

WILDFIRE PLANNING AND ACTION IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY



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Humboldt County Public
Works

Humboldt County Fire
Safe Council

NCRP Grant
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WHAT IS THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL?

- Established by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors in 2002
- Diverse group made up of representatives from:
 - local Fire Service, Fire Safe Councils, and Firewise Communities
 - Hoopa Tribe
 - County Office of Emergency Services
 - Insurance Industry
 - CAL FIRE
 - Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (advisors)
- Formed to guide the **Development, Implementation, and Maintenance** of the Humboldt County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

UPDATING THE FIRE PLAN

- The CWPP is intended to:
 - **Assess wildfire risk**
 - **Guide and inspire action**
- Updating the 2013 CWPP.
- Process began in early 2017 and will be completed in late winter, 2019.
- Funding provided by a grant from the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund.
- Updated plan will be leaner, more approachable, and user-friendly
 - **Refining priority actions**
 - **Building more accountability into the action plans**
 - **Developing metrics to measure success**

PLANNING GOALS

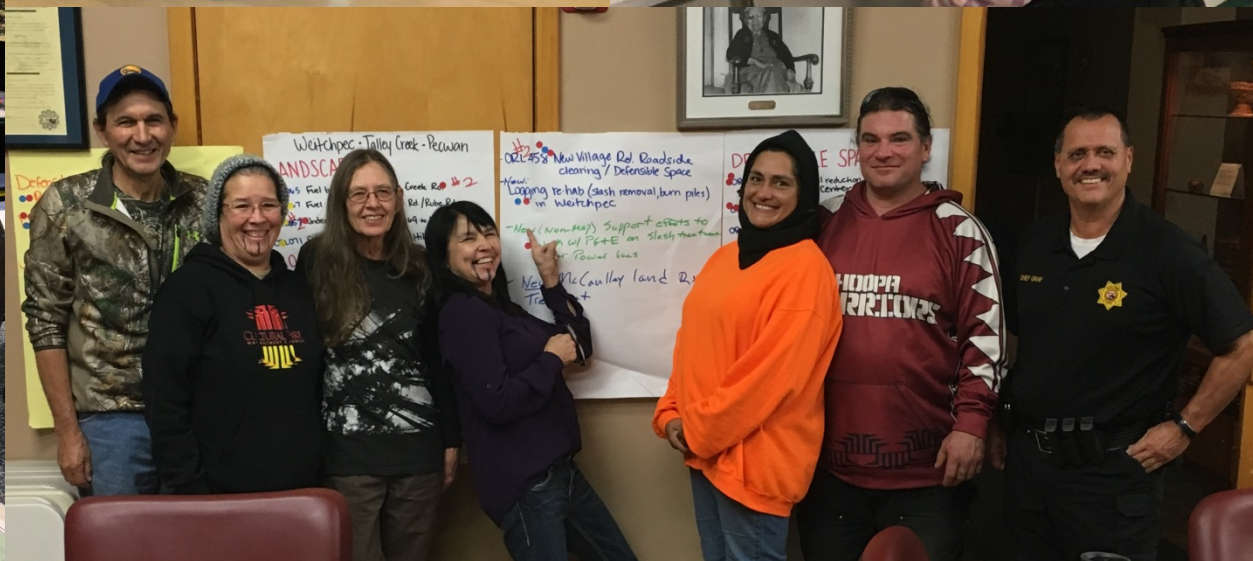
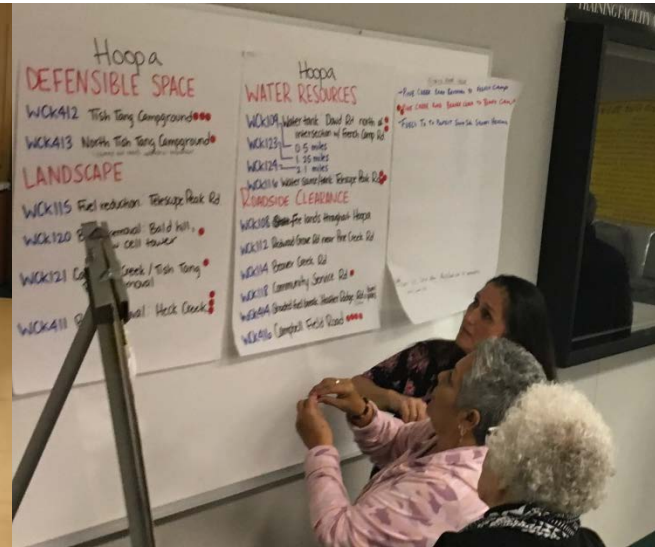
DRAFT CWPP Goals:

1. Wildfire Ignition Prevention: Reduce human-caused wildfire ignitions
2. Wildfire Preparedness: Increase community resilience and adaptation to wildfire
3. Disaster Preparedness: Prepare residents to live through *[[endure/survive]]* wildfire.
4. Fire Protection: Support fire protection for people, property, communities, and natural resources
5. Restored Fire Regimes: Increase ecosystem and landscape resilience to wildfire
6. Integrated Planning: Maximize integration of planning efforts to improve community and ecosystem resiliency to wildfire

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- Fourteen CWPP update workshops held throughout Humboldt County
- Workshops were well attended and much appreciated (extreme wildfire events on all sides of the county inspired interest and participation)
- Local Groups co-hosted and sponsored venues and meals
- Provided Information: wildfire protection, prevention, preparedness, adaptation, and planning
- Sought Information: community concerns, knowledge and priorities
- Incorporating community input into the updated plan
- Administrative draft targeted for early spring 2018

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS



MORE PHOTOS



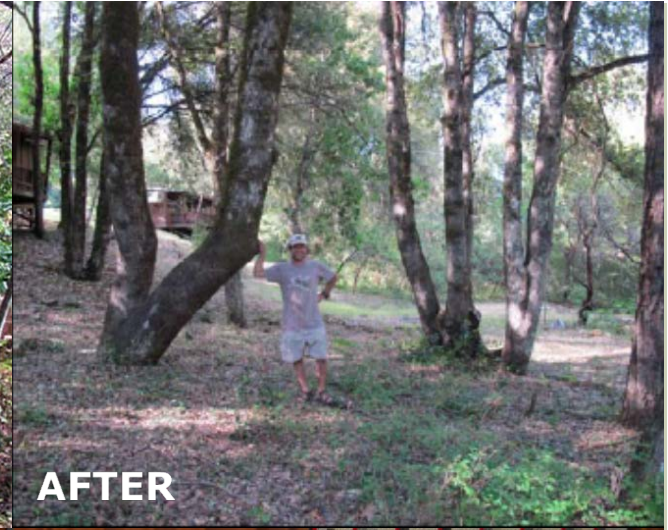
FIRE RESILIENCY INNOVATIONS

- Fire-adapted Landscapes and Safe Homes (FLASH)
 - Rebate program
 - Fuels reduction prescription and home risk assessment
 - Over 700 acres treated with several hundred participants
- Firewise Community support and small grants program
- Diverse FSC membership with good geographic representation
- Action oriented fire plan

INNOVATIONS IN ACTION



BEFORE



AFTER



POLICY AND FUNDING STRATEGIES

- **Strengthen working relationship with:**
 - Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network
 - North Wester Regional FSC group
 - California Fire Safe Council
 - CAL FIRE at the regional and state level
- **Develop a funding strategy to support:**
 - Sustained coordination and collaboration
 - Fire plan implementation
- **Identify legislation to address policy and funding needs**
 - County legislative platforms
 - AB 398 - Cap-and-Trade
- **Emphasize multiple benefits:**
 - Healthy watersheds need healthy forests and healthy forests are more wildfire resilient
 - Fire adapted communities are resilient to wildfire and less of a fire risk to wildlands

RESOURCES

- Humboldt County FSC Webpage:
<http://humboldtgov.org/firesafecouncil>
- Humboldt County Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/HumboldtCountyFSC>
- UC Cooperative Extension, Forestry, Fire and Forest Health:
<http://cehumboldt.ucanr.edu/Programs/Forestry/>
- Northern California Prescribed Fire Council:
www.norcalrxfirecouncil.org
- Fire Adapted Communities, Learning Network:
<https://fireadaptednetwork.org/>

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