



Greater Santa Fe Fireshed Coalition

Quarterly meeting

January 17th, 2024, 10:00 – 12:30

Notes

10:00 Welcome and introductions (Mori)

- Attendees: Sandy Hurlocker, Porfirio Chavarria, Alyssa Mineau, Eytan Krasilovsky, Mori Hensley, Lawrence Crane, Jacob Key, Chris Tafoya, Sage Mountain Flower, Brent Bonwell, Steve Romero, Jonathan Frenzen (Friends of the SF National Forest), Sandra Imler-Jacquez, Alan Barton, Ariel Patashnik, Teresa Seamster, Julie Ace (SF Watershed Association), Gabe Kohler
 - Online: Alan Hook, Jake Nuttall, Helene Minot (SFFTS) Carolina May, Alan Hook, Jake Nuttall (SW Region Fire Director R3), Helene Minot
- Mori asks the group: What's the most important thing the Coalition does?
- "Wordcloud" of attendees' responses:



Mori thanks Sage for her work as the 2023 Chair. **Thank you, Sage Mountainflower!**

10:10 Coalition Management updates (Alyssa)

- Introducing Ariel Patashnik (Santa Fe Conservation Trust) as the 2024 Co-Chair
 - Group approves Mori's nomination for 2024 Co-Chair. Unanimous approval in person and on zoom.
 - 2023 Coalition Accomplishment Report (table to next meeting to review details, expected to be released Spring 2024)

- The “Partner Spotlight” for the Spring 2023 Accomplishment Report was Mori Hensley, the Coalition is called to nominate a partner for the Spring 2024 Accomplishment Report
- One attendee nominated Pueblo of Tesuque—present members approve; Tesuque will confirm if Governor approves.

10:30 Partner Updates (All)

- **Sierra Club:**
 - The soil research project has a large enough scope to make a substantial impact on the landscape, with graduate student input, and the help of other partners. There is also new funding for Hermit’s Peak restoration.
- **Santa Fe Water Association:**
 - Monitoring workshop March 16th, meant for middle and high schoolers, “healthy water, healthy people” water monitoring guide, meant to get folks engaged with our watershed
 - “My water, my watershed” fieldtrip starting in April, adult watershed fieldtrips will happen in the spring
- **Forest Stewards Guild:**
 - Permit obtained for Aztec Springs Rx and burning may start next week. FSYC funded in 2024 for 5 crews, will work again with Hermit’s Peak WA. CWDG: contract finalized from the state, will begin implementation this spring
- **State Forestry:**
 - Pojoaque SWCD has \$250K to spend this year, some good evidence of mastication followed by fire and good results. State forestry has 2 new crew supervisors, working on funding projects (marking, mastication) for SF.
- **SFFD:**
 - WiRE survey conducted in 2021. Another survey is being conducted post HPCC fire, to see measure changes in public perceptions/attitudes. Survey set to go out next month, ([more information here](#)) and there is interest in conducting the same survey throughout the entire Fireshed (to include both city and county residents).
 - For the Fireshed: ~5000 residents rapid assessments (60 seconds), send surveys (~16 pages) to the same residents, survey questions center around perspectives/attitudes about fire/fire management.
 - Timeline: assessments in fall (24), surveys in winter (24/25), results spring (25).
 - Asking the Coalition for volunteers: folks to do assessments, funding for postage (~\$4000 for envelopes and stamps originally, ~\$12k - \$15k for this project)
 - Monitoring Committee & Communications Committee to follow up
 - One attendee suggests mentioning the survey in a newsletter to notify residents before they receive them.
 - Teresa wants to help fund expanded WiRE and she has people who are concerned about fire communication.

- **FWRI:**
 - Collaboration team, 5 people. Networking collaborative groups in NM, SW, and West. Western Collaborative Conservation Network – 12 states,
 - [Confluence of the WCCN](#): April 2nd – 4th in Tucson, AZ
 - Guild can include this in future “Wildfire Wednesday” announcements
 - Early registration for conference ends at the end of the month
 - Resource Groups: [SW Collaborative Support Network](#) ; [Connecting for Conservation](#)
 - [Database & maps for collaborative groups](#): map of collaboratives in NM; also shows resource organizations.
- **Forest Service:**
 - The recent community meeting for Rx pile burns had good attendance (public and organizational), but burns could not happen due insufficient weather conditions.
 - Beginning implementation in SF Mountains this fall, working on a story board for the work to be done in the coming seasons/years for public and Coalition knowledge.
 - Rx questions from one attendee— “Are we concerned about smoke coming from two different pile burns?” (How should we communicate two different burns happening in two different locations on the same day?)
 - One attendee suggests reaching out to NMED Air Quality Bureau, or Department of Health about air quality concerns
 - Communications will happen between FS and FSG about both burns, and information will be shared on FS social media
- **City of SF Water:**
 - Working with FD for mitigation work and hand crews.
 - There will be an internal meeting regarding 2-mile pond soon to discuss the future of the pond.
 - More implementation projects along the SF River. There is a new contract for ecological monitoring for vegetative responses over the seasons.
- **Pueblo of Tesuque:**
 - Rx burns planned, and are coordinating with FS and BIA
 - Rio Tesuque Rx planned in collaboration with FSG

10:45 Committee Updates

- **Implementation & Monitoring Committee (Jacob)**
 - Hyde Park: hiked to watershed boundary, present piles are “legacy piles”, attempted to burn piles in the area, ~25% were able to ignite, but burn was called off for now.
 - There is a concern that both burns (FSG/TNC burn and FS burn) could happen on the same day, but due to differing conditions, it is unlikely
 - Planned perimeter prep on north side of Tesuque, followed matrix thinning on south aspect of canyon
 - Mastication around Glorieta (2 units, ~200 acres) (State Forestry)

- North Aztec Springs broadcast burn planned for this fall
- 2-mile pond discussion, brainstorming ideas for the future of the pond, pre-NEPA meeting soon, more info to come
- Field trip for the Cohesive Strategy in November (23), FS got questions about implementation in the Fireshed – initiated a follow-up meeting with Jonathan Glass, who is stepping away from the Forest Advocate
- Bird monitoring to start in the spring (May – June), more communications to come (March meeting)
- Communications Committee (Sandy & Jonathan)
 - Theme of 2023 – How the Communications Committee was able to gather partners as the need arose. (See email roundup).
 - In May coordinated a media field tour. Then followed up with New Mexican editor and reporter.
 - Since then, trying to create some mechanisms internally to be more readily available for media, send around a sign-up sheet (to be digital) to express interest in responding to media inquiries and to increase flow of information so reporters don't only hear from one side.
 - Thank everyone who've been so responsive to meetings (County commissioner meetings, City Council meetings, etc.). Your presence matters, both looking back and moving forward.
 - Jonathan & Sandy designed 8x14 posters for SFMRP control lines and upcoming Rx.
 - How can we keep people off of the control lines? Lawrence requests input for his work on continental divide with NRCS
 - Arroyo Hondo trail work – Brent and Jacob talk about how to message redirection.
 - Tesuque has issues with fencing at Vigil Grant and powerline access road issues. The powerline is impacting Pueblo hunting grounds.
 - Teresa recommends broadening conversation with state agencies (e.g. Office of Outdoor Recreation)
 - Lawrence – had trails open near active mastication for 3 years before was able to close the trails.
- Executive/Steering/Coordinating Committee (Alyssa)
 - Discussion around committee amendment proposal; potential vote
 - The coalition is about information sharing, we may be spreading ourselves too thin. To accomplish our goals, “going light” might be the key – flexibility might be best approach.
 - “Ad hoc” executive committee brought together for specific needs (e.g. updating the Operating Principles)
 - Have the Coalition Chairs and Committee chairs meet, plus whoever is interested in the topic at hand.
 - Having this committee meet “as the need arises”, as opposed to a structured, regularly meeting group.

- Alan Hook – Brings up touch and go points in the past, and says we need a backstop group to help keep the structure of the group intact.
 - Resources and money are always needed for coordinator and to keep it going
 - Ariel suggests adjusting the amendment to include “ad hoc”
- **Coalition agrees to form an “Ad hoc coordinating committee” to work on updating the Operating Principles**
- Teresa gifts Jacob a Matt Sidel painting. Walk out in the moonlight and you see the burned forest and the green forest. Go Jacob!!

11:45 2024 Planning

- Brainstorming for Quarterly meetings and/or field trips
 - **Quarterly meeting dates: April 17, July 17, October 16**
 - Field trip suggested by Lawrence Crane: Tijeras
 - Mori suggests email out to Coalition for field trips locations.
 - One attendee suggested a fall trip to the Mountains Landscape, or to hike in Tesuque to see what’s been accomplished and what future projects remain.
- How to align the Coalition and the Ambassador program with the Resiliency Strategy
 - CWDG contract is finalized with State Forestry, more programmatic information to come.
- Discussion on expanding the network of partners and advisors and identification of key areas for collaboration (wildlife, soil conservation, etc.)
 - Horseshoe Springs in Jemez
 - Air Quality folks
 - New biologists will be joining the FS, and will be introduced to the Coalition.
 - Defenders of Wildlife
 - There is a need to recruit/incorporate new people into project monitoring
 - New UNM graduate students will research the SF River, watershed, and water quality (Alex Webster)
 - “Citizens in the Fireshed” program from the FS, more information to come (could assist in monitoring, or CWDG related work)

12:15 Final Remarks (All)

12:30 Adjourn

Next Meeting: **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024; 10:00 – 12:30**