

Appendix F: Community Outreach Meetings Information

F.1 LOWER KLAMATH AND EAST KLAMATH PLANNING COMPARTMENTS

ORLEANS COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** November 10, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Karuk Department of Natural Resources, 39051 Highway 96, Orleans
- **Included Communities:** Orleans and Weitchpec

NOTES FROM ORLEANS COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Tom Bouse, Orleans Volunteer Fire Department: We are the mutual aid area because the Yurok have their own fire department. We have mutual aid with the Salmon River Volunteer Fire Department, and Butler. We have informal mutual response to T-Bar in Siskiyou. So we have overlapping boundaries. We can get extended quite a ways. We have five trucks, two main engines, a big water tender, a brush fire rig (also a vehicle accident response rig), and we have a rescue rig. The only thing we don't have is that we aren't trained in water rescue like the Yurok. 90% of our calls are medical. We respond to two or three (or more) traffic accidents per year, five to ten brush fires and every two to three years we have a major structure fire. Otherwise we get chimney fires and stuff like that. So fire's not on our minds, but when it happens we need a crew, and training. We will have 3-14 people on a fire. We're all volunteers. The citizens don't donate to us as much as we need them to. We buy equipment with grant money. We have \$7,000 in insurance to pay off and the community doesn't support us enough. We get paid to respond to Forest Service fires. We get some donations. We get money from fundraisers. We're always looking for ways to raise funds. Insurance costs \$900 per firefighter per year if you aren't a district. We are under the community services district, so our insurance costs \$300 per firefighter per year. If we weren't part of the district we'd be paying that higher price for insurance. We are dispatched by the local resident who needs us – they call us. We also get dispatched out of Hoopa command and out of Yreka command. We don't have a repeater which is a problem with the river canyons around here. Our phone service is \$157 per month. The tribe donated \$2,000 for our phone system and they are trying to get grant money so that we can get a repeater. I'd like to give kudos to the Forest Service because even though they don't enter a structure, they have assisted us.

Larissa Goth, Salmon River Volunteer Fire Department (Siskiyou County): We are in trouble right now. We have been talking about folding the Salmon River Fire Department and we will re-visit this at our next meeting. This is because insurance costs are killing us and will cause us to close unless we can find some way to get funded for operating costs (now we can only get funded for equipment). We also don't have a steady commitment of volunteers. Some of our firefighters are being trained for structure response. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires training and we are trying to keep up with these new requirements. Most of what we respond to is emergency medical. We will try to keep that going as long as we can. We will be doing lots of fundraisers this winter – including a raffle through Somes Bar Store, dinners, and bingo. If you want to donate we need resources or money. We have a fire engine, an ambulance, a rescue rig, and a water tender.

Bill Tripp, Karuk Volunteer Fire Department: Our fire crew is primarily wildland fire. We are funded through an agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for reimbursement during wildland fire assignments. We get dispatched through the Forest Service, CDF, or normal channels. We don't

have our fire engine going at this point because we don't have the funding. We have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Forest Service. We never respond to structure fires.

Barbara Cooley, Yurok Volunteer Fire Department: We have high fire danger in this area. We are wildland firefighters. We have two EMTs, and 14 first responders. Next year we will have our own tribal wildland fire department which will take some of the burden off of us because we are wildland and structure. However, the wildland crew will mostly be responding off the reservation as they get paid to go on fire across the nation. We have a lot of area to cover. We have a fire station at Weitchpec and another one at Wautec. Most responses take us 40 minutes. We need help at the lower reservation. We are funded through fundraisers and grants from Tribal timbers revenues. Our insurance costs are high. If we are needed we have mutual aid with Hoopa and Orleans. This year the tribe is trying to get medical emergency response and hopefully it will go through for all areas. We do water rescue and search and rescue in the hills (search and rescue program opened in October 2004). We're hoping to put the three tribes together: the Karuk and the volunteers in Orleans, the Yurok, and the Hoopa. We're looking forward to working with everybody. CDF dispatches us.

Pat Howard, U.S. Forest Service: We have two type III engines. We have a water tender that holds 1,500 gallons. We haven't had a person here in three years so I'm doing a lot of catch-up being new here. We'll respond to structure fires. We try to contain it to the house. We respond to medical calls on the road or in campgrounds. We respond to vehicle accidents, vegetation fires and hazardous materials. We have a few EMTs. We have two lookouts, one on Klamath and one on Orleans Mountain which are not staffed. We are dispatched through Fortuna.

Jim Smith, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We are primarily responsible for resource protection on public lands. We are also a contract fire department for government fire stations. Our nearest station is the Elk Camp Station. During the fire season the Forest Service is typically the first in, and we assist. During the winter, we have five engines for statewide emergency response and we keep one staff person at each station. We provide air response from Rohnerville.

NOTES FROM ORLEANS COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE SAFE COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Will Harling, Orleans Fire Safe Council: Orleans-Somes Bar was the first fire safe council in Humboldt County and probably the hottest fire safe council in the state! We applied for a grant to start a fire safe council. We didn't get the money, but started one anyway. Key around here is reinstatement of historic fire regimes. The tribal community has a deep understanding of fire. A lot of people here understand fire's importance. So it has been pretty easy to get volunteers for volunteer work days. We came up with lists of projects, and applied for grants. To date we've received \$900,000 in grants to do implementation and fuels reduction. The number of people we have here is amazing. We're in the right spot to model how a community can allow for these historic fire regimes to come back. We have a very involved community that understands the importance of doing fuels reduction. It's good to have that kind of support. This year we got a Forest Service grant to treat 80 acres around the Orleans Ranger District on private properties. We're doing prescribed burning on private property and that is a can of worms that we are figuring out as we go along. We have to get the landowner to take responsibility to set the fires, but we can provide support. We can use it as a fundraiser for our fire departments. In the future we hope to use the tribe's wildland fire resources. There are a lot of partners. There are still issues like air quality, but we are figuring it out. We could use some guidance legal-wise. We're also applying for a Forest Service economic action grant to use non-timber forest products to develop a market. We want to see how feasible that is based on what

resources we have around here. We were looking at our treated areas and there were all these re-sprouts that are used by the floral industry. We have to make sure we go about it in the right way. We need community input regarding where the Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI) should be. The Forest Service is giving us different scenarios of where it should be. The WUI determines where the Forest Service spends their fuels reduction dollars. To date the Orleans Fire Safe Council has treated almost 450 acres on private land that is in conjunction with work done on federal lands. In terms of fuels reduction on the federal side – Karuk – we want them to be a year-round fire crew. We want to build capacity that can respond to our community. Then they can go out and do different projects. We could really make some progress. The project along the Salmon River was a Karuk project. We started doing some planning. We started doing some implementation this summer. We focused on private lands adjacent to Forest Service lands. We help each other. The private property treatment helps the Forest Service. And the Forest Service treated property helps the private owners. We have another plan that will be finished at the beginning of the year for Somes Bar. There are still several smaller communities. We had to break them down this way because it's such a big area. As we get more money we will continue the planning, get plans done, and get work done. It's slowly coming together. We work closely with the tribe to maximize our work. We got a CDF grant to do understory burning. Manual treatments are very expensive. It's an exciting next step. There's lots of education involved. It sets the tone for the Forest Service to be proactive with the use of burning. That's where we all need to go. We will be hosting some training on landowner burning.

ORLEANS COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

Nancy Bailey	Rick Neihart
Kathy Barger, Six Rivers National Forest	Dale Nova
Tom Bouse, Chief, Orleans Fire	Giselle Nova
Bryan Colegrove	Stan Pfister
Barbra Cooley, Yurok Fire	Ben Riggon
Roberta Coragliotti	Lucy Salazar, Six Rivers National Forest
Earl Crosby, Karuk Tribe Dept. of Natural Resources	Todd Salberg, Hoopa Forestry
LaVerne Glaze	Jim Smith, CDF Crescent City
Tony Halking	Renee Stauffer
Will Harling	Michael Stearns
Brian Harris, Orleans/Ukonom District Ranger	Maria Strouss
Chris Hatton	Bill Tripp, Karuk Tribe
Pat Howard, Orleans Ranger District	Harold Tripp, Karuk Tribe
Frank Lake	Sandi Tripp, Karuk Tribe
Luna Latimer	Jim Villeponteaux

F.2. TRINITY PLANNING COMPARTMENT

WILLOW CREEK COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** October 27, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Community Services District, 135 Willow Road, Willow Creek
- **Included Communities:** Brannan Mountain, Hoopa, Friday Ridge, and Willow Creek

NOTES FROM WILLOW CREEK COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Rob Wild, Willow Creek Fire Department: We operate under a fire protection district that is a separate entity which supplies us with equipment, funding, etc. The bulk of our funds for operating costs are generated by fundraisers and community support. We have an urban interface engine, three structure engines, and a rescue truck. 90% of our calls are medical. Structure protection is the smallest part of what we do. During the summer we do initial wildland response. Mostly we get medical and traffic accident calls. We have mutual aid with Salyer and Hoopa. We need more involvement from the community. Most of the volunteer fire departments have low participation and turnover is quite high. We need people that are willing to put in the time and effort. For years we were totally self-dispatched using telephones. Four years ago we came on board with county dispatch fire co-op out of Fortuna, and that has worked out pretty well although there are time delays and it's a long distance. We do not get audio so we have to get on the phone and call them. We have our own self-dispatch ability with a radio repeater. We can go through Hoopa Volunteer Fire and we still get some of our dispatches through them. If you call 911 you go through quite a few steps to get to us. We have good radio communications and we listen to the radio all the time. We know pretty much what everybody else is doing.

Duane Sherman, Hoopa Volunteer Fire Department: Hoopa Volunteer Fire has 14 members - ten show up to meetings and eight run calls. We offer fire, emergency medical service, search and rescue and we have people trained in swift water rescue and EMTs. We have two fire engines. We got a FEMA grant (first tribe ever) for \$250,000 and we put a deposit down on a new rig. The tribe is a self-sufficient organization. We have 100,000 acres of land. We log our own timber and we provide services to the surrounding community. We provide advanced life support. We established the ambulance based out of Willow Creek even though it's a loss to us - it costs us \$100,000. We ran 160 calls last year - about 20% were medical and the rest were fire, so we are a bit backwards from the rest of the county. We have a lot of structure fires. We have asked the county for some assistance, because there are 16,000 acres and the county receives money from this tax base, but Hoopa doesn't. We have our own repeater system. We share our costs and the tribal police pick up the tab for our dispatch. We assist other agencies. We provide auto aid to Orleans and Karuk. (Note: There is also a Hoopa Wildland Fire Department.)

Dave Murphy, Salyer Volunteer Fire Department: We're funded through a tax base that pays for our insurance. 90% of our calls are medical. We have aging volunteers. We have three structure engines, and one medical rig. We have mutual aid with Hoopa, Willow Creek, Hawkins Bar, and Trinity County. We've also gone to Shasta County. OSHA regulations are killing us right now. We've got people quitting because they don't have time to do the OSHA required training. The new repeater on Ironside will help us because we are missing a lot of communication right now.

Rob McClelland, U.S. Forest Service: The Forest Service suppresses fire on wildland, but we have cooperated with local volunteer fire departments and adjacent agencies like Hoopa. Primarily we respond to wildland fires. We have auto dispatch and response on wildland in state responsibility areas. North we respond to Hoopa and beyond. East we have a fire break at Burnt Ranch and cooperate with volunteer departments on up the river. We protect structures and lives. We're limited by policy on the types of tactics we can take. By law we can't enter structures that are burning. However, we can cooperate and provide services between volunteer fire departments, and determine what kind of work we can do. We came up with an instant command system that makes this cooperation easier. Beside wildland fire suppression, we also provide prevention and education

services to communities and children. We have a detection station on Brush Mountain and two wildland fire stations in Salyer and Willow Creek.

NOTES FROM WILLOW CREEK COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE SAFE COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Ed Duggan, Willow Creek Fire Safe Council: I've been in a few fires around here and it has become obvious that our community out here in the valley is very at risk and the beauty of it is that we have a really fine group of people that are willing to work with each other. We are inter-dependent on each other out here in the valley. Help from the coast or Weaverville is an hour or more away. So it is obvious we need to work together. We had a big meeting in Trinity County regarding fire safe councils and about four years ago we got a small amount of money and sent out flyers to recruit residents and the community to form a fire safe council. At our first meeting we had good turnout and slowly it has been decreasing and now no one will come. We had a second shot with some more funding and tried to reorganize another fire safe council. We formed a council and a committee and that also kind of fizzled out due to lack of interest from the community and lack of funding to get projects done. This is the third time we are going to try because I see the need to work inter-dependently with our neighbors. We're not going to get the help from the coast or Weaverville because it is too long of a response time and we will have something like the Meagram fire which threatened Hoopa, Salyer and Willow Creek all at once! We need to work as a group and communicate better. The Fire Safe Council is a legitimate means of making those connections.

WILLOW CREEK COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

Rebecca Cape, U.S. Forest Service	Dave Murphy
E.B. Duggan	Steve Paine, Willow Creek Community Services District
Ann Garland, U.S. Forest Service	Dusty Rossman, Willow Creek Fire
Charles Haydew, Hoopa Fire	Blair Rowley
Cory Hicks, Willow Creek Fire	Lucy Salazar, Six Rivers National Forest
Mike Madsen, Willow Creek Fire	Duane Sherman, Chief, Hoopa Fire
Darlene Matheson	Raven Sherman, Hoopa Fire
Ken Matheson	Denise Smith
Rob McClelland, U.S. Forest Service	Rob Wild, Chief, Willow Creek Fire
Gina Moon, U.S. Forest Service	

F.3 REDWOOD PARK AND TRINIDAD PLANNING COMPARTMENTS

ORICK COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** October 21, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Orick Community Hall, 101 Swan Road, Orick
- **Included Communities:** Big Lagoon, and Orick (North and South)

NOTES FROM ORICK COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Jim Smith, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: There will be a new CDF station in Orick - the contract to get the site cleared is in the works. It will happen sometime between November 2004 and April 2005. Elk Camp Fire Station (currently on National Park Service land) will move to a new site and should be operational by June 2006. Many sites were considered and this

site was the best deal. When we're fully staffed we will respond to any fire at any time. During the winter time period, from 8am to 5pm we will respond to incidents along Highway 101. We don't have a county fire protection contract. We do wildland fire protection year-round. During winter it is less of an emergency because it's so wet, so we don't staff up. Trinidad Fire comes all the way up here. We have an agreement with and are dispatched through the county.

Judy Hagood, Orick Volunteer Fire Department: We do medical and vehicle accident responses. We have some equipment, but need a lot more. We do fundraising and make good money that way. We had to de-commission our 1953 water tender. We have a 1971 engine from the Office of Emergency Services (OES) with an 800 gallon tank and an automatic transmission. We have an early 1960's engine with a 500 gallon tank. There are only a few hydrants along Highway 101 so the water tenders are an important source of water. We cover north to the Del Norte County line, and we go south to Cain Road. As part of their contract with County Service Area 4 (CSA4), CDF also responds to Cain Road. We entered into an auto aid agreement from Cain Road north to the bypass when we found out that our two districts overlapped. This auto aid agreement really only comes into play in the wintertime. Sometimes CSA4 only has two people and one engine. CDF provides fire protection for the State Park. We receive \$19,000 a year from an assessment, and \$5,000-\$7,000 from fundraising. We need a new van because the one we have is on its last legs and we use it 100% of the time. We've looked into grants. Over the past few years we've been on the list for equipment: handheld radios, etc. This year we got a CDF matching grant to match our \$4,000 for communications gear (no vehicles, no hazardous materials, and no extrication), so we used it for hose, boots, phone equipment, training, and radios. We have a staff of nine. Worker's compensation insurance is \$8,000 per year. We're working with the county to try to do something about this.

Rick Young, Redwood National and State Parks: Our station in Hiouchi is year-round. There are two more stations. We provide wildland fire protection in the park and we try to have two engines always in the park. We respond mostly to traffic collisions. Our structural fire response is limited, because we're not trained, nor equipped, but we can provide exterior support. In terms of mitigation, we've got three fuel breaks we are working on. One is done – in Hiouchi. Next is from the bypass in through were Wolf Creek School is. The third fuel break we are working on is from Bald Hills Road along Alder Ridge all the way to the bypass and this will take many years. Fuel breaks will be 50-100 feet on either side of the road reducing the ladder fuels and ground fuels, and pretty much leaving the canopy as much as possible. We're working on our fire plan and hope to have it out for public review December 1, 2004. We have a WUI Fire Unit. We don't have any other projects planned within the WUI. Last year there were a number of fires including one in the Alder Ridge area. In some of the unpopulated areas such as Honeydew Creek we were out chasing 60 fires in the CDF state responsibility areas alone. So we have to prioritize, and the fires that are not in populated areas we leave for last. The Honeydew Creek and Canoe Creek fires went to 10,000 acres because they were in unpopulated areas.

ORICK COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

Hugh Scanlon, CDF

Tyrone Bachus

Ron Barker

Ken Frick, Chief, Orick Fire

Judy Hagood

Regina Reeves-Barlow

Charles Rylee

Linda Seufert

Julie Simpson

Jim Smith, CDF

Rick L. Young, National Park Service

Neal Youngblood, Orick Fire

TRINIDAD COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** March 2, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Trinidad City Hall, 409 Trinity Street, Trinidad
- **Included Communities:** Big Lagoon, Crannell, Trinidad, and Westhaven

NOTES FROM TRINIDAD COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Tom Marquette, Trinidad Volunteer Fire Department: We have a dozen full-time and a few part-time volunteers with various training: some emergency medical technicians (EMTs), some whitewater rescue, some with basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid. Everyone is trained in fire. It takes a while to train folks. We have two pumpers, because we mostly respond to structure fires. These pumpers hold 1,000 gallons of water each. Our newest truck is 1968, most of our trucks are older, but they still work. The city is working to get us newer equipment. We have 24 hydrants throughout the city of Trinidad. Hydrants are located along Westhaven, in town and by the Rancheria. Almost all of our calls (90%) are medically-related. Most of the fires we respond to are mutual aid with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). Our city is our district. Outside our boundary we go out if we are available and have equipment. Vice versa they will come to assist us too. Funding is through the city. Has Trinidad ever considered water boats? Would it work? Water boats probably wouldn't work because they are best for fighting fires on water. Helicopters work well here. We need new trucks, and upgrades to equipment. We've looked at surplus equipment like that available through CDF, but they tend to be wildland fire trucks. Grants from Homeland Security are a good source of funding. We missed the grant deadlines for that last year, but we want to do it this year. Storage of water is an issue here. Our goal is to get a water tank. Our Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating is 6 in areas with hydrants and 9 in areas without hydrants.

Robert Ruth, Westhaven Volunteer Fire Department: We need more understanding between fire departments, residents and the insurance industry. Our ISO rating is 9. We get our funds from fundraisers. Eureka gave us a fire truck. Orick gave us a fire truck. CDF gave us a water tender. We worry about fires coming from the north. I'd like to see the Master Fire Protection Plan include some preventive measures to protect the community of Westhaven. CDF has submitted a plan. We do medical and fire calls. We used to be 95% fires, but now we are 95% medical. We have eight volunteers. It is hard to retain working people as volunteers. We need the support. Westhaven has cooperated with CDF and worked out a plan so that if we can't go to a fire they will come right in and be there if we aren't. We need volunteers and money. We also need some more training. We used to go to Eureka to train where Costco is now located. It would be great if the county or city of Eureka would provide a simulated structure fire training location.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We are responsible for state responsibility areas. Any city that's incorporated is a local responsibility area and is covered by their fire district. Outside the city limits we are responsible for vegetation fires. We will respond to structure fires in state responsibility areas in order to prevent a vegetation fire. If we are asked to help on a structure fire we will do that. But primarily we are responsible for the vegetation. We have 14 engines scattered from Crescent City to Garberville. We do respond to medical aids with a helicopter. On a yearly basis we go to more medical aids than we do fires. Weott is an example. They don't always get a response from their volunteers during the day so we will respond to their medical calls. In this area there is a low likelihood of a major fire. However, the consequences of a major fire here would be significant. I would have to decide which structures are defensible and non-defensible. Non-defendable structures won't have an engine there. Defendable structures may have engine there.

Someone has to decide where the engines go. At this time those decisions are made by me. It's a problem here because of the amount of time it takes to get engines here. We are kind of on our own for a while here. Our major fires start later in the year than elsewhere in the state, so they pull our resources. So it could be scary if our equipment has been deployed elsewhere and there's a big fire.

Dennice Stone, Trinidad Rancheria: The Rancheria is very active in the community. We are currently writing a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hazard mitigation plan. We are constantly weed-whacking our road and we do a lot of fuel suppression. Our residents also do a lot of fuel reduction. Because the casino sits right next to the forest, we have a fire pump and a 150,000 gallon tank that are constantly checked and maintained. So we don't draw water from the city and can take care of ourselves in case of a major event. We need to start thinking about helping Westhaven and Trinidad by taking care of ourselves. We want to get more training – EMT training, fire training, etc. We will have community meetings as we develop our plan too, especially regarding fire prevention. Right now it has been a lot of little prevention projects, like how we are going to evacuate the casino and community. We are growing and we look forward to working with everyone. Water lines can break during an earthquake, so water storage is important. Each community needs a water source.

TRINIDAD COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

Don Allan	Bob Ruth, Chief, Westhaven Fire
Dean Heyenga	Ruth Ruth
Shirley Laos	Gary Savona
Sungnome Madrone	Ned Simmons
Debbie Marshall, Trinidad Rancheria	Dennice Stone
Tom Marquette, Chief, Trinidad Fire	Richard Swisher
Greg Nesty, Trinidad Rancheria	

F.4 HUMBOLDT BAY – EAST PLANNING COMPARTMENT

BLUE LAKE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** February 9, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Blue Lake Fire Hall, 111 First Avenue, Blue Lake
- **Included Communities:** Blue Lake, and Glendale

NOTES FROM BLUE LAKE COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Ray Stonebarger, Blue Lake Fire Protection District: We are a fire district. Blue Lake was a city fire department and we were doing goodwill responses. We had a city and district fire engine. In the late 1960's the district combined into one and elected board members. The District owns the equipment and the station. We are funded through property taxes and a special benefit assessment tax that received a vote of approval in 2001. We are an all volunteer organization with 26 volunteers. In order to fund our volunteers we do raffle tickets, and get donations from businesses. We are a first responder fire department. We do fires, medical calls, and rescue extrications. We also do hazardous materials, but we just secure the situation and then we call the hazardous materials team out of Eureka (joint powers which Blue Lake is part of). We have auto aid with Arcata all the way to Willow Creek. 65% of our calls are medical calls. Our call volume dropped 20% this year. We had

140 calls last year and 180 calls the year before that. Our greatest needs are time and people. In regards to funding we are doing okay. We just purchased a new engine two years ago with funding from the special assessment tax. To be a firefighter you need to be in good physical health. We started applying for grants about four years ago, first with FEMA. We received one grant for \$60,000 for equipment. Now Homeland Security has a grant which is administered through the County Office of Emergency Services. Yearly we get communications, and rescue equipment. We've been pretty successful with the grants. ISO came this year to rate us and we're a 5 in hydrant areas and 8B (down from 9) in non-hydrant areas.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We have air tankers, bulldozers, helicopters, two engines in Fortuna, one in Bridgeville, and one engine in Trinidad. We're responsible for state responsibility area lands where we do wildland fire protection. We respond to structure fires, but only to keep the structure fire from spreading to the vegetation. All of our stations respond to medical aid in the communities. The problem we have is if there are fires in Southern California then out of 14 engines in Humboldt/Del Norte County, ten could be deployed to the south. If fire(s) were to happen here during this time it's difficult. Other fire districts will cover us if we are really short on engines, and we cover them. In this area the chances of a large fire are slim, but the consequences would be huge because a lot of the houses don't have defensible space. We spend a lot of time fighting fires doing structure protection. We try to stage engines at defensible homes. We have an air tanker out of Rohnerville. We have a helicopter in Kneeland which is in San Bernardino County right now to help with training. Initially we send five engines, two bulldozers, two crews and one air tanker. We usually request another air tanker soon after out of Redding. We used to have 45 large air tankers, but now there are only nine in the entire country.

BLUE LAKE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

Ray Stonebarger, Chief, Blue Lake Fire	Ben Pezel
Tom Cairns	Karen Pezel
Wendy Collins	Ron Samuelson, CDF
Bob Giroux, Blue Lake Fire	James Thackery
Randy Johnson, Blue Lake Fire	Gwen Thoele

FIELDBROOK COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** February 3, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Fieldbrook Elementary School, 4070 Fieldbrook Road, Fieldbrook
- **Included Communities:** Fieldbrook, and McKinleyville

NOTES FROM FIELDBROOK COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Rich Grissom, Fieldbrook Volunteer Fire Department: We began operation in 1956. I carry 22 volunteers, none are paid. We're an all volunteer organization. Daytime is when the valley has the least amount of coverage, with five to six volunteers. Normally we have seven to ten volunteers. We receive 56 calls per year. Most are medical aid, or public assist calls. Today we are required to have training, like medical. We have three engines. We have two pumpers, one is a 1996, and we have one rescue command truck. Our equipment is in really good shape. In the case of wildland fires such as we would have out here in Fieldbrook we rely on CDF and we have auto aid with them. During fire season from June through October when there's any type of fire in Fieldbrook, CDF is dispatched out

of Trinidad automatically. If it's a vegetation fire, we are probably the first ones there and when CDF shows up we may assist or leave. We cover 86% of the area. There are a few areas in the valley we don't respond to including: Lyman Road – Sunnybrook is Arcata, Buckman Trails, the west side of old Railroad grade and the Old Round House are not in our district. Calls are dispatched through the Sheriff, then to CDF, then to us. Response time from when you call to when we get our page out can vary from two to four minutes. Sometimes there are delays with getting dispatched, and things can get crazy. On all fires CDF dispatches us out. If you lived around the store, we used to be dispatched by the siren on the firehouse. Now we are all dispatched by pagers. We are funded through a tax assessment that was just voted in here in 2004. If it wasn't for that, we would have to cut our personnel down. We have to pay for worker's compensation and training. Without the tax base we would have to cut way down in our service. We have mutual aid with CDF. We do mutual aid responses outside of the valley. We are not allowed to remove any equipment or resources out of the valley because we have to keep the valley protected. The worst thing is the roads around here, especially Grassy Creek, and Tip Top Ridge. Driveways are really bad too, particularly in regards to signage - there aren't address signs. Our engines carry up-to-date road maps. Water is an issue here. We also maintain the hydrants in the valley. We can draft out of almost anything. ISO just inspected us the summer of 2004. We are rated 5 in hydrant areas and 8B in non-hydrant areas. We have a 2,500 gallon fire truck and our pumper trucks carry 1,000 gallons so we can knock out most structure fires with the water on our trucks. In terms of houses that are way up the hill it takes about ten minutes for us to arrive on the scene and a fire can really get going by that time. There is a County ordinance and if you are more 1,000 feet from a hydrant than you have to have a water source. The valley floor is covered by hydrants. We can go up to 1,500 feet with our hoses, or farther if we have to. If homeowners make upgrades and install standpipes, etc., it would be really great for them to let us know.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We respond in the summertime from June through October. We are responsible for state responsibility areas in the county – any areas not within city limits. McKinleyville is not within city limits, and is covered by Arcata Fire, but a lot of land in McKinleyville is state responsibility so we do respond in McKinleyville. We respond to structure fires in state responsibility areas during fire season – but we are responding to protect the vegetation, to make sure that the structure fire doesn't cause a vegetation fire. We will assist the fire departments if they need it. In the wintertime most of the outlying stations are not covered. As of July 2006 we will be on immediate response status year-round. In the summer time we respond to medical aid calls along with local volunteers. The closest engine is the one in Trinidad, and we have two engines in Fortuna. In Fieldbrook a lot of areas are high or very high hazard fuel areas. The chances of a major wildfire are minimal, but the consequences would be catastrophic. We have the fuel loading, but we don't have many days with extreme fire weather. However, it only takes three to four hours of fire weather to create the right conditions. On the days it does occur we could have a big problem. We have 14 engines between Humboldt and Del Norte County. They may be elsewhere in the state being used so the local fire departments will cover us when our equipment is out. Trinidad comes here and in the winter it goes all the way up to Orick. We do dispatch for 23 volunteer fire departments. When you call 911 tell them you need Fieldbrook Fire. 911 calls go to the Sheriff, then to Fortuna. Cell phone 911 calls go to the California Highway Patrol and then they get forwarded on to us. You should call from a land line instead of a cell phone because dispatch will get a lot more information on their screen when you call from the land line.

FIELDBROOK COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

Rich Grissom, Chief, Fieldbrook Fire	Starr Kilian
Greg Aslanian	Keith Millar
Michael Atkins	Kim Price, CDF
Nick Bolt	Ron Samuelson, CDF
Sue Buckley	Larry Sebring
Frank Bush	Paula Sebring
Diane Decker	Otis Skaggs
Jason Garlick	Greg Templeton
Michelle Grissom	Margo Williams

KNEELAND COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** February 16, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Kneeland Elementary School, 9513 Kneeland Road, Kneeland
- **Included Communities:** Kneeland, and Maple Creek

NOTES FROM KNEELAND COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Greg Fitch, Kneeland Fire Protection District: In 1982 a house burned down and that started interest in a local fire department. The budget is used up by multiple agencies and our department is not left with much. At times we will run outside our district, like to Bridgeville. We get help from CDF but they are a long way off. We have lost four homes over the last few years. We have a new engine because the old one broke down. We use this engine for medical calls. 70% of our calls are medical. Insurance is a high percentage of our overall budget. We may want to increase the \$40 per resident assessment. We are looking at other departments as an example of this. We are going to build a station, and need to raise \$40,000 more to finish it, which is too much for the community to pay for. We got \$60,000 in grants and donations. If the station gets built it will have a community center, an emergency management center, and a water source. We need help with grant writing. We need donations of materials, and volunteers to do construction. The Humboldt County Fire #1 station is up Greenwood Heights, 3.2 miles out. They interface with us as a good will relationship. The closest station is across from Redwood Acres, and they have engines and a water tender. We will respond to anywhere on Greenwood Heights. In fact, we have had four resources up there at one time before. Our own jurisdiction is under protected. It takes time to get out here. It's about a 17 minute response to the intersection of Greenwood Heights and Kneeland Road. Because this is a bedroom community and people like their privacy, there is not a good notification process and this increases the response time. The majority of fires here are caused by human action or inaction. We need people to support the fire department so that our insurance costs will decrease. The insurance situation is getting more and more difficult all the time.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: Covers 650,000 acres.

KNEELAND COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

John Bair	Michelle Dostal
Dana Betts	Greg Fitch, Chief, Kneeland Fire
Bill Buckman	Rodney Goodbrod
Fay Curtis	Tom Grant

Mervin P. Hanson
Rex Heyer
Tim Latham
Jerry West, Chief, Kneeland Fire
Priscilla Neher
Margie Neilsen
Ann Presnell

Peter Presnell
Wayne Rice
Tammy Scott
Steve Sherman
Bruce Silvey
Glen Ziemer, Chief, Humboldt #1 Fire

F.5 HUMBOLDT BAY – SOUTH PLANNING COMPARTMENT

FERNDALE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** October 28, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Ferndale Fire Station, Brown Street, Ferndale
- **Included Communities:** Ferndale, Loleta, Fortuna, Bear River Valley

NOTES FROM FERNDALE COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Jack Smith, Ferndale Fire Protection District: We are a tax-based district that covers 60 square miles with very little wildland interface. We average 140 calls per year, and 80% are medical. We send auto aid out of our district to Bear River and we send medical but no guarantees. We are 100% funded. We do fundraising for our volunteers. We have three pumpers, two tenders, a rescue truck, and a utility truck. If we were to respond to Bear River we would maybe take one engine and one tender. We do mutual aid with CDF if they ask us. We are dispatched through CDF.

Frank Hizer, Fortuna Volunteer Fire Department: We are funded through a tax base through a special assessment tax, and we cover 26 square miles. We have a lot of outlying areas and we look to CDF for mutual aid in these areas. We have five pumpers, one rescue rig, a medical helicopter, and one water tender. We will respond to medical calls in the Hydesville area because it is outside of the county ambulance area. We don't respond to medical calls in Fortuna because there is an ambulance there. We will help them if they call us and need us. We cover Highway 101. We do dispatch for the medical helicopters and we try to get the closest one which can be ours, or the one out of Sonoma. These helicopters are routinely not available in the winter, but they are in the summer. CHP will now let us know when they are in the county so that if we have a medical call somewhere we can get ahead of them since they are already in the area.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We respond to structure fires when asked. In the winter we will respond to structure fires in outlying areas but we aren't staffed 24 hours a day in the winter, so it may take a while for us to get there. During fire season we may send a significant amount of our resources outside of the county and then we use mutual aid to cover our departments and respond to fire. For fringe areas it is an issue as to who will respond. Garberville may respond to Alderpoint. But a few years ago they fried an engine getting to Alderpoint and it cost them quite a bit of money to fix it, so their Board has decided they can't afford to send their equipment outside of their district. We also do assessments for homeowners regarding fire safety and fire preparedness.

FERNDALE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

Don Bowen	Rich Leonardo, Ferndale Fire
Jim Cook	John Miller
Dennis Del Biaggio, Ferndale Fire	Ron Samuelson, CDF Humboldt Del Norte
Tom Ford	Unit
Kirk Gothier	Jack Smith, Chief, Ferndale Fire
Frank Hizer, Chief, Fortuna Fire	Caroline Titus
Bill Klatt	Margot Wells

RIO DELL COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** March 10, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Rio Dell Fire Hall, 50 West Center Street, Rio Dell
- **Included Communities:** Alton, Fortuna, Holms, Pepperwood, Redcrest, Rio Dell, Scotia, and Stafford

NOTES FROM RIO DELL COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Joey Sancho, Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department: We have 28 members, three engines and one rescue unit. Five members are EMTs and one is a paramedic. We had 266 calls in 2004, down from 317 in 2003. Out of those 266 calls in 2004, 194 were medical aid calls, 22 were fire calls, and nine were structure fires. Our district is supported by a small tax base and special assessment. The Board purchases equipment, etc. Our district boundary is from bridge to bridge. We also respond up Monument. We respond with CDF further up the hill. We also respond with Scotia and Fortuna. Our ISO rating is 7 in town, and in the outskirts it is a 10. Rio Dell has its own water system. They are currently upgrading the water system and doubling its capacity. The current system has ½ million gallons, and they will put in another ½ million gallons, as well as a twelve-inch main and an eight inch. They will also be placing hydrants where they don't have them. We do fire prevention with the youth in schools including fire extinguisher training. We encourage defensible space with landowners. We also encourage recycling yard waste at Pacific Lumber Company instead of burning piles. We need a water tanker in order to bring water to more rural areas. We always need more volunteers.

JOHN BROADSTOCK, SCOTIA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: We are fully funded by Pacific Lumber Company. We have 34 volunteers. We have two Pumpers- one Type 1, one Type 2, one Type 3 Quick Attack, one Medical Response Suburban, one Rescue Trailer that is equipped with Specialized Rescue Equipment and High Angle / Low Angle Rope Rescue and Jaws Of Life Equip. Our response area is two square miles-but our dept responds to both the north and south on mutual aid requests. We respond to the south as far as Weott on the 101 corridor- Jaws of Life and Rope Rescue have been those requests.

Our dept does Fire Safety Prevention classes in the fall each year to grades K-8 that exposes approximately 350 students to the training. Grades 6-8 are given instruction on fire extinguishers with live fire. School Staff are also trained in the fire safety program.

The challenge we face today in the Volunteer Firefighters is that recruiting and retaining volunteers. The demands of the training – time away from home and the current economics that forces both parents to work are a difficult balance for most of them.

All said and done – The volunteers that make up the Scotia Volunteer Fire Dept are a dedicated group of community volunteers who make a difference in the life of someone in need.

Our Mission Statement: To protect and serve the residents-employees and the PALCO company property from fire and other type of emergency that may occur.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: CDF dispatches for 22-23 volunteer departments in the county including Rio Dell. We'd like to dispatch for Scotia. We have 14 engines in Humboldt/Del Norte County, 15 hand crews, two bulldozers, one helicopter, an air attacker, and one air tanker. These resources may or may not be here when a fire starts. Historically we get hot dry weather east or south of here and they look at us, and say its foggy here, so they will send engines out of our county, and maybe even the bulldozers. Our hot dry weather starts when the east and south's ends and then we have to call equipment back. We are responsible for lands in state responsibility areas. Rio Dell city limits are a local responsibility area. Areas outside of city limits may also be within the Rio Dell Fire District, but we are responsible for the vegetation. We will respond to structure fires in order to protect the wildland. If we get there first we will let the vegetation burn and do what we can with the structure. We have wildland gear, structure gear, and breathing apparatus so we have two whole sets of gear. We do fire prevention programs in the schools, and paperwork for burn permits for timber companies.

RIO DELL COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

John Broadstock, Chief, Scotia Fire	Brian Renner
Richard Jay Hill	Michael Smith
Debra Lake, Fruitland Ridge Fire	Shane Wilson
Doug Madsen	Ellen Zanzi
Kim Price, CDF Humboldt Del Norte Unit	Ken Zanzi
Joey Sancho, Chief, Rio Dell Fire	

F.6 HUMBOLDT BAY – URBAN PLANNING COMPARTMENT

ARCATA COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** January 25, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Arcata Volunteer Fire Department Fire Hall, 631 9th Street, Arcata
- **Included Communities:** Arcata, and Manila

NOTES FROM ARCATA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Dave White, Arcata Fire Protection District: We are an all-service district. We provide structural protection, wildland protection, first response medical, first response hazardous materials, aircraft crash and rescue (there's a crash truck at the airport), automobile extrication, confined space rescue, and over-the-edge rescue. Non-emergency services we provide include training, inspections, plan checks, code compliance, and fire investigation. We cover Bayside, Manila, and McKinleyville, so

it's a large area. We have three stations, the Arcata Volunteer Fire Department, the Mad River station, which is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week with one firefighter, and the McKinleyville station which is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week with one firefighter. The majority of our organization is made up of volunteers, with very little paid staff. We have the same staffing now as we did in 1985. We have 52 volunteers and their availability varies. In 2003 we responded to 1,973 calls and in 1983 we responded to 270 calls. The majority of the calls are medical. The newer protection services we provide are hazardous materials, and over-the-edge rescue. The Volunteer Fire Department is a private, non-profit organization that provides volunteers to the District. Arcata Fire is a governmental organization. We are understaffed, especially compared to Eureka (they have 40 paid staff) and we cover a larger area. 56% of our calls are medical. Dispatch decides who to send. The Sheriff's office dispatch first answers the 911 call and then routes it to the appropriate department. We are only notified of life-threatening situations. We do first responder and have a few EMTs. We can stabilize a patient, and do CPR. We may assist ambulance personnel. The Volunteer Fire Department does fundraising. The ballot initiative was for the District for the operation of the fire department. We get a small percentage of property taxes. Another source of revenue is a special tax on residents. We have insufficient revenues, because costs are going up. Proposition 1A exempted fire protection services. As it stands right now the state is not taking our money. We have increased requests for services with the same staffing and less equipment. Regarding training – volunteers only have so much time. There are federal and state requirements for training. It is difficult for volunteers to get enough time to train. We've lost people because of it. It takes two to three years for a volunteer to get up to speed. We have an engine that's 22 years old and has caught on fire twice. It's in the shop now. Our reserve engine is 27 years old. So apparatus is aging and needs replacing. We have longer response times to emergencies. Our volunteers need to get here, so it may take ten minutes for an engine to leave. Our turnover is eight to ten people per year, which is about how many people come in to offer their services. We have 11 full-time paid people right now. Proposition 13 changed the way we can get revenues. We can no longer just raise a tax; only the state can do that. The only option is the assessment tax. We haven't bought equipment, and we slashed our budget by \$177,000. We cancelled our training, fire prevention education, and our staff took pay cuts. ISO will be here next summer to rate us. Our aging equipment and increased service requests will cause our ISO rating to go up. We have joint response with Eureka and Samoa. We also have auto aid with Blue Lake. Multiple calls can really cause big problems if they happen. Arcata does not charge for structure fires. We can charge for medical aid calls. The City of Eureka tried charging for medical aid calls. Getting reimbursed for them is very difficult. We want to try billing for drug and alcohol responses. We have cite authority, so we can write tickets. There are large areas of Arcata that do not have structural fire protection. They are the no-man's land. They don't fall into Arcata, Blue Lake, or Kneeland's district. We will respond to wildland fires in order to assist CDF.

Ray Stonebarger, Blue Lake Fire Protection District: We have an auto aid agreement with Arcata and we cover as far west as North Bank Road, the Essex area, the West End area, to the Arcata city limits. We provide medical services. When Arcata is dispatched, we are dispatched. We've had this agreement for five years now, but budget problems may end this agreement. We have two engines and one reserve engine.

Hugh Scanlon, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: Locally we are responsible primarily for wildland fire protection in state responsibility areas. A state responsibility area is any area that is not a built-up area. State responsibility areas surround Humboldt Bay. We focus on wildland fire protection. We also provide services like training, and support to local fire

departments. In state responsibility areas the state is responsible for wildland fire protection and for paying the costs for it. A Fickle Hill fire last summer cost over \$8,300 just for our part of it. So costs can really add up fast. We have overlapping jurisdiction with Arcata. We are available through mutual aid and can bring state resources. We have a lot of equipment at our disposal. Local volunteer fire departments and fire districts are critical to us. We need them to be trained because they are our back-up, our support out there. Out Jacoby Creek Road where you are no longer in the Arcata district those people are not paying for fire protection, but we will respond. We will respond to a structure fire if we have time because it can lead to a wildland fire. Our station in Trinidad is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week with two people. Engine service along Highway 101 provides structural fire support and medical aid. If a fire is due to negligence the state can pursue cost recovery for that. It's a case-by-case basis. The closest station in Trinidad is staffed year-round. Fortuna is our next station and it takes about 35-45 minutes to get here. We have a helicopter in Kneeland that can get to the upper reaches of Fickle Hill and Jacoby Creek Road. Fire season starts June 1st and it takes two to three weeks to train seasonal workers. By July 1st we are at full staffing until November 1st. In the winter our permanent staff is still available during weekdays, in the daytime, Monday through Friday and we work on other things and try to get ready for the next season. In the summer we are there. We'll go to Trinidad, Fortuna and even to Kneeland.

ARCATA COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

Patty Andriese
R. Scott Davies
Maggi Draper
Uri Driscoll
Bob Higgons
Dennis Houghton
Steve Karp
Lia Nelson
Robert Nelson
John Olson
Jack Shaffer
Roy Smith
Joel Ziegler

BAYSIDE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** January 12, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Bayside Grange, 2297 Jacoby Creek Road, Bayside
- **Included Communities:** Arcata, Bayside, Indianola, Jacoby Creek, and Sunnybrae

NOTES FROM BAYSIDE COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Dave White, Arcata Fire Protection District: We are a full service district, primarily doing structure protection. We work with CDF and even lend crews to them. We have dual responsibility with Bayside. We provide wildland fire protection, and first response medical. We don't provide paramedic or transport services. We're often the closest agency, and in many cases we are the first ones there and can start life support. The McKinleyville and Arcata areas have two ambulances services through the county. A long time ago medical aid was five to ten calls per day, mainly CPR, and accidents. Last year we had about 100. We also do hazardous materials. We are an initial hazardous materials responder (spills, incidents). There have been four or five over the past years. Usually it is an unknown spill. We also do aircraft firefighter rescue. The County has a crash truck at the airport. However, most aircraft crashes don't occur near airports, but may occur somewhere near the airport. We do over-the-edge rescue (usually a vehicle), although there's not much cliffside in Arcata, so we go to Trinidad. We do automobile extrication. Confined space rescue where a sewer worker or underground worker in a trench is trapped is also something we do. We also do lift assist where someone falls and needs help getting up, and these are becoming more common. We do training, fire prevention, code enforcement, checks, public education, and fire investigation. We protect Bayside to just shy of Robert Heights Road. In terms of our goodwill response area, we will respond all the way out Jacoby Creek. There is no response agency out there and we don't want them unprotected. We also protect Manila, Indianola all the way up to McKinleyville. We are the largest District in the County. We protect \$2million in property. Auto aid is common in the Bay Area with Samoa, the Peninsula, Blue Lake, and Manila. We have three stations, one in McKinleyville, and two in Arcata. Our Mad River McKinleyville station is staffed 24 hours a day with one on-duty firefighter. Other stations also have one on-duty firefighter. Everything else is staffed by volunteers. We have approximately 49 volunteers. We had 1,971 calls in 2003. In 1983 we had 270 calls. We are two entities - the Arcata Fire District and the Arcata Volunteer Fire Department. The latter provides volunteers to the Fire District. We are funded primarily through property taxes - we get 5% of the 1% property tax. We also have a special tax which is \$20 per year per residence. That was put into place in 1986. It was dropped in the early 1990's because we had enough money at the time, but it was picked up again. The main issue we are facing is money. Our costs have sky-rocketed. Revenues have gone up too, but not enough to keep up with our growing costs and increases in call volumes. We have a high rate of burnout with volunteers due to the burden and training time. It takes a year for a volunteer to get proficient. Most volunteers are young, single, students, people who have time to devote. Years ago the volunteers also worked within the District. It takes ten minutes to get the volunteer engine out. Summers are worse because people go out on vacations. Our big concern is multiple calls and how to cover them. We have one engine that's 22 years old. It has caught on fire twice. We have a reserve engine that's 37 years old. Our breathing apparatus is almost 15 years old and needs to be replaced in about a year. We need to raise funds to do that. Our typical response time is ten minutes, and we have two firefighters on scene (OSHA requires four people on scene: two inside, two outside). We've given up cost of living raises, and have had no major equipment purchases since 2002. We cut all purchasing, including safety equipment. We cut our training and fire

prevention budgets. We cut \$200,000 from our budget. All of our staff took salary cuts. And we aren't replacing retiring staff. One issue is insurance rates. We are currently ISO 4. Next summer ISO will be here to re-examine us. We need additional full-time staff, and we need to replace an engine. We also need additional funding for training. The benefit assessment that we have now is a solution for our money woes. The only other option is a special tax. We cannot raise the current property tax, only the state can do that.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We are primarily responsible for vegetation fires on state responsibility lands in this portion of the Bay Area. We have engines in Fortuna and Trinidad. We respond to structure fires in state responsibility areas to make sure they don't spread to vegetation. If we are first on the scene we try to suppress the fire until local agencies arrive on scene. In this area an engine will respond during the fire season. During the winter we respond out of Trinidad and Fortuna. We do the dispatch for the county medical helicopter. We review California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents to make sure they're up to ordinance standards and we require 30 feet of clearance from the property line for new developments. They can get an exception if they have fire-proof building materials, etc. Fire season generally runs June through mid-October to even November. Trinidad is funded year-round by the Community Services District.

BAYSIDE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPANT LIST

Dave White, Chief, Arcata Fire
Jerry West, Chief, Kneeland Fire
Ron Samuelson, CDF
Kim Price, CDF
Maggie Gainer
Michael Alcorn, Green Diamond Resource Co.
Jack Surmani
Allan Gradek
Susan Boese

GREATER EUREKA COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** March 9, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Redwood Acres, Arts & Crafts Building, 3750 Harris Avenue, Eureka
- **Included Communities:** Greater Eureka

GREATER EUREKA COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Ron Samuelson, CDF Humboldt Del Norte Unit
Eric Smith, Chief, Eureka Fire
Glen Ziemer, Chief, Humboldt #1 Fire
Kim Price, CDF Humboldt Del Norte Unit
Hugh Scanlon, CDF Humboldt Del Norte Unit

MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** January 13, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** McKinleyville Middle School, 2285 Central Avenue, McKinleyville
- **Included Communities:** McKinleyville

NOTES FROM MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Dave White, Arcata Fire Protection District: Structure fires are our main purpose. We also do wildland fire protection. We work with CDF to do wildland fires in state responsibility areas. West of Central Avenue that is local responsibility area and we are the sole response agency in the local responsibility area here. East we respond to structure fires, but wildland fires are covered by CDF on those state responsibility area lands. We do first response medical aid calls. There are only two ambulances at the north end of the county so they can be slow to get there. So we are the first responders and will get there first to do life support as needed. We do hazardous materials first response to get people out and isolate the area. We do airport crash fire and rescue. A crash truck at the airport is the first responder, but we do respond. We do automobile extrication, and we carry tools on our engine in McKinleyville to do these. Confined space rescue is something new we are doing with specialized equipment. We do over-the-edge rescue, not cliff-side rescue, because cliffs are found north of Trinidad. We have a lot of ongoing training. We do fire inspections, code compliance checks, plan checks, fire investigation, and fire education. We are a large fire district with \$5million in public and private property. We have three stations. Two stations are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week with one firefighter - the one here in McKinleyville and the one in Arcata. One duty chief is on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All other staff are volunteers, and we have about 50 volunteers. Not all volunteers respond to calls. In 2003 we responded to 1,974 calls compared to 1973 where we responded to 270 calls. The Arcata Volunteer Fire Department is a private, non-profit organization and they provide volunteers to the district. Our funds come from a small proportion of people's property taxes. We also have a special tax. Insufficient revenues are an issue for us because costs have increased at a greater rate than revenues. We cut \$177,000 from the budget last year, and we cut everything, no more cell phones, only radios. There has been a 630% increase in call volumes in the past 20 years, but we have the same staffing, and have even had to cut back on staffing. We have more fire inspections and building inspections, etc. The mandated training and increased call volume are putting a strain on our volunteers. Our McKinleyville station has an engine with one firefighter, so it may take more than ten minutes before more than one person is on the scene. OSHA requires at least four people on the scene, so we have inadequate staffing on the scene. We have worn out equipment. One engine is old and has caught on fire! All breathing apparatus is 15 years old, no longer meets standards, and will need to be replaced within one year. We are seeing an increase in multiple calls and that puts a real strain on us. There haven't been any cost of living raises since 2001. There haven't been any equipment purchases since 2002. Our staff took cuts in benefits. In 2002 we didn't replace vacant positions. We are at minimum staffing. Our insurance classification may change. We are currently class 4. Next summer we will be re-examined and our insurance classification will probably go up. We need a balanced operating budget, and additional full-time staffing. We need to replace one engine, and we need a process to replace apparatus. The only way to increase revenues is through a special benefits assessment. We are looking for the public to tell us what they want us to do, and what they are willing to pay for.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We are funded from the state general fund. Vegetation fires are our responsibility on state responsibility area lands. We have one engine in Trinidad, and two in Fortuna. So engines from Blue Lake and Arcata may get there

first. We do respond to structure fires in state responsibility areas. If we are the first engine on the scene we will protect the structure. But we are there to make sure the fire doesn't turn into a vegetation fire. We do dispatch for 23 volunteer departments and two ambulance companies. We also do dispatch for the medical air ambulance. Per Ordinance 1952 on state responsibility area lands we make sure roads are built to standards (two ways in and out), and we issue exceptions for certain things that are covered under fire safe guidelines, for example, if somebody wants their house closer than 30 feet to the property line. In addition we can advise homeowners in areas such as fire safe building construction.

MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Sarah Hobart
Russell Locatelli
Dave White, Arcata Fire Protection District
Ron Samuelson, CDF Humboldt Del Norte Unit

SAMOA COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** February 8, 2005, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Peninsula Union Elementary School, 909 Vance Street, Samoa
- **Included Communities:** Fairhaven, and Samoa

NOTES FROM SAMOA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Robert Durfee, Samoa Peninsula Volunteer Fire Department: We have auto aid with Arcata Fire. Our department provides protection for the peninsula from one end to the other and east to the bridge. Our problems include lack of personnel, money and our ISO rating. In terms of personnel, we have lots of seniors in the area and renters, and these people are not interested in volunteering. Some of those who are interested in volunteering can't pass the background check. In terms of money – Louisiana Pacific has been devalued and Simpson is gone. Without the assessment our department would not be here. The benefit assessment here is based on the number of buildings and the number of acres. In terms of our ISO rating, we have a rating of 5 but next month we will have an inspection and we anticipate the number going up because of the lack of personnel. We are now working on Tsunami preparedness – Samoa and Manila have dunes for protection but Fairhaven is fairly flat. We are an all volunteer department. We used to have three paid positions but our budget went down and we lost those positions. Even the chief is a volunteer position now. The Samoa station needs a major overhaul. We have a resident program with dorms. The recent purchase of the pulp mill is good news for our department.

Eric Smith, Eureka Fire Protection District: We have a stable tax base. We have 12 volunteers, 36 career firefighters, and 12 fire explorers. We have three stations with three engines that are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We also have a truck. We receive 3,300 calls per year. 1,800 of these calls are medical calls. We respond to medical, fire, service calls, regional hazardous materials (covered by the Joint Powers Authority), and we provide training. We have auto aid with Humboldt #1 Fire District which receives 5,000 calls per year. We cover the city limits which end at the bridge. We have auto aid with Arcata Fire. We will respond to calls from the Mill and Manila. We have mutual aid with most fire departments in the Humboldt Bay area. We have mutual aid with the Samoa Peninsula Volunteers. It takes four minutes to get to Samoa from the closest Eureka station. We are working on improving responses on the boundaries. We are working on a county-wide mutual

aid agreement which should be done in mid 2005. We provide protection to College of the Redwoods through a contact.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We have eight stations, 11 engines, hand crews, and air attack capabilities. We are primarily responsible for wildland fire protection. We have mutual aid with Samoa. Our Trinidad station is open year-round. May through October is our fire season.

Dan Larkin, County Office of Emergency Services: Personal preparedness is the key for preparing for a tsunami. The tsunami category plan is being updated and it will help with coordinating the 26 state and federal agencies. It is possible to know that a tsunami is coming because we have the monitors out on the ocean, but it is not possible to know how big it will be. A distant source tsunami will be picked up by the sensors on buoys which can tell us a lot about what is going on. We need to make sure that the agencies responsible for emergency response know what needs to be done in their area. We are in the process of re-focusing them a little bit as they work together all the time – focusing them on tsunami. In the event of a local source tsunami there will be no time to do anything. In a tsunami infrastructure will be impacted, and communication may be stifled. In this case you need to think ahead of time what you can do for yourself. You need to know where there are safe zones. In a tsunami the bay will have a fast rising tide but the coastline will have a high velocity surge of water. We do not have tsunami sirens here but we do have an emergency alert system. A tsunami may be coming after an earthquake that lasts 20 seconds or that knocks you off your feet.

SAMOA COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Dendra Dengler
Ellen Durfee
Robert Durfee, Chief, Samoa Fire
Dan Larkin, Humboldt County OES
Dick Lindstrom
Kim Price, CDF Humboldt Del Norte Unit
Ben Smith
Eric Smith, Chief, Eureka Fire
Harvey Smith
Craig Spilt

F.7 UPPER REDWOOD CREEK PLANNING COMPARTMENT

REDWOOD VALLEY COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** October 20, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Green Point School, 180 Valkensar Lane, Blue Lake
- **Included Communities:** Chezem Road, and Redwood Valley

REDWOOD VALLEY COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Mary Cummins	Wendy Parker
Kathy Hinz	Jeff Siedschlag
Tom Hinz	Marcella Waldron
Diana Kriger	Alan Ward
Peter Kriger	Paul Wolfberg
Susan Edinger Marshall	Gerald Worth
Ken Norman	Sue Worth
John Palmer	

F.8 MAD-VAN DUZEN PLANNING COMPARTMENT

BRIDGEVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 30, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Bridgeville Community Center, 38717 Kneeland Road, Bridgeville
- **Included Communities:** Bridgeville, Carlotta, and Dinsmore

NOTES FROM BRIDGEVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Dattel Bardin, Carlotta Volunteer Fire Department: We have mutual aid with CDF to assist them in summer. When their station closes and their truck goes back to Fortuna it is just us in Bridgeville. We have all of the equipment and training we need. We come out to Bridgeville on our own accord. Carlotta is usually the first to get here in 15 minutes with a first responder vehicle. An engine takes 25-30 minutes to get to Bridgeville. We go wherever we are called. If someone has a medical emergency and calls 911 you always get law enforcement and then its passed on to the correct dispatch. 90% of our calls are medical. It's always a good idea to know who in your community has medical skills and know the station that serves you (then you can tell 911 when you call). Carlotta is a district, not a volunteer department. The boundaries of our jurisdiction are Riverview and Yeager Creek. The monies we receive from the assessment barely cover our budget, because worker's compensation insurance is killing us. We recently replaced a lot of equipment so we're in good shape there. We picked up a rubber raft so we are starting swift water rescue, although we need Board approval to do it. We do get donations, the raft was a donation. Some costs we've paid for ourselves. People can support us by putting up a road sign and when you call us put someone out on the road to direct us. We go by mile post markers. Highway 36 was recently re-measured and there are some conflicting mile markers out there now.

Ron Samuelson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: During fire season we cover Garberville, Weott, and Fortuna with staff starting in May. We go into peak fire season here on

July 1st so it may not be until then that the Bridgeville station has staff. We have three people here during fire season during daylight hours (one Captain and two firefighters). Years ago the outlying stations weren't covered when we sent engines to the south or east, but now we try to get as many stations covered as we can. We've had engines come from Mendocino, etc., to cover stations. When fire season ends I have somebody at the Bridgeville station four days a week. I try to keep at least one person there all the time, but it doesn't always happen. We respond to structure fires and wildland fires. No residents live at the station. The Proposition 172 bond issue was passed after the Laguna Fire in 1993 and it's a funding source for public safety. But, unfortunately, somewhere along the line law enforcement supported it and fire departments don't get any money from it. The Attorney General released a statement that public safety includes fire departments, but we're not getting anywhere with it. Orange County has an initiative on their ballot to get 10% of what the Sheriff's Office and District Attorney's office gets - which is \$30 million. Some departments think we are infringing on their area when we respond to a structure fire, but we are supposed to go to those too since they can spread into wildland fires. We probably do 10-15 medical evacuations per year, if you have a major medical emergency. We determine which helicopter is the closest and which is needed. The helicopter is available in summertime, during daylight hours.

Dick Hursh, U.S. Forest Service: We are located with CDF at the dispatch center in Fortuna. We are a wildland fire agency. Our season is May to the end of October. I have four Type III engines. During the summer we have coverage seven days a week from 9:30am-6pm. We can respond outside those hours, but we have to round people up. People go home at the end of the day, and we have to get them back in. Our folks have first responder training. We respond with wildland protection in mind, we can do some suppression, but we are concerned with the protection of the wildland. Within our direct protection boundary we will respond to any call during fire season. Our boundary follows the forest boundary, but not exactly. It follows roads, ridge tops. The Mad River station is about 25 miles from here, 40 minutes away. We have a mutual aid agreement with CDF and we have staff at Bridgeville for two to three days and the same with Alderpoint. The Van Duzen Fire Department is a privately owned engine and a few people near Dinsmore. They respond to calls they hear on the scanner. They wouldn't be dispatched out of the Fortuna office. They get dispatched out of Weaverville. Zenia Fire Department is the most active volunteer department and works with CDF and the Forest Service. Alderpoint CDF is covered in the summer time 24 hours a day. There is a residence at the Alderpoint station so there is someone there during the winter.

Resources in Bridgeville:

For medical calls, contact Ben Fleek, 777-3424

For questions regarding the Van Duzen Watershed Fire Safe Council, contact George Duffy, 777-1923

That Tree Guy, contact John Jensen, 725-2609

For forest thinning, contact Jean-Louis Carmona, 496-4530

NOTES FROM BRIDGEVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE SAFE COUNCIL PRESENTATION

George Duffy, Van Duzen Watershed Fire Safe Council: We believe that fire safety is everyone's responsibility. We need to identify projects and plan so that we can capture funding. We work with CDF to learn how to help educate people. We will be instituting a VIP program by which they can inspect people's property. We have had people take the Community Emergency Response Team

(CERT) training. Funding for CERT came from Homeland Security. The Fire Safe Council meets the last Thursday of every month.

BRIDGEVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Lalita Brinckhaus	Ron Horn
J.L. Carmona	John Jensen
Lynda Cesaretti	Dick Kersh
Bonnie Cook	Ceci LeMuint
Robert Delgado	L.A. Murphy
George Duffy	Miles Neiva
Bob Ellis	Kim Price, CDF Humboldt Del Norte Unit
Benny Fleek	Ron Samuelson, CDF Humboldt Del Norte Unit
Roslyn Fuerman	Unit
Mike Guerriero	Claudia Sauers
Jake Hannan	Crayton Sauers
Penny Harris	Julie Stephens
Carol Honeycutt	Chris Weston
Curt Honeycutt	

F.9 MAIN EEL PLANNING COMPARTMENT

ALDERPOINT COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 22, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Casterlin School, 24790 Alderpoint Road, Blocksburg
- **Included Communities:** Alderpoint, Blocksburg, Fort Seward, Island Mountain, and up Alderpoint Road to Windbigler Road

NOTES FROM ALDERPOINT COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

No Fire Department Presentation. Notes are based on community member discussion. EMT training may be available in Shelter Cove and Garberville. Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs training is sometimes available to community members. Palo Verde Fire takes one hour to get to Alderpoint for medical aid calls. Zenia/ Kettenpom Fire can respond in about a half hour. Fruitland Ridge Fire can respond to medical calls. Palo Verde's worker's compensation insurance costs \$320 per person and Garberville pays \$1,000 per person. There is a Forest Service fire station in Zenia. There is a CDF station in Alderpoint and will have an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). The clinic has an AED as well as Palo Verde Fire. We need to be dispatched through CDF, but it will cost money to become part of the dispatch co-op. We also need money for radios, training and equipment. North Coast EMS offers first responder and EMT training and HSU Center Activities offers a wilderness medical aid class.

ALDERPOINT COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Kim Bowen	Bruce Handly
James Doviak	Buzz Lindsay
Joel Ficklin, Chief, Palo Verde Fire	Tom Richardson
Ann Forrest	Lawrence Ringo

Lee Ringo

PALO VERDE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** October 13, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Heartwood Institute, 220 Harmony Lane, Garberville
- **Included Communities:** Harris, and Palo Verde

PALO VERDE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Ruth Bergman	Joel Ficklin, Chief, Palo Verde Fire
Nadine Chapdeladne	Michael Perkins
Charlene Khan	Hans Terlindon

F.10 SOUTH EEL PLANNING COMPARTMENT

BENBOW COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 21, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Benbow Inn, Hunt Room, 445 Lake Benbow Drive, Garberville
- **Included Communities:** Benbow, Sprowel Creek, and Reed Mountain

NOTES FROM BENBOW COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Kent Scown, Garberville Fire Protection District: Our service area does not include Benbow. We have mutual aid with CDF and Redway.

Mike Miller, Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Department: We only respond to an area where there are 25-30 residences. A few years ago we had a 42 acre fire. We have five active volunteers and two to three sporadic volunteers. We are doing fuel reduction projects. We are supported by fundraisers. We need some basic gear. We are currently using a phone tree, but we're hoping to get a radio or two. We applied for one grant last year and we are in the process of writing another one. Monies from this grant would be for communication equipment such as radios. We are a non-profit organization.

Joel Ficklin, Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department: East of Benbow we basically do life support calls, but we're hoping to get some EMTs and do some airway support. We have nine people on worker's compensation, and we're in the process of building a new fire station. We are also supported by fundraisers – we sell tamales, and we sell at Reggae on the River. We are a non-profit organization. We need more training, and more volunteers. It would be great if the state would offer tax deductions for volunteer firefighters.

Lou Iglesias, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Garberville: Our service area covers the lower portion of Humboldt County, west of Shelter Cove, east to Kettenpom in Trinity County. We have three stations, 10-13 year-round permanent staff; and four to five seasonal staff are hired during fire season. During winter we are not open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and we cut back to one station at Garberville. Permanent personnel still work on maintenance, training, community service, and take vacations. Also during the winter we are on duty during daylight hours and do respond to medical calls if available. We mainly provide wildland fire protection for state resources (timber and watersheds) and people in the state responsibility areas. We

will also respond to other types of fires because these can lead to wildland fires. Fire season is five months long and we're on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Lately we have become more active in coordinating with local fire departments and volunteer departments.

Brian Anderson, Redway Fire Protection District: We will respond outside of our district, and we also respond to medical aid calls within Redway. We respond to mutual aid requests outside of our area. Last year we had 80 calls, this year so far we've had about the same number of calls. We are publicly funded through a tax assessment. We need more money. Proposition 172 monies need to be going to fire services.

BENBOW COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Estelle Fennell	Joel Ficklin
Lou Iglesias, CDF	Nan Penner
Leroy Ikerd	Ralph Penner
Mike Miller, Sprowel Creek Fire	Rob Stretch

BRICELAND COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 23, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Beginnings, Inc., 5 Cemetery Rd., Briceland
- **Included Communities:** Briceland, Briceland Hills, and Ettersburg

BRICELAND COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Eric Bower	Peter Rice
Sal Gurreri, Chief, Shelter Cove Fire	Bill Eastwood
Mikal Jakubal	Carolena Pierce
Alison Jones	Brian Shapiro
Peter Lawskey, Chief, Shelter Cove Fire	Sunshine Tresidder
Timothy Metz	Kathy Weber
Tim Olsen, Chief, Beginnings Fire	

GARBERVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 16, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Veteran's Memorial Building, 483 Conger Street, Garberville
- **Included Communities:** Benbow, Briceland, Garberville, Phillipsville, Redway, Salmon Creek, and Sprowel Creek

NOTES FROM GARBERVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Brian Anderson, Redway Fire Protection District: We're an all volunteer department. We are funded through the County and we are a Fire Protection District. We receive \$48,000 per year – \$20,000 of which goes to worker's compensation insurance. We have mutual aid with Garberville and Beginnings. We need funds from Proposition 172 and we need community support.

Mike Miller, Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Department: We do not respond outside of our immediate area. We can assist in Percy but we would need turnouts to do so. A back road was just opened that will make a good evacuation route. We have fuels reduction work parties every other week and use the firewood for donations. We are located adjacent to Richardson Grove State Park. We are interested in finding funding to do fuel break work. We are an all volunteer department and get funding through fundraisers. We are dispatched using a phone tree because we do not have any fire radios. We need to be able to communicate with Whitethorn and Percy.

Joel Ficklin, Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department: We are a non-profit, technical fire company. We are trying to build a fire station. We will respond to calls on Alderpoint Road and Bridgeville. We cannot guarantee a response, but we always try to get there. We are radio dispatched. We mainly respond to structural fires. We get our funding through fundraisers. For instance, we sell tamales at Reggae on the River.

Tim Olsen, Beginnings Volunteer Fire Department: We are a non-profit fire department. We get our funding through fundraisers and donations. We have mutual aid with Redway and Garberville. We have auto aid with Whitethorn and Telegraph Ridge. It is a battle keeping a volunteer company together. The cost for worker's compensation insurance is killing us. We have 12 volunteers on the books, six of which are EMTs. We get a high number of medical calls. We provide service to 29 square miles of Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

Kent Scown, Garberville Fire Protection District: Our district boundary basically encompasses the town of Garberville and does not include the Meadows Business Park, Benbow, Tooby Park, or Kimtu. These areas are protected by goodwill service from firefighters, but residents there are not paying taxes to support fire protection services. We are in the process of proposing district boundary changes. We would like to expand to the north, east, west, and south. It would be about a 5,000 acre expansion. The boundary would then include Benbow, to Sprowel Creek, the Meadows Business Park, etc. There will be public hearings and the expansion will require a vote. If it passes we will put equipment at Benbow and the airport. Our main responsibility is to the people in our District. If we are able, we will generally respond to calls outside of our District. We do not respond to calls all the way at the top of Alderpoint Road. We also do not respond to calls past Benbow to the county line. We have Jaws of Life and will respond to calls farther with that, up to Scotia and south to Leggett. We will respond to wildland fires outside of our District using District money and equipment. In fact, the majority of our responses are outside of the District boundary. Leggett is now the closest department to the South.

Jim Roberson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Garberville: We have auto aid with the local departments for all emergency services

GARBERVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Brian Anderson, Chief, Redway
Ray Coil
Joel Ficklin, Chief, Palo Verde Fire
Eleanor Immitt
Bob McKee

Ken Scown, Chief, Garberville Fire
Mike Miller, Sprowel Creek Fire
Margie Morrison
Tim Olsen, Chief, Beginnings Fire
Carolena Pierce

MIRANDA COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** October 6, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** South Fork High School, Cafeteria, 6831 Avenue of the Giants, Miranda
- **Included Communities:** Fruitland Ridge, Miranda, Myers Flat, Phillipsville, Salmon Creek, and Weott

NOTES FROM MIRANDA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Bob Harris, Miranda Fire Department: We often respond outside the area. We have auto aid with CDF. We will respond to calls from Cathay Road, Fish Creek, along Highway 101, along Salmon Creek, and up Barnum Road. We are first responders trained to respond to medical aid which is now 80-90% of our calls. We are funded by the Community Service District. They've been very good supporting us in what we ask for. We have a new fire station being built up on School Road. We respond to structure fires. The other day for the first time an owner/builder asked us to visit them in area up above town to talk about where water tanks could be, where fire hydrants should be, clearing, etc.

Sharon Toborg, Phillipsville Volunteer Fire Department: We have a mutual aid agreement with CDF and Miranda Fire. We have a water tender. We respond to calls from Silverdales, and cover Highway 101. About 90% of our calls are medical calls. Because we're not a district we pay about \$1,000 per month for insurance and its really challenging. Our department is strong. Once our insurance issue is dealt with we will buy another water tender.

George Monroe, Myers Flat Fire Protection District: Our jurisdiction picks up where Miranda leaves off and covers halfway between Myers Flat and Weott. It's a challenge to keep a good department going in a small area such as Myers Flat. We struggle to recruit people. We are a district, and we get some funding from the county. I don't know exactly how much. I'm tempted to see how well structure protection has been followed.

Mike Lake, Fruitland Ridge Volunteer Fire Department: We cover Avenue of the Giants to McKann to Eel Rock and Whitlow. We have five volunteers, two are trained first responders. We just acquired a new water tender through a FEMA grant. We also have a new truck. We make money from sales at Reggae on the River – as much as \$8,000 a year. We also do grant writing.

Dan Gribi, Salmon Creek Volunteer Fire Department: We cover from Thomas Road in towards Salmon Creek over to Gilham Butte in the west, and the ranches in the north, Humboldt Redwoods, down as far as Crooked Prairie and Beginnings Fire Department on our south. We're self-funded, raising funds at Reggae on the River. We send a regular mailing to our community and get pretty good self-taxing funding from our community. We have a dozen volunteers right now. Fires help recruitment. We just had training at Tooby Park. We have three first responders and we have an engine that was donated from Muir Beach. We have a grant pending to upgrade turnouts and breathing apparatus.

Tom Milligan, Weott Volunteer Fire Department: We have nine people, several husband and wife teams. We have a fairly big area that we cover. We respond to calls from High Rock Underpass, to Williamsburg south of town. Most of our calls are medical aid calls. We have three EMTs, and five first responders. We are a district and do get a little bit of money from the county and about \$3 per household. It's just barely enough to cover our insurance.

Kevin O'Neil, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: I can't tell you how much I admire these people. They put in so much time on their own, fundraising, and trying to train on top of it. We are responsible for vegetation fires and that's it, including vegetation fires in the King Range. We can respond to medical aid if it doesn't cost us any money. We respond in the summer to structure fires if it is a threat to vegetation. We're not necessarily available in winter unless we have an agreement and we do have agreements with the county to provide protection for Trinidad and in Weott to keep them open year-round and provide training. We do dispatching for 31 fire departments. The insurance ratings you've been hearing about determine your homeowner's insurance rates. If we go from a 10 to a 9 it can save you up to \$300 per year. So you can see how local fire protection is an investment. Our funding has not been cut, but we have not had an increase in our operating budget since 1987. So while there have not been any actual cuts, there have been no increases for raises, nor has any equipment been replaced. My vehicle should have been replaced 50,000 miles ago. Things are way over replacement cycle and we see no replacements in sight. CDF has a defibrillator and Beginnings has one, but few people are trained to use them.

NOTES FROM MIRANDA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE SAFE COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Debra Lake, Avenues Fire Safe Council: The local Fire Chiefs from Phillipsville and Avenues were asked to start this fire safe council. We have meetings. We had one or two different people and people didn't return. We didn't make it interesting enough, so it hasn't gotten off the ground yet. Your being here shows your intelligent, interested people. Maybe you'll consider joining the Avenue Fire Safe Council. Your job is to promote fire safety around people's homes. You can come together and do planning to get people, funding and get projects done. Keep up the good work, sign on.

Carole Kehrig, Cathey Road Fire Safe Council: We're in an area that is not protected. I'm sure the fire department will come out here, but they don't have to. CDF doesn't have to come out here either. We have on one side of us the park and the other side of us is timberland and there is a single road that goes up the hill. So you can see we have some problems. First, we identified what were our greatest threats which are fuel loads. The park has implemented fuel reduction projects. We still have no other way out and we'd like an escape route so that if a fire cuts off Cathay Road we have a place to go. We've identified where there is open space, water, roads that are too narrow, and where people live. We have a telephone tree, so we know our neighbors. That's our beginning. There's still much work to do. Sometimes we don't know the vulnerable people, so we have a lot of work to do. In terms of emergency funding we need to know the people who need it the most. We have fuel loads along our roads.

MIRANDA COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Deni Anderson	Jackie Cathey
Cassandra Bernstein	John Christianson
Pat Bernstein	Kevin Coles
Beverly Bull	Tom Crinello

Vern Eldridge	George Monroe
Casey Felt	Tom Moreland
Marje Gaunt	Carol Morrison
Kirk Gothier	Kevin O'Neil, CDF
Dan Gribi	Bob Paine
Bob Harris	Carolena Pierce
Bambi Henderson	Patte Rae
Jeff Henderson	Janni Riber
Paul Hermes, Miranda Volunteer Fire	Terrie Ridenhour
Debra Lake	Jim Silva
Mike Lake	Chip Tittmann
Loreli Landis-Valladeres	Sharon Toborg
Peter Lindstrom	Chris Weston
Ray Maher	Bill White
Ellen McKaskle	Allan Wiegman
Tom Milligan	Tony Wilson

F.11 MATTOLE-LOST COAST PLANNING COMPARTMENT

PETROLIA COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** November 4, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Mattole Grange, 36512 Mattole Road, Petrolia
- **Included Communities:** Honeydew, Petrolia, and Prosper Ridge

NOTES FROM PETROLIA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Maureen Roche, Petrolia Volunteer Fire Department: There are no hydrants in Petrolia except at the Church of Scientology which also has a big pond. We have more trucks than people. We're currently undergoing a crisis because we don't have a chief. We sorely need people 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We currently have about 16 members, eight trucks, and 90% of our calls are medical. We get about 40 calls a year. We serve an area larger than our district. We cover Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at the beach. BLM covers us behind Petrolia. The major problem we have is that most of our trucks are too big to go four wheel drive, so most of the time we depend on people trained to do hand crews. We need training and people. We're covered by an assessment.

Ian Sigman, Honeydew Volunteer Fire Department: We have four small, quick, four wheel drive trucks that carry 200 gallons each. We serve Panther Gap, Wilder Ridge, and in the Valley. We've got 90 supporting members that pay dues each year. We also have active members, up to 13 firefighters. We maintain insurance for eight individuals. We've been spending \$8,000 per year on worker's compensation insurance. So that's the biggest hurdle for us. 90% of our calls are medical or vehicle accidents. Approximately 35 calls a year are fires. We have a widely variable budget every year. We need relief from the burden of worker's compensation. We can't recruit well with a good conscience. We also need newer vehicles. We're driving around in older vehicles that don't have the newer safety features and vehicle dependability.

Tim Jones, Bureau of Land Management: We have a light fire engine in Whitethorn that's available to assist CDF. This engine holds 300 gallons of water and it has four wheel drive. That

engine is a national resource so its availability is not reliable. It's not uncommon for that engine to leave in June and not return until the end of July. The Whitethorn station is only staffed in the summer. We have three people in the King Range and then another five to seven in Arcata that maintain fire calls. Our own staff put out a fire themselves when we had all that lightning. BLM lands here are under direct protection of CDF. We also do fuels reduction.

Terry Ridenhour, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We have four engines - three are stored in Weott, one is stored in Mattole. We have six permanent staff. We try to maintain a two person staff at Weott for the Highway 101 corridor. But we do keep an engine out here in case of fire, flood, earthquake, etc. During the summer Petrolia firefighters have covered the station 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We staff a helicopter but its use is dependent on the weather.

NOTES FROM PETROLIA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE SAFE COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Chris Larsen, Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council: There are lots of different entities and jurisdictions that are working on this issue in our community. The fire safe council is a way that we can all come together and coordinate activities for a particular area. So, that to me is the point of what a fire safe council is. The Mattole Restoration Council got some money in 2001 from the Forest Service to develop the Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council. How can we address fire before it happens? The fire safe council is a good way to identify hazards on an ongoing basis. The Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council has a number of neighborhood representatives from each neighborhood. There are nine neighborhoods here. We also invited agencies and fire departments to participate. That is who was at the table initially. Fuels reduction and the reduction of fuels in strategic places were our top priorities. We raised money to do these pilot projects and we did them. We got landowners throughout the valley to work with us. Last year we invited people from all over the valley to design projects for their own neighborhoods using a one page form. Then the Mattole Restoration Council acting with the Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council submitted these proposals. Out of 160 proposals submitted we got one funded. So we started thinking about other ways to address fuels reduction. One of those was to work with private landowners to do thinning work and harvest some small diameter logs and sell them to offset the costs of doing the thinning work. You can reduce the cost by half for the landowner. I don't think this would work everywhere, particularly in areas with brush and tanoak. Other ideas include the selling of wood for fuel, the use of prescribed burns, and the use of inmate crews. We've been talking to CDF. We saw inmate crews working in Whitethorn. That's a way to stretch money available for fuels reduction. We've got to pick up the pace in order to make a dent on all the fuels buildup here. Another project was the creation of a Fire Atlas - 11 pages of detailed maps of Mattole Valley that show water sources, gates, roads, power lines, and locations of structures. Right now we are looking for funding to update that Atlas. Title III money could help with this. We want to continually update it. That is what the Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council has been doing. We are a lot more focused on doing projects, making fuels reduction happen. We're not so much doing education. There are too many things going on in the Mattole with lots of different groups, so there's not much energy left to do more volunteer work. Consequently we're way more focused on working with landowners to make fuels reduction projects happen. We meet every other month and the meetings are generally very poorly attended. But we always have a lot to talk about. My sense is that we would be very welcoming to new people.

PETROLIA COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Andy Chittick
John Giffin

JJ Hall
Tim Jones

Chris Larson
Cindy Lyman
John Lyman
Amanda Free
Peter Marshall

Terrie Ridenhour, CDF, Weott
Maureen Roche
Lisa Schepman
Ian Sigman
Bill Sturgeon

SHELTER COVE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 14, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Shelter Cove Community Center, 9126 Shelter Cove Road, Shelter Cove
- **Included Communities:** Briceland, Ettersburg, Shelter Cove, Whale Gulch, and Whitethorn

SHELTER COVE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Tim Olsen, Chief, Beginnings Fire
Sharon Donahue
Ben Fieseler, Chief, Whitethorn Fire
Nellie Griffith
Sal Gurreri, Shelter Cove Fire Dept.
Dave Kahan
Erlinda Knapp
Leif Larson, Chief, Whale Gulch Fire
Peter Lawsky, Chief, Telegraph Ridge Fire
D.F. Moehlman
Sal Gurreri, Chief, Shelter Cove Fire

Steve Morey
Jim Robertson, CDF
Hugh Scanlon, CDF
Reba Selk
Diana Totten
Jane Wilson
Wendy Windsor
Tim Jones, BLM