

McKinley County CWPP Update

Public Meeting Notes 2-8-18

McKinley County Fire Station

413 Bataan Memorial Drive

Gallup, NM

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. 2013 CWPP Review
 - a. Organized by fire districts
 - b. Communities at risk
3. Schedule for McKinley Co CWPP update
4. Todd Haines (NMSF) presents about County CWPPs importance
 - a. CWPP can assist in counties ability to secure grants
 - b. NMSF uses CWPP to assist in getting fuels treatment on the ground
 - c. Updated every 5 years
 - i. It's a challenge to get accurate reporting of fires
 - d. Anything that you want done reference in CWPP
5. CWPP update guidelines
 - a. Process
 - i. Mark changes
 - ii. Updated priorities
 - iii. Share drafts with partners for buy in
 - iv. Submit
 - b. Plan Element Requirements
 - i. Prioritize fuel treatments
 - ii. Structure ignitability
 - iii. Signatures of invested parties
 1. Todd Haines: Make sure to include as many interested parties as possible
 - iv. Describe progress
 - v. Changes in community risk ratings
 - vi. List of Communities at Risk and hazard ratings (High, Medium, Low)
 - vii. Maps of WUI risk ratings
 - viii. List of prioritized projects
6. 2013 priority recommendations
 - a. Fuels reduction
 - i. Specific recommendations
 - b. Homeowner assessments
 - c. McKinley County WUI coordinator

- d. Coordination for hydrant and water resources
 - e. Resident education and Outreach
 - i. Chipper days or Wildfire preparedness days
- 7. McKinley County WUI Map
- 8. Community Hazard Ratings
 - a. Changes that may alter 2013 risk rating?
 - b. Pine Haven treatments : Darryl Wilson, BIA Fire Management
 - i. Defensible space treatments
 - c. Timber Lake: Todd Haines
 - i. Treatments 60 acres rural communities
- 9. Priorities for 2018 and beyond
 - a. Community involvement
 - b. Reducing structure ignitability
 - c. Improving fire district capacity
 - d. Human sources of ignition
 - e. Wildfire preparedness
 - f. Adjacent lands
 - i. USFS and BLM priorities align with plan
 - g. Roads and Transportation
- 10. Fire Adapted Communities New Mexico
 - a. Developing statewide network
 - i. New Website
 - 1. Directories
 - 2. Leaders directory
 - 3. Forum to solicit help from leaders throughout state
 - 4. Having people in communities who can provide support
 - b. Defensible Space
 - i. Home Hazard Assessment Guide
 - 1. Available at forestguild.org insert link
- 11. What action items should be included? What should residents do?
 - a. Alvin Whitehair: (USFS) Elevated risk because of drought, trees already showing stress, collaborate on identifying homes that are occupied all the time to increase notifications
 - b. Alvin Whitehair: Working with fire departments to help defend WUI areas, if people haven't made an attempt its difficult to justify firefighter safety
 - c. Alvin Whitehair: Communication established between USFS and Fire departments to be able to move quickly on decisions of fire response
- 12. Discussion
 - a. What is collaboration like in McKinley County fire districts? Robert Kuipers (NWNMCOG)
 - i. Jason Carlisle (McKinley County Fire) is working on unifying 18 fire districts in the County into one district.
 - ii. Todd Haines: Federal agencies and state and state forestry and counties have agreement

1. Jurisdictions and Initial Attack areas
 - a. Counties and states have same jurisdiction
 - i. After four hours counties are reimbursed
 - b. Do jurisdictions all meet often or only during CWPP updates? Robert Kuipers
 - i. Todd Haines: Fire suppression worked together
 - ii. Todd Haines: Fuels plan together
 - iii. Todd Haines: State can integrate County and City crews to do thinning
 - c. Develop county wildland program
 - i. Do thinning to support crew, keep them employed during off seasons
 - d. Matt Piccarello: Develop ongoing committee to check up on progress of CWPP
 - i. Develop wildland coordinator position to assist
 - ii. State can help develop grants to fund positions or fuels reductions
 - e. Alvin Whitehair: Plans to burn big acreages 5000-9000 acres cooperation with other forests would like to integrate local fire departments into burning to build relationships and be able to work more seamlessly in the future
 - f. Matt Piccarello: Forest Stewards Guild developing Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) proposal to implement prescribed fire in the Zuni Mountains
 - i. Training exchanges and building capacity
 - g. Alvin Whitehair: Puerco project area is working it's way through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process west of the continental divide. The Puerco project area will build on existing treatments east of the continental divide in the Bluewater Analysis area.