Agenda

Union County

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Cooperators Meeting

Location: La Grande City Fire Department, 1806 Cove Avenue

Date and Time: March 26, 2015 at 2 pm.

In Attendance: Representative from Idaho-Northern Railroad (Working on getting his name), JB Brock, Joe Hessel, Mark Jacques, Mike McDonnell, Katy Nesbitt, Mitch Williams, Jenny Reinheardt

There was only one Cooperator, from Idaho-Northern Railroad at the meeting. As a result the discussion regarding the CWPP was more of a group oriented conversation about information regarding the CWPP.

 Topics covered included:

1. There was recognition that railroad does ignite fires within it the railroad right-a-way. Focusing on areas that are more susceptible to starts is one way prevention method, Reinheart Road between Imbler and Elgin, and the hard pull between Balm and McAlister Road were locations pointed out. There is a small water cart that follows the train and is responsible for fire detection. Changing the day time schedule on when the train runs was discussed since mornings/evenings are cooler. The load schedules are based on the requests of businesses and their operations.
2. The original CWPP was completed in 2005 based on the National Fire Plan. The Cohesive Wildfire Strategy provides three primary goals to strive for and allows for opportunities to revise the CWPP based on those three goals.
3. Discussion regarding what the railroad has in place in terms of fire prevention was discussed and looking at possibilities of local agencies working with the railroad to further improve fire prevention.
4. Prospects of developing a prevention and fire plan for the railroad to provide local fire management agencies with direction on suppression approaches such as: retardant use, fire patrol once control is reached, etc.
5. Prevention and suppression training is an option that could be made available to railroad personnel.
6. Identifying agreement and or coordination opportunities may help combine efforts in prevention and suppression.

After meeting was adjourned with the railroad, the CWPP group discussed:

1. The lack of turnout from the cooperators and providing them opportunity to attend the public meetings. These meetings are listed at the bottom of the meeting notes.
2. Jenny and Katy developed a Cooperators questionnaire that is attached to these meeting notes. Please REVIEW and make edits, suggestions, or additions to the Questionnaire. The intent is to mail the questionnaire out to the cooperators to gather information.
3. Discussion then focused on the Public Meetings. The intent of the meeting is to provide an overview of the CWPP, Cohesive Strategy, and Risk without a lot of detail. Fire Wise, Ready-Set-Go, and other information will be provided through pamphlets and discussed at communities meetings in the future, but is not part of this meetings intent.

**CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

1. **The next CWPP Meeting**
2. **April 8th in JB’s Office at 0900** – finish the counties Unique values and hazards that are geographically specific.
3. **April 21st – JB’s Office at 1300** prior to public meeting (**if needed**)
4. **PUBLIC MEETINGS**:
5. April 21st – La Grande Fire Station – 1800 (6 pm) – Room confirmed
6. April 30th – Elgin Fire Station – 1800 (6 pm) – Waiting for confirmation – I left a message
7. May 6th – Union City Hall – 1800 (6 pm) – Waiting for confirmation – I left a message