



**Greater Santa Fe Fireshed Coalition Meeting
NOTES
January 20, 2021**

Meeting Notes

Notetaker: Gabe Kohler (FSG)

1:30 – 3:30 p.m on Zoom - Meeting led by Mike Feulner.

Action Item Updates/Follow-up

Coalition Manager

Thanks to support from the TNC's Rio Grande Water Fund, the Guild is able take on the position of the Fireshed Manager role for 2021 and hopefully beyond. In this position, the Guild will Coordinate with the task teams (Communications, Implementation, and Strategy) and presenters to prepare content for the quarterly meetings, including schedule meetings for calendar year 2021 with draft agendas, attend meetings and assist Chair facilitate the meeting, manage meeting notes, and update Coalition membership and email list.

In addition to administrative Coalition management, Esmé and others at the Guild will also be finalizing the resiliency strategy, supporting the SFNF as it develops the SFMLR EA, and developing a communication strategy about how forest resiliency is tied to city water.

The Guild with help from the Coalition will also be developing a long term fundraising strategy to fund this manager position beyond 2021.

Nominations and selection of co-chair

Alan nominated Anne Bradley, Esmé seconded the nomination. Anne accepted the nomination.

Hannah Bergemann nominated Andy Otto. Andy declined because they just received some large grants and do not have capacity. Alan Hook nominated Anne Bradley with the caveat that she may be retiring at some point in time. Anne is willing and has experience. Her personal timeline has not been fully decided yet. Porfirio has put himself in as a backup for Anne if she needs to step down mid-year.

A vote was cast using Robert's rules and everyone voted positively to confirm Anne as Co-chair with Porfirio serving as a potential backup.

Earth Economics economic analysis project on the Fireshed (Jordan Wildish)



Conservation finance workshops and network identified that we are struggling to quantify economic value of forest restoration work. A partnership with FS and earth economics funded this cost-benefit analysis.

Earth Economics is a non-profit in Washington state that does economic analysis.

Project purpose:

- Key and perceived Benefits and risks within Fireshed
- Quantify values at risk
- Quantify impact of proposed treatments on those benefits
- Conduct a cost-benefit analysis

Key Findings from Interviews

- Combo of fires and floods has caused lots of damage
- Recreation in Fireshed is a major driver to economy
 - Birding, 20,000 bird sightings and 205 species
- Wildfire are perceived as major risk
- Pinyon forests are particularly threatened

Values at risk

- Structures at risk 1,600 structures in the Fireshed
 - \$1.2 billion
- 500 miles of roads in Fireshed
 - \$79 million of replacement costs, does not account for loss of travel
- Trails 109k non-skiing visitors a/year, annual consumer surplus of ~10

Quantified impacts due to treatment

- Used modeled fire probability and estimated impact of fire on underlying values at risk

Results

- Costs: \$44.8 million
- Benefits: \$57- \$123 million
- Benefit – cost Ratio: 1.27- 2.7
- 98.8% of simulations yield positive results
- Simulations yielded an average net present value of \$19.7 million

Where do we want to go next with this? Who should see this?

Mike wants to use it as outreach through a poster board for public outreach in any community showing the cost-benefit analysis. Use it to gain support from city or county.

Sarah Hyden asked if there were costs incurred were tracked similarly to costs avoided. Costs of damage to scenic quality.



Jordan responded that they did look at air quality data. There is not literature to support that prescribed fire has accumulating effects or costs to public.

Sarah wants to know how personal accounts can be accumulated in comparison to AQI.

What about costs of fuel treatments creating damaging effects like Cerro Grande and Doghead fire? This study assumed that treatments were effective. Jordan recognized there may be catastrophic outliers.

Sarah asked about how people's subjective perspective is accounted for. Jordan replied that there are aesthetic changes associated with treatments as well as with wildfire.

Rowan Schmidt asked about nature-based solutions. Alan mentioned that city is going through source water plan and infrastructure planning. Having actual numbers to show that water utility investments are returning value to those who pay.

NMC grant program:

2021-2022 Wildfire Risk Reduction grant program will be announced in the next couple of weeks and the info will be posted here once it is announced: NMC website:

<https://www.nmcounties.org/services/programs/> (Mike Feulner)

Task Team Reports

Communications Task Team – (Marlita Reddy-Hjelmfelt & Javonne Goodman)

- 2021 look forward and report out from January 15th meeting
- Coms team met and is creating a content calendar. Amplifying messages of their partners throughout the year.

Implementation Task Team – (Todd Haines)

- There are at least 2 RX fires on USFS. Collaborative effort between USFS and State.
- Glorieta area includes landscape scale restoration funding, joint chiefs, NRCS, all hands all lands burn team is doing it.
- The joint efforts are ongoing.
- No updates from different jurisdictions.
- FAP rated Fireshed as high need area.
- There are opportunities on public lands through FAWRA and landscape scale restoration. There is interest in tracking NM state forestry treatments through NMFWRRI opportunity maps.

Landscape Resilience Strategy Task Team – (Anne Bradley)

- Outcomes of CMAT team work can strengthen what we have in the resilience strategy. Anne is interested in mapping acres to inform the potential for using an annual operating plan to track where we can make improvements.



- Finalize the Resiliency Strategy – Esmé and the Guild will work with the Resiliency Task Team to lead the document to its final, usable form.

New Business

Community Mitigation Assistance Team (CMAT) here from Jan 17th – Jan 29th to help our community build sustainable local capacity for community wildfire mitigation. (Hannah B.) FS Washington office reached out during the Medio fire to see if we were interested in building community mitigation capacity. This group will help us decide where to focus next following the fire.

Jonathan Bruno introduced himself, the CMAT concept, and Jenn Dietz. Sarah McCaffrey will be offering workshop on Friday.

Discussion of a proposal for high level assessment of GSFFC's goals and accomplishments (Mike Feulner)

1. What do we view as our most significant accomplishments over the last several years?
What is our group doing right?

The group is willing to work together despite disagreements, although it can be a challenge to bring in differing opinions. Price agreements allow us to move fast on projects. They can fund and use local contractors to implement. Keeping track of potential funding that is upcoming. The Pacheco canyon burn is a great accomplishment. There was a depth of collaboration linked to this group that should be celebrated.

Porfirio (verbally) shared a list of accomplishments - Esmé will circulate a hard copy. Please email Porfirio to add to it:

- USFS Hired a Fireshed Coordinator
- Hyde Park WUI Project/Pacheco Resiliency Project NEPA Cat Ex.
- USFS Hazardous Fuels funding
- Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project NEPA EA
- Fireshed/Wildfire Education and Outreach
- Fireshed Ambassador Program
- Brewshed events
- Common Ground public event (Forest Health Scientists Panel)
- SimTable neighborhood event
- AARP partnership
- Webinars
- Alert Santa Fe
- Home Ignition Zone
- Evacuation/ Ready, Set, Go
- Wildfire Wednesdays Blog
- Medio Fire
- Wildfire Wednesdays Live



Allen Barton mentioned that collaborative branding is an asset.

2. Where could we improve as a group in how we function and meet our mission/vision?

The groups needs to look at communities as a whole and how they can better serve their community.

Updates from partners – All

USFS- Jon Boe shared that he is retiring and that this upcoming season will be his last fire season. He reflected on the struggles of the year amidst covid-19 and for treatments that helped the Medio Fire.

Hannah shared about NEPA guidance from regional office following MSO injunction. They are updating their wildlife analysis to match the MSO recovery plan. They are behind schedule on draft EA, but it is moving forward and will likely be released this spring 2021.

The La Cueva project is the last of the remaining piles for that project. All remaining piles on Pacheco Canyon have been burned. Two remaining units (200 acres) to be thinned and burned this spring.

Michael Martinez will be handling forestry projects through Pueblo of Tesuque, Greg Kauffman is no longer with them.

The City will be sending 20 CFS of water through town to Texas starting on Monday, Jan 25th.

NFWRI just hired an outreach coordinator named Natalia Shaw and will be hiring a forest economist that will work with industry and other partners to come up with viable ways to use material out of the forest.

2021 meeting dates (Esmé Cadiente)

Suggested dates: April 14th, July 14th, October 13th

Next meeting is April 14th and will be 2 hours long.