

North Coast Resource Partnership Wildfire Resilience Listening and Learning Session June 13, 2024 in Eureka

Meeting Summary

The meeting was attended by various stakeholders, including representatives from local Tribes, Tribal Fire Departments, fire management agencies and organizations, county supervisors, NGOs, Fire Safe Councils, and community members. The primary topics of discussion were wildfire management, community resilience, and the integration of traditional ecological knowledge with modern fire management practices.

The meeting was divided into two parts, beginning with opening remarks and expert panel presentations, followed by an interactive session where all participants were encouraged to identify issues, make recommendations, and discuss opportunities for collaboration.

Themes from Part One: Opening Remarks and Panel Discussion

Community Involvement: Emphasis on the need for community input and participation in wildfire management strategies.

- Traditional Ecological Knowledge: Integration of indigenous practices and knowledge in managing fire and preserving ecosystems.
- Communication and Coordination: Importance of effective communication among various stakeholders, including local communities, fire management agencies, and tribal organizations.
- Funding and Resources: Discussions on the need for sustainable funding and resources to support fire management and community resilience projects.
- Success Stories: Sharing of successful case studies and best practices in wildfire management and community resilience.

Themes from Part Two: Interactive Audience Issues Identification and Recommendations

- Pre-Fire Planning: Strategies for preparing communities and landscapes before wildfires occur, including fuel reduction and creating defensible spaces.
- During Fire Management: Effective coordination and communication during wildfire incidents to ensure community safety and resource allocation.
- Post-Fire Recovery: Approaches for community recovery and ecosystem restoration after wildfires, including financial and technical support.

- Capacity Building: Need for building local capacity through training, resources, and support for volunteer fire departments and community organizations.
- Policy and Advocacy: Importance of advocating for policies and funding at local, state, and federal levels to support long-term wildfire resilience.
- Technological Integration: Use of technology, such as real-time data and spatial modeling, to enhance fire management and community preparedness.
- Cultural Preservation: Efforts to preserve cultural practices and knowledge through education and community engagement.
- Collaborative Efforts: Emphasis on partnerships and collaborative efforts among various stakeholders to address wildfire challenges effectively.