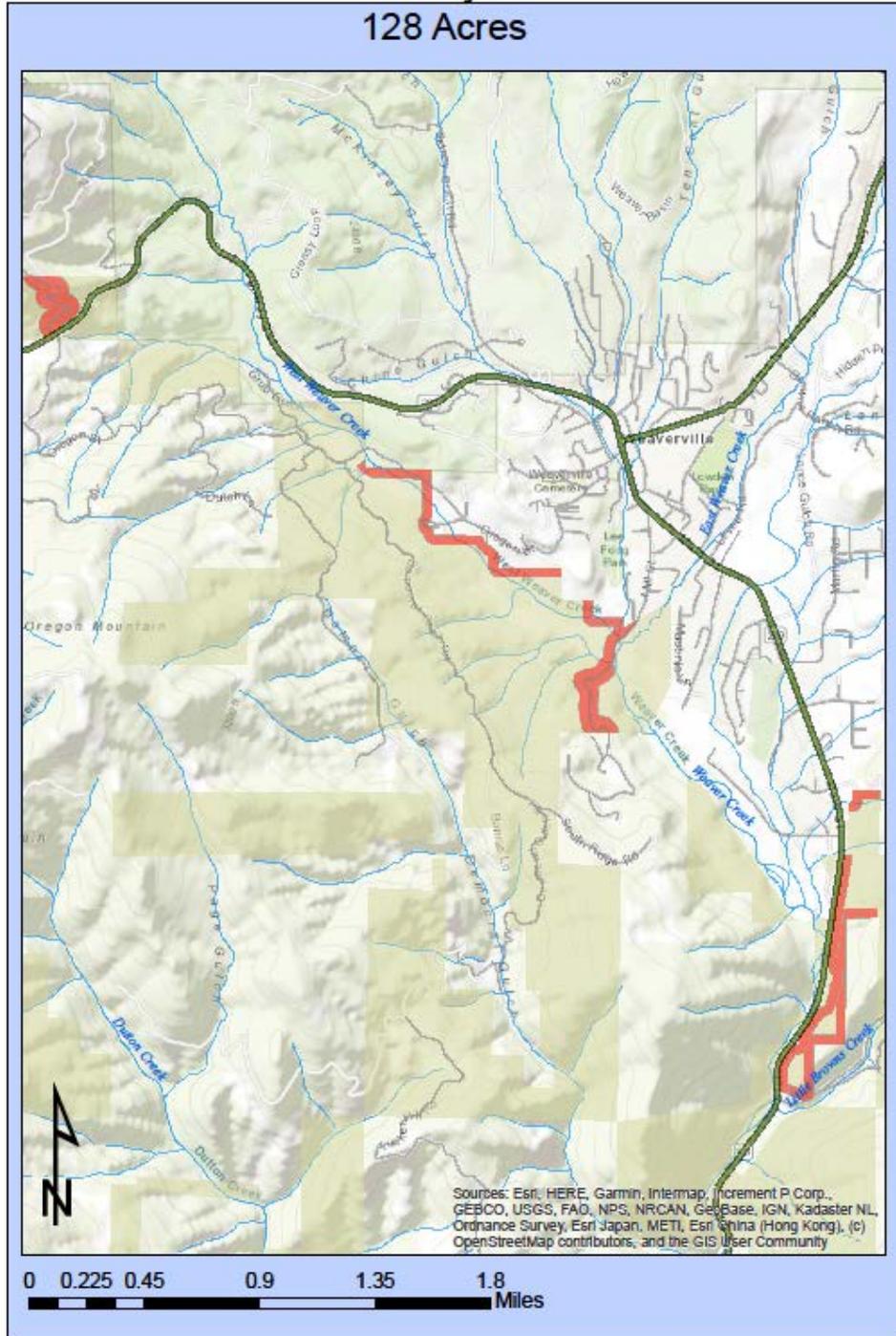


Figure 4: BLM Project Update: Weaverville Community Protection Yr. 3

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
and Firewise Communities Program

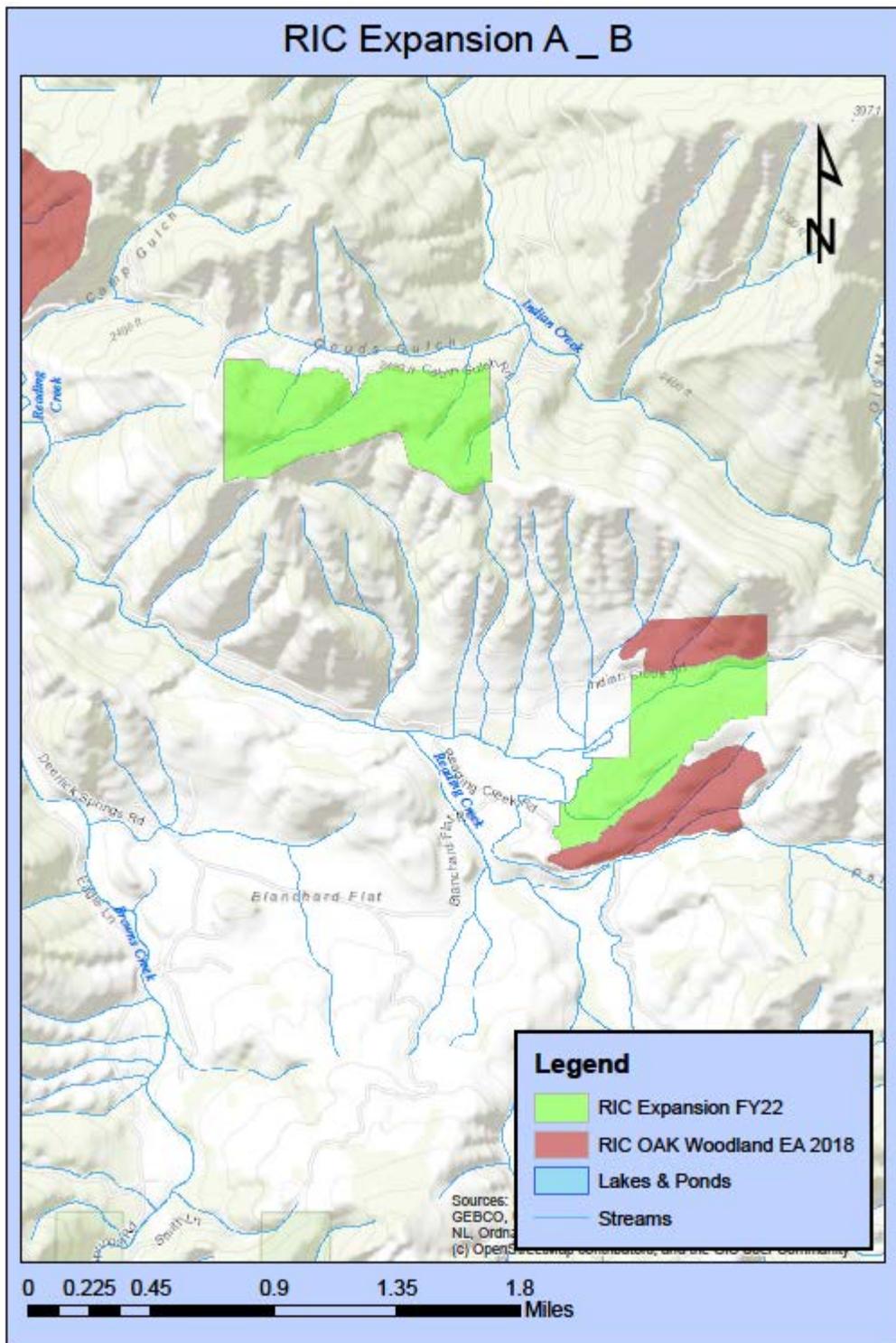


Figure 5

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
and Firewise Communities Program

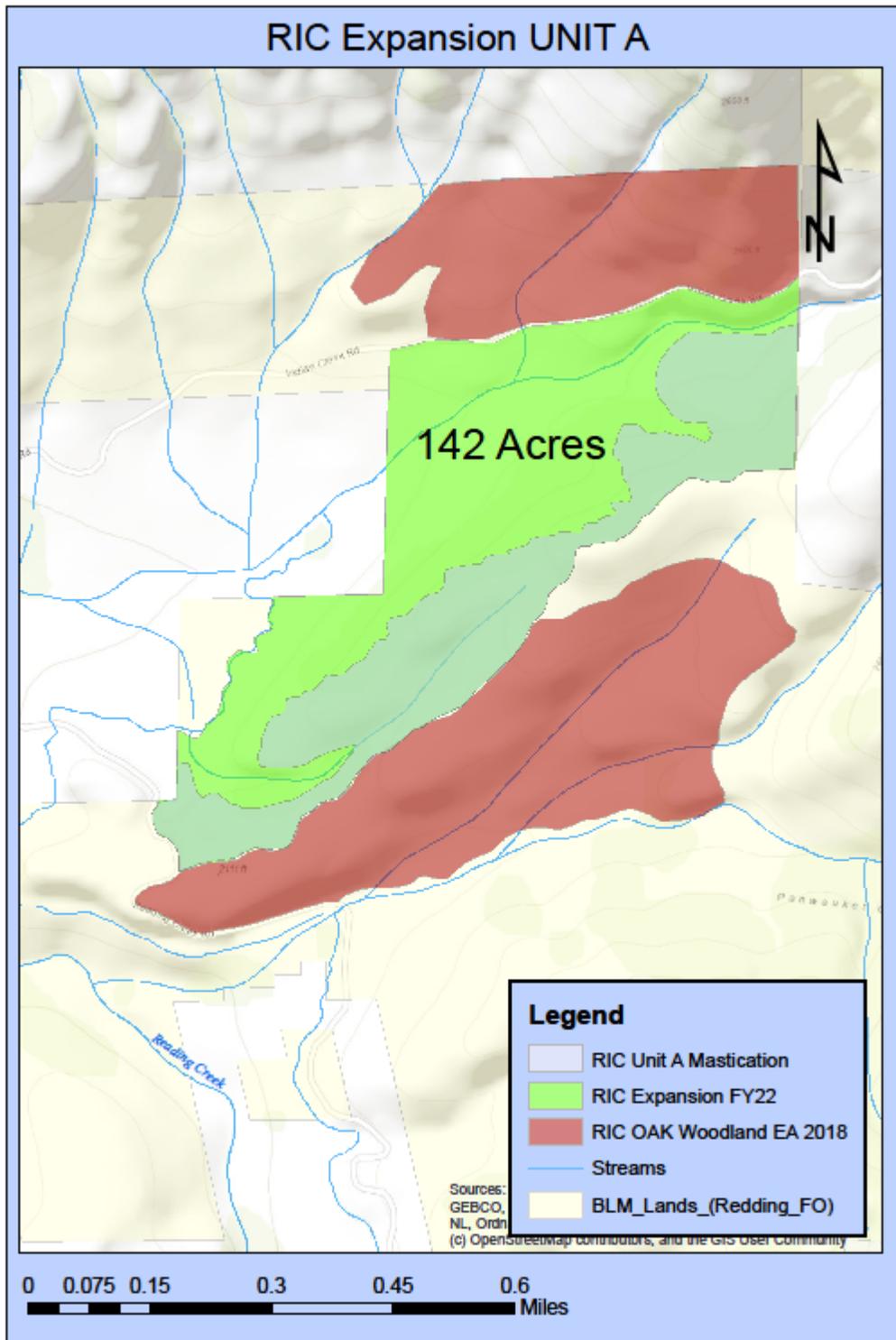


Figure 6

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
and Firewise Communities Program

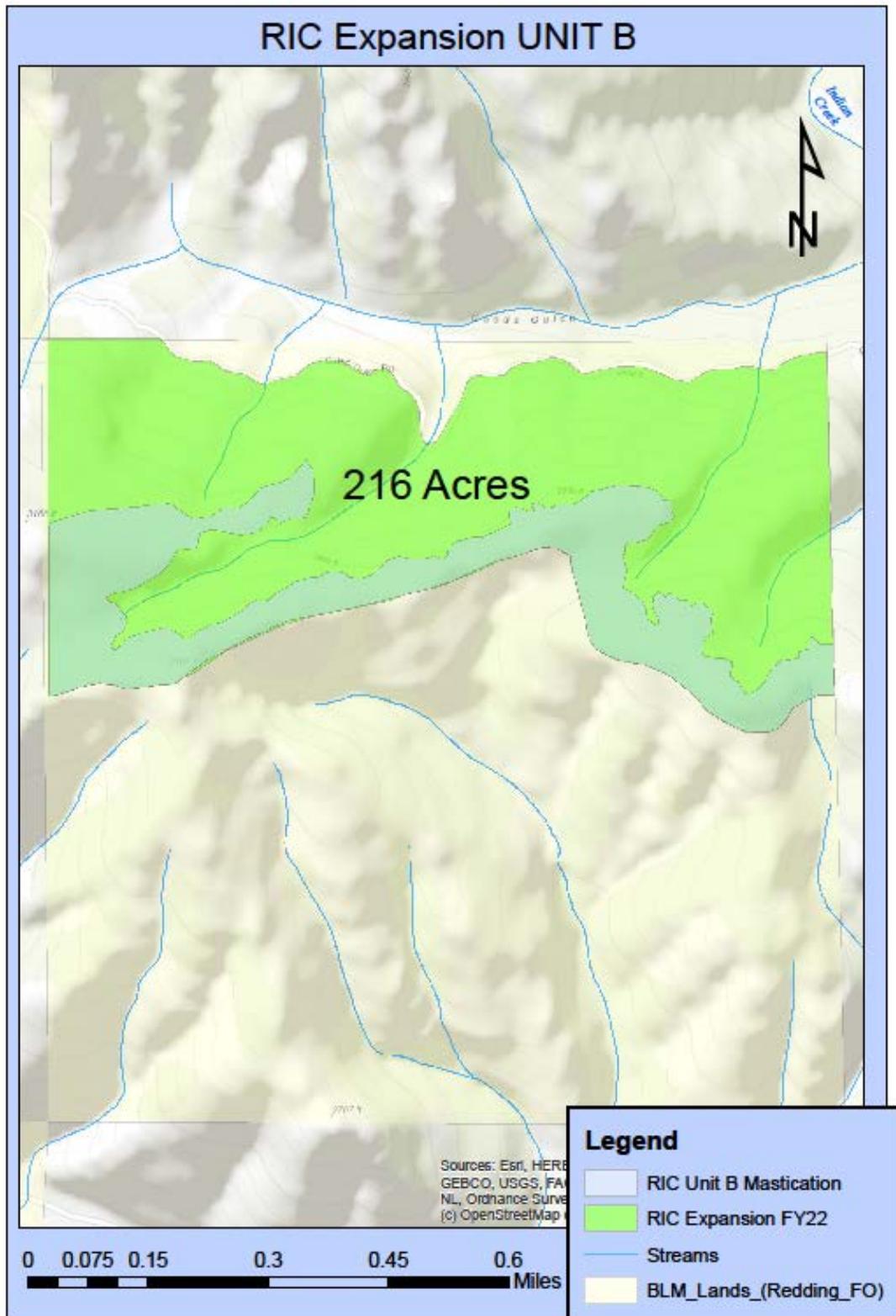
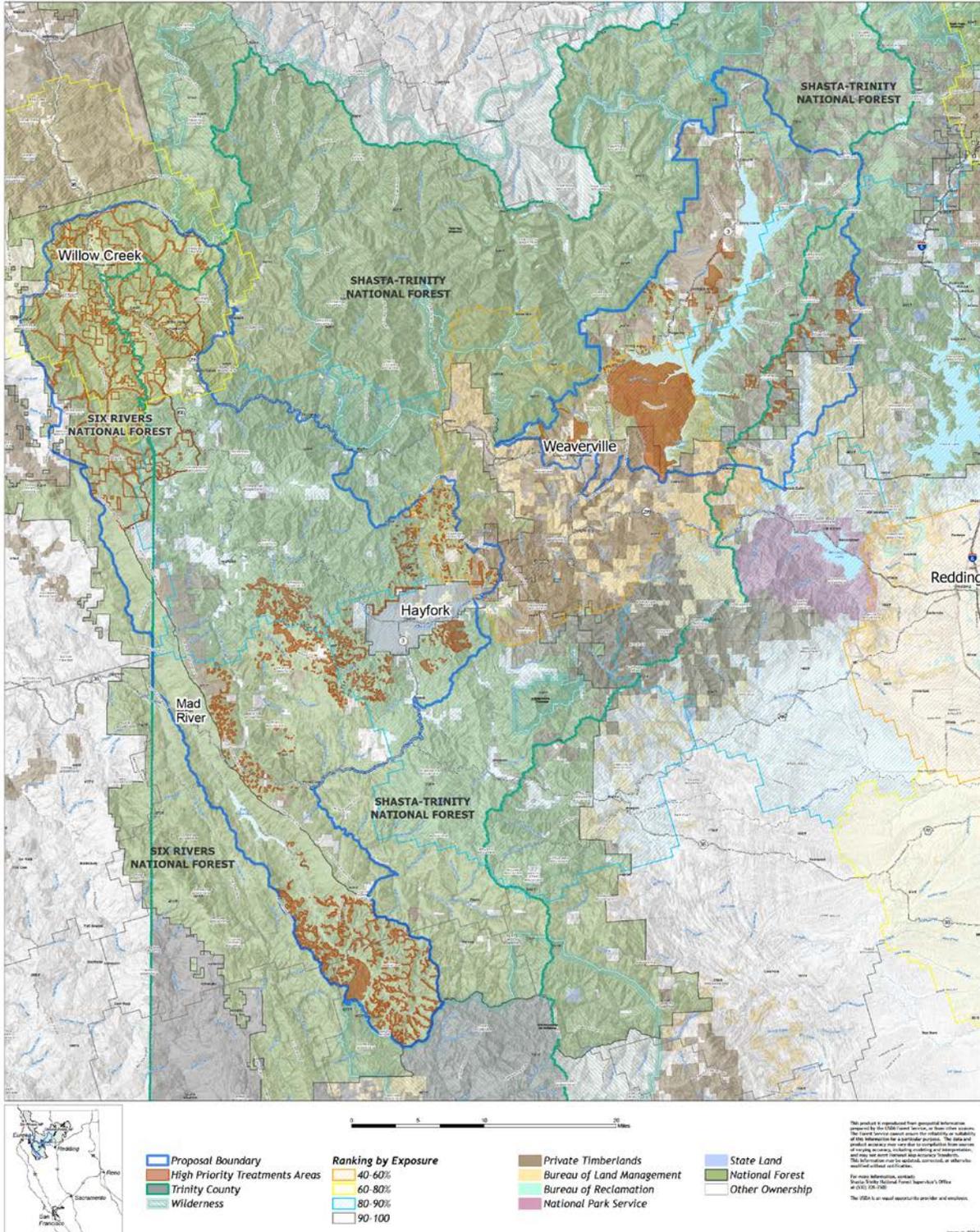


Figure 7

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
and Firewise Communities Program



**Forest Health and Fire Resilient Rural  
Communities in Trinity County Project**



**Figure 8: USFS Forest Fuels Management Project Areas**

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
and Firewise Communities Program

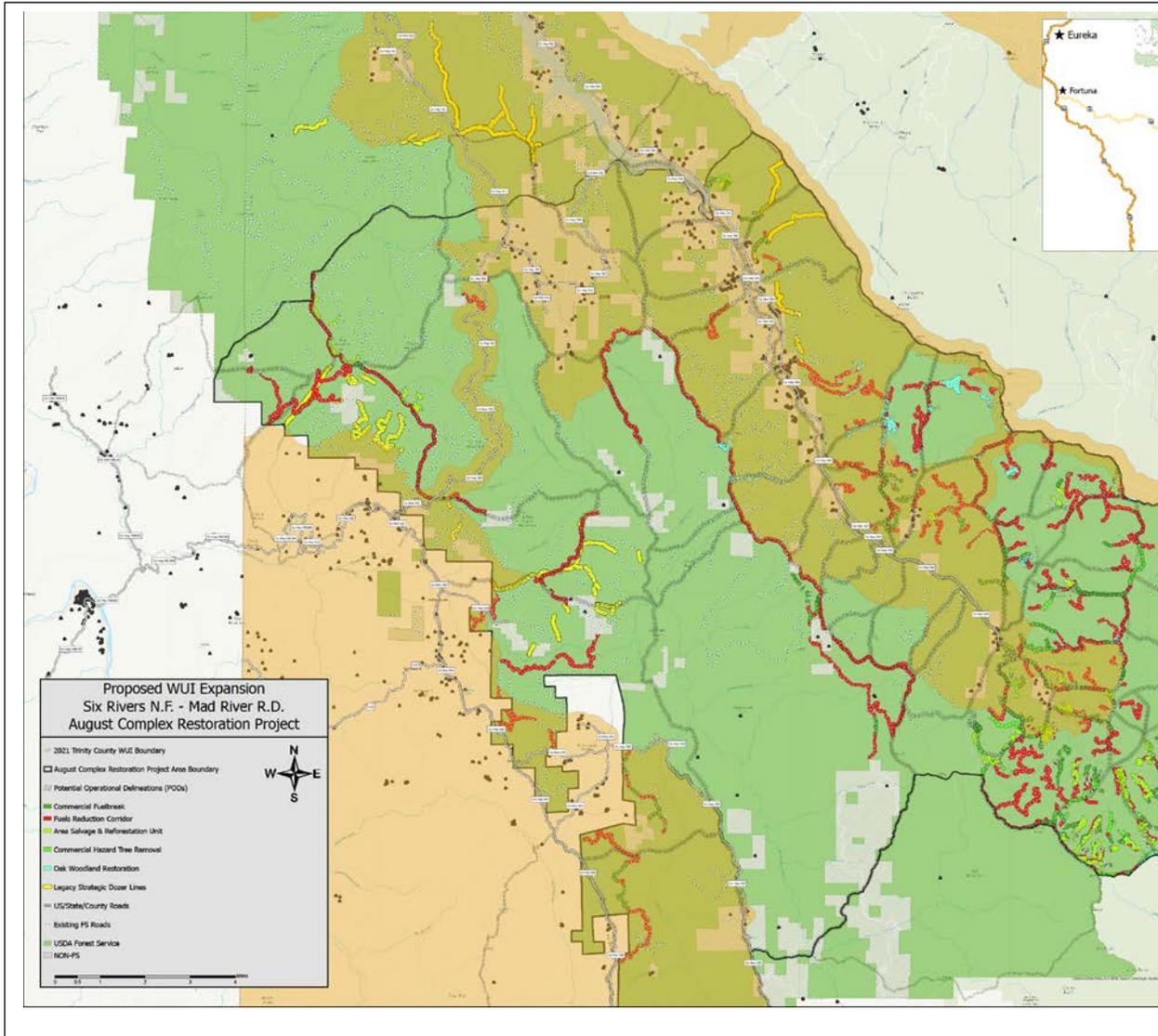


Figure 9: Map of Proposed WUI Expansion

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
and Firewise Communities Program



## Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting

Thursday, March 23, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



# Minutes

*Trinity County Fire Safe Council seeks to improve the cooperation and coordination of all aspects of wildfire management in Trinity County. The Trinity County Fire Safe Council's goal is to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in Trinity County by establishing priorities for reducing risk of catastrophic fire on a landscape-level scale in order to improve forest health, water quality and quantity, and community well-being.*

### 1. Attendees

- a. Charlie Curtin, Miles Raymond, Kelly Sheen, Amelia Fleitz, Chris Cole, Bethany Llewellyn (TCRCD); Nancy Curran, Amanda Ewing, Tim Ritchey (USFS); Randi Paris, Xander Winter (WRTC); Jerry Cousins, Larry Glass (SAFE); Charlie Holthaus (Rush Creek), Janelle Johnson (Coffee Creek), Nancy Anderson (Lewiston) (Neighborhood Ambassadors); Dave Delange (TPUD); Regina Moon (Willow Creek FSC); Ren Winter (TRL/Corral Creek Timber); Philip Simi (TCOES); Dena Magdaleno (Tsnungwe/Lower Trinity PBA)

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

- a. There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

### 3. Grants

- a. There were no requested letters of support or grants to discuss.

### 4. Fire Safe Council Update

- a. Amelia Fleitz stated that TCRCD was successful in submitting the proposal for the CAL FIRE Wildfire Prevention Grant, which was in partnership with the Watershed Research and Training Center and the Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department. There is no news about the status as of yet. As of March 22, the Trinity County Fire Safe Council has filled the Fire Safe Council Coordinator position. The individual, who has not been announced at this time, will join TCFSC in mid-April.
- b. Amelia also noted that instead of the typical Wildfire Preparedness Day event in early May, TCFSC is encouraging and working with Neighborhood Ambassadors to set up events in their own areas. The intention is to hold Wildfire Preparedness Day next year in Hayfork. TCRCD and WRTC will be hosting community chipping in May, with dates to be released in the upcoming weeks.
- c. There is a walk on the Capitol in April in Sacramento. The intention is to advocate for continuation of statewide funding for county coordinators through the California Fire Safe Council. Pat Frost will be attending. If anyone is interested in attending, they should contact Amelia at [afleitz@tcrd.net](mailto:afleitz@tcrd.net).

### 5. Project Updates

- a. BLM
- b. CAL FIRE
- c. Caltrans
- d. Hyampom FSC

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
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- e. Lower Trinity PBA
  - i. Lower Trinity PBA received the USFS grant and planning can begin. The project involves building buffer zones behind the Downriver communities to treat areas where they border National Forest. The PBA will be involved in the actual clean up, but details are still being worked out.
- f. NRCS
- g. NCUAQMD
- h. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu
- i. SAFE
- j. SPI
- k. Southern Trinity FSC
- l. Tehama-Glenn FSC
- m. Trinity Center VFD
- n. Trinity County BOS
- o. Trinity County Collaborative Group
  - i. Jerry Cousins noted that the group just had a meeting with the USFS to discuss how best to utilize the nearly \$16 million that the Shasta-Trinity and Six Rivers National Forests recently received to conduct landscape-scale fuels treatments. TCCG is looking to reestablish the forestry group to work with the USFS as the funds received must be allocated by the end of the fiscal year. Larry Glass mentioned that TCCG had a discussion with the BLM about their Oregon Mt. project in the WCF. Scoping for that project has opened as of 3/20/23. Kelly Sheen noted that the USFS is planning to treat 6,500 acres as part of the IRL funding by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Bimonthly meetings through the collaborative group will continue, as well as regular 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday field tours. Part of the need for the increased meetings and field trips is to drum up public support and solicit public opinion on how the USFS should allocate the funding.
- p. Trinity County OES
  - i. Philip Simi noted that TCOES is assessing damage from recent storms, especially in Southern Trinity. Environmental Health will be out there in the coming weeks making thorough assessments. TCOES has a damage assessment tool on their website and Facebook page, where residents can report damage sustained and submit photos. In April, TCOES will be purchasing an online ham radio course in the next month. All 9 Local Area Advisors are interested in getting their ham radio license through the program. Philip reached out to local VFDs as well to gauge interest. The County will be purchasing and setting up 21 ham radio stations in the coming months in strategic locations, such as schools. The course takes about 10 hours to complete, and then testing and licensing will go through the local amateur radio club. TCOES also

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met recently with seniors in Trinity County to promote Code Red and Know Your Zone.

- q. Trinity County Planning
- r. Trinity County RCD
  - i. Chris Cole started with the CAL FIRE grant, mentioning that the implementation covers private land in Lewiston, BOR land, a State Lands Commission parcel east of Weaverville, scattered private parcels around Weaverville, and USFS and private land around Rush Creek Rd. RCD crews have been working on a unit around Browns Creek, which will be finished this week. They started working on BLM land in the Glennison Gap area. After that the crews will begin working on a 50 acre BLM unit by Reading Creek. A contract going to bid this week involves cutting and piling 140 acres on a ridgeline on Browns Mountain. All crews are back on staff, with 4 crews of 4 people each. Chris has accepted a position as the local NRCS District Conservationist and will be beginning next month. Kelly has been working with the USFS on a 10 year stewardship agreement to add modifications to simplify the agreement and contracting process. The agreement is cross-boundary between Shasta-Trinity and Six Rivers and will expedite the path to implementation.
- s. Trinity PUD
  - i. Dave DeLange noted that the recent storms have brought down an enormous amount of trees, and the fuel loads should be paid close attention to this summer. TPUD will be doing fuels reduction along their roadsides in the coming weeks. The RAP project is in its 4<sup>th</sup> draft. Members of the USFS and the BLM have voiced concerns, which will be addressed before the final draft is released to the public in a few months.
- t. Trinity River Lumber
  - i. Ren Winter noted that TRL is looking into a pilot project to haul biomass from USFS projects to an SRM plant. Their loggers are working in Wildwood on a salvage harvest from the McFarland Fire.
- u. Tsnungwe
- v. UC Cooperative Extension
- w. USFS Shasta-Trinity NF
  - i. Tim Ritchey noted that the USFS has been working on Trinity Dam Blvd. The largest unit by Mary Smith Campground has been finished. 14 acres of burning remains to be done by Pine Cove Marina. USFS will also be burning piles in the area created by TPUD and CAL FIRE. They will be discussing the project with WRTC to conduct fuels reduction around Junction City. There is

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no implementation on the South Fork right now because of the snow. Any crews not involved in burning right now are working on assessing damage and clearing FS roads. WCF Phase II is nearly completed. Once signed, implementation on the east side of East Weaver Creek campground can begin.

- x. USFS Six Rivers NF
  - i. Nancy Curran mentioned that Six Rivers NF is working on a project to conduct 4,500 acres of hazard tree abatement in the August Complex footprint. It's broken up into three areas: Northeast Mad River Watershed, Mad Ridge South, and Devil Gate South. There are 4 IRFC stewardship contracts. 3 of those projects will be in the Jones Ridge area, involving noncommercial fuels treatments. The top priority is clearing and opening roads. Six Rivers has rented a backhoe to start implementation. They are also working with the Northern California Resource Center on the road work. They are using local contractors to conduct the work. Additionally, their ranger is requesting a storm damage flight to assess damage to roads and facilities. The ranger just issued a permit to PG&E to establish a weather monitoring station on Horse Ridge.
- y. The Watershed Research & Training Center
  - i. Randi Paris stated that implementation is slow, but WRTC is working on some storm damage cleanup around Hayfork. WRTC was awarded the Community Wildfire Defense grant to conduct two projects. One project will include fuel break work on private lands, on Democrat Ridge and above Dutton Creek. The other involves treatments on private lands around Hyampom. WRTC is looking to hire more positions in accordance with the work that the USFS priority landscape funding will bring. Humboldt County RCD was also awarded the CWDG funding. Scoping on the Bowerman Ridge Project will be open soon, once the final signatures are received by the end of March.
- z. Weaverville VFD
  - aa. Willow Creek FSC
    - i. Regina Moon said that Willow Creek FSC hosted a successful dinner to drum up donations. They are unable to process green waste in their area because of storm damage. The air curtain burner will return to the area soon. Their chipping program will return mid-April and continue through the Spring. Willow Creek FSC will be offering defensible space work to 15 homes that the community services district was originally intending to work on. CWDG was awarded to the Willow Creek area for \$5.1 million. Work will be conducted in the outlying areas on private land and complement the work that the USFS will be doing around the Lower Trinity River. Willow Creek FSC is holding a Firewise Fair and Youth Ecology Day on May 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be a home

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hardening workshop that day. They are also working on hosting a Neighborhood Ambassadors event. There is also a PG&E grant in the works to purchase another air curtain burner that will stay in the Lower Trinity area and be used between Willow Creek and Orleans.

6. Discussions:

a. CAL FIRE - Fire Hazard Severity Zones 2022 Proposed Fire Hazard Severity

- i. <https://calfire-forestry.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4466cf1d2b9947bea1d4269997e86553>
- ii. 2007 and 2022 PDFs are attached.
- iii. Some areas ranked "moderate" or "high" in the 2007 map have been changed to "very high". Homeowners have voiced concerns about their insurance being dropped due to the new map. The model can't be used by insurance companies to drop customers; they must use their own actuarial models. Amelia urged homeowners to report any instances of this and look to their local VFD for a letter of support or statement that they are in a Firewise Community. These have been helpful in the past for homeowners to maintain their insurance. CAL FIRE wanted to stress that this is a hazard model, not a risk model, and that insurance companies can only use risk models. Most of the changes in FHSZs have involved increased severity in Southern Trinity, but most of the county's hazard severity has remained the same.

- b. Amelia noted that the FSC will plan a coordination meeting for the Downriver area to address gaps in treatment areas between the various stakeholders and landowners.

Meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm

Next Meeting: April 27, 1pm.



## Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting

Thursday, April 27, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person

TCRCD Conference Room

30 Horseshoe Lane

Weaverville, CA



# Minutes

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

No participant IDs are required; press # to access the call. Password is 123456

Videoconferencing is available through:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/828328725?pwd=a05MeVZNMkxoUmNyVGI4K2VjUjcwZz09>

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### 1. Attendees

- a. Amelia Fleitz, Kelly Sheen, Bethany Llewellyn, Charlie Curtin, Skylar Fisher, Miles Raymond (TCRCD); Xander Winter, Randi Paris (WRTC); Alex Miyagishima (Six Rivers NF), Tim Ritchey (Shasta-Trinity NF); Philip Simi (TCOES); Carol Fall (TCVFD); Regina Moon (Willow Creek FSC); Dena Magdaleno (Tsunungwe/LTPBA); Mike Wilson (CFSC); Jerry Cousins (TCCG); Sarah Supahan, Mike Harding, Pat Frost, Jim Cotton

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

- a. Jerry Cousins asked if the idea to switch the order of discussions and project updates in subsequent meetings had been discussed. Amelia noted that the group had agreed to keep the agenda order the same for now, but it can be proposed to the council as an official agenda item for next month.
- b. Carol Fall asked about the creation of a collaboration map for the TCFSC North Lake Area Collaboration. Charlie said it is in the process of being made.

### 3. Discussions

- a. Downriver/Lower Trinity River Area Collaboration - Please send past, existing, and future project shape files to [dwesley@tcrd.net](mailto:dwesley@tcrd.net) for her to incorporate into 1 map for our planning purposes
  1. Six Rivers NF
    - i. Alex Miyagishima began by discussing the Lower Trinity Plantation Thinning project. It involves thinning a number of overstocked plantations in the Lower Trinity Ranger District. Six Rivers NF has put in place a streamlined NEPA document to expedite implementation of

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linear fuel breaks, prescribed fire, and work around the Downriver communities. They will be focusing on ridges, road systems, and private property boundaries, creating a buffer around all private property in Six Rivers NF, which includes some residents in Trinity County. They proposed this year to put a 300 foot shaded fuel break around all Forest System roads and private property boundaries in this area, which the NEPA document allows for. They have contracts with partners to conduct wildlife and cultural resource surveys. The next step is to host community meetings to inform the public of their goals. Depending on the stand age class, they plan to keep canopy closure at 40-60%. Hand piles will be built on steeper slopes, to be followed by pile burning. Carol asked where the project is on environmental documentation. There is a draft decision memo signed by the forest supervisor for the Fire and Fuels EA. If the NEPA doesn't clear for all of the project, then the FS plans to seek CEs for parts of the project. Kelly asked if NEPA adequacy determination can be shared between National Forests if they are close geographically, as this project looks similar to the pilot project on the Shasta-Trinity. The Mad River Ranger District was able to streamline the creation of an EA document from a previous Shasta-Trinity project. Alex responded by saying they are close enough to implementation that they likely won't need to seek emergency NEPA. Dena discussed the desire for the Trinity County Collaborative Group to be more involved in Six Rivers NF projects. Jerry agreed to facilitate reaching out to Alex or the District Ranger later to invite them to TCCG meetings.

- ii. Alex then asked about the process to get projects listed as priority projects in the CWPP viewer. Amelia responded by saying that project shapefiles should be submitted to Denise Wesley, who will then rerank projects.
2. Shasta-Trinity NF
    - i. Tim Ritchey mentioned that the implementation for the Trinity Post-Fire Hazard and Salvage Reduction is still ongoing on 835 miles of roads. They are working on a project called Trailhead this year, working on hazard tree removal on trailheads north of the 299, working on Green Mountain, Jim Jam Ridge, and the Grizzly Trailhead. They will treat around 800 acres through a mix of mechanical and hand treatments. Shasta-Trinity and Six Rivers will enter an agreement to implement the Big Ranch project by 2025. The project includes some of the old Burnt Ranch Project and some of the area south of Hwy. 299 from Big Bar to Burnt Ranch. Dena asked if there will be work done on the landslide on the road up Ironside Mountain. Tim responded that they did receive disaster funding to work on that road, but haven't created a contract to put to bid yet.
  3. Watershed Research and Training Center

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- i. Randi Paris discussed implementation in Burnt Ranch and South Fork Rd, part of a joint proposal for wildfire prevention with TCRC. The work is nearly completed in Burnt Ranch, but there are opportunities to seek more funding and expand. Storm and disaster funding is driving the South Fork Rd. project. WRTC did participate in the TCRC and Humboldt RCD CWDG proposal for the Downriver area. Randi said that further work in the Burnt Ranch area might be suited for another CWDG proposal.
4. Trinity County Resource Conservation District
    - i. Bethany Llewellyn echoed that the project in Burnt Ranch and South Fork Rd. was in partnership with WRTC. The storm response cleanup project will be in implementation this year around Salyer. TCRC's part in the CWDG work will occur in Trinity Village, Suzy Q Rd., South Fork Rd., and on existing CWPP project proposals. Amelia noted that the projects proposed in the CWDG proposal in Trinity County include private land around Salyer, Hawkins Bar, and South Fork Rd. HCRC will be handling most of the CEQA and NEPA for the projects, and TCRC will be working with them to utilize their crews or local contractors. Amelia noted that for the next round of CWDG they want to focus farther east on Hwy. 299, from Del Loma possibly to the outer edge of Junction City. TCRC will also be seeking funds for the 2025 Trinity County CWPP update.
  5. Willow Creek FSC
    - i. Willow Creek FSC received a RAC grant from the USFS to conduct work on County Rd. 435 on Hennessey Ridge. Regina mentioned that she'll be working with the USFS to facilitate community meetings for their project. There isn't a signed agreement for the County Rd. 435 with the USFS yet. Pat Frost said he could help Regina with getting that in place. Regina has been discussing the project with Monique Rea.
  6. LTPBA
    - i. Dena noted that the LTPBA held a meeting with the Trinity County VOA (Volunteers Organized for Action and Disaster) group, which is in formation. They held a tabletop exercise for the Lower Trinity River area to discuss emergency and disaster planning. Around 15 people attended the meeting.
  - b. **MOU, CWPP revisions, and Firewise Community Renewals**
    1. Amelia is getting Skylar Fisher up to speed on the MOU, so there will be an update next month.
    2. Denise Wesley is adding projects to the CWPP viewer and reranking as they are added.
    3. All Firewise Community Renewals were completed and the certifications sent out. Skylar will be working to set up Firewise Community Boards in each community with 5-7 members for each community.

## 7. Grants

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
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- a. Carol noted that TCVFD received a grant from the North Coast Resource Partnership to develop a North Lake area wildfire response plan. The goal of the project is to look at and overlay projects from different partners to address gaps, as well as learn from previous wildfires to set up appropriate drafting sites and other suppression needs. The value of the reward is \$15,000.
- b. Randi said that the WRTC was successful in the South Fork Fire Resiliency forest health proposal. The project will support the joint forest fuel break on South Fork Mountain, fuel breaks on private land on Trinity Timberlands, roadside treatments down to Hyampom, and treatments on private lands in Hayfork. She expects that the executed agreement will be ready in a few months.
- c. Pat Frost mentioned that Trinity County has received \$95,000 of Title III funding (rural schools) from USFS. The County doesn't have enough staff right now to disburse the funds, and Pat urged the group to reach out to the Board of Supervisors to discuss the situation.
- d. Mike Wilson noted that CFSC received word from Chief Bigelow of CAL FIRE that the County Coordinator grant funding was received for the next period, which will extend through March 2025. The funding is to the amount of \$7 million.
- e. Regina said that Willow Creek FSC received a grant from Coast Central to place their chipper in a secure place. They also received a technical assistance grant for \$15,000 last year and will be applying for renewal by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**8. Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update**

- a. Skylar Fisher updated the group on her first two weeks as FSC Coordinator. She has been familiarizing herself with the ongoing programs like Neighborhood Ambassadors, Local Area Advisors, and Firewise Communities. The Firewise Community Renewals will occur again in the fall. She is assisting on the countywide evacuation routes update in case of wildfire or other emergency. TCFSC has also been helping TCOES with the Trinity County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The updated TCFSC website is also live now.

**9. Project Updates**

- a. BLM
- b. CAL FIRE
- c. Caltrans
- d. Hyampom FSC
- e. Lower Trinity PBA
- f. NRCS
- g. NCUAQMD
- h. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu
- i. SAFE
- j. SPI
- k. Southern Trinity FSC
- l. Tehama-Glenn FSC
- m. Trinity Center VFD

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
and Firewise Communities Program

1. Carol announced that TCVFD held an open house on April 29<sup>th</sup>. It is Trinity Center's Firewise Community event.
- n. Trinity County BOS
- o. Trinity County Collaborative Group
  1. Kelly noted the Collaborative Group hosted a field tour with the Hyampom FSC and USFS to discuss the forest health project in Hyampom, which mostly involves roadside fuels reduction similar to the pilot project along county roads. The field tour visited Corral Bottom Rd. Another focus of the project is plantation treatments. The goal is to complete the NEPA document this year and aim for implementation in 2024. Randy added that owl surveys are beginning shortly for the project. The field tour on May 5<sup>th</sup> headed to the Bowerman Ridge Project. The project is in scoping and the USFS is seeking public comment. The full group will be meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Kelly will be reaching out to Alex Miyagishima and Nolan Colegrove of Six Rivers NF to invite them.
- p. TCOES
  1. Philip Simi said he received approval to purchase the HAM radio license course. He will reach out to Local Area Advisors and other volunteers interested in being trained.
- q. Trinity County Planning
- r. Trinity County RCD
  1. Bethany mentioned that the community chipping program begins in May and extends into June. TCRCD and WRTC are working together on this. TCRCD crews have been working out on Indian Creek and Glennison Gap, as well as burning in the Weaver Basin with WRTC. Work started on a fuel break on Browns Mt. with a contract crew funded by a fire prevention grant. Upcoming work will be on the Lake Forest plantation both with contract and in-house crews. TCRCD will be assisting Tim Ritchey with layout on the Pettijohn Fuels project on Buckeye Ridge. Regarding the McConnell Project, the CEQA document finished scoping and will go before TCRCD's board in the May meeting. Arch surveys began in May. On-the-ground work will likely begin next summer. Kelly noted that Kelly McElroy with Shasta-Trinity NF helped push through a 10-year stewardship agreement with allocations from Joint Chiefs, Priority Landscapes, disaster relief, and other sources. Total funding is around \$2.7 million. The work is mainly fuels reduction, forest health, hazardous fuels reduction around county roads in the August Complex footprint, and other projects. Work could potentially start later this calendar year. Miles mentioned that he has been planning a WFAP home assessment training in the Downriver Area. He is also working with Regina to set up a booth at the Willow Creek Firewise Fair and Ecology Day on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The WFAP home assessments program falls under a different funding source than the Big Red Truck program.
- s. Trinity PUD
- t. Tsnungwe

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- u. UC Cooperative Extension
- v. USFS Shasta-Trinity NF
  - 1. Tim noted that the TRMU is planning a few burns. The first is 66 acres in the West Weaver area at Moon Lee Ditch. Another unit is on Jackass Ridge and covers 33 acres, with the potential to extend it into another area and total 77 acres. Other work is contract work like Pettijohn, Trailhead, and treating roadside piles on FS roads in the Monument Fire footprint.
- w. USFS Six-Rivers NF
- x. The Watershed Research & Training Center
  - 1. Randi mentioned that their forestry and botany crews are working. Botany crews are doing surveys and seed collection in post-fire areas. Hand crews are working in the fire prevention grant areas in collaboration with TCRCD. WRTC is working to get the masticator running. Mastication will happen in Lake Forest and Pettijohn. Another forest health project involves plantation treatments. It includes prescribed fire and the grant period extends until 2025. Community chipping conducted by WRTC is funded by USFS RAC funding.
- y. Weaverville VFD
- z. Willow Creek FSC
  - 1. Regina discussed Willow Creek FSC's chipping program. They are working on an agreement with the community service district to conduct chipping. They also have a contractor doing paid work and will attempt to complete as much as possible before finishing work in-house. The Willow Creek Firewise Fair and Ecology Day is themed "Living with Good Fire". Humboldt County RCD will be holding a workshop. The air curtain burner will be returning to Willow Creek next month. Work started with the storm recovery grant, treating roadsides and conducting defensible space work. The Downriver WFAP training will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting finished at 2:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 25, 1:00 p.m.



## Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting

Thursday, May 25, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



# Minutes

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

No participant IDs are required; press # to access the call. Password is 123456

Videoconferencing is available through:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/828328725?pwd=a05MeVZNMkxoNyVGI4K2VjUjcwZz09>

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### 1. Welcome & Introductions

In person attendees: TCRCD (Amelia Fleitz, Charlie Curtin, Kelly Sheen (Trinity Collaborative Group), Skylar Fisher) CAFSC (Pat Frost), TCBOS (Jill Cox), WVFD (Todd Corbett), and TCOES (Philip Simi)

Zoom attendees: NRCS (Chris Cole) SPI (Keith Greenwood), TCRCD (Bethany Llewellyn), USFS SR (Nancy Curran), TCVFD (Carol Fall)

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

### 3. Discussions

#### a. TCFSC regular meeting structure discussion

- i. Skylar introduced the item as a discussion of a request to move the "Project Updates" section earlier in the agenda.
- ii. Pat discussed the potential for changing the "Project Update" section each meeting to alternate between alphabetical order and reverse alphabetical order. Amelia, Pat, and Philip discussed that if someone has limited time to attend the meeting, they can request a change to the agenda for that meeting to hear or provide project updates. There was agreement to keep the structure the same, but to incorporate Pat's suggestion regarding the "Project Update" section.

#### b. TCFSC MOU

- i. Skylar introduced the revised MOU and its changes. The revised MOU includes Section "F. Operation of Conduct," revised principal contacts, and additional signatories.
- ii. Pat, Amelia, and Kelly recommended clarifying the language for the contacts to make it clear that even if the individuals change, it is the organization which remains the same and a revision of the MOU would not be necessary. Amelia stated that a 14-day comment window on the updated MOU should

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be adequate time to comment and revise. Amelia and Pat discussed if local tribes should be included, having the signatory page match the principal contacts, if the document should be circulated to USFS, BLM, and CALFIRE prior to the TCFSC approving, and if the principal contacts should be the same as the organizations listed in the TCFSC agenda "Project Updates" section. Pat, Carol, and Amelia suggested referencing the CWPP, Firewise communities, and Local Area Advisor program in the MOU. Jill requested adding the current TCBOS alternate to the TCFSC to the principal contact. Pat and Nancy pointed out typos.

c. **Trinity County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update: Public Survey**

- i. Skylar provided a brief presentation on the HMP update and the upcoming community meetings.
- ii. Amelia added that there are going to be stakeholder meetings before the meetings.
- iii. Carol, Pat, and Philip discussed if the TCFSC coordinator should promote the current HMP to the public, better define what a hazard and mitigation are, educate on what hazards pose the largest risk to the County, and simplify language in outreach. Amelia and Pat discussed social media outreach and that the TCFSC coordinator will attend the Hayfork Fair in July to promote the project. Philip and Amelia discussed when the survey closes, anticipating to be either shortly after the last community meeting or the end of July, and TCOES's ability to review the plan before it gets circulated to CALOES.

4. **Grants**

a. **Added Discussion: 2022 CALFIRE Defensible Space Grant**

- i. Skylar discussed the 2022 CALFIRE Defensible Space Grant proposal and requested a letter of support from the TCFSC.
- ii. Amelia explained that the proposal targets SR-299 and will have WVFD and the TCRCF Fuels Reduction crews improve defensible space and supplement incoming USFS work. Pat and Amelia discussed that the TCFSC letter of support would be reviewed over email and Pat would abstain from commenting as he is on the CFSC Board. Jill asked how work will continue after the grant period and Amelia discussed that this project aims to set up the targeted communities for success and show the USFS a commitment to community hardening in this area.

b. **Added Discussion: Title III Funding**

- i. Pat stated that Jill talked to County staff about Title III funding.
- ii. Jill elaborates that a constituent wanted to rely on burning and to see if there was money available for her. She went on to say that the process is about 3-months after the 30-day advertisement for proposals, comment, BOS decision, and implementation. She shared that she is now working with the CAO. Todd, Amelia, and Pat discussed that the TCBOS should take steps to prevent this problem in the future. Carol discussed the idea of advertising in the local paper. Carol, Pat, Amelia, Jill, and Todd discussed that the TCVFD has not been paid, even after giving follow-ups that the WVFD hasn't had this problem, and Jill following-up with the CAO.

5. **Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update**

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- a. Skylar provided an update on the ongoing HMP update, the hazard survey, finding locations for community meetings for the HMP update, and the evacuation route project.
  - i. Todd and Skylar briefly discussed the Willow Creek Firewise event and that 55 people interacted with the TCFSC booth.
6. **Project Updates**
  - a. BLM - A representative did not attend
  - b. CAL FIRE - A representative did not attend
  - c. Caltrans - A representative did not attend
  - d. Hyampom FSC - A representative did not attend
  - e. Lower Trinity PBA - A representative did not attend
  - f. NCUAQMD
    - i. A representative did not attend, but sent Charlie a message to read. The message, from Deborah Harris, generally went as follows:  
The district developed a policy that burners with a smoke management plan who only plan on burning one 10-foot in diameter pile do not need a burn authorization number to burn. Burning multiple piles larger than 10 feet in diameter piles or broadcast earnings still requires burn authorization number prior to burning. Deborah and Alex Winkler are the contacts for this process. A sheet of instructions will be attached to all SMPs and will include how to obtain a burn authorization number and an authorization number can be obtained up to 96 hours out from day of ignition. The district developed and is implementing a system to allow SMP holders to extend their SMPs, provided there no changes, for two year periods by completing an extension form.
  - g. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu - A representative did not attend
  - h. SAFE - A representative did not attend
  - i. Southern Trinity FSC - A representative did not attend
  - j. SPI
    - i. Keith Greenwood reported out on a new mastication operator who has worked fires before on Hayfork Summit and that the mastication operators are tuning up the fire lines from the Monument Fire
  - k. Tehama-Glenn FSC - A representative did not attend
  - l. Trinity Center VFD
    - i. Carol Fall reported out that TCVFD did a fire safe open house and celebration of the new building, 80-100 people attended. She requested if someone with a masticator could clean up Guy Covington Ridge. Carol, Amelia, and Charlie briefly discussed the status of an ongoing GIS project.
  - m. Trinity County BOS
    - i. Jill Cox did not have a report.
  - n. Trinity County Collaborative Group
    - i. Kelly Sheen reported out on the success of the Bowerman fieldtrip, that there had been a collaborative meeting last week, and a RAC meeting a

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week prior to that. Pat and Kelly discussed a planned fieldtrip to part of the Monument Fire burn scar in and around Junction City and a trip planned to the Big Ranch project on June 16.

- o. Trinity County Planning - A representative did not attend
- p. Trinity County RCD
  - i. Amelia, Bethany, and Kelly reported out. Amelia reported that this meeting will be Charlie's last and reflected on all the support and hard work the Grizzly Fellows put into the TCFSC during their time with the TCRCD.
  - ii. Bethany reported that over 100 properties were chipped during community chipping, crews are working on the Lake Forest Plantation, crews are going to Downriver, there was work completed with a CCC crew, work was performed with Keith on Browns Mountain ridge top of about 70 acres done and more to come, and continuing planning and survey work for the McConnell project for Weaverville and North Lake - site specific plans are being developed to get the support of private land owners.
  - iii. Kelly reported that the TCRCD has executed an agreement with Six Rivers to do roadside fuel hazard work within the County Road right-of-ways that are currently active, this will include road work, hazard tree removal, and a NEPA component. Kelly also reported that the TCRCD's performing hazard tree removal through the August Complex burn footprint, is completing third-party NEPA work, and that anticipated additional funding to come in for hazard tree removal and road work due to the new stewardship agreement. At Jill's request, Kelly clarified TCRCD will be doing work within the County road right-of-way, but also 200-feet around the road, which requires NEPA review. Kelly finished his report out by announcing a new Forest Health Program Coordinator will join the team.
- q. NRCS
  - i. Chris Cole reported that EQIP funding went through last week and NRCS got a project funded, Joint Chiefs' funding is coming up, there are non-competitive projects coming up, and that he is new to the position.
- r. Trinity PUD - A representative did not attend
- s. Tsnungwe - A representative did not attend
- t. UC Cooperative Extension - A representative did not attend
- u. USFS Shasta-Trinity NF - A representative did not attend
- v. USFS Six-Rivers NF
  - i. Nancy Curran reported on developing agreements with Kelly and Cynthia for roads work, that August Stewardship IRSC proposals are due sometime middle of June, there will be 4,000 acres awarded for hazard tree abatement northeast of the Mad Watershed, Mad Ridge fuel break, and in the Kettenpom area. Nancy reported on the three phases of this project, that there have been road closures around Berry Creek with alternate routes through Jones Ridge or other roads if needed for evacuation, there

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is a fire readiness review on May 26, their dozer is up and there is a new operator, and that Six Rivers has been collaborating with NRCS to open roads and Southern Trinity volunteers to reduce fire risk.

- w. The Watershed Research & Training Center
  - i. Xander Winter reported that the fuels crew is working in Douglas City and South Fork to create access for USFS roads, and the masticator is around Ewing Reservoir in Hayfork for BLM. Kelly and Xander briefly discussed the success of the Bowerman fieldtrip. Carol, Pat, and Xander discussed workshops for community members focused on Covington Mill and Bowerman and a comment letter submitted by TCVFD. Jill, Pat, and Xander discussed if the WRTC had funding and capacity for Title III work. Keith, Xander, and Pat discussed the WRTC's ability to complete similar or more complex projects in the future - Xander said he was confident that the WRTC could and that they are already looking to the next neighborhood project for fuel breaks in the Monument footprint in the vicinity of Junction City and to possibly connect to Big Creek on the Hayfork side. Kelly, Carol, Keith, and Bethany discussed that the McConnell project is a partner project to Bowerman, the TCRCB Board has accepted the MND with implementation work expected for Fall 2024, TCRCB can't work in the Caltrans right-of-way, and there are some concerns from CALOES, who doesn't want duplications of state funding in different agency's responsibility area.
- x. Weaverville VFD - Todd Corbett left early.
- y. Willow Creek FSC - A representative did not attend
- z. **Additional Project Update: TCOES**
  - i. Pat pointed out that TCOES should be able to give an update.
  - ii. Philip Simi reported that he attended a pre-fire season meeting with Humboldt County where there was a tabletop drill included for a fire scenario in the Garberville area, considerations for evacuation, such as disability or language barriers, that there is a new Local Area Advisor approved by the TCBOS, on two upcoming courses at the EOC, on an upcoming flight rescue training at the Weaverville Airport, coordination with NorCal and Humboldt VOAD to create a Trinity VOAD, and that he went to Blue Lake for an emergency management course. Jill, Pat, Carol, Amelia and Philip discussed a search and rescue helicopter safety training scheduled for June 20.

**Meeting Adjourned: 2:42PM**

**Next Meeting: June 22, 2023**



## Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting

Thursday, June 22, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



# Minutes

Teleconferencing available through: +1-669-900-9128, Meeting ID: 828 328 725  
No participant IDs are required; press # to access the call. Password is 123456  
Videoconferencing is available through:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/828328725?pwd=a05MeVZNMkxoUmNyVGI4K2VjUjcwZz09>

*Trinity County Fire Safe Council seeks to improve the cooperation and coordination of all aspects of wildfire management in Trinity County. The Trinity County Fire Safe Council's goal is to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in Trinity County by establishing priorities for reducing risk of catastrophic fire on a landscape-level scale in order to improve forest health, water quality and quantity, and community well-being.*

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

**In person attendees:** TCRCD (Kelly Sheen (Trinity County Collaborative Group) and Skylar Fisher), CAFSC (Pat Frost), TCVFD (Carol Fall), and TCOES (Philip Simi)

**Zoom attendees:** TCRCD (Bethany Llewellyn), Jerry Cousins (Trinity County Collaborative Group), USFS Six Rivers (Nancy Curran), NRCS (Chris Cole), SAFE (Larry Glass)

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

### 3. Discussions

#### a. TCFSC MOU

i. Skylar opened the discussion on the revised MOU based on the discussions from the last TCFSC meeting. Changes include adding language within the "Priority Tasks" section speaking to the maintenance of the CWPP and Firewise communities and facilitation of the LAA and NA programs, revisions were made to the "Principal Contacts" section to fix typos, clarify that that any change of member contacts does not necessitate revising the MOU as the contact is linked to the organization, and to include language stating that all members of the public are members of the Council and are encouraged to attend meetings.

ii. Carol requested that a typo be revised. Bethany, Carol, and Skylar discussed whether the language be revised or if the local fire chiefs should be contacted regarding the fire chief/assistant fire chief position

iii. The Council voted to approve the draft MOU as presented with a revision of a typo.

### 4. Grants

a. Skylar discussed the submittal of the Defensible Space Grant to the CAFSC and that Philip signed a letter of support from the Council.

b. Carol spoke to Ric Leutwyler's report at the most recent Fire Chief Association's meeting regarding Title III funding.

c. Randi spoke to the SNC grant proposal submitted for above Trinity Lake, coordinated with the USFS which will have implementation work for TCRCD. Carol and Randi

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discussed the feasibility of revising the scope to potentially do work in Trinity Camp rather than Bowerman.

- d. Bethany spoke to Forest Health applying through SNC for the Trinity roadside partnership. This would be work on SPI land in the North Lake area.
- e. Carol reported that the TCVFD was applying for a Fire Foundation grant and priority would be on Knolls SPI grounds.

5. **Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update**

- a. Skylar discussed the defensible space grant, the hazard mitigation plan (HMP) update, and the upcoming community meetings.
  - i. Carol and Pat were concerned about the efficacy of outreach for the HMP.
  - ii. Pat and Philip discussed the importance of knowing hazards in other county's which may impact Trinity County and incorporating this analysis into the HMP.

6. **Project Updates**

- a. WRTC
  - i. Randi Parris reported that there was an ongoing shared fire prevention project with TCRCD with only one remaining incomplete project area. There was an upcoming chipping to occur in the Hayfork Valley. There was a fire adapted community project through RAC, additional outreach in the Hayfork and Post Mountain region, upcoming treatment work in the Ewing Reservoir area, and a new project award expected in the end of July.
- b. Willow Creek FSC
  - i. Regina Moon reported that the WCFSC was performing CWDG pre-planning, including a past WFAP training in Salyer where several WCFSC members attended. There was a Willow Creek Firewise event in May and work for the storm recovery grant. In addition, there was ongoing collaboration with TCRCD, Lower Trinity Ranger District NEPA review needed for work, outreach for Bigfoot Daze and parade, and appreciation of Geoff for his hard work with WCFSC.
- c. Weaverville VFD - A representative did not attend
- d. USFS Six-Rivers NF
  - i. Nancy reported that there were ongoing understory burning projects, LLPs had been lifted, there were plans for work in Mad Ridge of about 200 acres of mastication work, there was a review of proposals for August work contact and steady work to maintain the area, there had been discussions with the South Trinity FSC, discussions for the hazard mitigation meeting coming the following Thursday.
  - ii. Pat and Nancy discuss the air curtain burner, to put on Mad Ridge following an archaeological survey.
  - iii. Debra and Nancy discussed potential for lop and scatter in Mad Ridge, concern due to proximity to school, and the benefit of the air curtain.
- e. USFS Shasta-Trinity NF - A representative did not attend
- f. UC Cooperative Extension
  - i. Carol reported for UCANR that there is an opening for a forestry advisor.
- g. Tsnungwe - A representative did not attend
- h. Trinity PUD - A representative did not attend
- i. Trinity County RCD
  - i. Bethany reported that over 130 parcels were served during community chipping, work is ongoing in the Lake Forest Plantation and in the Weaver Basin, there was ongoing collaboration with WRTC, there was work anticipated in Browns Mountain for a shared fuel break which should be about 140 acres, a FEMA grant was in review

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- for NEPA and the project is anticipated to be on hold for about a year, and PG&E funding in South County for roadside work in Ruth and Mad River.
- ii. Kelly reported on the North Coast Resource Conservation District Collaborative, which is made up of 11 different RCD's. This group has entered an agreement with the West Coast Watershed. TCRCD will be a fiscal sponsor for a pilot CALFIRE BLOC grant which aims to identify potential projects and support smaller groups such as VFDs and fire safe councils in the region.
  - iii. Carol added that TCVFD is a form of pilot project similar to what the grant program is looking to support.
  - j. Trinity County Planning - A representative did not attend
  - k. **Additional Report:** Trinity County OES
    - i. Philip reported out that there had been Code Red and Know Your Zone outreach, there will be a September tabletop exercise for the Trinity Dam, a magnet was developed and is being distributed to include health and evacuation zone information, and fire department request form was developed
  - l. Trinity County Collaborative Group
    - i. Larry Glass reported that there was a Big Ranch fieldtrip on June 23 to look for expanded fuel breaks, and the field trip leaves from the Ranger District.
  - m. Trinity County BOS - A representative did not attend
  - n. Trinity Center VFD - No report
  - o. Tehama-Glenn FSC - A representative did not attend
  - p. SPI - A representative did not attend
  - q. Southern Trinity FSC - A representative did not attend
  - r. SAFE
    - i. Kelly reported that SAFE is working with the Trinity County Collaborative.
    - ii. Kelly, Carol, and Larry discussed a memorial that was in the last SAFE newsletter.
  - s. NRCS
    - i. Chris reported that some contracts were finalizing, NRCS was looking to work closer with TCRCD, and there were plans to reach out to WRTC.
  - t. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu - A representative did not attend
  - u. NCUAQMD
    - i. Debra reported that there had been meetings with residents for smoke management plans (SMP's). The goal was to improve noticing and messaging and the timeline for SMP's. The District was looking to better respond to CALFIRE permits, have pre-wildfire notification with NOAA, and have wildfire messaging with Zone Haven.
  - v. Lower Trinity PBA - A representative did not attend
  - w. Hyampom FSC - A representative did not attend
  - x. Caltrans - A representative did not attend
  - y. CAL FIRE - A representative did not attend
  - z. BLM - A representative did not attend
  - aa. **Additional Report:** Pat provided an update on AB 338, Larry asks about the bill impacting goat herding.
  - bb. **Additional Report:** Pat, Kelly, and Skylar discussed the TCRCD, TCFSC, and USFS booth that will be at the Trinity County fair from July 13 through July 16.

Next Meeting: July 27, 2023

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
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**Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting**

Thursday, July 27, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



## Minutes

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

**In person attendees:** Kelly Sheen & Skylar Fisher (TCRCD), Philip Simi (TCOES), Keith Greenwood (SPI)

**Zoom attendees:** Dave DeLange (TPUD), Denise Wesley, Adriana Rodriguez, & Bethany Llewellyn (TCRDC), Regina Moon (WCFSC), Ruth Esperance & Sandy Faulkner (USFS-ST), Chris Cole (NRCS), Kathryn Raeder (Tehama RCD), Larry Glass (SAFE/NEC), Debra Harris (NCUAQMD), Nancy Curran (USFS-SR)

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

### 3. Discussions

- a. **South Fork Trinity (Forest Glen, Hayfork, Hyampom, Peanut, Post Mountain, Wildwood) Project Collaboration** - Please send past, existing, and future project shape files to [dwesley@tcrd.net](mailto:dwesley@tcrd.net) and [sfisher@tcrd.net](mailto:sfisher@tcrd.net) to incorporate into 1 map for our planning purposes.
- b. **Firewise September and October community meetings planning:** USFS has national public lands day around Sep 24.

### 4. Grants

- a. Community Wildfire Defense Grant application opens for 90-day period.

### 5. Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update

- a. Skylar reports that the TCFSC went to county fair, did a table with RCD and Shasta Trinity USFS. Over 200 people were engaged, over 40 survey response for hazard mitigation plan were received, and over 50 responses for the chipper naming contest were received. Work continuing for evacuation routes updates. All evacuation zones are being reviewed. There will be a public review draft of HMP this fall. Work is being scheduled in Downriver community in August as part of the 2022 winter storm recovery program. TCFSC coordinator and Denise Wesley have been working on updated Firewise Community boundary maps.

### 6. Project Updates

- a. BLM - A representative did not attend

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- b. CAL FIRE - A representative did not attend
- c. Caltrans - A representative did not attend
- d. Hyampom FSC - A representative did not attend
- e. Lower Trinity PBA - A representative did not attend
- f. NCUAQMD:
  - i. Debra reported the Flat Fire in Oregon does not have any changes at this point. The Flat Fire has higher temps so producing more smoke but nothing that will achieve levels that would require forecast 24 hour basis. Bedrock Fire may get larger and could impact us. Eastern Trinity burning is suspended.
- g. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu - A representative did not attend
- h. NRCS:
  - i. Chris Cole reported he applied for and received more funding through Joint Chiefs program. Have an additional 5 projects funded so working on the planning
- i. **Additional Comment: RCD Tehama County:**
  - i. Kathryn reported they received the grant from CWDG and just started working on the grant with USFS.
- j. SAFE:
  - i. Larry did not have any new developments.
- k. Southern Trinity FSC - A representative did not attend
- l. SPI:
  - i. Keith reported that SPI has been working on enhancement of fuel breaks for River Complex. They have a mastication machine and treating the material that had been pushed. There is a mastication operator down in Hayfork summit working with roads and moved that operator to Arbuckle Mine area. Any evacuation routes that go through SPI has to be directed through the managing agency when there is a fire.
- m. Tehama-Glenn FSC - A representative did not attend
- n. Trinity Center VFD - A representative did not attend
- o. Trinity County BOS - A representative did not attend
- p. Trinity County Collaborative Group:
  - i. Larry Glass reported the pilot project will be for sale in October.
- q. Trinity County OES:
  - i. Philip reported that Weaverville VFD is upgrading their emergency generator to handle entire building. He is waiting for historical preservation to be approved by FEMA. Working with Bureau of Reclamation for dam failure tabletop exercise on Sep 7<sup>th</sup> from 9-12. Earthquake scenario with damage to dam and rapid release of water downstream impacting Lewiston dam. Starting to update emergency operations plan. Public information officer training in Blue Lake in second week of August. Meeting next week with sheriff's office on code red zone descriptions.
- r. Trinity County Planning - A representative did not attend
- s. Trinity County RCD:
  - i. Bethany reported ongoing fuels work on B Bar K Road. A crew was sent to South County funded by PG&E. Both projects are roadside work. Planning phase for hazard tree removal in August Complex. Forestry crew wrapping up layout of Petty Jon fuels portion. Kelly added that the Stewardship Agreement with USFS has been executed for 10 years, so starting to prepare a lot of work such as prescribed fire support, fuels reduction, fisheries, etc. Agreement designed for future years of funding have to do minor modifications to improve efficiency.

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- t. Trinity PUD:
  - i. Continuing hazard tree program, pole clearing is wrapped, CAL Fire doing fuels reduction around Trinity Alps road. ROW project still in visual impact studies portion of the EIS, should have draft ready for public comment this fall.
- u. Tsnungwe - A representative did not attend
- v. UC Cooperative Extension
- w. USFS Shasta-Trinity NF:
  - i. Sandy reported they are hiring new fuels crew, which will allow them to be more productive in this time of year. Looking at going into fire restrictions, such as locations. Current have some cover resources, Type 3 and Type 6 engine. Hayfork has a hand crew available to help with projects and to fill in any event that arises. The suppression response for current fires was great, but due to them being state fires she cannot discuss much.
- x. USFS Six-Rivers NF:
  - i. Nancy reported inspection on hazard tree abatement. Anticipate that middle of September will approach 1,000 acres of work done. Looked at county roads with RCD on USFS lands to do the first cuts on those, expanded from 25 feet to 100 feet. Most popular road with most concern is road between Hettenshaw and Ruth Lake; large hazard tree component.
- y. Weaverville VFD - A representative did not attend
- z. Willow Creek FSC:
  - i. Regina reported Bigfoot Days on July 8<sup>th</sup> was sold out. There was a large attendance - lots of people from outside the community also attended. The WCFSC made \$2,000. Regina attended the Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting in Burnt Ranch. WCFSC received a grant from HAF funding and sent off an annual report. The WCFSC had brought in \$12,200 from fundraisers to show contribution, as well as over 800 hours. Still trying to build field crew capacity. There was a kickoff meeting last week for the Willow Creek CWDG project.
- aa. WRTC
  - i. A representative from the WRTC was unable to attend, but shared with Skylar that they are currently looking to hire more staff.

Next Meeting: August 24, 2023



## Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting

Thursday, August 24, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



# Minutes

Teleconferencing available through: +1-669-900-9128, Meeting ID: 828 328 725  
No participant IDs are required; press # to access the call. Password is 123456  
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### 1. Welcome & Introductions

**In person attendees:** Jill Cox (TCBOS), Pat Frost (TC CSD), Carol Fall (TCVFD), Philip Simi (TCOES), Skylar Fisher, Bethany Llewellyn, & Kelly Sheen (TCRCD), Dave Jaramillo, Kenneth Baldwin (BBW Forester)

**Zoom attendees:** Chris Cole (NRCS), Adriana Rodriguez (TCRCD), Gina Moon (WCFSC), Jerry Cousins (SAFE), Dave DeLange (TPUD), Xander Winter (WRTC), Jeff Meyer (ST Area Rescue), Larry Glass (SAFE/NEC), Garrett Dunn (BLM), Debra Harris (NCUAQMD)

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

- a. Addition: Letter of support for Title 3 Proposals from TCVFD and WRTC.
- b. Bethany requested do project update first as she had to leave early.

### 3. Discussions

- a. Presentation on how to use Know Your Zone. Demonstration of the firesafetrinity.org evacuation zones and how to use the web applications. Make sure to type in physical address rather than PO Box. People who cannot understand or work the application can go to the fire station and get physical maps. County OES page has map immediately. Suggestion to reach out to Airbnb owners about a packet that shows evacuation zone and routes. Suggestions include less links or one main link on the home page. Lots of areas with low or no internet, so interface should be phone friendly. Discussion yesterday about zones not encompassing entire neighborhoods, ex three houses in long canyon in evacuation warning but not the rest of the neighborhood. Evacuation Status Viewer applications demonstration. Suggestion to change the name from "Wildfire Status" to "Wildfire/ Emergency Status" so people know to go to this website for anything. Eventually will have zones, two evacuation routes, and other applications to the evacuation status. They have gotten lots of views on the evacuation status map.
- b. Discussion of letters: Instead of multiple letters, maybe send one letter form the RCD supporting all the other proposals. Good to show support for the people who will do the work path. The problem with past asks was they needed to be pitched out because they

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weren't authorized to fund certain things. Concern that some communities get insurance discount even though they aren't doing much or getting work done for them. Suggestion that money needs to go to those communities. The fire safe council needs to make it clear that they need to bring their application, but a lot of organizations don't go to meetings or choose to get involved. Possibly have applicants meet in a room and informally discuss proposals. A process so attorneys don't think they are violating Brown Act; maybe a committee established to advise supervisors. Not a lot of money for "stuff" more so for acts such as fuels reduction. Lots of funding out there so people look towards RCD and Fire safe council to pursue them. Suggested that fire safe council may want to be preliminary vetting body for board of supervisors. Applicants responsibility to go and get letters, but FSC could try and educate people to what the cause might be.

4. **Grants**

- a. Request for letter of support for TCRCD Title III grant proposal: The Fire Safe Council supports the TCRCD in their request towards the 2025 update of the CWPP, fire wise education, CWPP project implementation, and training. The Fire Safe Council voted to support the chair signing the letter.
- b. **Addition**: Request for letter of support for WRTC Title III grant proposal. The Fire Safe Council moves to pass the letter of support for the WRTC Title III grant. This proposal will provide better access into some areas that have been left out of treatments. They also want to target visible areas for treatment so people can see the end product.
- c. **Addition**: Request for letter of support for TCVFD Title III grant proposal. The Fire Safe Council moves to pass for letter of support for TCVFD Title III grant proposal.

5. **Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update**

- a. Progress continues on hazard mitigation plan. They will release the results of the plan in a community engagement plan. They are in early talks on fall chipping starting in October, and are also looking to rev up fire wise community outreach. There are going to be fire wise community meetings to increase the boards.

6. **Project Updates**

- a. WRTC: Xander Winters stated they are pursuing a Sierra Nevada Conservancy Implementation grant to cover 300 acres in work within the Bowerman Fuel Break footprint mostly in areas that are difficult to access; manual work and road work adjacent to Highway 3. They executed an agreement with the state for and extra forest health grant they applied for. It will be allocated between Hayfork and Hyampom. They will start the compliance effort for CEQA this winter. The agreement will be used to treat defensible space on private lands. In Hayfork, similar fuel break projects will be implemented on lands bordering USFS. WRTC was selected as a subcontractor in one of the federal blanket purchase agreements. Their crews will be doing 1,0000 acres of implementation in the PetiJohn roadside area.
- b. Willow Creek FSC: Gina Moon reported they are keeping up with social media about the ongoing fires. Plan to update the website with different links to helpful resources. They will be writing a letter of support for the Redwood community energy association that supports the VFDs. They are ongoing with the Humboldt County Storm Recovery and Phase 4 CAL Fire money. They have a few meetings for the CWDG. The fire wise certification will have a few changes, they will try to do more specifics describing some of the work to get communities involved and engaged.
- c. Weaverville VFD: A representative did not attend
- d. USFS Six-Rivers NF: A representative did not attend

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- e. USFS Shasta-Trinity NF: A representative did not attend
- f. UC Cooperative Extension: A representative did not attend
- g. Tsnungwe: A representative did not attend
- h. Trinity PUD: Dave DeLange reported that they are continuing routine pruning and hazard tree abatement along all their facilities, monitoring the Deep fire incase action is required on their part. CDF com crews have been doing ROW cleaning along Trinity Elk Road. They are pursuing USFS CWDF grant for fuels reduction.
- i. Trinity County RCD: Bethany reported that new Cal Fire Fire Prevention grant that includes plans east of Weaverville and in/around Junction City. In areas outside of the WFC but will tie into it. Evacuation status presentation is on their Facebook. Kelly reported they got PG&E funding, where they will use it on lands within 1,000 feet of PG&E infrastructure. Crews are currently working on B Bar K with the Cal Fire grant. TCRCO will be contracting with the Humboldt County RCD to work on lands impacted by the lightning complex, going to try to stretch it to the Monument Fire in 2021. Implementation to start later this year or next year, and it will be a few years of work. Kelly will be going on a field tour with the WRTC to look at the Headwaters Land Trust next week. The WFC steering committee meeting is on Sep 6<sup>th</sup> to talk about the annual operating plan and the Oregon Mt Timber Harvest Plan.
- j. Trinity County OES: Phillip Simi reported that the final project for the new generator change out or the Weaverville FD is underway. The existing generator will be repurposed to Junction City. Doing a big push on the emergency alert sirens; with the main priority being Burnt Ranch. They plan to get several other locations for sirens out for areas without cell service or with little access to sheriffs.
- k. Trinity County Collaborative Group: Kelly Sheen reported they had to postpone the South Fork mountain tour until October. Also, the public meeting in Hyampom got cancelled.
- l. Trinity County BOS: No report
- m. Trinity Center VFD: No report
- n. Tehama-Glenn FSC: A representative did not attend
- o. SPI: A representative did not attend
- p. Southern Trinity FSC: No report
- q. SAFE: No report
- r. NRCS: : No report
- s. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu: A representative did not attend
- t. NCUAQMD: No report
- u. Lower Trinity PBA: A representative did not attend
- v. Hyampom FSC: Skylar Fisher reported on behalf of Larry Winter that the Hyampom CSD is currently looking to request \$3,600 from Title 3 funds to carry out CWP updates and planning work.
- w. Caltrans: a representative did not attend
- x. CAL FIRE: a representative did not attend
- y. BLM : Gerrett Dunn reported the maintenance treatment and completion of the Ewing Reservoir fuel break project. The Lewiston Community Protection is almost complete, there is only some burning left in two areas, hopefully by late November. For the Redding Indian Creek Woodland Restoration Project, only Units 1 and 6 need to be completed. They plan on expanding the project and implementing the next fall. The Little Browns Creek project has the majority of piles burned in units 1, 2, and 3. They plan on implementing the next unit of 120 acres this fall. Good news is the Weaverville

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community protection project was recently awarded. It is a five-year contract with work the first three years and an additional two for maintenance. They are looking to address the conifer die-off in the Trinity County area. They have some opportunity for funding for 10,000 acres. Junction City requested to work with the USFS to put in a fuel break between Broch Gulch and the 299.

Next Meeting: September 28, 2023

Trinity County Fire Safe Council  
and Firewise Communities Program



**Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting**

Thursday, September 28, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



## Minutes

Teleconferencing available through: +1-669-900-9128, Meeting ID: 828 328 725  
No participant IDs are required; press # to access the call. Password is 123456  
Videoconferencing is available through:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/828328725?pwd=a05MeVZNMkxoUmNyVGI4K2VjUjcwZz09>

*Trinity County Fire Safe Council seeks to improve the cooperation and coordination of all aspects of wildfire management in Trinity County. The Trinity County Fire Safe Council's goal is to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in Trinity County by establishing priorities for reducing risk of catastrophic fire on a landscape-level scale in order to improve forest health, water quality and quantity, and community well-being.*

1. **Welcome & Introductions** 1:04PM

Philip Simi (Chair) opened the meeting

**In person attendees:** Philip Simi (TCOES), Jill Cox (TCBOS), Skylar Fisher, Liam Bassler, Bethany Llewellyn, & Denise Wesley (TCRCD) Carol Fall (TCVFD), and Randi Parris (WRTC)

**Zoom attendees:** Mary Flurey and John (Downriver Fire), Adriana (TCRCD), Larry Cousins (TCCG), Xander Winter (WRTC), Chris Cole (NRCS), Dave DeLange (TPUD), Debra Harris (NCUAQMD), Ruth Esperance (USFS)

2. **Additions or Changes to the Agenda**

No changes heard to the agenda

3. **Discussions**

No discussions

4. **Grants**

a. **Addition:** Request for letter of support for TCRCD Sierra Nevada Conservancy roads grant proposal

i. Bethany provided an overview on the grant proposal, the proposal initially went to the TCFSC last year and has since received minor changes

Carol reported that TCVFD likes this proposal and sent a letter of support with the Trinity Center CSD last year. These roads are being used by the Trinity Center VFD - enthusiastic support. Inquiry about Coffee Creek VFD sending a letter of support - Carol said they will get a letter.

Jerry Cousin motioned to approve, Carol seconded, no opposition

b. **Addition:** Request for letter of support for TCRCD California Resiliency Challenge grant proposal

i. Skylar provided a description of the grant, the intent to use the funds to update the CWPP and to hold community meetings.

Carol asked if we were planning to have a public meeting in Post Mountain and asked what the general outreach strategy was Jill said that rather than Weaverville

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getting repeated meetings, Post Mountain should have a meeting as Post Mountain is often left out of programming.

**5. Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update**

- i. Skylar described the upcoming Firewise Community board meetings, the Firewise Gardening presentation series, and community chipping. Carol stated that since Trinity Center has a higher elevation, this community should be targeted in the start of Fall and work down to lower and the reverse for the Spring. Jill, Bethany, and Philip comment in agreement. Jill asked about Title III funding and if VFD can assist in cutting and that could lead to chipping. Bethany, Carol, and Randi discuss historic context and how the WRTC has helped in the recent past. There is brief discussion regarding Firewise Board meetings and having adequate outreach.

**6. Project Updates**

- a. BLM - A representative did not attend
- b. CAL FIRE - A representative did not attend
- c. Caltrans - A representative did not attend
- d. Hyampom FSC - A representative did not attend
- e. Lower Trinity PBA - A representative did not attend
- f. NCUAQMD
  - i. Debra reported that prescribed fire is picking up, but there are still smoke impacts from the wildfire. There have been several meetings requesting input from the state to navigate this situation. She believes that there will be a good climate for prescribed fire this season and the fires are being managed well
- g. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu - A representative did not attend
- h. NRCS
  - i. Chris reported that there is Downriver and Forest Glen area funding coming in. Winding down as the financial year closes.
- i. SAFE - A representative did not attend
- j. Southern Trinity FSC - A representative did not attend
- k. SPI - A representative did not attend
- l. Tehama-Glenn FSC - A representative did not attend
- m. Trinity Center VFD
  - i. Carol reported there was a grant application for fuel reduction projects. She was notified by the CA Fire Foundation to start doing work in the Trinity Knolls and Title III funding was applied for to do work around homes and on SPI grounds. Title II funds on Hobo Dump (county land). Grant applied for International Coalition of Fire Chiefs to do fuel reduction on USFS land in the middle of Trinity Center.
- n. Trinity County BOS - no updates
  - i. Randi asked about Title III. Jill and Randi state that there is a 45-day waiting period. Suzie Hawkins may be able to make the funding work although the asks are over \$3000  
Carol describes that the funding can be for Firewise, search and rescue, and emergency equipment. Discussion regarding the jaws of life. Trinity Center VFD has surplus jaws of life and may be able to donate jaws of life if it meets the need. Randi states that she shared information regarding Title III to Suzie Hawkins. There is discussion regarding the difference between RAC and Title III. There is discussion regarding the county's ability to receive emails and there's issues to access and

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receive emails. Carol asks about funding for WFAP assessments. Skylar, Bethany, and Carol discuss renewing the contract for TCVFD to do more work. Philip discusses how NVCSS has home hardening assessment funding. Philip recommends reaching out to NVCSS about their program. Carol and Bethany discuss the need for funding for helping people perform home improvements.

o. Trinity County Collaborative Group

- i. Jerry Cousins reported there was a meeting 2 weeks ago to discuss tree mortality. Randi presented on Land Tender. There was a conversation on the limited number of wildfire cameras in Trinity County and discusses how Travis Finch wants to put up the cameras, but Jill and Randi clarify that while he wants to, he does not have cameras. Carol discusses how UC San Diego and PGE have offered in the past, but there are not cameras now. Randi discusses how Travis is a private company and that there are 22 cameras to put up and wonders if it would make sense for the camera proposal to come from the fire safe council to the USFS. Discussion between Carol, Randi, and Jerry regarding where the proposed sites are. Carol asks about TCOES. Randi conveyed that Tara seems to not care where the cameras are and Jim Spear is doing the follow-up. Philip will follow-up with Jim Spear for the next TCFSC meeting. Randi prefers the proposal coming from TCFSC rather than Travis Finch. Interest in the wildfire cameras to return as a discussion item in the October 2023 meeting.

Larry Glass says the USFS LAR has been well, including in Hyampom. The Science on Tap from the Prescribed Burn Association was good.

p. Trinity County OES

- i. Philip Simi: Draft HMP was submitted and the organizational structure is good. Great shake out drill coming up with the Amateur radio club - evaluating high frequency drills. Speaks to the need to be able to take evacuation refugees. October 4<sup>th</sup> IPAWS test for national alerts. Trinity Trust Grant to build up communication systems, auxiliary and last mile communication systems, and GMRS for the public so that it does not require a license. Looking to get funding for non-English speaking community members trained in radio. Still in the feasibility stage. He will be in last week of emergency management training then gone for two weeks. Working with NVCSS on Trinity VOAD, has been working with the Humboldt Area Foundation. VOAD is still being formed, Basho Parks is an active member. Skylar asked if there are VOAD materials TCFSC can share. Philip says more information to come.

Philip comments about revising the dam location table and HBMWD is interested in having an annex. HBMWD currently has a draft of the dam. Carol expresses concern regarding the HMP being lost and losing FEMA funding.

- q. **Addition:** Downriver Fire Discussion. Mary asked about the NRCS funding for EQIP in Downriver on an over 40 acre parcel. Monument Survivors update, Trinity Adventure Park. Questions and talks about Firewise meetings and TCRCD fire prevention work.

r. Trinity County Planning - A representative did not attend

s. Trinity County RCD

- i. Denises reports an evacuation zones update: maintenance for the zones included base map updates and status updates. She provided stats, including 9000 data requests per day average. Updated metadata information sheet and presentation on how to use the information. There is currently one zone under warning. Carol

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- says stay off the Stuart Fork trail. Discussion on the Evacuation Status presentation and that it's on Facebook. Randi, Skylar, Denise, Carol, and Philip discuss shortfalls on Facebook. Randi voiced difficulty finding the information. Philip vocalizes that he, Mike Cottone, and a few others will like to be trained to learn how to update evacuation status. Philip discusses a desire to keep metrics on evacuation status zone and if people are being reached when there are notifications. Discussion how there could be a difference between search queries on phone and on website. Randi comments appreciation on the update to the TCFSC website. Evacuation route update draft is complete - there is a series of 24x36. The next step is to have on the ground people to mark up the map and then a quality assurance review. Reports on internal review with Skylar and Bethany.
- ii. Bethany: Introduces Liam as our new Grizzly Corps fellow. Chipping is coming. Fuels work happening in the Lake Forest Plantation and there is work in the South County wrapping. There is a CWDG proposal being developed currently for Burnt Ranch to Big Flat. Discusses that this is complementary to the Humboldt County RCD and WRTC CWDG. Bethany has been performing outreach for the CWDG proposal and would like to connect with Mary from Downriver Fire. Carol asks about the WRTC work for Lake Forest and Bethany clarifies that the work is being done on Kinney Camp.
  - t. Trinity PUD
    - i. Dave: Con crews working off Kinny Camp. WRTC is preparing a prescribed burn. Hazard tree abatement is continuing. Gave a presentation to the collaborative regarding the situation of severe tree mortality in the county which is caused almost a doubling in the TPUD budget. Looking at more projects identified in the CWPP and is looking to identify additional grant funding.  
Chris Cole asks for an explanation on the fire reclosers. Dave explains that if a recloser detects a fault it will open up and not reclose and can create outages.
  - u. Tsnungwe - A representative did not attend
  - v. UC Cooperative Extension
    - i. Discussion on the Post-Fire Resilience Workshop and the posted Forest position
  - w. USFS Shasta-Trinity NF
    - i. Ruth discusses that Shasta Trinity is reflecting on the year. This includes reflecting on the 16MIL for Trinity Wildfire Crisis Landscape - thinning, pile work hazard tree 12,000 acres. Looking for funds for next year. Looking for different ways to obligate money. Contract work - obligated over 27MIL of contracts, a lot of this is in the Trinity and Klamath region. 5 IRCs, 15MIL awarded. 70,000 tons of hazardous fuels removed. Obligate 5.3MIL in 5 fire footprints to repair trails and recreation facilities - primarily for 2020 and 2021 fires. Fire restrictions were lifted Sept 16. The South Fork Complex area closure was terminated on the Shasta-Trinity side. The Deep Fire is in the process of being reduced and approval is expected in the next few days. Will be attending the wildfire task force group.  
Carol asks when the evacuation order will be raised off the Alps or when the Stuarts Fork will be reopened. Ruth states that is currently under review. Philip asks for clarification and it is given.
  - x. USFS Six-Rivers NF - A representative did not attend
  - y. Weaverville VFD - A representative did not attend
  - z. Willow Creek FSC - A representative did not attend

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aa. WRTC

- i. Xander attended the Hyampom tour the previous Friday and thought that the USFS created a good fuels reduction project.  
Randi reported that WRTC was notified that WRTC got a CWDG grant award, but it has not been executed yet. WRTC has a middle Trinity and Hyampom grant. Randi references the Greater Willow Creek CWDG. No CWDG applications including Trinity County has been awarded. TCRC and Weaverville VFD is built into the middle Trinity. Bowerman SNC grant update - WRTC is waiting for the next round due to required timeline for NEPA preparation. Plan to make a solid proposal in the next round that has more information. WRTC has chipping every Thursday in October. WRTC is going to do a demonstration project in Post Mountain - plan to also translate in Hmong and Spanish. Would like to have a neighborhood specific defensible space/chipping work. Would like to use moveable billboards to show information and continue outreach on the neighborhood level. Mastication in Petty John, fuel break project at Wells Mountain (SPI land), smaller scale projects to fit in before the end of the field season. Discussion on chipping plans. Upcoming meeting with S Fork Rd neighbors. Would like to have a complete project along S Fork Rd. Carol and Randi discuss Bowerman would be in January/February. The sale is being prepped in Bowerman. Skylar asks about date for demonstration project in Post Mountain. This is likely to happen in the Spring. Discussion on locations for demonstrations. The Post Mountain clean-up was successful.

Next Meeting: October 26, 2023



## Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting

Thursday, October 26, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



# Minutes

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

No participant IDs are required; press # to access the call. Password is 123456

Videoconferencing is available through:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/828328725?pwd=a05MeVZNMkxoUmNyVGI4K2VjUjcwZz09>

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### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Meeting starts at 1:01PM

**In Person attendees:** Philip Simi (TCOES), Kelly Sheen, Adriana Rodriguez, Thomas Paulson, Daphne Hobbs, & Skylar Fisher (TCRCD), Randi Parris (WRTC), Shay Callahan & Chris Cole (NRCS), Jo San Metz & Gary Carpenter (Post Mountain Firewise Board), Jim Spear (Trinity County Collaborative Group), Mike Allan (BLM)

**Zoom attendees:** Carol Fall (TCVFD), Chuck Colby (LVFD), Xander Winter & Megan Killeen (WRTC), Denise Wesley, Annyssa Interante, Christine Burchinal, & Kayla Meyer (TCRCD), Jerry Cousins (SAFE), Dan Dogert, (NVCSS), Jill Cox & Heidi Carpenter-Harris (TCBOS), Dena Magdaleno (Tsnungwe), Larry Glass (SAFE/NEC), Ruth Esperance & Sandy Faulkner (Shasta-Trinity NF), Sophia Sady (Hawkins Bar Firewise Board), Glen Tingley (Shasta Trinity NF TRMU), John Brower (Junction City Firewise Board), Dave DeLange (TPUD)

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

No additions of changes to the agenda

### 3. Discussions

#### 1. **Scheduling the November 2023 and December 2023 Fire Safe Council meetings to avoid holiday conflicts**

Philip introduces this item, Kelly discusses the issues with November and December meetings with Thanksgiving and Christmas and recommends the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. Skylar brings up a conflict to the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. Kelly says how about Dec 7. Jerry Cousin says he likes Dec 7. The group agrees to Dec 7.

#### 2. **2024 Chair Nominations**

Carol nominates Philip as chair. Carol provides context on how VFD members used to be the chair, but having someone from TCOES works well. Kelly seconds the vote and Gary also agrees on this.

#### 3. **Wildfire Cameras**

Philip opens the item and Kelly and Jim passes the item over to Jim Spear.

Philip provided Jim with context from the last TCFSC meeting, how this came up. Jim provided that Randi provided Jim an update to the TCFSC's interest in promoting wildfire cameras. Jim says the TCCG is interested in promoting cameras as well. Jim followed up

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with Mike Wilson with the CAFSC, but he is moving over to Alert California on November 1. In 2018-2019, the TCCG formed an ad hoc group to increase the number of cameras in Trinity County and created a spreadsheet of 21 proposed sites for cameras. Alert Wildfire and Alert California had a schism which has pushed Alert California forward. Mike/Alert California is interested in working with local partners and has forward progress currently. The issue is that it doesn't seem like they have a local contact. They are looking to get Picket Peak, Hayfork Bally, Tom head mountain, knob peak, lymedyke peak.

Carol points out that there are no cameras currently proposed in the northern county area. Kelly elaborates that these are strategic locations that get the most bang from the buck. Jim clarifies that Alert California is not working with local folks and has not working with USFS. There is work currently with the USFS to get things approved - but it is very early on. There are an additional 5 sites, some of which in the northern county area, which are being considered. There will be a meeting with Jim, Travis Finch (who is happy to provide free internet and assistance in installation), Mike, and a few others to discuss these sites.

Carol asks if there can be a comprehensive group, whether TCFSC or TCCG, where they can move forward in these projects. She asks if the TCCG is going to be the group which moves these cameras forward. Kelly says that the TCCG is pushing this forward. Dena adds in that Travis should know that Ironside should be added to the list. Travis promoted this at the TCCG, but the District Ranger is not in support currently due to a recent fire in the area. They are still looking from permissions from the tribes for other installations. Dena reminds the group that she is part of the Tsunungwe and they have promoted the project. Kelly says that there is still concern from the District Ranger.

Randi points out Dena's MOU with the USFS. Dena says that the current location is not a concern and is not visible. She says that they can write a letter of support. Kelly suggests that Dena connect with Tara about it.

Jill Cox asks if she could get the list again. Jim says yes and states that PG&E is the funder. Mike says that this costs between \$25-50K to install. \$6K a piece per camera, each site needs 2. 5K a year to maintain the sites. The funding all comes from PG&E. Jim states that the TCCG is still in the midst of getting information on this.

Jim also shares that Alert California is working with SPI. At this point, it is just in the discussion stage. Carol points out that the Carrville repeater is on SPI land.

Jill asks if anyone else should be a part of the call. Jim says Philip will be on the call. Jill nominates Carol, who agrees. Larry says he'd like to be on the call.

Randi asked if the TCCG is going to propose future sites for cameras. Kelly says that this will be in the realm of the TCCG going forward. Jerry pitches in that he likes the idea of the TCCG to be the lead on this. Jill thanks Jim for the research and the report.

4. Firewise Community Reporting.

Skylar provided a presentation on the Firewise Community reporting requirements

- A. **Context provided for Firewise:** The Trinity County Fire Safe Council coordinates 14 Firewise Communities in the County. Thank you for everyone in the room who has attended those meetings. We have gotten a lot of great feedback and are in the midst of updating the Action Plan for 2024 - there will be an updated Action Plan in your inbox next week.
- B. **Context provided for reporting:** At a minimum, each site is required to annually invest the equivalent of one volunteer hour per dwelling unit in wildfire risk reduction actions. If your site has identified 100 homes within its boundary, than 100 hours of work or the monetary equivalent, based on the independent sector value of volunteer time, need to be completed for that year.

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- C. Paste reporting form link in the chat and bring up the Trinity County Firewise Community Reporting Form
- D. Walk through the reporting form and pause for questions  
Question asked and feedback by the group:  
Gary and Jo San that they can do reporting. Gary says that he is interested in engaging in the WFAP. Carol asks about the reporting done for Trinity Center. Skylar clarifies that Trinity Center does not need additional reporting.

**4. Grants**

**a. Request for letter of support for TPUD USDA Community Wildfire Defense Grant Proposal**

Skylar introduces this item. Kelly comments that this proposal is in line with the ongoing work to maintain their powerlines. Carol asks how much it is for. Kelly says he believes that it is for around \$10 million. Randi suggests that the CWDG prefers to.

**b. Request for letter of support for TCRCD Downriver Trinity Community Wildfire Defense Grant Proposal**

Skylar presents the item. Kelly adds that this will complement the Big Ranch work. Bethany adds that a lot of community members were engaged in this. Randi points out WRTC national programs which support community groups across the country who are applying for CWDG. Randi asks if the WRTC be removed from the letter to remove any conflicts of interest. Jill moves to approve the letter with the revision and Larry seconds. Letter is approved with the revision. Jill asks if there can be mapping to show the proposed work and the USFS work to show the compliment. Kelly says that TCRCD is working with the USFS and will be doing some mapping. Kelly mentions the Greater Willow Creek CWDG project. Randi brings up the WRTC project in Middle Trinity and Hyampom. Jill mentions a meeting that she had with Tara showing 6 USFS projects, and that there are additional projects being done by TCRCD and WRTC. Kelly and Jill discuss the potential for a map that shows multiple projects on one map. Kelly says that Denise will be able to do the work. Jo San mentions that having real time maps would be good - Kelly mentions that the TCRCD project track is similar, but likes the idea of doing something similar for fuel reduction projects.

Philip mentioned the lessons learned from the HMP meetings and that the public should be able to feel government transparency. There should be presentations and some way that people can keep track of work proposed and completed. Philip says there would be higher turn out if people feel like things were happening. Ruth sumit

**5. Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update**

Skylar provided an update that:

- 1. Hazard Mitigation Plan is still in its initial internal review by TCOES
- 2. Draft evacuation routes were sent to the VFDs and multiple county departments for review
- 3. 12 Firewise Board meetings have been held - 2 more next week for Hawkins Bar and Douglas City
- 4. 3 Firewise Gardening meetings have been held - in Coffee Creek, Big Flat, and Hawkins Bar
- 5. The TCFSC attended the CA Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force
- 6. The TCFSC tabled the Salmon Festival
- 7. The TCFSC traveled to the Post Mountain PUD meeting to get Firewise feedback
- 8. Community chipping is wrapping up in two weeks
- 9. Home assessments continue by the Lewiston and Trinity Center VFD, our education coordinator Miles as 7 scheduled in other communities

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10. The TCFSC is planning a late November neighborhood ambassador appreciation and strategy session

11. The TCFSC will table with the DC Fire Belles for a fire safe spook-tacular on Friday

12. The TCFSC will attend a CAFSC board meeting next Wednesday to provide program input

6. **Project Updates**

a. **WRTC**

Xander provides an update on the Bowerman Ridge project - NEPA is being wrapped up, but crews have been out to determine layout. This has included blue flagging which Carol inquired about.

Randi said that it's been a busy field season. They are looking at base planting and planning for the CWDG for next year when they get funded. Randi mentions the Bowerman Ridge project. She said there were some conflicts in time between field and writing, but says they should be able to complete the documents by the end of the year. WRTC is looking for a planning project in the Hyampom area. There is an environmental document which covers a lot of the area. She says that they are planning to work with the USFS to make this work happen and compliment USFS efforts. There is currently outreach in the works and better understanding their concerns. They hope to use any feedback that cant be used in the project for future projects. This is part of the Forest Health Grant, but also links to the CWDG. There have been multiple prescribed burns. Looking to do an across boundary burn across private and USFS lands. WRTC is hiring for another Forester position.

b. **Willow Creek FSC**

a. Skylar provided an update provided by Gina Moon, the WCFSC president, that:

b. Be sure WCFSC is excited about supporting any & all Down River Projects

c. We continue to build rew capacity

d. We have our WCFSC meeting first Thursday of each month, November 2, @ 6:00pm

e. Community meeting November 8th Weaverville VFD

c. **USFS Six-Rivers NF**

No representative attended.

d. **USFS Shasta-Trinity NF**

Glen Tingley - prescribed burn will happen all weekend long, up to Trinity Center. Burning will continue as the weather will allow. There has been some burning in the Burnt Ranch area.

Carol asks about con camp brush piles around the airport and the fire got away. Carol cautions for the ballpark burn.

e. **UC Cooperative Extension:**

No representative attended.

f. **Tsnungwe**

Dena promotes the November 8 kick-off meeting and that the HCRD CWDG will have work on South Fork Rd. She also said that Six Rivers has been helping with the flyers and interactive mapping. She explains a field trip she took with Regina and Randi along South Fork Rd. She referenced the storm recovery funds. She said that seeing these projects get to this point is very energizing.

g. **Trinity PUD**

Dave says that reclosers are back to the normal settings. Hazard tree contractors are still working and will work through the winter. Dave discusses the TPUD CWDG LOS proposal. Dave would like to get with Denise to show shapefiles on SPI land and update projects which have been implemented.

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**h. Trinity County RCD**

Bethany reports that 200 acres of thinning has been wrapped up in Lake Forest, providing burn assistance in Weaver Basin burn and look to support BLM assistance next week.

Adriana reports that there is going to be work in Burnt Ranch initial recon for burn severity and that site plans are being developed for implementation next year. For McConnell, there is work happening with landowners in Covington Mill to create site plans. There will be a tour in Oregon Mt.

Denise reports that there are no evacuation warnings/statuses currently, TCOES recently received evacuation maps, and she will follow up with TCOES regarding training for evacuation zones. Denise has responded to some data requests. Denise created an evacuation zone presentation that she is happy to share it out. Denise said Jill asked why addressing wasn't working - the reason is because the applications search function is based on the world geocoding service which doesn't completely align with actual addressing. She reached out to USPS to update the addressing, but response has been slow. Denise is receptive to consolidating all the evacuation status portals to be one application. Kelly said that her presentation was good.

Kelly wraps up the TCRCRCD report out by speaking to the CA Taskforce Meeting. He discusses that he sit on a panel about Trinity County and local organizations work in getting funding into Trinity County to reduce wildfire risk in the county. He discusses the panel members and moderator. He relays that partnerships are what has made a lot of the good work in the county possible. TCRCRCD and the WRTC are supporting the county in standing up the Natural Resources Division of the County and are working with David Colbeck. This department will assist in environmental review and streamlining the process for environmental review.

**i. Trinity County Planning**

No representative attended.

**j. Trinity County OES**

Philip reports that there are two grants he applied for - one through CDFW for a second fuel spill equipment trailer. There currently one in Weaverville. CDFW seems like they will issue it. It will be at the Hayfork VFD. Trinity Trust grant for GMRS to support non-English speaking communities. The grant was written for the Post Mountain area and to put in 3-5 repeaters and distribute radios. He has been working with the VFD to make this happen. Philip has been working on the Emergency Management grants. He is working on responding to some equipment requests from the VFD. He spoke to Senator McGuire at the Veterans Hall regarding sensitive communications infrastructure and has been working with his office to put pressure on Frontier. He asked Frontier if the reason a lot of their infrastructure is in poor state is because they plan to upgrade to fiber. Sheriff applied for a radio high frequency radio equipment grant. The equipment arrived this week. There will be a radio at the EOC, Sheriff command center, and in a mobile unit. This will allow the Sheriff to talk to folks across California and CALOES. Philip said that Trinity Center VFD is interested in putting in a siren. He has been pushing for Burnt Ranch and Southern Trinity. Two more will go in Weaverville and Trinity Center. Philip asked PG&E to donate poles, but they declined. He would like to partner with TPUD.

**k. Trinity County Collaborative Group**

Larry reports that there was a fieldtrip last Friday on South Fork Mountain and looking at the joint USFS efforts to create shaded fuelbreaks on South Fork Mountain. Randi is helping design the project on Land Tender. Discussed the use of a horizontal chipper which is quite large. There is also work to take down dead trees.

**l. Trinity County BOS**

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Heidi reports that she is grateful for the work happening on private and USFS lands. She is happy about the work in the western county. She also supports the cameras and sirens.

**m. Trinity Center VFD**

Carol says thank you for the fee for service for the Knolls project. She reports that the VFD chiefs met with Senator McGuire and he said he had an earmark for Southern Trinity VFD. He asked for what the VFDs would like next year to be earmarked. They would like someone who can write grants for the VFDs, support communications (hire someone to evaluate network and repeaters), install wildfire cameras, PPE, equipment to support responding to vehicle fires. They wouldn't get the money until next July and it would need to be sponsored by the county. The response is required from the VFDs by Dec 15. It is going to the November FCA meeting. Carol is going to suggest that Philip is included in the subcommittee. Philip also would like to be included. Philip needs feedback on where to increase cellular.

**n. Tehama-Glenn FSC**

No representative attended.

**o. SPI**

No representative attended.

**p. Southern Trinity FSC**

No representative attended.

**q. SAFE**

No representative attended.

**r. NRCS**

NRCS is supporting land owners in pile burning. The next round of applications for EQIP close next week.

**s. Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu**

No representative attended.

**t. NCUAQMD**

No representative attended.

**u. Lower Trinity PBA**

No representative attended.

**v. Hyampom FSC**

No representative attended.

**w. Caltrans**

No representative attended.

**x. CAL FIRE**

No representative attended.

**y. BLM**

Mike reports that Gary is the FMO. There is a second fuel specialist opening. Plans for prescribed burn. There was issue with getting the burn permit. Hope to have multiple pile burns happening at once, but it is not quite dry or wet enough. There are some contract workers planning to work in the WCF, but date TBD. Little Browns Creek had contract workers in the Spring, but did go in September to clear the piles. They will be cutting and piling in the winter. In the Reading Creek area there are plans for Broadcast Burns. Looking to take out Douglas Fir. Ewing Reservoir plan for mastication. There is also plan for a burn around Big Creek Ranch. Hope to do some work in the Grass Valley area if the existing env docs are still valid, but if they were to burn, date TBD. Burn plans are currently being updated - Skylar has been included on burn notifications. Helena reached out to have a fuel break in the burn area, but may already have an established. Mike asks about the SWIFT, which is a blanketed EA that pertains to WUI

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which covers a majority of Northern California BLM land that allows for work. It will streamline the process so all that will be needed for projects is a DNA.

Philip calls on Dan from NVCSS to see if he has anything to share, but he doesn't add anything.

7. Future Discussion Items

Kelly discusses expanding the WUI boundary as a conversation for a future meeting. Kelly would like to see a discussion item for how the WUI boundary was developed. Have it as a meeting agenda for the Dec 7<sup>th</sup> meeting

Randi discusses the 2022 Wildfire Awareness Day event planned for 2024 and plans for an event in Hayfork. Have an agenda item for the next meeting for the wildfire awareness day event.

Kelly brings up effective communications as a potential item for the next meeting and have a discussion on improving communication during emergency events. Examples are having phone, text, email blasts for folks to be aware of emergencies. Philip and Kelly discuss the shortfalls of Code Red. TCOES says that these forms of information should go through a PIO office in the county. Philip said that he will follow up internally to build a better public information platform. TCOES is also working to get text alerts through Code Red.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:24



## Trinity County Fire Safe Council Meeting

Thursday, December 7, 2023, 1:00 pm

Zoom Call or in Person  
TCRCD Conference Room  
30 Horseshoe Lane  
Weaverville, CA



# Minutes

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

No participant IDs are required; press # to access the call. Password is 123456

Videoconferencing is available through:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/828328725?pwd=a05MeVZNMkxoUmNyVGI4K2VjUjcwZz09>

*Trinity County Fire Safe Council seeks to improve the cooperation and coordination of all aspects of wildfire management in Trinity County. The Trinity County Fire Safe Council's goal is to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in Trinity County by establishing priorities for reducing risk of catastrophic fire on a landscape-level scale in order to improve forest health, water quality and quantity, and community well-being.*

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Meeting starts at 1:04PM

**In person attendees:** Skylar Fisher, Kelly Sheen, Denise Wesley, Liam Bassler (TCRCD); Michael Allan (BLM); Kenneth Baldwin (BBW); Carol Fall (TCVFD); Chris Losi (Flowra); Pat Frost (Trinity Center); David Colbeck (TCNR); Marty Mather (DCVFD)

**Zoom attendance:** Bethany Llewellyn, Adriana Rodriguez (TCRCD), Jerry Cousins (TCCG); Dena Madelano (Tsunungwe); Gina Moon (WCFSC); Dave Delange (TPUD); Randy Paris, Qwalen (WRTC); Larry Glass (SAFE); Jill Cox, Heidi Carpenter-Harris (BOS); Ruth Esperance (Shasta-Trinity USFS); Daniel Montgomery (USFS), Charlie Holthaus (Rush Creek Neighborhood Ambassador), Chris Cole, John Hutchings, John Brower, Ren Winter

### 2. Additions or Changes to the Agenda

Randi: Wanted to make the council aware the WRTC is applying for a fire prevention grant and would like a chance to talk about it

### 3. Discussions

#### a. May 4, 2024 Wildfire Awareness Day Event

- i. We are looking to have the wildfire awareness day event in Hayfork, tentatively at the Hayfork park, but it is yet to be confirmed. Event will include:

- i. Organizations tabling
- ii. Reach out to food vendors
- iii. Reach out to see if music is a possibility
- iv. Include a youth art contest
- v. Kick off and have sign ups for spring community chipping
- vi. Kick off and have opportunity for feedback on 2025 CWPP update

#### b. Review of draft BLM Northwest California Integrated Resource Management Plan

- i. Skylar provided a report discussing the comment letter the TCFSC is proposing for the BLM RMP
  - i. Alternative B is the preferred alternative
  - ii. BLM should follow local ordinances and plans, such as the CWPP
- ii. Jerry Cousins asked about the WUI definition and how it is different between BLM and Trinity County CWPP's boundary

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- iii. Skylar: BLM uses a .5 mile around a structure while the TCRCD uses a number of different definitions and which takes into account how a community interacts with the wildland
  - iv. Pat provides input that the Healthy Forest Restoration Act called out the need for a WUI
    - i. If a community doesn't develop their own CWPP then there will be a default definition. But, Trinity County has a CWPP definition, so that one should apply. This is because there are multiple planning areas. But, to be consistent it is preferred BLM follows the community CWPP.
  - v. David Colbeck: Add reference to the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (Year) (Pat agrees)
  - vi. Pat asked a question about the reference to the Ewing area ERMA and how it is phrased
  - vii. Jill: States that the board has decided that they should send their own letter.
  - viii. Chris asks about whether the NCIP should prioritize work within the WUI and if we should include that within the letter
    - i. Pat, Skylar and Kelly discuss the history of the CWPP, why it is defined the way that it does
    - ii. Pat: The letter recommends that the plan is in compliance with the CWPP which prioritizes the WUI. The CWPP is a local definition that is updated and changed by local people.
  - ix. Mike asks if the Swift EA has been referred to in the definition of the WUI
    - i. Swift EA now defines it to be up to a mile as a WUI. The Swift has been signed and is moving forward
    - ii. Mike will be forwarding the plan to Skylar for review.
  - x. Mike discusses ongoing BLM projects
    - i. They are going to be doing a prescribed burn at Sky Ranch
  - xi. David recommends to write to get the greatest WUI protection you can get. BLM should use the most up to date CWPP WUI boundary
  - xii. Carol recommends to broaden the language to state that BLM should follow CWPP defined WUI or otherwise adopted. (workshop).
  - xiii. Dena references the Greater Willow Creek CWDG - Humboldt County CWPP overlooked, and Willow Creek was not as up to date, the area most hit by Knob Fire was not prioritized in the CWPP. Dena recommends being careful when developing CWPP and WUI boundaries. This area was not prioritized.
  - xiv. Skylar, Pat, Carol, and Kelly discuss that there should be revisions to include reference to the Healthy Forest Restoration Act and to follow the greatest WUI boundary.
- c. Trinity County CWPP WUI
- i. Kelly discusses the importance of having a meaningful WUI definition which isn't just broadest stroke possible. It was requested by the Forest Service to expand the definition in order to work in areas that have been affected but are not in the WUI. The definition doesn't serve us if we are just expanding it to fit our current wants.
  - ii. Pat adds that this 2025 CWPP update should have a comprehensive WUI update. He adds that WUI shouldn't be broadened just to have additional funding
  - iii. Larry added that it is important to protect the WUI, but that broadening beyond the WUI, but doing WUI stewardship is problematic. Kelly agrees. Chris adds that infrastructure should count in the WUI.

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- iv. Ruth asked if the CWPP are the ones that do set the definition, or if it falls back to the Federal Register from the 2000's era.
- v. Dave DeLange provides comment that he would be interested in including powerlines in WUI but understands they aren't considered urban.
- vi. Pat says that he provided a definition to Kristen with Six Rivers
- vii. Jerry comments that diluting the WUI will dilute community safety. Kelly clarifies that there will be changes, and most likely expansion, but want to prioritize community safety and boundaries when redefining
- viii. Pat says that it may be worthwhile to have Denise or Skylar look at more contemporary CWPPs to review WUI boundaries and dealing with power lines in relation to the WUI.  
<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us02web.zoom.us/j/828328725?pwd%3Da05MeVZNMkxoUmNyVGI4K2VjUjcwZz09%23success&sa=D&source=calendar&ust=1702414658846244&usg=AOvVaw0b6NZHQY15NCLmOy-rnce>

4. **Grants**

- a. **Addition:** Request for letter of support for Corral Creek Timber Forest Health Post-Fire Reforestation and Regeneration Grant
  - i. Ren provided an update and shared some maps of the project
    - a. Corral Creek is a 1200 acre timber company. Since 2020 about 3500 of the acres have been consumed by fire. Desire is to restore the land and increase biodiversity. There is no goal to convert to conifer forests that wasn't already previously a conifer forest. This project would also decrease the severity or returning fires.
  - ii. Kelly asks if the areas on the maps are parcels or treatment areas. Ren clarifies that they are treatment areas. Liam you will have to help me out with a lot of the questions and answers based on the meeting recording.
  - iii. Pat: How are you going to account for climate change when planning your reforestation
  - iv. Ren: We are going to keep the seed sources the same as the normal since we are not positive what will come
  - v. Chris: Was there salvage logging?
  - vi. Ren: Yes, there was a cable operation but what is left rotten
- b. **Addition:** Randy Paris shares: WRTC is applying for the CAL FIRE fire prevention grant
  - i. CAL FIRE advised to do a smaller ask, project will target Hayfork
  - ii. Dave Jaramillo advised that treatment on USFS lands are not advised
  - iii. Defensible space and dead tree removal around structures, 5-feet adjacent to structures to be completely cleared (advised)
    - a. May be hard to completely match 5-feet away from the structure, but are looking at it, but can't do it
    - b. Carol asks for clarification and Randi clarifies that they will not do clearing on the 5-feet
    - c. Pat asks if WRTC can provide education on clearing the 5-feet
    - d. Randi says that WRTC wants to bring in the TCFSC for outreach and education
    - e. Bethany chimes in on the 5-foot noncombustible zone - it is a challenge to get defensible space funding if it is desired to get 5-feet around the structure

5. **Fire Safe Council Coordinator Update**

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- a. Firewise: Renewal applications were submitted for our Firewise communities. All communities have been renewed except Weaverville and Post Mountain, which are still pending.
  - b. Neighborhood Ambassador: We had a community event on November 30th to celebrate the neighborhood ambassador events which happened in 2023 and begin planning for events in 2024. Seven ambassadors attended
  - c. Local Area Advisor: Planning a workshop for the LAAs for April 2024. Will be doing some outreach for communities uncovered early next year.
    - i. Carol says that that the USFS said that the USFS hasn't considered Fire Chiefs to be LAA.
    - ii. Skylar says the TCFSC will advocate for fire chiefs to be contacted despite not being LAAs. If this doesn't work, we will make fire chiefs be considered LAAs.
    - iii. Larry said that he had a different experience on South Fork where he was contacted by both USFS agencies
  - d. 2025 CWPP Update: Will be reaching out to VFDs about hosting community meetings for the 2025 CWPP update once a week on Tuesdays at 6PM starting the week after May 4<sup>th</sup> and running through the end of July. Will be reaching out on Monday to the VFDs
  - e. Hazard Mitigation Plan: Plan has been pushed for CAL OES review.
  - f. Alert California: Kelly presents that there will be a Collaborative Group Alert California Ad Hoc meeting this Monday with Alert California. Update on the process that Alert California is currently in, want to have cameras installed by Spring 2024 in the five sights already selected. Want to work with Travis Finch to use some of his infrastructure for some easier installation - such as in Trinity Center. Haven't heard back if that works with Travis yet. Will have Tara there to also to talk about high priority sites.
    - i. Pat is excited that there is momentum again. Jerry adds there was a disconnect at the first meeting, Tara saying that she would accept cameras, then someone added there are already cameras submitted. Kelly adds that Dave DeLange expressed interest in having the TPUD sit on the call.
    - ii. Carol asks if SPI has been contacted. Kelly says he has. Jerry says Paul will sit on the meeting. Jill and Heidi will also be in the meeting
6. Project Updates
- a. BLM

Mike provided that the BLM is actively burning when there is good weather. Burn up to the 22<sup>nd</sup> and then break in the New Year in the Indian Creek area. Contractor work (WCF and Little Browns Creek) will most likely start in the New Year. Will be throwing seed in old burns. Spoke to Bethany about sharing information about recently completed projects. References the SWIFT plan and says the council should be pleased by it. Will still have an environmental review process, but it should streamline it. Reading-Indian Creek expansion will soon have a DNA completed. Working with Watershed and TCRCDD to get the work done. Have received feedback from community members about trees and fuel abutting property. There is staffing issues which is causing issues, but they have been receiving feedback and are looking into it. He references two community members in Lewiston. People are concerned about trees in BLM land falling down and falling onto people's property. There are ways for BLM to help with this and they are trying their best. Kenneth provides positive feedback on the work happening on Indian Creek road. Mike says that there have been smoke complaints and he understands that, but they are going to keep burning
  - b. [Addition] Bureau of Reclamation

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John provides context of who BoR is. Trinity Dam has a vegetation management project under way. There was a mudslide a number of years ago. Partnered with CAL FIRE to pile and chip material and then burn. The project has become a dam safety project and if the slide impacted the dam. The project is nearing complete and is working on the burn process.

Lewiston - there are lands around the reservoir which are USFS. There are also lands owned by BoR downstream. Developing an environmental compliance document to do hazardous fuels reduction on some of these lands, including on Trinity Dam Boulevard. Looking to do fuels work on these lands. Working with TCRCD to do a greenhouse reduction grant.

- c. **CAL FIRE**  
No representative attended.
- d. **Caltrans**  
No representative attended.
- e. **Hyampom FSC**  
No representative attended.
- f. **Lower Trinity PBA**  
No representative attended.
- g. **NCUAQMD**  
No representative attended.
- h. **Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu**  
No representative attended.
- i. **NRCS**  
Left early
- j. **SAFE**  
Larry Glass says they continue to work with the USFS on the Big Ranch project to achieve fuel reduction goals while creating something that is environmentally compliant.
- k. **Southern Trinity FSC**  
No representative attended.
- l. **SPI**  
No representative attended.
- m. **Tehama-Glenn FSC**  
No representative attended.
- n. **Trinity Center VFD**  
Field trip on the 15<sup>th</sup> for the North Trinity Lake/Highway 3 project. Still working on the NCRP grant to develop a fuel reduction and fire response plan.
- o. **Trinity County BOS**  
Jill shares that she has a quarterly meeting with Rachel Birkey as a follow-up on the wildfire camera discussion.
- p. **Trinity County Collaborative Group**  
Larry highlights the fieldtrip. Carol shares the VFD will have a hot lunch for the fieldtrip. Kelly is going to try to get information out ahead of time. CDFW cancelled a field trip today. Larry comments that the wildfire cameras are moving forward. Randi adds that there will be an update on the fieldtrip coming soon.
- q. **Trinity County OES**  
No representative attended.
- r. **Trinity County Planning**  
No representative attended.
- s. **Trinity County RCD**

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Bethany states the main focus is burning with BLM and USFS in the weaver basin through the winter. Keeping some field staff through the winter. There is a small Oregon mountain timber harvest. The harvest should be progressing next year. Sierra Nevada Conservancy will not fund trinity roads partnership as it is an escape route project. Said we had a good rating on community support however it was just super competitive. Think about how those roads could be tied into the other gaps up in the north lakes maybe in a future CAL Fire proposal. Randi provided comment that the watershed center did not ultimately submit their proposal for Bowerman because she couldn't promise a signed decision in December. She will sign a decision soon for Bowerman then apply, and she would like to partner with the RCD on developing an idea. Denise has been incorporating the feedback received from the fire chiefs about the evacuation route maps.

t. **Trinity PUD**

Left early

u. **Tsnungwe**

Good winter

v. **UC Cooperative Extension**

No representative attended.

w. **USFS Shasta-Trinity NF**

Great fall burning and getting ready for spring burning. Did about 18,000 acres of burning. Will find out funding for WCS in December or January. Sat through a prep meeting for land tender. This will help the USFS to help plan and prep for future wildfire prevention projects.

x. **USFS Six-Rivers NF**

No representative attended.

y. **Weaverville VFD**

No representative attended.

z. **Willow Creek FSC**

Gina Moon: Monthly meeting tonight. Filing, deadlines, and other tasks happening. There are two active grants, including storm recovery. Report by March - estimate around 100 different parcels will have been worked on. Will be getting funding for administrative from the Humboldt Area Foundation. Need to have a CWPP update, would like to update it soon. Having a grant coordinator help will be essential to move the project forward. Firewise certification has been challenging. Need to do the risk assessment update. The chipper program has been slow as they have had trouble finding drivers.

aa. **WRTC**

Randi Paris: Private land planning - received a forest health grant being stood up by CAL FIRE. Doing compliance and assessing, working with Trinity Timberlands. Work with BBW and Associates. Implementation - the rain has been a barrier to crew work and fuels work. There has been some progress on the Petty John project. Roadside treatment on the south fork management unit and Post mountain road Wrapping up 19/20 forest health project. Would like to conclude this project in 2024. Solid plan for implementation in 2024. The WRTC is also filling an operations forester job. Hopes to hire the new forester in the new year, will work with the fuels program and increase operational capacity.

Greater Willow Creek CWDG project community meeting was a success and will kick start the projects down river.

Kenneth asks if Randi is working with Nick on the Forest Health grant for the hell or highwater ranch. Randi says yes and that they should have a meeting about it.

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Kenneth - Hell or high water ranch. Leasee has been trying to get the USFS or county fall hazard trees, but he has had no success. He has been hiring people to maintain the county roads. He wants to do the work restoring the forest and falling hazard trees, but it is expensive. Kenneth is trying to get funding for this work. The leasee is trying to create a fuel break - concern of fires from USFS property (North Eel River wilderness). Mad River Zenia road was bad and then worse after the August Complex. The county has done most of the repair work.

Chris introduces himself as part of Flowra. Looking to grow beyond cannabis consulting to fuels reduction and fire resiliency planning. Has a grant to do watershed work in post mountain. Over 100 clients and would like to use the client base to develop projects.

7. Future Discussion Items  
3:38 adjourned.

Next Meeting: January 25, 2024