

Mora County CWPP

February 14, 2019

Notes:

Attendees = 23

Ronaldo Pino Mora County, Frida Bustos NMSP, Jose Montano NMSP, Chris Lahrengrel USFWS, Chris Eggleston USFWS, Phillip Garcia USFWS, Larry Rose MNMEC, David Montoya Mora County, Jared Duran NMSF, Gerry Moleski OOFVFD, Alex Morgan OOFVFD, Richard Carrill OOFVFD, Julia Hadden OOFVFD, Arturo Marlow Mora Valley Clinic, Marvin Roybal USFS, Tristin Ledger Twin Willows Ranch, Josy Ledger Twin Willows Ranch, Michael Bain Twin Willows Ranch, , Joe Julian USFS, Vidalia Vigil USFS, Randy Garcia USFS, Emily Cornell Rancher, Robert Lee Mora Road Dept., Sam Berry FSG, Eytan Krasilovsky FSG

Introductions

Overview slide reviewed – Mike Bain question

Sam reviews timeline----New Mora Newsletter as avenue to connect with public, Larry Rose - County GIS

Sam reviews outline

Sam reviews maps and focuses on in-progress fire district map as example of work that is being accomplished.

Sam requests feedback using worksheets.

Sam leads discussion about hazard ratings, CAR, and WUI designation

- Sam describes grouping of CAR (the right list of communities, and then a rating)
- Mike Bain asks about where TW falls. Sam describes recent changes based on earlier Fire Chiefs meeting.
- Sam describes how WUI was created and refined and work left to do
- Question about Rio Mora NWR, Should it be CAR, is it captured as WUI?
- Larry Rose, has data for everywhere he supplies electricity too.
- Mike Bain asked about Springer Electric. Sam talked them and will be getting data.

Sam opens door for Priorities by theme. Shows slide.

- Larry asks for list of maps. Larry has ----- Tri State Power Line. Need to add Springer and Mora Electric Coop
- Larry said TriState and Springer lines are in good shape, but Mora-San Miguel Coop isn't. Where these lines interface with ignitions or pose an ignition hazard themselves.
- Sam is going to integrate Mora-San Miguel Coop has vegetation management plan.
- Jared said Turkey Mtn. Repeater needs to be added into WUI. Road and fuels need some work.

- NMSF email alerts don't seem to be operating as fast. Interest locally in communicating locally about small starts, or smaller suppression efforts.
- Is there Reverse 911 system in Mora County? NO Is there an All Hazard Plan? Yes.
- Sam, are people ready? Larry and Ronaldo say no, 90+% have no go bags and aren't ready. When there is a ban, which are posted at stations and post offices, Sheriffs don't enforce. Problem with burn bans and people still burn (often refuse). Larry says there was over 6 burns during a ban. AFD started patrolling 120 during this period. Threatened Hidden Lake and Rainsville. And fuels were grazed says Michael.
- USFS says they have a similar problem of people not complying with staged restrictions.
- Law Enforcement needs to start citing folks to affect change

Items that need attention or are ideas in the Plan

1. Sam suggests a Prescribed Burn Association to support ranches and land owners in burning
2. 120 corridor needs right of way thinning. Larry echoes need for fuels management along 11 miles of 120
3. Mora County County Roads are narrow and trees haven't been trimmed, big apparatus can't access. Near Los Huerros is prime example. Bar ditches restrict ability of trailers to back up during evacuation (turn around sites)
4. More Defensible space is needed everywhere, home hardening, focus on small parcels.
5. Burn bans are not coordinated. Need to ID problems related to no County permit system.
6. Fire Departments east of I-25 challenging to communicate with. How to connect with Wagon Mound. Z-bar ranch and another wildfire that went to over a week.
7. Roy and Wagon Mound fire suppression efforts are uncoordinated with NMSF and the rest of the volunteer departments in the County.
8. Sam suggests community meeting in Wagon Mound.
9. Hazardous materials in arroyos. Arroyo Clean-up Needs (refrigerant, car batteries, toxic waste)
10. Second for PBA to burn safely and do it with teamwork and assistance. Mike Bain echoes need for PBA, mentions simulated rx workshop that Dave led.
11. Micky in SBR want to get into Firewise. Community Resistance.
12. Road to Morphy Lake widen road for safety.
13. National Fire Insurance? ---- ask Sam about synthesis of insurance discussion
14. Are residents in the County underinsured? Rumaldo says yes. Affects response.
15. Acknowledge in plan that solutions that might work in other places may not here. There are issues with capacity and economic status.
16. Can we get schools and health clinics outfitted with HEPA systems so they can be clean air refuges?
17. No Rx burns during bow season. CS, U-bar, and others for \$8k-\$10k per tag.
18. Mora NWR needs NEPA and subsequent plans. Everything on hold until plans are in place. 2 years. Grassland Management.
19. Communication between everyone is challenging but works adequately. Is there a County dispatch? 5054256771 press 1 to get dispatch, NM State Place

20. Potential Operational Designations – Sam discusses, Joe Julien clarifies, Mike Bain asks.
21. Projects? Capulin area for Joe, detached USFS box, 20K acre area, analysis w/ 5600 analysis on USFS lands. Thinning followed by Rx, set up for grants to chunk away at over 10 years.
22. 99 acres going to old wood----80% for firewood and 20% to old wood for non-firewood use.
23. During Ute Park, 120 was an official detour----an unimproved road. ID 120 in Plan as bad detour/reroute/evacuation route. Sardinias Canyon Fire closed down 518. Need map and discussion in post-fire plan. Transportation-Evacuation section.
24. Should 120 be a paved maintained road?

Sam transitions to Public Engagement

1. Needs Core Team help to forward surveys
2. April Public Meeting and Fire Preparedness
3. Engage HP Grassland Alliance

Next Steps for Planning Process

1. Gather input from Core Team
 - a. Priorities & Accomplishments
 - i. Sub-groups?
 1. PODs
 2. Evacuation
2. Gather input from Communities
 - a. Schedule Community Meeting
 - b. Community Surveys
3. GIS analysis
 - a. Refine List of Communities at Risk, set ratings
 - b. Refine Fire Districts & Map
4. Begin Drafting Document