

Greater Santa Fe Fireshed Coalition Meeting
Santa Fe Fire Department Station 5 / Training Center
1130 Siler Road, Santa Fe
June 08, 2017

Meeting Notes

Chief Erik Litzenberg called the meeting to order and led introductions. In attendance:

Carmen Austin (NMSF – Las Vegas)	Eytan Krasilovsky (Forest Stewards Guild)
Alan Barton (NM FWRI)	Erik Litzenberg (SFFD)
Steve Bassett (TNC)	Michael Martinez (Pueblo of Tesuque)
Hannah Bergemann (SFNF)	Wendy Mason (NMSF)
Anne Bradley (TNC)	Laura McCarthy (TNC)
Dunbar Carpenter (FSG)	James Melonas (SFNF)
Porfirio Chavarria (SFFD)	Dave Nezzie (Sen. Heinrich)
Jeanne Dawson (SFNF)	Andy Otto (SFWA)
Tony Delfin (Pueblo of Tesuque)	Julie Anne Overton (SFNF)
Greg Gallegos (SFFD)	Carmela Quintana (Sen. Udall)
Collin Haffey (USGS)	Marlita Reddy Hjelmfeldt (VOST)
Todd Haines (NMSF - Bernalillo)	Susan Rich (NMSF - FWFO)
Alan Hook (City of Santa Fe)	Steve Romero (USFS – Pecos/Las Vegas RD)
Sandy Hurlocker (USFS – Espanola RD)	Teresa Seamster (Sierra Club)
Carol Johnson (NMWA)	

Task Team Reports

Communications Task Team – Alan Barton reported that the Operating Principles were finalized. Esmé will post them on the Coalition’s website next week. Forest Stewards Guild is working on finding a way for people to self-select their participation level on the website.

Implementation Task Team – Todd Haines led a review of the projects list ([Handout #1](#), attached) and members supplied more current information. Todd will gather additional data from project leaders, update the spreadsheet using the new format and send it to Susan to distribute via email.

The group decided to track projects spatially as well. All project managers will send shape files with project names, boundaries, treatment type (e.g. broadcast burn, pile burn, thinning, etc.) and status to Steve Bassett (sbassett@tnc.org).

Landscape Resilience Strategy Task Team – Anne Bradley noted that GSFFC is at the point in Strategy development where the group needs to reach back out to NRCS and NMDGF. Erik will coordinate with Anne and Steve Romero on contacting them. (See also report under New Business.)

New Business

Risk Assessment - Steve Bassett distributed a handout with an update on the Risk Assessment and explained the changes he made based on input at the last meeting ([Handout #2](#) attached). Steve explained concerns raised about apparently misclassified veg types and the steps he took to rectify those and verify the results. The results are on the conservative side, so Steve is comfortable with the output of the simulations. The group asked him to finish running them using the corrected inputs. TNC is

looking into alternatives for doing the revised computer run because of the time required due to hardware limitations. The group asked TNC to see if the Fire Lab can do the run on their supercomputer. If they can't do it soon, Plan B is for Steve to run it at a lower resolution and use those outputs.

Coalition members will be able to use Risk Assessment outputs to inform decisions about prioritizing where to work and when. Members discussed the complexity of weighting the Highly Valued Resources and Assets (HVRAs) in a multi-jurisdictional setting like the Fireshed. Hannah Bergemann proposed holding a Risk Assessment Workshop and distributed a handout describing the idea ([Handout #3](#), attached). The group decided to stick to its schedule and complete the assessment now using equal weighting, and hold a public workshop later this summer to roll out the Landscape Resilience Strategy and gather input that will inform "next level" planning. SFNF will lead the effort and use the results to refine their approach to finer scale planning on national forest lands.

Landscape Resilience Strategy - Anne Bradley reviewed the draft outline for the Strategy with the group ([Handout #4](#), attached). Members were asked to read the outline paying special attention to the names of individuals attached to each section. Send recommendations for any changes to the outline or for adding/deleting names of people who can help write those sections to Anne by the end of next week.

The Strategy is intended to be a ten year document which the Coalition can use to develop shorter term operating plans. The Strategy Task Team recommends taking a major look at it during Year 5 to evaluate what's been accomplished and whether anything has changed enough to warrant a revision.

Report from Santa Fe National Forest – Sandy Hurlocker distributed a handout with a snapshot and map of the SFNF FY17 work plan for the Fireshed ([Handout #5](#), attached). Sandy gave a status report on the NEPA process for the Pacheco Canyon and Hyde Park Projects, as well as on the north and south area surveys, NEPA support and public engagement/outreach. This year's survey found no nesting owls. The inter-disciplinary team will make sure prescriptions will protect wildlife and other values, to ensure a CE is the right process. SFNF is funding three archaeological contracts. A contract with the City of Santa Fe to provide NEPA support and assist with public engagement above and beyond the regular Forest Service process is currently under review. Subcontracts could be used to meet such needs as field verifying additional fuels data or a hydrologist, if required.

Seminar and Field Tour Series – Eytan Krasilovsky reported that more than 100 people so far have attended the seminar series held in March and April at the REI Community Room, and thanked members who attended or helped present the seminars and field tours. A training on how to do home assessments that had been postponed due to snow will be held this Saturday, June 10th. One outcome of the field tour series is an established Fireshed run/walk/bike route. Kiosk design is in progress. Eytan reported that some people who are opposed to the Coalition's mission and vision attended the seminar and were vocal about their opinions. Members can read their [op-ed piece](#) and Forest Steward Guild's response in the June edition of Green Fire Times.

Updates from partners

Erik Litzenberg announced that the next International Association of Fire Chiefs' WUI Conference will be held in Reno February 27-March 1, 2018. There is a lot of outside interest in the GSFFC, so let Erik know if you are interested in presenting at the conference.

Anne announced that the Society of American Foresters Annual Convention will host a field trip on November 19th that includes a section focused on the Fireshed. Porfirio is spearheading the planning for that.

Eytan reported that the Espanola Foresters Youth Corps has a crew working on Sandy's district; some of the work areas are in the Fireshed.

Next Steps/Action Items

- Review Strategy outline and send feedback (recommended changes, names for helping with specific sections) to Anne by June 16 - **All**
- Update and distribute projects spreadsheet – **Todd**
- Send shape files with project names, boundaries, treatment type and status to Steve Bassett - **All project managers**
- Research method for allowing people to self-select participation level on website – **FSG**
- Contact José re: developing list of landowners interested in treating private lands – **Porfirio**
- Contact NRCS Santa Fe Field Office re: re-engaging – **Steve R.**
- Contact Jacob Davidson from NMDGF – **Anne**
- Form subgroup for public workshop to roll out Strategy, get input on HVRAs – **Sandy, Hannah**
- Let Erik know if you are interested in presenting at 2018 Wildland Urban Interface Conference - **All**

The next quarterly Coalition meeting will be Thursday, September 14, 2017. Time and location tbd.