Union County CWPP Meeting Notes

October 15, 2014

La Grande, Oregon

In Attendance: J.B. Brock- Union County Emergency Service, Joe Hessel – Oregon Department of Forestry, Jenny Reinheardt, Scott English – BLM, Mark Jacques, Larry Woolridge – La Grande Rural Fire Chief

CHAPTERS:

1. Chapters - Reviewed and discussed overall content verse specific items. Initial chapters need to stress importance of as well as lead to collaboration efforts.

2. Emphasize why demographics, topography, climate play a role in wildfire risk and their significance to WUI protection for homeowners.

3. Present methodology for Prioritizing WUI's in the county, also the methodology for prioritizing treatment units within individual WUI's. – Already under construction.

4. Incorporate homeowner responsibility and link it to Policies, (CWS). Quantify and Qualify risk and protection responsibilities.

5. Identify what unprotected land means. – possibly put Terms and Definition in an appendix.

6. Goals and Objectives (G&O) section need to show Wildfire Response; Fire Adapted Communities; and Resilient Landscapes from CWS – create a more straightforward design using these three. Present what they mean as a lead into G&O

GIS:

1. Provide broad evacuation plan since every situation is different. Create a process that is flexible – Deschutes CWPP may help.

Doug Wright – Public Works Director – has GIS Layer that may be helpful.

2. J.B. Brock – GIS County Road layer with road names verse number - Layers for Jenny

3. BMIDC has updated Protection Responsibility Layer. – Jenny already in contact.

4. Structure map for county – Jenny has one – need to check with what Union County also has.

INDIVIDUAL WUI – dicussion

1. Add Full Page Maps to individual WUI sections - Road Layer. Jenny will also include other analysis layers in first WUI to filter out ones that groups want to keep in Individual Sections.

2. Keep detailed WUI boundary description but use road names/local info too.

3. Description of Elevation changes and vegetation transition for WUIs

4. Check BLM land in Mt. Emily – Add all agencies and use -0- for no-land.

5. Link Action Items to Goals/Objectives – Action Items can be categorized by High, Med, or Low.

6. Identify a Protection Approach Process for each WUI – list best options

TABLES:

Review WFDSS table – Strategic Risk Assessment (SRA) approach for values at risk.

Add column to link Mitigation Action Items to CWS in Individual WUI section.

Set up an Accomplishment/Progress reporting process to match Action Items.\

Appendix (maybe) Check list on need for Conflagration

Plan to present new information at the Fire Defense Board Meeting in March – 2015.

Once individual WUI's are completed an option is that Jenny set up appointments with corresponding Fire Chief's. Then begin to arrange for public meetings for that specific WUI.

NEWS: Tyson Albrecht has accepted the FMO position at Pomeroy, Washington. Unclear at this time on who his replacement will be.

TO DO's LIST:

Jenny:

* meet with Katie and review information
* incorporate items listed above pertaining to Document changes, enhancements, additions
* Contact BMIDC to access protection layer – done
* Review WFDSS SRA

J.B. Brock:

* Send Jenny Roads Layer for County with road names. – Try to email; otherwise Jenny can pick it up on Monday morning October 20th.

CWPP GROUP:

* Finish Chapters and provide edits about content back to Jenny and Katy. Send information out to ENTIRE group so everyone can see what is being recommended in edits - (this will eliminate redundancy and keep all on the same page prior to meetings).
* Someone (Joe/J.B. maybe) to provide Jenny with actual meaning of Protected vs. Unprotected lands

NEXT MEETING DATE – November 4 @ 1 pm - J.B. Brocks office.

We will begin looking at:

1. Individual WUI's with maps and identifying trigger (management) actions.
2. Risk