

# SHFSC FIRE PLAN

Draft Topic Outline  
Feedback Requested

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

### **STAFF**

- What FSCs are
- History of SHFSC
- SHFSC Planning process to produce this plan
- Other relevant fire planning documents for this region

## DESCRIPTION OF SHFSC AREA

### **STAFF WITH CDF AND BLM HELP WITH FUELS**

#### Physical Description

- Topography/geology
- Vegetation/forest history
- Fuel loading (may want this in the Wildfire Situation section below)

#### Cultural History

- Brief history of the area
- Ownership
- Population

#### Regional organizational resources

- Governmental. CDF, BLM, State Parks, OES
- Fire Districts
- VFDs
- FSCs
- Restoration / Resource management
- Road associations?

## THE WILDFIRE SITUATION IN THE SHFSC AREA

### **SECOND WORKING SESSION, LANDSCAPE LEVEL ISSUES**

- Area fire history
- Summary of wildfires in the area. Causes, Size, Maps.
- General N Coast fire season weather description. CDF has some very knowledgeable people here. Special fire weather patterns:
  - Hot, dry, NE winds
  - Lightning Storms
- Fire intensity and number of critical fire weather days compared to inland areas. Heavier fuel loads.
- Possibility of CDF capacity being drawn down during periods of critical fire weather

## **GENERALIZED FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT**

### **SECOND WORKING SESSION, LANDSCAPE LEVEL ISSUES**

Must qualify for CWPP certification.

- Use RAMs modeling maps
- General description of most hazardous areas, population concentrations, fuels, special hazards, Shelter Cove, etc.

## **FIRE PREPAREDNESS and RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT**

### **FOURTH WORKING SESSION ON FUELS**

#### **Status of Fuel Reduction Efforts**

- Shaded fuelbreaks constructed to date. Effectiveness of BLM Kings Range breaks (pg. 23 Hum. Co. Plan. Map). General overall recommendations for a fuel break network.

### **THIRD WORKING SESSION ON RESIDENTIAL ISSUES**

#### **Status of Wildland/Urban Interface Issues**

- Homeowner preparedness. An assessment of how informed and prepared rural homeowners are for fires. General recommendations.
- Better access and escape routes. GIS map showing major access roads and population centers, with escape routes.

## **FIRE FIGHTING CAPACITY AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT**

### **FIRST WORKING SESSION ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

- General Description of overall SHUM fire response capability, response hierarchy, mutual aid,
- Detailed descriptions of each department along with needs
- Need for additional departments
- Recruiting new VFD Members
- Need for fire protection districts and strategies to make them happen
- Increase in bureaucratic requirements
- Dealing with an increase in population and changes in land use
- Coordination between VFDs, BLM, and CDF
- Strategies for dealing with large fires, lightning storms, earthquake caused fires with access limited
- Fire response maps
- Water for fire fighting.
- Homeowner reservist fire training
- Insurance
- Training

## **FOREST STEWARDSHIP FOR THE FUTURE**

### **FOURTH WORKING SESSION ON FUELS**

- General “where do we go from?” here discussion. Need for fire hazard reduction but extensive burning not appropriate or socially possible. Discussion of changes in forest composition with possible desired conditions.
- Prescribed burning
- Move toward more fire resistant old growth via thinning and limbing.
- Developing low impact forest roads to gain access for forest management activities and fire fighting. I threw this in here to encourage stewardship activities off the main access

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roads and also to question a little the recent practice of putting many forest roads to bed to reduce sedimentation.

- Wildlife considerations. Meadow invasions and hardwood displacement by Douglas fir.
- Economic considerations. How to pay for forest management. Harvesting, management plans, PTEIRs, biomass utilization

## **AN ACTION PLAN FOR THE SHFSC AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO PROMOTE BETTER FIRESAFE HOME PREPAREDNESS, FUELS MANAGEMENT AND FIREFIGHTING CAPACITY**

### **THE FOUR WORKING SESSIONS WILL DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN FOR EACH TOPIC**

STRATEGY DISCUSSION. How to best meet the goals of:

- Residential safety and awareness
- Emergency response
- Fuel management, including a network of shaded fuel breaks and the promotion of landscape level forest management

## SOME OF THE TOOLS TO MEET THESE GOALS

### Education

- Target audience. Rural home owners, subdivision homeowners, town people, children, road associations, VFDs, recreationists, realtors, home builders, retailers
- Educational methods. Brochures, booths at fairs, radio, newspapers, demonstration workshops, school programs, youth hands on programs, VFD home visit program, an educational component with every fuel reduction project, web site
- Determining the most important fire related topics to get across to rural homeowners and figuring out how best to present this information.
- Development of educational materials. Brochures, displays, home visit materials
- Prioritized list of educational projects.

### On-The-Ground Projects

- Fuel breaks
- Chipper days
- Opening up key escape routes
- Prioritized list of projects

### Assisting VFDs with Grant Writing

THE ACTION PLAN. Goals, objectives, specific projects, and a time line.

## **APPENDIX STAFF**

1. Fire prevention information for rural homeowners.
2. List of all projects from various sources
3. Southern Humboldt information from relevant fire plans.
4. Contact list of important organizations and people
5. Annotated list of references and links