



HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL
Appointed by the Humboldt County BOS Supported by the
Planning Division of
Community Development Services
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501-4484 PHONE (707) 268-3736



Meeting Summary (Action Minutes)
Humboldt County Fire Safe Council
July 18, 2011

A Humboldt County Fire Safe Council (HCFSC) meeting was held on July 18, 2011 at the Six Rivers National Forest Headquarters Office in Eureka. The FSC was appointed by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors (BOS) to guide maintenance and implementation of the Humboldt County Master Fire Protection Plan (MFPP) - Humboldt County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

Fire Safe Council Members/Appointed Agency Liaisons Attending:

Bill Eastwood, Southern Humboldt Fire Safe Council
Dan Larkin, Humboldt County Office of Emergency Services, Emergency Services Coordinator
Debra Lake, Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department, Board Chair
Hugh Scanlon, CAL FIRE -HUU, Battalion Chief
Ian Sigman, Honeydew Volunteer Fire Company and Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council
Jean Louis Carmona, Van Duzen Watershed Fire Safe Council
John McFarland, Arcata Fire Protection District, Chief
Kenneth Woods, Humboldt No. 1 Fire Protection District, Chief
Will Harling, Orleans/Somes Bar Fire Safe Council, Fire Safe Council of Siskiyou County, Director of Mid-Klamath Watershed Council

Fire Safe Council Members/Appointed Agency Liaisons Absent:

Bob Harris, Miranda Fire Protection District, Fire Chief, and Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs' Association, President
Laurel L. Reimann, Willow Creek Fire Safe Council, Treasurer and PG&E
Manny Mello, Northwest Insurance, CIC
Robert Rivelle, USDA Forest Service, Six Rivers National Forest (non-voting Federal Liaison)
Rod Mendes, Director, Hoopa Office of Emergency Services
Tim Jones, Bureau of Land Management, Fire Management Officer and Liaison to Hum Co FSC (non-voting Federal Liaison)

Public and Agency Representatives Attending:

Cybelle Immitt, Humboldt County Community Development Service
Joe and Pat O'Hara, Willow Creek Fire Safe Council
Norma McAdams, Hoopa OES

AGENDA ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Business meeting was called to order at 1:03 P.M. by Chair **Debra Lake**.

AGENDA ITEM 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS FSC MEETING

Discussion – The FSC Chair **Debra Lake**, asked if anyone had any corrections or additions in regards to the action minutes. Will Harling asked that Siskiyou County FSC be changed to Fire Safe Council of Siskiyou County. Bill Eastwood and Jean Louis were marked as absent, but they were here. These corrections will be made before the action minutes are posted to the web.

Action – On a motion from **Ken Woods** and seconded by **Hugh Scanlon**, the Council unanimously approved the amended minutes.

AGENDA ITEM 3 - PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

New FSC Members - Rod Mendes (Hoopa Office of Emergency Service), Bill Eastwood (Southern Humboldt Fire Safe Council (FSC) and Jean-Louis Carmona (Van Duzen Fire Safe Council) were officially appointed to the Humboldt County FSC on June 7, 2011. Welcome new members!!!

LHMP – Cybelle announced that the Notice of Interest (NOI) request for proposed projects for the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program went out. The deadline is August 8 and County representatives (Office of Emergency Services, Community Development Service, and Public Works) are working on a proposal to update the Humboldt Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan. The next step is to re-convene the hazard mitigation steering committee and check in with all of the planning partners.

Trinity County CWPP – Trinity County has completed an update of their CWPP and copies were passed around. Two copies were given to Joe O'Hara and the Willow Creek FSC. Their template was somewhat borrowed from the Willow Creek FSC plan.

Firewise in Jacoby Creek - Hugh announced that he, Cybelle, and Desmond (Arcata Fire) met with a community in upper Jacoby Creek that was interested in becoming a Firewise Community. The area is developed, steep and wooded, in a high fire hazard severity zone. They are motivated and are making plans to move forward on fire safety actions.

Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy - Cybelle announced that the Western Regional Strategy Committee for the Cohesive Strategy is soliciting comments on their Phase II update to the strategy. A handout was provided including a website link that can be used to provide comments (<http://sites.nemac.org/westcohesivefire/comment-form/>). Comments will be accepted through July 19, 2011.

Tasks:

- **Cybelle and Manny** find a way to get the word out about the Humboldt County GIS Portal to insurance agents and the ISO insurance survey. Manny tested it out and reported that he did not find the portal to be very user friendly. Cybelle needs specific recommendations on how it can be improved. Jean Louis said the system is still not letting him print out the maps he makes on it. Jean Louis will work with Jerry (County GIS) to fix this problem.
- **Cybelle** – Keep everyone posted about progress on the meeting being set up with ISO.
- **Cybelle** work with **Manny and Ken** and see if there is an existing effort to address how out of date the ISO process is and put together information that

may go into a letter to the insurance commissioner and cc'ed to ISO. We will visit this issue at the next meeting.

- **All - work to get this message out to your communities** - It was suggested that the FSC put forth the message that, with rising insurance rates, the best thing we can do is to invest in fire prevention. Boost your water supply; get a fire extinguisher, and so on. Even if rural homeowners can't get good fire insurance they can still do the work to make themselves less vulnerable to fire.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – APPROVE REVISED 2011 ANNUAL FSC MEETING SCHEDULE

Discussion: FSC members reviewed the revised schedule and looked at their calendars. Hopefully everyone is able to make it to the Oct 17 meeting at the BLM office.

Action: On a motion from **Will Harling** and seconded by **Ian Sigman**, the Council unanimously approved the amended schedule.

AGENDA ITEM 5 - FSC COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORTS

MASTER FIRE PROTECTION PLAN (CWPP) UPDATE

Discussion: **Cybelle** shared progress – The Fiscal Year ended on June 30 and now we are ready to send out an RFP asking for consultant services for help with making a community outreach plan as well as with document drafting and assembling support.

It was asked if there was any interest by any of the new members to join a committee for this item or any of the other committees. No action was taken to form a committee for this item and new members will be added to committees as they wish. **Cybelle** will bring this CWPP update process back to the FSC at each quarterly meeting and seek assistance from specific FSC members as needed as the process moves forward.

Tasks:

- **Cybelle** will secure consultant service to assist with drafting the updated County CWPP with a contract up to \$10,000. She hopes to have someone on board by the next meeting. This was OK'ed by the FSC members.
- **Cybelle** asked **Tim and Robert** to look over the sections of the Plan that relate to their respective entities and for the **Fire Chiefs and Cal Fire** to do the same. **Cybelle** will begin to send out the appropriate sections of the plan in Word format.

1. FUEL MODIFICATION/BIOMASS UTILIZATION

*(Tim Jones (pending approval from the BLM Director), Will Harling, Laurel Reimann, Bill Eastwood, Jean-Louis Carmona, Cybelle Immitt, and Bob Rivelle **Coordinator – Cybelle**)*

Discussion: **Cybelle** attended a “Regional Convening on Biomass Utilization” and a group has formed to develop and implement strategies to better understand the biomass utilization options and opportunities in our region. The region of focus includes Mendocino, Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity and Siskiyou Counties and maybe more. Questions include where there are opportunities for biomass power plants, biochar, and other potential projects. **Cybelle** handed out a strategy statement from the Northern Sierra Biomass Initiative, and believes that our local Biomass group could use this effort as an example.

This group is going to meet again and it would be good for the FSC Fuels Modification Biomass Utilization Committee to engage with them. Cybelle asked Committee members to commit to working with this group. A report on progress will be provided at the October FSC meeting. A representative from Green Diamond was also at the biomass meeting, and is going to conduct outreach to other timber companies to attend the next meeting.

Jean Louis Carmona and Bill Eastwood expressed interest in being on the Hum CO FSC Biomass Committee. Hoopa Tribe rep said Rod Mendes may be interested. They are doing planning around various power generation options including microhydro and biomass. Cybelle will help bring this FSC committee together and include in the larger discussions on biomass.

Action:

- Jean-Louis Carmona and Bill Eastwood were added to this committee.
- Cybelle will contact Rod Mendez and find out if he wants to join this committee.

Tasks:

- **Bob Rivelle** - get an update from the USFS on what funding may be available for community wildfire assistance.
- **ALL** - Keep an eye out for grant opportunities to fund fuel management and biomass utilization. **On-Going**
- **ALL** - Provide support to staff as the fuels plan portion of the MFPP is updated and incorporated into the rest of the fire plan update process. **On-Going**
- **ALL** - Provide support to staff to draft a woody biomass utilization section for the updated Humboldt County fire plan. **On-Going**
- **Cybelle** - keep in touch with the regional biomass utilization group and their activities related to this topic and keep the FSC committee involved and make sure that progress reports are made to the whole FSC at quarterly meetings. **On-Going**

2. DEVELOP A RELIABLE REVENUE SOURCE FOR FIRE PROTECTION

(Ken Woods, John McFarland, Ian Sigman, and Cybelle Immitt Coordinator - Cybelle Immitt)

Discussion: LAFCo applications have been submitted for the fire departments listed below - these are forming a new district where only a fire company currently operates:

1. Palo Verde Fire Company
2. Briceland Fire Company
3. Bridgeville Fire Company
4. Fruitland Ridge

LAFCO applications for the following departments that are expanding district boundaries to more accurately reflect where service is regularly provided will be submitted in August.

1. Garberville Fire Protection District
2. Redway Fire Protection District
3. Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District
4. Whitethorn Fire Protection District
5. Rio Dell Fire Protection District
6. Maybe Fieldbrook
7. Ferndale Fire Protection District
8. Petrolia Fire Protection District

The first LAFCO Hearing on all of the above applications is planned to take place on September 21, 2011. Reps from the various fire departments will need to attend this September meeting. The request is that the district formation applications be approved by LAFCo pending 2/3 majority vote in favor from the registered voters residing in the proposed district boundaries. There has been some media about this topic recently. It is important for the VFDs to conduct outreach to their communities as they will be proposing a special tax to support the VFD's. The worst case scenario is that they don't get the 2/3rds majority vote. It really depends on the voters.

Westhaven VFD is looking into setting up a zone of benefit to sustain their service. Representatives are working with the County to figure out what the necessary steps would be. Humboldt#1 and Eureka are meeting next week to discuss options for ensuring that the Humboldt Bay area has the most efficient and effective fire protection possible.

Ian Sigman commended Cybelle and others involved in this effort in light of his effort to jump start this effort in Honeydew. He encouraged Cybelle to forward info on these applications to VFDs who chose not to participate; they may be waiting to see what happens with the other VFD's that have applied. Ian did a test poll in Honeydew that was less negative than expected. Some of the largest landowners were supportive. Honeydew VFD may, sometime in the future, want to form a district but not do the benefit assessment, even though there is some data that the community itself may be open to a benefit assessment. County staff has worked with Honeydew Fire to delineate their response area in more detail than what was previously in the County fire plan.

Dan Larkin asked how many departments, that aren't currently participating, may be interested in this pathway in the county, and which ones may be likely to follow these VFD's who submitted applications to LAFCo. Cybelle reported that some mapping exercises have been done that could help non-participating VFD's envision how their boundaries could be restructured if they were interested in becoming a fire protection district (examples: Honeydew, Salmon Creek, Alderpoint...).

Action Items:

- **Cybelle and John Miller – Continue to support fire departments as they navigate through this process**

3. LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD

(Ken Woods, John McFarland, Bob Harris, Hugh Scanlon & Cybelle Immitt. Coordinator – Ken Woods)

Discussion: The committee met on June 2nd to discuss NFPA 1720 which sets level of service standards. They talked about how to put that out to the larger fire protection community. Hugh said one of the elements of 1720 is distance from the fire station, or response time. He did an analysis based on population density (unfortunately from old census data), to provide a first cut expected level of service by geographic location. There were a number of surprises out there. Redway fell into an Urban classification because of a small district size and high population. This exercise provides good discussion points for the chiefs, mutual aid, consolidation, etc...John said this info could be incorporated into their annual report. Hugh agreed, and said that he could also classify geographically the call volumes from specific areas. Amongst the 40 plus fire departments in Hum Co, it is unreasonable to expect all of them to conduct their own 1720 reviews. John reported that the upper Jacoby Creek community mentioned earlier came to Arcata FPD to be included in their service district, but were denied due to the

distance and response time. The 1720 criteria for "Rural areas" to have 6 people on scene within 14 minutes 80% of the time are simply too tough for most rural VFD's. Honeydew has satellite stations which helps with this issue, but greatly increases expenses. Still, the committee believes that it is valuable to have something to measure against and work towards and that this standard is a good tool for that. There is some possibility of adding an analysis of how a district's fire response measures up against the standard to the LAFCO Municipal Services Review (MSR) process.

Action Items:

- **ALL** – Assist staff to incorporate the LOS data tracked by this group into the updated County Fire Plan. **On-going**
- **ALL** –Work with the HCFCA to Identify and agree on a level of service standard that can be used as a goal by fire departments.
 - **Ken and Hugh** - Provide Cybelle with details about how the standard could be used in the LAFCo MSR process.
- **ALL** - Start thinking about what "adequate level of service" might mean. Start with the NFPA 1720 standard. **Ongoing**

4. IMPROVE EMERGENCY DISPATCH SERVICES

*(Dan Larkin, Hugh Scanlon, Bob Harris, Robert Rivelle, Debra Lake, and **Rod Mendes(??)** - Coordinator – Bob Harris, and/or Debra Lake)*

Discussion: **Debra Lake** went to the Dispatch Co-Op meeting on July 14th. The Southern Hum Chiefs reviewed the new by-laws and found an omission of an article to give directions on amending the by-laws. The by-laws were fixed and will need to be voted on again. The dispatch cooperative is willing to replace or fix any mobiles so that are able to be narrow banded. Kenwood is giving an automatic 30% discount on new narrow band with radios. Purchase orders need to be submitted on VFD letterhead to RWS to the dispatch cooperative.

Fieldbrook is still having radio issues because they are shielded by Horse Mtn. The Pratt Mtn is the borrowed station (only 50 watts), and it isn't strong enough for most folks to use. Lots of static and hard to hear... There is some discussion of the state radio technician to review this site to see if it can be fixed or upgraded. The repeaters are all approaching 20 years of age which is usually around their life span.

John McFarland said the radio grant was tossed after passing many reviews, so they are planning on resubmitting. Congressman Thompson will support a 5% match for this grant, which is a huge help. All the info collected for the annual report feeds into this proposal.

Dan Larkin is working with **Dave Christian and Dave White** on several specific item applications for fire communications support using grant funding. The Trinidad repeater provided with grant funding is installed but not yet functioning – It should help some of Fieldbrook's radio issues. The HAZMAT team received 16 new grant-supplied portable radios including in-mask headsets, chargers, and extra batteries. A current Homeland Security grant is supplying significant funding to Eureka Fire for its vehicle Mobile Data Terminal installations project. The upcoming fiscal year Homeland Security grant process is just beginning and could potentially benefit other specific area fire communications projects.

Hoopa OES representative, **Rod Mendes** was not able to attend the meeting but did correct, clarify, and expand upon statements that were made. The meeting notes were emended accordingly below:

There are three relevant communications related initiative being undertaken in Hoopa. They are as follows:

- Hoopa Net – The Tribal Council authorized broadband (internet service) to service Hoopa which is likely going to eventually be made available to neighboring communities at a reasonable fee yet to be determined.
- There is an emergency communications vault in Hoopa on Sugar Pine Mt. that can be available to other partners through a formal agreement. For example the school district is going to use it for their radio communications. This could be a resource for the Sheriff's office or other county or local jurisdictions/agencies.
- The Hoopa OES communications project also includes the placement of a NOAA/National Weather Service radio transmitter on Horse Mountain that will have potential to affect residents of northeastern Humboldt County - (Will be able to broadcast the National Weather Service Emergency Alert System). Note: this is a communications site under the auspices of Cal Trans that houses state, federal, county, and private communications equipment on Horse Mountain.

Tasks:

- Keep the FSC abreast of goings on in the effort to coordinate with other agencies. **(Dan Larkin) – Ongoing**
- All – Assist staff to incorporate appropriate emergency dispatch and communication information into the updated County Fire Plan. **Ongoing**

5. MFPP POLICY RECOMMENDATION INTEGRATION INTO THE GPU

*(John McFarland, Dan Larkin, Debra Lake, Ken Woods, Laurel Reimann, Hugh Scanlon, Will Harling, and Cybelle Immitt **Coordinator – Cybelle Immitt**)*

Discussion: **Cybelle** updated the FSC on progress with the general plan update. Advance Planning Staff is currently taking the Water Resources Element to the Planning Commission. The comparison charts for the Safety Element have not been completed yet and **Cybelle** will send them out when they are done. As soon as the Charts are released, the Committee for this action will get together and review them and make suggestions for any recommended changes or additions. The committee will then present what they propose to the FSC (via email if necessary) and then forward to County Planners.

Cybelle recommended that everyone become as familiar as possible with the B Alternative of the Element that was already published and distributed. If anyone needs another copy they can get one from Cybelle or off of the web at the address below. Will Harling asked to be included on this review panel.

Tasks:

- **Cybelle** - Add Will Harling to the Committee
- **Cybelle** - keep the Council posted about the Planning Commission's progress toward the Safety Element. **Ongoing**

- **All** – Assist staff to incorporate relevant information from the GPU into the updated County Fire Plan - **Ongoing**
- **FSC members** send policy level comments addressed to the Planning Commission. A good way to do that is to submit a comment using the website tool www.planupdate.org
- Editorial corrections or errors can be sent to **Cybelle**. cimmitt@co.humboldt.ca.us
- **Cybelle** - Send link to Alternatives A, C, and D of the Safety Element when developed.

AGENDA ITEM 6 –FIRE SEASON INCIDENT REPORT AND HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION REPORT

Discussion:

John McFarland reported that new Fire Chiefs' Association Officers were appointed – **Lon Winburn** (Fortuna Fire) is the new President and **Ken Woods** (Humboldt #1 Fire) is the Vice President.

Cal Fire has been helping out with the production of the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association Annual Report and will be working with the Chiefs in the future to add more valuable info. This report has educated the Humboldt County BOS which may have contributed to their decision to dedicate staff time to the fire district reorganization effort. The biggest eye opener in this report is the quantification of volunteer hours (lots and lots of volunteer hours). Providing the Supervisors with specific action items to work on has been helpful.

AB 29 Cal Fire Contact: **Daniel Berlant** – 916-651-3473, Communications Officer in Sacramento. It was not a position that was put forward by the Humboldt Ranger Unit. This was a bill that was signed into law that was an annual fee capped at \$150 for fire prevention services for landowners in SRA areas for each structure on a parcel in the SRA. There is still no method for collecting this fee. This fee will impact the ability of VFD's to get public support to also collect funds from landowners for services. There is a question as to how the sliding scale will work, or what counts as services. This money does not augment anything in the Cal Fire budget. It goes to Cal Fire, but it frees up General Fund monies for other uses. This is really bad timing for the fire districting that is going on concurrently. The CAO sent a letter to Governor Brown on the subject. It was proposed that the FSC write a letter to the BOS asking them to write to the Board of Forestry and state representatives in protest of the fee.

Action:

Ken Woods moved that the Chair of the FSC (**Debra Lake**) draft a letter on behalf of the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council to the Humboldt County BOS summarizing the sentiments of the FSC on how AB 29 affects rural communities in Humboldt County and asking them to write a letter to the Board of Forestry and other state representatives. This letter will be sent out to FSC members for review and comment prior to submittal to the BOS - **Jean Louis** seconded – the motion passed unanimously with **Hugh Scanlon** abstaining.

Tasks:

- **Debra** - draft a letter and send to all FSC members for review. **Cybelle** will facilitate getting the letter to the BOS.
- **Cybelle** Post the Fire Chiefs' Association Annual Report on the FSC website and ask **Dan** to make a link to it from the OES site.

AGENDA ITEM 7 –REPORTS FROM LOCAL FSCs

Discussion:

Lower Mattole: Ian missed their last meeting, but the group has completed the draft CWPP to go to Cybelle for review. They have completed the Firewise Event for Honeydew. Mark Rodgers from Cal Fire was there. They had an emergency call in the middle of the meeting. Petrolia had their Firewise event, too, as part of an annual fundraiser. The Lower Mattole is updating their fire atlas which provides details on the existing road systems and helps emergency responders find their way around.

Southern Humboldt (<http://www.newforestry.org/shfsc/>): Bill reports that the Kings Peak fuelbreak is almost done. They had extra money so they are widening key places. The Fire-adapted landscapes and Safe Homes (FLASH) program is moving right along. They have 11 more parcels to do. One question that Bill has is there was a rumor that MRC was going to give them some money if they didn't spend all their money. Cybelle reports that they weren't sure if they were going to spend it all so they were waiting to see...Bill thinks he could spend any unused funds from the Mattole. Cybelle will set up a meeting soon to see if any budget modifications are needed. Bill also put in a 2012 Clearinghouse grant for a project in the Garberville area, just north of town in Bear Creek. This is a high hazard area with homeless encampments, Sudden Oak Death, and a hospital above it. Sadly it is near BLM lands, and BLM didn't put any money into the Clearinghouse this year.

Van Duzen Watershed: Jean Louis is finishing up the Clear Roads project. They put in some proposals to the 2012 Clearinghouse, and one to the Humboldt County Resource Advisory Council (RAC). The FLASH program is going well, they are also running a Title III funded Blue Dot program (to identify water for fire service) and providing plumbing parts for existing water systems to hook up to fire engines, etc. He had a question: He is doing a project with Lower Trinity and even though they have guaranteed funding, how do they pay the crew if the funds aren't in hand yet. The Humboldt Area Foundation and the Headwaters Fund were both suggested as possible sources of short term loans or lines of credit. **Jean Louis will look into this with help from Cybelle.**

Willow Creek (<http://willowcreekfsc.org/index.html>): **Joe O'Hara** reported that the FLASH program is almost completed and they are still running a chipper program. They are using up the last of their 2010 grant for vegetation clearance in Willow Creek. They learned from this experience that it will cost \$2,000 acre for future grant projects.

Orleans/Somes Bar FSC (<http://www.mkwc.org/programs/firefuels/index.html>): FLASH program is going well. We have a prescribed burn through FLASH that was not implemented this spring, but hopefully this Fall if the funding gets extended. The OSB FSC burned 16 acres this spring, despite the late rains. They worked with Firestorm, WFS Inc to implement these burns. The OSB FSC also met with the Six Rivers NF to get training and provide input on the Wildfire Decision Support System (WFDSS), and led to a follow-up meeting proposed for later this summer when they will get together local data for transfer to incoming fire teams in the event of a wildfire.

Fort Seward – No representative from this group was available.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – GRANT REPORTS

Discussion:

T3- funds

- **Firewise** –These funds will continue to be used to support staff time associated with helping communities through the Firewise process and for Firewise action plan implementation.
- **CWPP** – These funds will be used to support staff time associated with helping local CWPP efforts and the County CWPP update. Funds will also be used for needed consultant services and funding for small grant program and stipends for CWPP activities in local communities.
- **Small grant program 2011 cycle** – There are currently 8 active grants providing support to local FSCs as they help their communities become Firewise, implement Firewise action plans, and/or complete or update CWPPs. Willow Creek just successfully closed out their second grant which yielded a tri-fold flyer about their FSC and a publication called “Living with Fire in the Lower Trinity” (Good job Willow Creek!). All others are moving along. Some may need extensions to complete their projects after the September 30, 2011 deadline.

2010 USFS grant Project – Fuels Reduction Cost Share Program

The Fire-adapted Landscapes and Safe Homes (FLASH) program is making steady progress. An extension was received and the grant deadline is now December 31, 2011.

Additional FLASH PROGRAM DISCUSSION: Cybelle would like to approve some FLASH projects that go over the \$3,000 cap due to their community benefit. One is 50 acres of preparation for a burn in the Mattole– clean up so that the prescribed burn does not get to hot and damage leave trees. FLASH will be paying for a share of cost for the pullback on the leave trees prior to the burn. The other one is in the Van Duzen watershed where they have funds to do a larger forest health thinning project but they don't have adequate funding to do the amount of thinning needed to meet fire safety standards. The funding comes from NRCS for oak woodland restoration. They are asking for the \$100/ac rate from limbing and thinning on 150 acres. This would not take money away from other landowners as FSCs are not easily spending this money.

2012 CA FSC Clearinghouse grant proposal – A grant proposal was submitted on time to support the continuation of the FLASH program and we are now waiting to hear if our project is selected.

Also, Hum CO Public Works Dept put in a road thinning grant to the 2012 Grants Clearinghouse on single lane access routes to communities like Shelter Cover. The con crews through the Hum Co Roads Dept has been doing good work around the county. Note: This could be good match for other FSC and County fire projects.

Tasks:

- **Cybelle** - report back to the Council when word is received about the 2012 Clearinghouse Grant.

AGENDA ITEM 9 – SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS – HUMBOLDT-DEL NORTE CAL FIRE UNIT STRATEGIC FIRE PLAN

Hugh Scanlon provided a report on the Cal Fire Unit Fire Plan. He recommended that people forward him any changes or edits to this plan asap. The Unit Chief would not mind this being adopted as a CWPP, but it does not have to be. If this plan includes projects not listed in other CWPPs and is accepted, then these projects would have

increased competitiveness in the state FSC Clearinghouse grant process. Getting signatures from the Humboldt County BOS would not be overly complicated and would actually be a good educational process for the Supervisors. There is likely some benefit to FSCs if this Cal Fire plan is adopted as a CWPP. The unit plan is not online, but Cybelle will email it out to FSC members and post it to the FSC Home page. It was noticed that local FSC areas needed revising. **Will Harling** will send Hugh a shapefile of the Orleans Somes-Bar FSC service area for the unit plan. It was decided that FSC members will get comments to Hugh and provide formal review of unit plan to see if it meets the criteria of a CWPP and recommend it for submittal to the Hum Co BOS.

Tasks:

- **Cybelle** - email the Unit Plan to FSC members and post it to the FSC Home page
- **Will Harling** - send Hugh a shapefile of the Orleans Somes-Bar FSC service area for the unit plan
- **ALL** - Review the unit plan and provide comments to Hugh no latter than September 23, 2011 so that a revised draft can be sent out and posted before the October 17, 2011 FSC meeting.
- **Cybelle** - Include an agenda item at the next FSC meeting on the Unit Plan review and approval to forward on to the BOS.

AGENDA ITEM 10 - CONFIRM NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION, AND ADJOURN

The next meeting date will be **October 17, 2011 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM** at the **Arcata BLM Field Station** (tentative location – must be confirmed).

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Lake at 3:56 P.M.