

Greater Santa Fe Fireshed Coalition Meeting
Santa Fe Fire Department Station 5 / Training Center
1130 Siler Road, Santa Fe
November 18, 2016

DRAFT Meeting Notes

In Attendance:

Carmen Austin (NMSF – Las Vegas)	Micaela Hester (NMSF)
Alan Barton (NM Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute)	Sandy Hurlocker (USFS – Espanola RD)
John Boe (USFS)	Eytan Krasilovsky (Forest Stewards Guild)
Anne Bradley (TNC)	Erik Litzenberg (Santa Fe Fire Department)
Porfirio Chavarria (Santa Fe Fire Department)	Alberta Maez (USFS)
Andrew Frederick (NMSF)	Laura McCarthy (The Nature Conservancy)
Mike Feulner (SFCFD)	Paul Orbuch (USFS contractor)
Greg Gallegos (SFFD)	Julie Anne Overton (USFS)
Sage Garcia (Pueblo of Tesuque)	Susan Rich (NMSF - FWHO)
Donald Griego (NMSF)	Steve Romero (USFS – Pecos RD)
Todd Haines (NMSF - Bernalillo)	Buck Sanchez (USFS)
	Ryan Swazo-Hines (Pueblo of Tesuque)
	Rick Vigil (Pueblo of Tesuque)

Action Item Updates

Projects Data – Todd Haines presented a spreadsheet with the location, agency/organization, funding amount, funding source, acres and status of ongoing and planned projects in the Fireshed. Members provided additional information. Todd will update and send out a revised table (attached).

Santa Fe National Forest Projects – Sandy Hurlocker reported on plans to increase local USFS capacity and on applications for grant funding for Fireshed projects. One request was for \$1.113 million in supplemental Hazardous Fuels dollars to pay for a planner to support NEPA staff and work directly with the Coalition; contracting with the City of Santa Fe; work on the landscape assessment; and conduct archaeological surveys. The request includes \$113,000 to continue work with Pueblo of Tesuque in Pacheco Canyon and \$60,000 for work with the City in the municipal watershed. A second application proposes a \$1.4 million Joint Chiefs project for planning and on-the-ground work on national forest and private lands in the Fireshed in cooperation with NRCS. The Washington Office cannot make a commitment until they have a budget (USFS is on a continuing resolution until 12/07/16) but decisions are being made now pending available funding, so we may know something soon.

Steve Romero distributed a map depicting the areas targeted for the Pacheco Canyon and Hyde Park projects (attached). New projects within the red cross-hatched area will be identified and prioritized based on information in the upcoming the Landscape Resilience Strategy.

Task Team Reports

Landscape Resilience Strategy Task Team – Anne Bradley described a situation requiring TNC to fast-track the Upper Rio Grande analysis and temporarily delay the GSFF risk assessment until early 2017. Analysis will resume in January; TNC will circulate a draft for review by members in mid-February. The

Team will collect feedback, incorporate changes and have the final strategy completed with signatures by April 2017. The Coalition agreed to the revised timeframe.

Communications Task Team – Alan Barton distributed a handout describing a proposed decision-making process for the Coalition’s operating principles (attached). Members cautioned we need to clarify what authority this process conveys, to ensure we don’t inadvertently conflict with or usurp authorities granted under existing agreements between individual member agencies and organizations. Alan will send the document so all can review it for potential conflicts. Members should send comments back to Alan and come to the next meeting ready to adopt or revise it.

Implementation Task Team – Todd Haines described considerations the Implementation Team looks at, including the different colors of money and timeframes of different project funding sources as well as who has capacity for on-the-ground implementation (price agreement contractors, agency and fire department personnel, etc.). Todd reported on the status of ongoing projects:

Aztec Springs – 2nd phase in progress. SFFD is implementing with assistance from IWC; 90 acres completed to date.

SE Santa Fe Corridor – Work plan in progress. Actual acreage will depend on field conditions on parcels of the private landowners who sign up.

Hyde Memorial State Park – thinning and piling in progress by RHP and IWC; USFS will assist with prescribed fire later in the fall.

I-25 Glorieta Corridor – in progress but temporarily halted while crews work elsewhere; 39 acres completed this year, 60 more for next year.

Aspen Ranch – 160 acres underway

Vigil Grant – 350 acres planning in Box Canyon

La Cueva Fuelbreak Block A – in progress; 100 acres completed to date.

La Cueva Fuelbreak Block E – next unit scheduled; 133 acres to be marked next week. Steve, Todd and Eytan will host a meeting in December to address concerns of local residents.

New Business

Pacheco Canyon and Hyde Park Restoration Project CEs – Sandy Hurlocker described the two CEs planned for SFNF. The Hyde Park project was first developed under the old rules, then appealed and shelved. It is now being redeveloped under the new rule using a collaborative process. Archaeological and SHPO concurrence done. Biological surveys done but now need to address a new species. The Pacheco Canyon Restoration Project is adjacent to Aspen Ranch and includes Vigil Grant. SFNF is working with the pueblo on arch and bio surveys. The plan is to have decisions on both by the end of next federal fiscal year. Governor Rick Vigil recommended planning a meeting with the incoming Pueblo administration to apprise new leadership about the project and Coalition.

The Coalition stands behind the SFNF developing CEs for projects through its collaborative process, noting that these two areas were identified as high priority and are integral to the landscape strategy. Members asked what SFNF needs from the Coalition. Ideas include co-convene/cosponsor scoping meetings; post on website; facilitate collaboration with special interest groups, air quality folks; develop coordinated, consistent messaging.

Tesuque Pueblo views these projects as collaborative and complimentary, sees them as contributing to streamlining the process and timeline. The Governor recommends using that approach when publicizing the CEs.

Updates from partners

Eytan Krasilovsky described a three-panel information kiosk Flagstaff installed. Some funding may be available to the Coalition to design and install 1-3 similar kiosks at high visitation sites in the Fireshed. Members will look for potential locations and any restrictions that may apply to them. Eytan will research costs and content and report back at next meeting.

Alan Barton summarized survey respondents' suggestions for new partners. Alan, Erik, Sandy and Eytan will meet to review suggestions and recommend entities to invite.

Ryan Swazo-Hines reported that the Pueblo was unable to submit its Resilient Landscape proposal to DOI this round, as the funding required projects to be shovel-ready. They hope to submit one for the off-reservation land next year if the CEs are done in time.

The Coalition confirmed its support for the Pueblo's Pacheco Canyon RTRL project. Porfirio will find out if a letter of support will be needed.

Organizers of the next WUI Summit invited GSFFC to have a panel at the 2017 event to be held in Albuquerque March 30-April 1st. Sandy, Laura, Porfirio, Susan, Eytan and Alan volunteered to plan the presentation.

Donald Griego gave an update on the prescribed burn at Hyde Memorial State Park.

Next Steps/Action Items

- Update Projects spreadsheet with new information – **Todd**
- Send electronic copies of handouts from 11/18 meeting to Susan – **Todd, Sandy, Alan B.**
- Research kiosk price, content, design/construction – **Eytan**
- Identify potential kiosk locations and permissions/restrictions – **All**
- Convene small group to plan presentation for WUI Summit – **Sandy, Eytan, Laura, Alan B., Susan, Porfirio**
- Convene Communications subcommittee to review/recommend partners – **Alan B., Sandy, Eytan, Erik**
- Hold La Cueva neighborhood meeting – **Steve R.** (with support from **Todd** and **Eytan**)
- Support Pacheco Canyon and Hyde Park CEs as Coalition collaborative projects – **All**

The next meeting will be held 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon on March 1, 2017, same location.