

**Greater Santa Fe Fireshed Coalition Meeting  
Santa Fe Fire Department Training Center  
1130 Siler Road, Santa Fe  
August 2, 2016**

**DRAFT Meeting Notes**

**In Attendance:**

Eddie Tudor (NMSF)	Anne Bradley (The Nature Conservancy)
Donald Griego (NMSF)	Bill Armstrong (USFS)
Andrew Frederick (NMSF)	Steve Romero (USFS)
Micaela Hester (NMSF)	Alan Barton (NM Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute)
Carmen Austin (NMSF – Las Vegas)	Porfirio Chavarria (SF Fire Department)
Eytan Krasilovsky (Forest Stewards Guild)	Jordan Stone (UNM, Cottonwood Gulch Foundation)
Abie Carabajal (USFS)	Todd Haines (NMSF - Bernalillo)
José Varela Lopez (Santa Fe-Pojoaque SWCD & NMFIA)	Michael Martinez (Pueblo of Tesuque)
Matt Piccarello (Forest Stewards Guild)	Ryan Swazo-Hinds (Pueblo of Tesuque)
Andy Otto (SF Watershed Association)	Carol Johnson (NM Wilderness Alliance)
Collin Haffey (USGS Jemez Mts Field Station)	Susan Rich (NMSF - FWHO)
Esmé Cadiente (Forest Stewards Guild)	

**Action Item Reports**

- Steve Romero - provided Unit E prescription to partners. 1,200 acre NEPA: 75% of the work is completed. USFS is receiving letters pro and con on Block E. There is a \$200K contract ready to let this fall on Block A.
- Eytan Krasilovsky - posted finalized Mission and Roles documents on web page, which is in process of being redesigned.
- Susan Rich - Mar shared Facebook page and Twitter links, adding Instagram and Pinterest.
- Anne Bradley - TNC put folks in touch with American Lung Association with regard to potential smoke impacts. Anne has contacted TNC media specialist and will connect with Mar when she returns, and will work with Alan to review communication plan.
- Todd Haines – will re-send info to group; announced WUI application is out.
- Anne and Susan distributed draft handouts (3-pager and maps) for group to review. The documents are to provide background to Washington-level officials with funding that could be put towards our work. NMSF's map showing completed and planned projects will be modified per input from this group and spatial data from partners who have other projects to be displayed. Requesting feedback by August 5.
- Susan will have a summary of the LSR Competitive Grant proposal prepared before the visit.

**Planning for Field Visit**

First stop at Hyde Park. Eddie will welcome and give an overview and introduce other presenters.

Next field stop in Summit neighborhood at Aztec Springs overlook. Presenters to showcase assessment work, treatments and outreach to community. Eddie recommended emphasizing what collaborations are working to accomplish.

Aspen Ranch stop will highlight joint Tesuque Pueblo-USFS efforts. Access may be difficult as there is one way in and out, and so could be a 3 hour drive. Consider alternate vantage points. Planning team will do a run through to time all stops.

Others to have represented?

- Community member (from the Summit or Cerro Colorado) – Porfirio has a contact
- Tesuque Village FAC – Eytan has contacts

### **Task Team Reports**

#### **Communications Team - Alan Barton**

Alan presented a proposal for three membership categories: partner, advisor, and contact. See descriptions for each in [attached handout](#). The proposed categories were approved by the full group.

Alan described a draft communication plan structured on engagement with the GSFFC by audience:

- Internal communications (participants and advisors)
- Public relations and education (contact list and general public)
- Communications with Tribal entities
- Collaboration with other organizations

The plan will define functions, including outcomes (goals and objectives), and means (strategic and tactics) for effective communication. Alan will send an outline with examples to the communications team next week to seek input. The team will finish the plan sometime after August 15.

Discussion:

Forest Guild will already be working on outreach to the public through the New Mexico Association of Counties grant. Eytan will coordinate with Alan to ensure the Forest Guild's efforts fit within the communication plan, as it serves as an umbrella under which we all work.

Jordan Stone is making contacts with other groups, including Sara Goodwin at Council of Western State Foresters.

Involving “new” folks – first we need better understanding of why members are participating in this and clarify what your organization can contribute to this collaborative and wants to get out of it. Alan will email a survey and request feedback. Each member organization will appoint a person to complete the survey and return it to Alan.

#### **Landscape Resilience Strategy Team - Anne Bradley**

GTR 315 methodology combines threats and values at risk to come up with a threat assessment. Several members advised TNC on how to characterize WUI structures at risk. Steve Romero and USFS staff will meet with TNC on the 16<sup>th</sup> to give input on values identified for the assessment. The team should have something to share around the end of August.

Anne, Zander, Jordan and Collin will lead a Q&A session on fires (the pros and cons for forest health) for the public to find out and address the major concerns of the public, which are accurate and which are misinformed. Responses to these concerns based on best available science will be compiled into a summary sheet for use by member organizations and public officials to help them address their constituents' concerns.

Eytan will coordinate with Anne's team on a special supplement (8-10 pages) and poster for outreach. The NMAC grant will pay for them.

#### **Implementation Team Projects - Todd**

Work on the Aztec Springs project by City of Santa Fe crews started today. The NMSF Inmate Work Camp crew is doing piling.

NRCS has many management plans in place for projects in Cougar Ridge. The Santa Fe-Pojoaque SWCD project's work plan is in progress.

State Forestry offered to send foresters to assist the USFS with layout of treatment blocks to help get those going where Forest Service has staff shortages. NMSF has state funds (\$213K) set aside for the La Cueva implementation – Block A first, then Block E next.

The Santa Fe- Pojoaque's NFL grant is nearing the contract stage and needs to be included on the projects map. Jose will provide a shape file.

#### Updates

The Collaboration Forest Restoration Program CFRP panel meets next week and will review Porfirio's application on Tuesday. \$3.2 million is available for the 14 proposed projects.

Forest Stewards Guild is convening a group of prescribed fire managers to discuss what prescriptions would look like in the Fireshed area, take a big picture look at where we can use prescriptions in a way that can inform the Resilience Strategy and consider the operational aspects of using fire as a tool.

Collin Haffey pointed the group to a USGS study done by economist Chris Huber which shows that for every \$1 million spent on restoration projects, between \$2.3-\$3.4 million is returned to the local economy (direct costs and benefits and value-added; does not include avoided costs, ecosystem services, etc. Collin will send a link to the report. Anyone interested in discussing it with Collin can contact him.

Michael Casaus said an effort begun in 2009 proposes adding additional protections to the roadless areas of the Pecos Wilderness. The Wilderness Society supports this concept, would like to present to this group on the Protect Pecos campaign, and wants to learn more about our vision for treatments in roadless areas. From a community perspective, there's a good story to tell regarding the role of wilderness in forest health within the Fireshed.

There are misperceptions that the Wilderness Society opposes forest thinning or firefighting in wilderness areas. They want to work on messaging that addresses reality regarding wilderness and roadless areas – what can be done and how it protects our watersheds. They also want to establish 'Special Management Areas' that will be conducive to the type of work that this coalition wants to do.

There is an opportunity to get input into the USFS Santa Fe National Forest Plan Revision (August 15 deadline) for comments into proposed wilderness designations.

The SFFD will have 5 other municipal fire departments doing WUI work visiting Santa Fe the first week of October in a peer exchange program. Porfirio may ask some of us to speak/visit with them.

The Espanola Ranger District will fill a new partnership coordinator position soon to focus specifically on the Fireshed.

Next Steps:

- Field Tour:
  - NMSF will revised draft projects map
  - Partners with other projects to be displayed will provide spatial data
  - Susan will draft summary of the LSR Competitive Grant proposal
  - Susan will coordinate with planners from other 2 destinations
  - Planning team will finalize tight plan and execution
- All: assign one rep from each organization to complete the Communications Team's survey
- Analysis Team: what is this landscape going to look like when it is done (acres? conditions? time frame for implementation?)
- Resilience Strategy Team will start tackling and bring back to next coalition meeting for input or decision-making
- Send out doodle poll for next meeting (Susan) which will be in mid-September
- Small group (added): draft operating principles and procedures to present to full group