



## **Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council Meeting Minutes – March 10, 2021**

This meeting was held via Zoom Video Conference and Audio Teleconference only.

**Public Comments:** None

**Plumas NF (Feather River RD): Jason Vermillion (Jason Miller in attendance)**

- Burning piles in the Camp Fire Area
- Two masticators working near Oak Flats – oak restoration pile burn completed this week
- Update on new masticator that was purchased through a grant
- Update on hiring for the season
- Putting solar up at Pike County

**Tahoe NF (Yuba River RD): Gabe Foster**

- 130 acres of hand piles done in Camptonville area the last two days
- 30 acres burned at Baker Ranch
- North Yuba Forest Partnership scoping notice in final stages - hoping to have out in April
- Funding for a fuel's unit surrounding the Camptonville/Slayville area about 200+ acres – using some the Forest Resilience Bond and YWA dollars to do some work combination hand cut/chip piles looking to implement this summer
- Additional funding to hire a person working with me for the Trapper EA Project
- Update on hiring season

**Cal Fire: Jim Mathias**

- Help set up a mass vaccination site as safety officer
- Update on new equipment – will have two near-new engines at Dobbins and new Jaws of Life at Loma Rica
- Washington Ridge down to two crews
- CalFire has opened solicitations for Forest Health and Fire Prevention Grants
- Announced that ZoneHaven went live last week. It is a great program to show evacuation routes and potential evacuation routes.
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**Board of Supervisors: Randy Fletcher**

- He is at RCRC Meeting today, there is PGE Town Hall meeting March 17 from 12-1:30 p.m.
- Working with Sierra Nevada Conservancy on a potential grant for priority road fuel reduction project. Also working with Public Works on this project

- Working with Crystal Martin on webinar recording with Zach Knight with Blue Forest, Melinda Booth with SYRCL, and Steve with YWP&FSC. No link available at this time
- Brant Lowe is our area Sargent – Brandon Spear was promoted.

#### **Camptonville Community Partnership: Cathy LeBlanc/Allison Thompson**

- Camptonville put on an “over-65” vaccination clinic – we vaccinated 30 people with the help of Harmony Health
- Putting in our Air Permit application today for Biomass Plant– this is a big step
- Hope to break ground this spring
- Epic Grant funding we received has helped accelerate our work – we are one of the top three projects in the State

#### **Allison Thompson**

- Moving forward with feed stock contracts – we have one in the works but still looking for others to participate in our biomass business center

#### **YWP&FSC Reports**

##### **Outreach-Education Committee – Jeanene Upton reported for Beverly Cameron**

- Looking for photos for the 2022 calendar, specifically some on retro fitting or home hardening
- The 2021 calendars are still available – let Beverly know if you know of any other locations if we need them at
- Take Action Youth Film Project
- We really need more folks to train as Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Volunteers

##### **Board Report – Steve Andrews**

- Announced new Board Member Stephen Heter, our fifth and final Board Member
- Announced his retirement at the end of June 2021. We are working on successor plan, I will be staying on a limited basis
- Alcouffe Center will be open to public meetings on a limited capacity – the Board decided to stay with Zoom for a while longer. May have live and video meetings in near future

##### **Executive Director Report: Steve Andrews**

- Working on a CalFire Fire Prevention Grant- hopefully we should see some significant work on the roadways between CalFire, Public Works and the Firesafe Council efforts
- Completed two private roads of fuel reduction work near CSA2 on Regent Way at Richards Ranch and also a stretch on Wild Acres
- Healthy Forest Project is continuing – currently we have 2 landowner partners working, a third working next week – lots of mastication work going on. I put a couple of big signs up this weekend on two of jobs one on Indiana Ranch Road and Willow Glenn showing at biomass thinning units. The signs were prepared by Yuba Water Agency.
- Shared the survey on The Community Wildfire Protection Program and encourage everyone to participate

**The next meeting has been scheduled for April 14, 2021.**