

Development Team Meeting Notes

April 17, 2017

Community Assessments: Handed out the data gap questions from the reviews of the assessments to all the representatives with a suggested two-week turn around. Emphasized that we understand that all the data may not be available. Agreed that GIS could be used to determine the size (acreage) of the communities and that the point data provided by Rob Hazard could be used to estimate the number of structure within a community

Talked about SBCFD collecting specific structure data with the newly developed CAL FIRE “*Defensible Space Inspection Worksheet*”. This effort will be occurring county-wide over the next year. The DT agreed that this information is important for grant applications, especially where it involved structure hardening, but rather than attaching this data to the CWPP, it would be included by reference indicating that specific data could be made available through the SBCFD.

Also talked the need to highlight the concept of structure hardening as a mechanism to enhance community wildfire protection. Max Moritz offered the website <http://firecenter.berkeley.edu/toolkit/default.html> as a source where homeowners could go to learn more about structure hardening and introduced to the DT the “*scorecard*” where homeowners could evaluate their individual structures against preferred characteristics of a hardened structure. The DT agreed to include this scorecard as an appendix to the CWPP.

Potential and Existing Fuel Treatments: Rolled out the latest version of the fuel treatment map. It was noted that two existing treatments in the lower foothills community were missing as were the Community Defense Zone projects approved by the Forest Service on federal lands adjacent to Painted Cave. Rob Hazard agreed to consolidate all spatial data for Private, SBC and the Forest Service and send one zip file with the data to Geo Elements. This data would indicate if the project was existing, planned (through the planning process, but not yet implemented) or potential. These classifications by jurisdiction would be used in the CWPP.

Geo Elements will take the new fuel treatment map and run the prioritization process to generate a DRAFT prioritization list for the next DT meeting.

Environmentally Sensitive Habitats – Fuel Treatment Guidelines: Phil, Nick, Dan and Jeff met with California Department of Fish and Game last Friday to review the ESHA map and fuel treatment guidelines. F&G has some comments to the BMPs associated with the guideline, which Phil is forwarding to Geo Elements. Geo Elements will roll in the comments from F&G into the Guidelines and send back to Phil to support the planned meeting with the local environmental community scheduled for May 22. The goal of this meeting is to finalize both the fuel treatment map and the Treatment Guidelines.

Reviewed the LOPs that are found in the EGVCP and the Comprehensive Plan. Little solid direction exists within these two documents. The EGVCP talks of an avian nesting LOP of January 15 through September 15. Jeff is to work with the SBC Audubon Society to clarify the nesting LOP for all avian species not just migratory birds. This LOP will be included in the Guidelines as a BMP for vegetation treatments.

County Permitting Process: The DT discussed the need to provide users of the CWPP a clearer understanding of the County's permitting process as part of the document. Phil is to contact the Mindy and the Working Group in attempts to get a clear flow chart of how, where and when the permitting process applies to vegetation treatments. Rob suggested Julie Harris as a "go to" for this information.

Kendra say this flow chart exists and will sent to Geo Elements and Phil to see if it meets the needs of the DT and the CWPP.

Grant Funding: Reviewed 4 known sources for grant funding to support structure hardening. The FEMA grants appear to be the more likely sources as the Fire Safe Council grant funding is highly competitive and has seen funding shrink in recent years, and the SRA assessment grants are primarily focused on vegetation treatments. Jeff suggested that the group (Geo Elements) investigate private foundation and utilities (SDGE, SCE, PG&E) that may provide funding for such work. The focus of the grants would need to be community wide, as it is unlikely that grant funds would be directed to the improvement of individual properties.

Nick to forward a link to how Big Bear leveraged grant funding for their structure hardening, roof replacement grants.

Other Items:

- Rob to provide ignition point data and weather scenarios to support four fire modeling runs which will look at the interaction of wildfire and structure damage potential
- Group agreed to a weather scenario on which to evaluate fuel treatment effectiveness

Next meeting – May 15, 2017 – Expectations

1. Community Assessment will be complete. Answers to the identified data gaps due by May 1, 2017 from the community reps **(Community Reps)**
2. Ember exposure zone modeling effort will be detailed to the DT **(Geo Elements)**
3. Near final draft of proposed treatments will be presented with a first draft at individual project prioritization presented **(Rob Hazard, Geo Elements)**
4. SBC Audubon Society will be contacted and a final "*nesting bird*" LOP will be defined for inclusion into the Fuel Treatment Guidelines BMPs **(Jeff)**
5. Pertinent sections of the Draft CWPP concerning structure hardening will be reviewed by the Team. Geo Elements to make that draft material available within two weeks **(Geo Elements)**
6. Fuel Treatment Effectiveness modeling will be presented the Team **(Geo Elements)**
7. Discussion/decision on how the CWPP draft review process will be determined. **(all)**
8. Report out from Phil on the status of the scheduled May 22, 2017 meeting with interested environmental group stakeholder and agencies. **(Phil)**
9. Report on progress made on developing a flow chart for the permitting process for performing vegetation treatments on private lands **(Working Group via Phil and Rob)**