

Curry Wildfire Preparation Team
Meeting Notes
Conference Call
August 4, 2014
DRAFT

Attending:

Name	Agency	Position	e-mail address
Don Kendall	Curry County	Emergency Services	kendalld@co.curry.or.us
Brett Weidemiller	CFPA – Gold Beach	Assistant Unit Forester	bweidemiller@odf.state.or.us
Carri Pirosko	ODA	Integrated Weed Coordinator	cpirosko@oda.state.or.us
Alexis Brickner	Coos Watershed Association	Program Manager, Riparian/Wetlands	abrickner@cooswatershed.org
Derwin Boggs	CFPA – Gold Beach	Unit Forester	dboggs@odfstate.or.us
Michael Schindel	TNC	GIS Coordinator	mschindel@tnc.org
Marie Simonds	WRCA	Executive Assistant	msimonds@wildriverscoastalliance.com
Mike Murphy	Coos County	Emergency Services	mmurphy@co.coos.or.us
Kim Hunter	USDAFS – Gold Beach	Partnership Coordinator	kimmariehunter@fs.fed.us
Sherri Laier	OR State Parks	Vegetation Manager	sherri.laier@state.or.us
Maggie McHugh	CSWCD	Facilitator	maggierville@gmail.com

Budget Update and Discussion:

State Parks and Cedar Terrace: Don reported that after working with Sherri, Liesl, and Mike Pope, the funds for out-year gorse management was submitted through the Curry SWCD on 7/11/14. (Good job, Don!) He is still waiting for the final invoice from ODF for the Sketch Map work, and needs the remaining invoices from David Smith for the aerial photo flight. After working on the budget, Don recommends the Team assume there will be \$5000 left in the NFP grant funds after all the recommended allocations are billed.

The Team discussed use of the remaining \$5000.

- **Additional field plots to verify vegetation type and increase the accuracy of computer modeling to identify gorse from aerial photos**

Marie and Michael reported on a conference call with Frank Burris, Clint Emerson, and others. That group determined that although using volunteers to collect field data worked to some extent, it did not give the modelers the information they needed, especially predictive modeling. The group listed a need for: more plots, identification of gorse vs broom, better standardization and accuracy, more geographic prioritization and distribution, a broader suite of environmental information at each site, geographic rectification. The group recommended that a professional field crew be contracted to help collect the 250+ points that will be necessary. Michael contacted a crew he has used before and received an estimate of

\$12,000 to do the work. This would include some coordination of lodging and vehicle use, possibly from State or Federal agencies. Marie stated that WRCA would contribute the remaining \$7000 for the work.

Brett said that his crew could do a broader geographic scope throughout both Counties. Marie said that they were still considering a 3-part approach - contract crew, volunteer crews, and Web-based site identification.

Kim asked who would write and administer the contract, and Don said that doing a contract through the County would not meet the budget timeline. CFPA and CCSWCD were suggested as the contract administrator. The contract would have to be written to address the specifics of the work, as well as the geographic prioritization. Marie recommended Michael for those tasks. Marie will call Liesl Coleman and Drew Harper to see if this scenario is acceptable to them and feasible within the budget timeline.

- **Blanco Airport**

Sherri is working toward gorse eradication on 8 acres near the airport with the focus of protecting Western Lily habitat. She is currently working on the NE side of the airport, and could use the additional funds to work on gorse management along the trail out to Blacklock Point.

- **Lone Ranch**

Sherri is concerned about satellite populations of gorse at Lone Ranch State Park that are moving toward the Brookings area. They would represent a fuels concern in the UBI. She may also be able to shift some of the funds allocated for Harris Beach to work on the Lone Ranch population. Sherri is trying to contact Mike Pope to ask if this would be within the scope of her allocation. Mike is currently out on fire assignment.

Further Discussion:

The Team asked Marie and Michael to estimate the number of plots that volunteers would be able to field check, to develop a database entry form to ensure standardization in data collection and report format, determine which areas would be best covered by a contract crew and which by volunteers.

Carri informed the group that a predictive modeling for gorse has been developed by ODA, and this has produced some models and maps. She is not sure of the parameters used, or if it can be accessed on the ODA website. Carri also reported that the new economic analysis on the effects of gorse is due out this fall. Carri will

send Maggie additional information on the predictive modeling to be shared with the team.

Sherri asked if anyone on the Team had tried the web-based field verification for gorse that was developed by Brady Callahan. The Team has not tried it, but asked that a link to the service be distributed. Sherri will send Maggie the link.

(*link to the application is at the end of the minutes – *Maggie*)

Defensible Space: Don suggested that the Title III Firewise Assistance grant could be used to extend the defensible space program. Brett said that CFPA is done with that program and does not anticipate further projects. Don said he will work out something for the \$5000 that is left in that grant. Don also said that he needs the invoices for the outstanding Defensible Space projects. Brett will remind Eric that these projects must be finished and invoices submitted by the middle of September.

Tasks:

- Marie – contact Liesl Coleman at CCSWCD to discuss contract field crew
- Brett – remind Eric to finish up DF projects and submit invoices
- Maggie – send out information from Carri and Sherri on gorse mapping
- Marie and Michael – develop standardized data entry format; do geographic prioritization for field plots

Gorse Action Group Grant Submittals: Alexis reported that she was not requested to submit a final grant application for the PTI grant, and that she has not yet heard back from the NFF. She is currently searching for other grant opportunities, and asked that the Team send her any suggestions.

Next Meeting: Face 2 Face
September 9, 2014 – 0900 to 1500
Port Orford Library, large conference room

Draft agenda:

- Final decision on allocation of remaining funds
- Final Report
- Future of CWPT
 - Goals and objectives discussion
 - Fate of MOU
- Future of GAG

Please send all corrections or edits on the notes, and additional **agenda items** for the September meeting to me by **9/1**. You can contact me at maggieville@gmail.com; or call my cell 541/698-6663, or at home at 541/247-0744.

Maggie

Information from Brady Callahan re: web-based mapping of gorse for field verification

I was able to build a new Web service plus map for the second version of the 2.5ft South Coast aerial photos Doug Smith sent out. This is the preliminary data that he spoke of on our last conference call on July 8th. If you want to use the images as a map service in ArcGIS send me an email and I can give you the URL for that too. You can view the Web map here:

<https://maps.prd.state.or.us/sample/rgb.html>

I know that Frank is going to be setting up a group to collect more plot in the field but I wondered about using a Web based tool with the new imagery to capture more points without leaving the office. I put together a simple application which you can see using the link below. The resulting points get stored on the GIS server here at OPRD and could be easily passed on to the remote sensing training process. The application is very simple now, asking for just the species (Gorse or Scotch Broom) and your email. We could add fields to the protocol and restrict access to registered users if those things were desired. Let me know what you think.

<https://maps.prd.state.or.us/sample/gorseplots.html>

~Brady