

AGENDA

FIRST WORKING SESSION FOR SHFSC FIRE PLAN DEVELOPMENT

1–4:00 P.M., June 8, 2006, Garberville CDF Station

FIRE FIGHTING CAPACITY

- | | |
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| 1:00 – 1:15 | Introductions and burning issues |
| 1:15 – 1:20 | Agenda modifications |
| 1:20 – 1:45 | Discuss SHFSC area emergency response goals, including the possibility of forming a Regional or County Special Service District. |
| 1:45 – 2:00 | Review of projects and recommendations from previous plans |
| 2:00 – 2:45 | Discuss and add to the critical issues listed in the Fire Plan Fire Fighting Capacity topics |
| 2:45 – 3:00 | Break |
| 3:00 – 4:00 | Do a rough sort and prioritization of projects and recommendations. Then finish with some discussion of strategic priorities: 1) Where can we get the most results with limited time? 2) Where can we get the most results with limited money? 3) How can we get more time and money? 4) How can the FSC and the planning process support those strategic objectives? |

**Humboldt County Fire Safe Council
Findings and Recommendations
FSC Draft Plan**

6.1 FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY

Local fire departments in Humboldt County have been created from the desires of local communities to protect themselves. Fire departments have a history of working collaboratively, and have regularly assisted each other to better protect their communities. A good example of such inter-departmental cooperation is the County Fire Chiefs' Association. There are, however, significant disparities existing in the levels of fire protection available to Humboldt County communities. Disparities are due to many factors, including: whether or not the community has a fire related special district; when such a district was formed; the value of the local tax base; and the recruitment and availability of volunteers.

FINDINGS

Compared to other counties in the California of similar size and population, Humboldt County has a relatively high number of local organizations providing fire protection. The establishment and operation of multiple rural fire organizations has occurred in response to the rural, isolated development patterns that have manifested on the landscapes of the unincorporated regions of the county over the last century.

6.1A The majority of local fire service providers in Humboldt County have all-volunteer crews (Source: *Surveys One and Two*).

6.1B In most districts, only a small portion of volunteer firefighters are available to respond to fires during daytime hours (Source: *Survey Two*).

6.1C Not all firefighters have safety equipment essential for protecting themselves from firefighting hazards (Source: *Surveys One and Two*).

6.1D Fire departments report that only some firefighters have received training for structure fires, other than on-the-job training (Source: *Survey Two*).

6.1E Many fire departments have informal mutual aid arrangements with neighboring fire departments and willingly provide mutual aid. Few fire departments have formal mutual aid agreements of any kind (Source: *Survey One*).

6.1F There is no central clearinghouse for local mutual aid agreements or local fire department organizational information (Source: *Analysis*).

6.1G Humboldt County does not have a standard for the level of fire protection service for rural communities (Source: *Analysis*).

6.1H Outside of cities, most Humboldt County residents live beyond the three-minute response area of local fire departments, which is a standard for urban fire response (Source: *Survey Two*)

6.1I CDF has a mandate to provide fire protection services in the State Responsibility Area (SRA; Source: *Analysis*).

6.1J The local CDF Ranger Unit plays an important role in Humboldt County fire protection by providing training, distributing surplus state fire equipment and apparatus, and providing mutual aid to local departments (Source: *Analysis*).

6.1K Local fire departments report that the majority of their calls are medical related, and that most firefighters have received first responder level medical training. (Source: *Surveys One and Two*.)

6.1L Humboldt County's road system, which includes a mix of street surfaces, widths, slopes, grades, bridges and curves and a busy State Highway bisecting the most densely populated communities slow emergency vehicle travel times (Source: *Analysis*)

6.1M The larger, full time, paid or combined paid/volunteer fire departments maintain effective fire protection coverage by staffing multiple fire station sites, and are effectively supplemented by automatic aid response from close neighboring fire departments/districts (Source: *Analysis*).

6.1N The edges of some fire protection districts are not adequately covered, and fire protection gaps between "response areas" are apparent (Source: *Analysis*).

6.1O The existing medical aid incident volume impacts emergency fire response coverage and engine company availability (Source: *Analysis*).

6.1P Due to the great distances and travel/response times between rural fire departments, rural mutual/automatic aid does not reliably provide quick response and timely arrival of additional emergency personnel and resources (Source: *Analysis*).

6.1Q The Humboldt County fire protection capability analysis clearly indicates that rural communities do not have as much access to fire/EMS services as the larger communities (Source: *Analysis*).

6.1R Continued growth in the rural areas of Humboldt County increases the level-ofservice gap between developed and rural communities (Source: *Analysis*).

6.1S The County fire protection coverage analysis indicates that approximately 41.4% of Humboldt County is without formal, year round fire protection/emergency services (Source: *Analysis*).

RECOMMENDATIONS

As rural communities grow, distances between them are reduced and the opportunity for sharing services increase. This is evident in the number of mutual aid agreements that exist throughout the county. Consolidating resources is one technique that has been used in other localities to more efficiently provide fire protection capabilities.

Fire protection capability recommendations are:

6.1-1 Develop level-of-service standards for the provision of all fire protection services (fire, EMS, HazMat, rescue) in the County, and make such standards public so that landowners and residents understand what is and is not available to them ().

6.1-2 Establish regional fire training facilities in appropriate locations. Facilities should include classrooms, a burn tower, and fire and rescue training props ().

6.1-3 Improve communication and coordination between local fire departments, CDF, and federal agencies during fires and other emergencies ().

6.1-4 Facilitate the consolidation, expansion, or formation of special districts that provide fire protection services ().

6.1-5 Update the Humboldt County General Plan to include policies and standards that encourage new development in areas with adequate fire protection.

6.1-6 Establish regular fire training programs/classes at the local level throughout the county to serve different regions: i.e., Southern, north-eastern, and northern Humboldt, Eel River Valley, Humboldt Bay, etc.

6.1-7 Collaboratively identify strategies to provide improved training and equipment to local fire departments and develop formal mutual aid agreements between departments providing fire protection in Humboldt County.

6.1-8 Ensure that all first responders have adequate training and equipment.

6.1-9 Identify strategies to provide a support network for fire service agencies and organizations via improved communication and coordination.

| SHFSC Area | | | Firefighters | |
|------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Firefighting Organization Name | Fire Stations | Fire Engines | Career | Volunteer |
| Garberville Fire Protection District | 1 | 4 | 0 | 17 |
| Myers Flat Fire Protection District | 1 | 2 | 0 | 6 |
| Redway Fire Protection District | 1 | 4 | 0 | 20 |
| Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Miranda Community Services District | 1 | 2 | 0 | 10 |
| Weott Community Services District | 1 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| Beginnings Volunteer Fire Department | 2 | 7 | 0 | 12 |
| Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Honeydew Volunteer Fire Department | 4 | 5 | 0 | 16 |
| Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department | 1 | 1 | 0 | 33 |
| Phillipsville Volunteer Fire Department | 1 | 3 | 0 | 5 |
| Salmon Creek Volunteer Fire Department | 1 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| Shelter Cove Fire Department | 1 | 4 | 2 | 10 |
| Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Department | 2 | 2 | 0 | 30 |
| Whale Gulch Volunteer Fire Department | 1 | 2 | 0 | 18 |
| Whitethorn Fire Protection District | 1 | 2 | 0 | 8 |
| SHFSC Total | 21 | 42 | 2 | 214 |
| SHFSC Average | 1.31 | 2.63 | 0.13 | 13.38 |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Humboldt County Total | 56 | 122 | 69 | 689 |
| Humboldt County Average | 1.33 | 2.90 | 1.64 | 16.40 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| SHFSC as % of County Total | 38% | 34% | 3% | 31% |
| SHFSC as % of County Average | 98% | 90% | 8% | 82% |

| Number of Firefighting Organizations | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Humboldt County | 42 |
| SHFSC | 16 |
| SHFSC as % of County Total | 38% |

Districts and VFDs in the SHFSC area

| ORGANIZATION NAME | EQUIPMENT NEEDS | TRAINING NEEDS | SAFETY NEEDS | PERSONNEL NEEDS | OTHER NEEDS |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CDF Humboldt / Del Norte Range Unit | Old equipment | Disaster prep - Search and Rescue; Auto extrication - Hazmat tech and above; Countywide accountability system | Quarterly meeting/bi-annually | | |
| Garberville Fire Protection District | Wildland vehicle and rescue squad - dedicated vehicles, currently take structure vehicles to extrication and wildland; Firefighter safety is #1 need; PASS; updated SCBA; additional gear; Better communications ability at the scene; more reliable dispatching services | Additional training in general; Inter agency training; Resources to current standards, visual/video, etc. | As above | Better distribution of vehicles in district; Expanded district boundary with assessment based for needed revenue; Volunteer dept assistance for SOPs; operational; structure; P & Ps etc. | Water supply system in private ownership; Needs significant upgrade; Additional hydrants; Water stores in various locations. |
| Myers Flat Fire Protection District | We are in need of a newer engine, one engine out of service, engines too slow; Extrication equipment, saws-all, airchizels; enough medical equipment to fully equip a second engine and first responder vehicle | Have received extensive training through CDF-amador, but have no certifications need to deal with this | Getting certified in different areas; Training is costly, especially if we have to travel to it | Assistance in grant writing, we have lost out on the chance to get several grants due to lack of knowledge; grant writing is important because dept has very little money and every bit helps | |
| Redway Fire Protection District | Second fire station located at the industrial park, including decontamination shower and one addl pumper | Grant writing training (local classes coordinated through sponsorship by So Hum Fire Chiefs) | | | Closer HazMat, Eureka seems like it is too far away. More coordination between Co Supervisors/Co Administrative Officer |
| Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District | Better radios for vehicles, newer wildland engine; Newer better structure gear, SCBAs, meeting space in firehouse with seating area; GPS | VCR and monitor in training area with videos for training; Rescue and over the bank training | GPS and good map book | | |
| Miranda Community Services District | Newer engines; More radios; PASS; generator | | Weott CDF to stay open year round | | |
| Weott Community Services District | Hydraulic jaws of life and training in its use. There is no set within our district | Continue recertification of EMT 1s and we need to certify to First Responder level 2 volunteers; We would like to certify 4-6 personnel to SFM FF 1 level training we need a program which will allow personnel to receive this certification in house and with their limited free time; Provide funding to CDF to assist in training | | | Currently, the CSD handles most of our administrative requirements. Although we could use a computer to maintain current personnel records and fire department operational information; A phone line for station operation and internet connection |

Districts and VFDs in the SHFSC area

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|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Beginnings / Briceland Volunteer Fire Department | 90% WUI and 80 medical rescue calls, we could use 4x4 200 - 300 gal quick attack w/ full rescue gear and medical equip; Over the bank equipment (new basket stretcher, backboards, 2 haul | With 4 - EMTs, two of which are AED, ETAD trained, we could use more EMTs with EAD, ETAD training and we need equipment to do so; HAZMAT basic training to technician level | Two to four hours each month, 8 hours minimum per month | | Unfortunate that it all equates to money |
| Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department | Water tender; Quick response truck | Structural fire training; Confined space rescue | Yes | We get a lot of support from CDF as well as all of our training as well | |
| Honeydew Volunteer Fire Department | Four modern 4x4 chassis quick attack wildland units; We need apparatus garages | Continuing wildland and EMS training; If there are requirements such as "Red Card" etc., somebody better let us know | Insurance, insurance, \$12,000 per year out of \$16,000 discretionary that is almost criminal | See insurance | Local departments trying to do everything by the book and getting jerked around by consultant (from Menlo Park) hired the County |
| Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department | 3/4 ton or larger 4x4 diesel quick attack/rescue rig with utility bed and 200 gallon slip-on fire pump code 3 ready; 1500 gallon or larger 4wd water tender; New SCBA and wildland gear | Yearly training courses held in Southern Humboldt, including wildland, FF 1A, SAR, swift water rescue, etc | Use of County of Humboldt motor pool to service VFC, VFD, and FPD equipment; A reimbursement from the County of Humboldt for multiple thousands of dollars that we have had to spend in fees and permits to insure the citizens of this area of the County have adequate EMS and fire protection; Buy a building and garage to house the equipment needed to perform fire/EMS services | Workmen's comp insurance for the smallest VFDs would help immensely. Even just 4 firefighters and EMS per dept and the dept would save from \$1,000 to \$3,600 per dept. and it may cost the County significantly less.; Consolidation of liability insurances should be looked at also. | |
| Phillipsville Volunteer Fire Department | Protective clothing - turnouts, replace quick attack with 4-wheel drive, and finish fire station | Basic firefighter training, medical training (EMT) | Would like to bring everything up to standard | Personnel, (local guys), grant writing | |
| Salmon Creek Volunteer Fire Department | | | | Have plenty of decent equipment, short on volunteers | |
| Shelter Cover Volunteer Fire Department | No Data | No Data | No Data | No Data | No Data |
| Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Department | Fire hoses, nozzles and adaptors, chainsaws, week wacker; SCBA, ladders for truck; Water storage tanks | Wildland firefighting training films; First responder training films and training in first responder/EMT for certification | First aid box and first responder equipment | | Grants to pay someone to write grants; An enclosed building to use as a firehouse. We really only have carports for our two engines. No central place to secure equipment - could build it if we had the materials |
| Whale Gulch Volunteer Fire Department | No Data | No Data | No Data | No Data | No Data |

F.9 MAIN EEL PLANNING COMPARTMENT

ALDERPOINT COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 22, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Casterlin School, 24790 Alderpoint Road, Blocksburg
- **Included Communities:** Alderpoint, Blocksburg, Fort Seward, Island Mountain, and up Alderpoint Road to Windbigler Road

NOTES FROM ALDERPOINT COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

No Fire Department Presentation. Notes are based on community member discussion. EMT training may be available in Shelter Cove and Garberville. Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs training is sometimes available to community members. Palo Verde Fire takes one hour to get to Alderpoint for medical aid calls. Zenia/ Kettenpom Fire can respond in about a half hour. Fruitland Ridge Fire can respond to medical calls. Palo Verde's worker's compensation insurance costs \$320 per person and Garberville pays \$1,000 per person. There is a Forest Service fire station in Zenia. There is a CDF station in Alderpoint and will have an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). The clinic has an AED as well as Palo Verde Fire. We need to be dispatched through CDF, but it will cost money to become part of the dispatch co-op. We also need money for radios, training and equipment. North Coast EMS offers first responder and EMT training and HSU Center Activities offers a wilderness medical aid class.

ALDERPOINT COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Kim Bowen | Buzz Lindsay |
| James Doviak | Tom Richardson |
| Joel Ficklin, Chief, Palo Verde Fire | Lawrence Ringo |
| Ann Forrest | Lee Ringo |
| Bruce Handly | |

PALO VERDE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** October 13, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Heartwood Institute, 220 Harmony Lane, Garberville
- **Included Communities:** Harris, and Palo Verde

PALO VERDE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ruth Bergman | Joel Ficklin, Chief, Palo Verde Fire |
| Nadine Chapdeladne | Michael Perkins |
| Charlene Khan | Hans Terlindon |

F.10 SOUTH EEL PLANNING COMPARTMENT

BENBOW COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 21, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Benbow Inn, Hunt Room, 445 Lake Benbow Drive, Garberville
- **Included Communities:** Benbow, Sprowel Creek, and Reed Mountain

NOTES FROM BENBOW COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Kent Scown, Garberville Fire Protection District: Our service area does not include Benbow. We have mutual aid with CDF and Redway.

Mike Miller, Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Department: We only respond to an area where there are 25-30 residences. A few years ago we had a 42 acre fire. We have five active volunteers and two to three sporadic volunteers. We are doing fuel reduction projects. We are supported by fundraisers. We need some basic gear. We are currently using a phone tree, but we're hoping to get a radio or two. We applied for one grant last year and we are in the process of writing another one. Monies from this grant would be for communication equipment such as radios. We are a non-profit organization.

Joel Ficklin, Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department: East of Benbow we basically do life support calls, but we're hoping to get some EMTs and do some airway support. We have nine people on worker's compensation, and we're in the process of building a new fire station. We are also supported by fundraisers – we sell tamales, and we sell at Reggae on the River. We are a non-profit organization. We need more training, and more volunteers. It would be great if the state would offer tax deductions for volunteer firefighters.

Lou Iglesias, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Garberville: Our service area covers the lower portion of Humboldt County, west of Shelter Cove, east to Kettenpom in Trinity County. We have three stations, 10-13 year-round permanent staff; and four to five seasonal staff are hired during fire season. During winter we are not open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and we cut back to one station at Garberville. Permanent personnel still work on maintenance, training, community service, and take vacations. Also during the winter we are on duty during daylight hours and do respond to medical calls if available. We mainly provide wildland fire protection for state resources (timber and watersheds) and people in the state responsibility areas. We will also respond to other types of fires because these can lead to wildland fires. Fire season is five months long and we're on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Lately we have become more active in coordinating with local fire departments and volunteer departments.

Brian Anderson, Redway Fire Protection District: We will respond outside of our district, and we also respond to medical aid calls within Redway. We respond to mutual aid requests outside of our area. Last year we had 80 calls, this year so far we've had about the same number of calls. We are publicly funded through a tax assessment. We need more money. Proposition 172 monies need to be going to fire services.

BENBOW COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Estelle Fennell | Joel Ficklin |
| Lou Iglesias, CDF | Nan Penner |
| Leroy Ikerd | Ralph Penner |
| Mike Miller, Sprowel Creek Fire | Rob Stretch |

BRICELAND COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 23, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Beginnings, Inc., 5 Cemetery Rd., Briceland
- **Included Communities:** Briceland, Briceland Hills, and Ettersburg

BRICELAND COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Eric Bower | Peter Rice |
| Sal Gurreri, Chief, Shelter Cove Fire | Bill Eastwood |
| Mikal Jakubal | Carolena Pierce |
| Alison Jones | Brian Shapiro |
| Peter Lawsky, Chief, Shelter Cove Fire | Sunshine Tresidder |
| Timothy Metz | Kathy Weber |
| Tim Olsen, Chief, Beginnings Fire | |

GARBERVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 16, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Veteran's Memorial Building, 483 Conger Street, Garberville
- **Included Communities:** Benbow, Briceland, Garberville, Phillipsville, Redway, Salmon Creek, and Sprowel Creek

NOTES FROM GARBERVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Brian Anderson, Redway Fire Protection District: We're an all volunteer department. We are funded through the County and we are a Fire Protection District. We receive \$48,000 per year – \$20,000 of which goes to worker's compensation insurance. We have mutual aid with Garberville and Beginnings. We need funds from Proposition 172 and we need community support.

Mike Miller, Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Department: We do not respond outside of our immediate area. We can assist in Percy but we would need turnouts to do so. A back road was just opened that will make a good evacuation route. We have fuels reduction work parties every other week and use the firewood for donations. We are located adjacent to Richardson Grove State Park. We are interested in finding funding to do fuel break work. We are an all volunteer department and get funding through fundraisers. We are dispatched using a phone tree because we do not have any fire radios. We need to be able to communicate with Whitethorn and Percy.

Joel Ficklin, Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department: We are a non-profit, technical fire company. We are trying to build a fire station. We will respond to calls on Alderpoint Road and Bridgeville. We cannot guarantee a response, but we always try to get there. We are radio dispatched. We mainly respond to structural fires. We get our funding through fundraisers. For instance, we sell tamales at Reggae on the River.

Tim Olsen, Beginnings Volunteer Fire Department: We are a non-profit fire department. We get our funding through fundraisers and donations. We have mutual aid with Redway and Garberville. We have auto aid with Whitethorn and Telegraph Ridge. It is a battle keeping a volunteer company together. The cost for worker's compensation insurance is killing us. We have 12 volunteers on the books, six of which are EMTs. We get a high number of medical calls. We provide service to 29 square miles of Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

Kent Scown, Garberville Fire Protection District: Our district boundary basically encompasses the town of Garberville and does not include the Meadows Business Park, Benbow, Tooby Park, or Kimtu. These areas are protected by goodwill service from firefighters, but residents there are not paying taxes to support fire protection services. We are in the process of proposing district boundary changes. We would like to expand to the north, east, west, and south. It would be about a 5,000 acre

expansion. The boundary would then include Benbow, to Sprowel Creek, the Meadows Business Park, etc. There will be public hearings and the expansion will require a vote. If it passes we will put equipment at Benbow and the airport. Our main responsibility is to the people in our District. If we are able, we will generally respond to calls outside of our District. We do not respond to calls all the way at the top of Alderpoint Road. We also do not respond to calls past Benbow to the county line. We have Jaws of Life and will respond to calls farther with that, up to Scotia and south to Leggett. We will respond to wildland fires outside of our District using District money and equipment. In fact, the majority of our responses are outside of the District boundary. Leggett is now the closest department to the South.

Jim Roberson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Garberville: We have auto aid with the local departments for all emergency services

GARBERVILLE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Brian Anderson, Chief, Redway
Ray Coil
Joel Ficklin, Chief, Palo Verde Fire
Eleanor Immitt
Bob McKee

Ken Scown, Chief, Garberville Fire
Mike Miller, Sprowel Creek Fire
Margie Morrison
Tim Olsen, Chief, Beginnings Fire
Carolena Pierce

MIRANDA COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** October 6, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** South Fork High School, Cafeteria, 6831 Avenue of the Giants, Miranda
- **Included Communities:** Fruitland Ridge, Miranda, Myers Flat, Phillipsville, Salmon Creek, and Weott

NOTES FROM MIRANDA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Bob Harris, Miranda Fire Department: We often respond outside the area. We have auto aid with CDF. We will respond to calls from Cathay Road, Fish Creek, along Highway 101, along Salmon Creek, and up Barnum Road. We are first responders trained to respond to medical aid which is now 80-90% of our calls. We are funded by the Community Service District. They've been very good supporting us in what we ask for. We have a new fire station being built up on School Road. We respond to structure fires. The other day for the first time an owner/builder asked us to visit them in area up above town to talk about where water tanks could be, where fire hydrants should be, clearing, etc.

Sharon Toborg, Phillipsville Volunteer Fire Department: We have a mutual aid agreement with CDF and Miranda Fire. We have a water tender. We respond to calls from Silverdales, and cover Highway 101. About 90% of our calls are medical calls. Because we're not a district we pay about \$1,000 per month for insurance and its really challenging. Our department is strong. Once our insurance issue is dealt with we will buy another water tender.

George Monroe, Myers Flat Fire Protection District: Our jurisdiction picks up where Miranda leaves off and covers halfway between Myers Flat and Weott. It's a challenge to keep a good department going in a small area such as Myers Flat. We struggle to recruit people. We are a district,

and we get some funding from the county. I don't know exactly how much. I'm tempted to see how well structure protection has been followed.

Mike Lake, Fruitland Ridge Volunteer Fire Department: We cover Avenue of the Giants to McKann to Eel Rock and Whitlow. We have five volunteers, two are trained first responders. We just acquired a new water tender through a FEMA grant. We also have a new truck. We make money from sales at Reggae on the River – as much as \$8,000 a year. We also do grant writing.

Dan Gribi, Salmon Creek Volunteer Fire Department: We cover from Thomas Road in towards Salmon Creek over to Gilham Butte in the west, and the ranches in the north, Humboldt Redwoods, down as far as Crooked Prairie and Beginnings Fire Department on our south. We're self-funded, raising funds at Reggae on the River. We send a regular mailing to our community and get pretty good self-taxing funding from our community. We have a dozen volunteers right now. Fires help recruitment. We just had training at Tooby Park. We have three first responders and we have an engine that was donated from Muir Beach. We have a grant pending to upgrade turnouts and breathing apparatus.

Tom Milligan, Weott Volunteer Fire Department: We have nine people, several husband and wife teams. We have a fairly big area that we cover. We respond to calls from High Rock Underpass, to Williamsburg south of town. Most of our calls are medical aid calls. We have three EMTs, and five first responders. We are a district and do get a little bit of money from the county and about \$3 per household. It's just barely enough to cover our insurance.

Kevin O'Neil, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: I can't tell you how much I admire these people. They put in so much time on their own, fundraising, and trying to train on top of it. We are responsible for vegetation fires and that's it, including vegetation fires in the King Range. We can respond to medical aid if it doesn't cost us any money. We respond in the summer to structure fires if it is a threat to vegetation. We're not necessarily available in winter unless we have an agreement and we do have agreements with the county to provide protection for Trinidad and in Weott to keep them open year-round and provide training. We do dispatching for 31 fire departments. The insurance ratings you've been hearing about determine your homeowner's insurance rates. If we go from a 10 to a 9 it can save you up to \$300 per year. So you can see how local fire protection is an investment. Our funding has not been cut, but we have not had an increase in our operating budget since 1987. So while there have not been any actual cuts, there have been no increases for raises, nor has any equipment been replaced. My vehicle should have been replaced 50,000 miles ago. Things are way over replacement cycle and we see no replacements in sight. CDF has a defibrillator and Beginnings has one, but few people are trained to use them.

NOTES FROM MIRANDA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE SAFE COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Debra Lake, Avenues Fire Safe Council: The local Fire Chiefs from Phillipsville and Avenues were asked to start this fire safe council. We have meetings. We had one or two different people and people didn't return. We didn't make it interesting enough, so it hasn't gotten off the ground yet. Your being here shows your intelligent, interested people. Maybe you'll consider joining the Avenue Fire Safe Council. Your job is to promote fire safety around people's homes. You can come together and do planning to get people, funding and get projects done. Keep up the good work, sign on.

Carole Kehrig, Cathey Road Fire Safe Council: We're in an area that is not protected. I'm sure the fire department will come out here, but they don't have to. CDF doesn't have to come out here either.

We have on one side of us the park and the other side of us is timberland and there is a single road that goes up the hill. So you can see we have some problems. First, we identified what were our greatest threats which are fuel loads. The park has implemented fuel reduction projects. We still have no other way out and we'd like an escape route so that if a fire cuts off Cathay Road we have a place to go. We've identified where there is open space, water, roads that are too narrow, and where people live. We have a telephone tree, so we know our neighbors. That's our beginning. There's still much work to do. Sometimes we don't know the vulnerable people, so we have a lot of work to do. In terms of emergency funding we need to know the people who need it the most. We have fuel loads along our roads.

MIRANDA COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Deni Anderson | Peter Lindstrom |
| Cassandra Bernstein | Ray Maher |
| Pat Bernstein | Ellen McKaskle |
| Beverly Bull | Tom Milligan |
| Jackie Cathey | George Monroe |
| John Christianson | Tom Moreland |
| Kevin Coles | Carol Morrison |
| Tom Crinello | Kevin O'Neil, CDF |
| Vern Eldridge | Bob Paine |
| Casey Felt | Carolena Pierce |
| Marje Gaunt | Patte Rae |
| Kirk Gothier | Janni Riber |
| Dan Gribi | Terrie Ridenhour |
| Bob Harris | Jim Silva |
| Bambi Henderson | Chip Tittmann |
| Jeff Henderson | Sharon Toborg |
| Paul Hermes, Miranda Volunteer Fire | Chris Weston |
| Debra Lake | Bill White |
| Mike Lake | Allan Wiegman |
| Loreli Landis-Valladeres | Tony Wilson |

F.11 MATTOLE-LOST COAST PLANNING COMPARTMENT

PETROLIA COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** November 4, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Mattole Grange, 36512 Mattole Road, Petrolia
- **Included Communities:** Honeydew, Petrolia, and Prosper Ridge

NOTES FROM PETROLIA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE CHIEFS PANEL

Maureen Roche, Petrolia Volunteer Fire Department: There are no hydrants in Petrolia except at the Church of Scientology which also has a big pond. We have more trucks than people. We're currently undergoing a crisis because we don't have a chief. We sorely need people 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We currently have about 16 members, eight trucks, and 90% of our calls are medical. We get about 40 calls a year. We serve an area larger than our district. We cover Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at the beach. BLM covers us behind Petrolia. The major problem we have

is that most of our trucks are too big to go four wheel drive, so most of the time we depend on people trained to do hand crews. We need training and people. We're covered by an assessment.

Ian Sigman, Honeydew Volunteer Fire Department: We have four small, quick, four wheel drive trucks that carry 200 gallons each. We serve Panther Gap, Wilder Ridge, and in the Valley. We've got 90 supporting members that pay dues each year. We also have active members, up to 13 firefighters. We maintain insurance for eight individuals. We've been spending \$8,000 per year on worker's compensation insurance. So that's the biggest hurdle for us. 90% of our calls are medical or vehicle accidents. Approximately 35 calls a year are fires. We have a widely variable budget every year. We need relief from the burden of worker's compensation. We can't recruit well with a good conscience. We also need newer vehicles. We're driving around in older vehicles that don't have the newer safety features and vehicle dependability.

Tim Jones, Bureau of Land Management: We have a light fire engine in Whitethorn that's available to assist CDF. This engine holds 300 gallons of water and it has four wheel drive. That engine is a national resource so its availability is not reliable. It's not uncommon for that engine to leave in June and not return until the end of July. The Whitethorn station is only staffed in the summer. We have three people in the King Range and then another five to seven in Arcata that maintain fire calls. Our own staff put out a fire themselves when we had all that lightning. BLM lands here are under direct protection of CDF. We also do fuels reduction.

Terry Ridenhour, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: We have four engines - three are stored in Weott, one is stored in Mattole. We have six permanent staff. We try to maintain a two person staff at Weott for the Highway 101 corridor. But we do keep an engine out here in case of fire, flood, earthquake, etc. During the summer Petrolia firefighters have covered the station 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We staff a helicopter but its use is dependent on the weather.

NOTES FROM PETROLIA COMMUNITY MEETING FIRE SAFE COUNCIL PRESENTATION

Chris Larsen, Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council: There are lots of different entities and jurisdictions that are working on this issue in our community. The fire safe council is a way that we can all come together and coordinate activities for a particular area. So, that to me is the point of what a fire safe council is. The Mattole Restoration Council got some money in 2001 from the Forest Service to develop the Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council. How can we address fire before it happens? The fire safe council is a good way to identify hazards on an ongoing basis. The Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council has a number of neighborhood representatives from each neighborhood. There are nine neighborhoods here. We also invited agencies and fire departments to participate. That is who was at the table initially. Fuels reduction and the reduction of fuels in strategic places were our top priorities. We raised money to do these pilot projects and we did them. We got landowners throughout the valley to work with us. Last year we invited people from all over the valley to design projects for their own neighborhoods using a one page form. Then the Mattole Restoration Council acting with the Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council submitted these proposals. Out of 160 proposals submitted we got one funded. So we started thinking about other ways to address fuels reduction. One of those was to work with private landowners to do thinning work and harvest some small diameter logs and sell them to offset the costs of doing the thinning work. You can reduce the cost by half for the landowner. I don't think this would work everywhere, particularly in areas with brush and tanoak. Other ideas include the selling of wood for fuel, the use of prescribed burns, and the use of inmate crews. We've been talking to CDF. We saw inmate crews working in Whitethorn. That's a way to stretch money available for fuels reduction. We've got to pick up the pace in order to make a dent on

all the fuels buildup here. Another project was the creation of a Fire Atlas - 11 pages of detailed maps of Mattole Valley that show water sources, gates, roads, power lines, and locations of structures. Right now we are looking for funding to update that Atlas. Title III money could help with this. We want to continually update it. That is what the Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council has been doing. We are a lot more focused on doing projects, making fuels reduction happen. We're not so much doing education. There are too many things going on in the Mattole with lots of different groups, so there's not much energy left to do more volunteer work. Consequently we're way more focused on working with landowners to make fuels reduction projects happen. We meet every other month and the meetings are generally very poorly attended. But we always have a lot to talk about. My sense is that we would be very welcoming to new people.

PETROLIA COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| Andy Chittick | Amanda Free |
| John Giffin | Peter Marshall |
| JJ Hall | Terrie Ridenhour, CDF, Weott |
| Tim Jones | Maureen Roche |
| Chris Larson | Lisa Schepman |
| Cindy Lyman | Ian Sigman |
| John Lyman | Bill Sturgeon |

SHELTER COVE COMMUNITY MEETING

- **When:** September 14, 2004, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Shelter Cove Community Center, 9126 Shelter Cove Road, Shelter Cove
- **Included Communities:** Briceland, Ettersburg, Shelter Cove, Whale Gulch, and Whitethorn

SHELTER COVE COMMUNITY MEETING PARTICIPATION LIST

Tim Olsen, Chief, Beginnings Fire
Sharon Donahue
Ben Fieseler, Chief, Whitethorn Fire
Nellie Griffith
Sal Gurreri, Shelter Cove Fire Dept.
Dave Kahan
Erlinda Knapp
Leif Larson, Chief, Whale Gulch Fire
Peter Lawsky, Chief, Telegraph Ridge Fire
D.F. Moehlman
Steve Morey
Jim Robertson, CDF
Hugh Scanlon, CDF
Reba Selk
Diana Totten
Jane Wilson
Wendy Windsor
Tim Jones, BLM
Sal Gurreri, Chief, Shelter Cove Fire

Summary of community identified projects in HC MFPP

| Fuels Reduction | 72.7% |
|------------------------|--------------|
| fuel break | 60 |
| other fuels rx | 9 |
| clearance | 8 |
| burning | 3 |
| subtotal | 80 |

| Infrastructure | 13.6% |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| water access | 6 |
| road access | 4 |
| community communication | 3 |
| addressing | 1 |
| biomass utilization | 0 |
| other preparedness | 1 |
| subtotal | 15 |

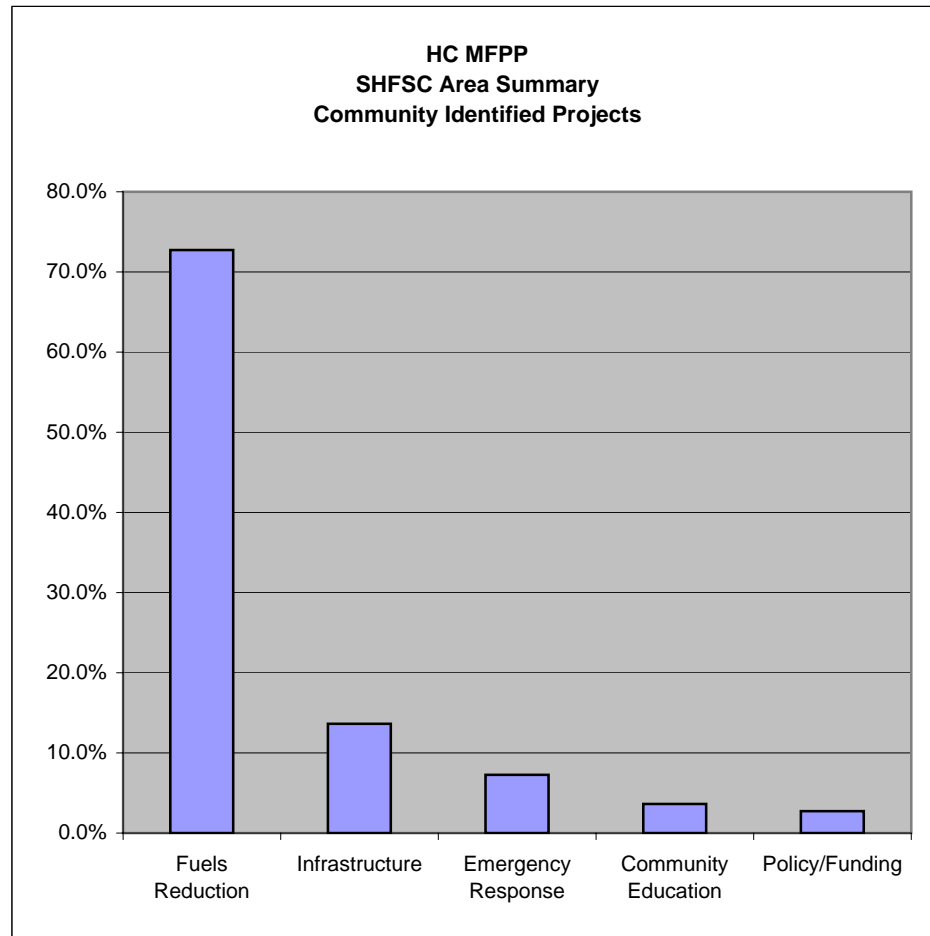
| Emergency Response | 7.3% |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| equipment | 5 |
| training | 3 |
| facilities | 0 |
| subtotal | 8 |

| WUI | 3.6% |
|---------------------|-------------|
| community education | 1 |
| defensible space | 3 |
| subtotal | 4 |

| Policy/Funding | 2.7% |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| policy | 2 |
| funding | 1 |
| subtotal | 3 |

Total projects 110

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Fuels Reduction | 72.7% |
| Infrastructure | 13.6% |
| Emergency Response | 7.3% |
| Community Education | 3.6% |
| Policy/Funding | 2.7% |



Community Identified Emergency Response Projects from HC MFPP

| Map ID # | Priority | Description | Category |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| BEN051 | | 1 Improve Access to Benbow day use water drafting site | Water, Access |
| PV059 PV074 PV075 P | | 1 Additional Water Tanks: Harris Store, Palo Verde Fire Station, PV Bulletin | Water |
| PV No Map Data | | 2 Brush Truck/Quick Attack Truck for PVFD | Equipment |
| ALD No Map Data | | 3 Medical Training for First Responder Locally | Training |
| PV No Map Data | | 3 Tax Reduction for Volunteer Fire Fighters | Policy, Volunteer Incentive |
| PV No Map Data | | 3 Grant Writing Support | Fire Protection Funding, Volunteers/Staff |
| PV No Map Data | | 4 Palo Verde Fire Department Pagers | Equipment, Communication |
| PV No Map Data | | 4 Recruitment and Training for VFD's | Training, Volunteers/Staff |
| MIR no map data | | 5 Water: Pond Development, more Water Tanks, Improve Drafting Access | Water, Access |
| PV065 | | 5 M Road Repairs/widening for Fire Suppression Access | Access |
| SC No Map Data | | 10 Acquire Structure Fire Engine | Equipment |
| ALD No Map Data | | Make Reflective Address Signs | Addressing/Signage |
| BEN No Map Data | | Garberville- below cardlock-county blocked access to river | Water, Access |
| BEN032 | | Standpipe on Benbow Campground Bridge (State Park) | Water |
| BEN050 | | Improve Access to Bear Pen Water Site- Benbow | Water, Access |
| GAR No Map Data | | Buy articulated mower | Equipment |
| GAR No Map Data | | Redway VFD Ladder Truck (aerial) | Equipment |
| GAR051 | | Remove concrete barriers on Hwy 101 on east side ~3/4 mile south of | Access |
| GAR055 | | Rebuild Old Briceland Road | Access |
| MIR130 | | Thomas Road Slide | Access |
| PV No Map Data | | CDF Certified Training | Training |

8 Implementation Measures

The Humboldt County Master Fire Protection Plan (MFPP) Implementation Measures are intended as tools to be used to reduce fire risks and hazards identified in Chapter 3, and to carry out priority recommendations from Chapter 6. Priority was placed on recommendations in a variety of ways. During a prioritization exercise on December 15th, 2003, Humboldt County Fire Safe Council members (Council Members) selected the recommendations they judged to be the most logical first steps in the implementation of the MFPP. Subsequently, additional recommendations have risen to a place of priority in the MFPP. The decision to add recommendations to the list of priorities created at the December 15th meeting was based on deliberations of Council Members as well as on lessons learned via the planning process about the specific actions that will be necessary to reduce the risk of fire to Humboldt County communities and resources. The added recommendations are written in italics.

To ensure that the MFPP Implementation Measures reflect community priorities, the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council (HCFSC) and Humboldt County Community Development Services (CDS) support staff worked closely with several pertinent organizations and with the public at large. One important organization, the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association (HCFCA), provided cooperative assistance in focusing implementation efforts on the issues most critical to local fire protection. Additionally, a series of 24 community meetings were held to identify public priorities. The community identified priorities are summarized in Chapter 5, Appendix G, and incorporated where applicable into the implementation measures tables found at the end of this chapter.

The Implementation Measures are organized into five topics consistent with the MFPP Goals identified in Chapter 1:

- 8.1 Fire Protection Capabilities
- 8.2 Fire Safe Education
- 8.3 Risk Reduction and Management
- 8.4 Community Preparedness and Response
- 8.5 Fiscal Issues

(Note: The Risk and Hazard Assessment topic is not included in this chapter as there were no HCFSC- prioritized recommendations under this category)

The expected result of implementation of these measures is safer communities for Humboldt County residents. Successful implementation is intended to improve the stability and capacity of local fire departments and local Fire Safe Councils, as well as enhance coordination among and between these entities. Additionally, successful implementation is anticipated to result in comprehensive fire safe education programs, reduced fuel loads and increased biomass utilization.

Matrix of Implementation Measures

The following section contains a series of matrices that describe the Implementation Measures and will act as a guide for future action. The matrices are organized by the five goal-inspired topics and the measures associated with each topic. The matrix for each measure contains the

associated HCFSC recommendation¹, a description of the measure, the necessity for its implementation, and a description of how it will be implemented. Each description includes a table containing an estimation of necessary tasks, logical implementation partners, and the anticipated time frame for implementation.

As implementation takes place, additional or alternate courses of action may become necessary. Additionally, the implementation partners listed in the tables are in no way obligated to take the suggested action but are included as potentially beneficial resources and collaborators. The level of participation from implementation partners is expected to depend on the availability of funding and staff time.

The HCFCA is a frequently identified implementation partner in the following tables as many of the measures would not be able to move forward without some fire chief involvement. However a balance will need to be found between making sure the HCFCA is involved in actions that will impact their departments and overburdening them with extra work that will defeat the purpose of supporting their efforts. For this reason, and because it is an issue faced by many of the involved organizations, the implementation tables contain a footnote pointing out that the timeframe for implementation will depend on the availability of funding and staff.

Community-identified priority projects are included at the end of each table where appropriate. These projects were identified and prioritized during 24 community meetings throughout the county by participating citizens. The prioritization process resulted in several ties, so in many cases a community may have more than one project listed as the same priority (e.g. Blue Lake had four 2nd priority projects). A complete list of prioritized projects is found in Appendix G, top priority projects are listed in Chapter 5.

¹ Recommendations in italics are those drafted and/or identified by HCFSC Council members as priorities subsequent to the December 2003 HCFSC prioritization exercise.

*Implementation Measures
FSC Draft Plan*

| 8.1 Fire Protection Capability | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Topic: | FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY | FSC Goal: <i>Assure adequate fire protection for people, property, and communities.</i> | Recommendation: Develop level-of-service standards for the provision of all fire protection services (fire, EMS, HazMat, rescue) in the County, and make such standards public so that landowners and residents understand what is and is not available to them. (Recommendation 6.1-1) |
| Measure | 8.1-1 LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD | | |
| <p>Description: Develop a countywide level of service (LOS) standard for the provision of “all-risk” fire protection (fire, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Hazardous Materials (HazMat), rescue) and establish maximum incident response times (by zone), incident reporting requirements, equipment and apparatus requirements, minimum department scope of service, and training, staffing, and health and fitness levels for firefighters.</p> <p>Need: There is a significant difference between the LOS available to residents in urban areas of the County such as Eureka and residents living in more remote rural communities. Local fire departments use formal and informal mutual aid and automatic aid agreements to augment provided levels of protection, yet LOS differences between communities persist. The HCFSC acknowledges the importance of establishing a countywide LOS standard so that service gaps can be more easily identified and addressed, and residents can be made aware of the level of protection available to them. Educating residents about the LOS available is linked to measure 8.2-1.</p> <p>The LOS standard is important for the following reasons: 1) An established standard will improve the ability of real estate professionals, public safety personnel, and government officials to inform landowners and residents of the level of fire protection that is available to them; 2) it will support fire department grant requests to local, state, and federal funding sources for purchase of apparatus, equipment, and training in order to meet standards; and 3) it will allow local governments to effectively plan for municipal service delivery and population growth. However, bringing levels of service up to an established standard may present a challenge for some of the smaller departments, and Insurance Services Office (ISO) ratings may be influenced based on changes in service delivery and disclosure.</p> <p>Implementation: Planning for County LOS standards involves several components. The HCFCA will establish a working group of its members to evaluate any existing LOS standards in the County as well as LOS standards used by other jurisdictions. HCFCA will then propose an appropriate LOS standard for the County, and each fire department will indicate the resources required for their department to meet the standard. Working in consultation with the County of Humboldt and the local fire organizations, the HCFCA will establish a schedule for implementation of the LOS standard and identify resources available to assist departments in meeting the standard. Additional strategies will be explored to mitigate any hardship placed on local fire protection services as a result of establishing this minimum standard of service.</p> | | | |
| Tasks | | Implementation Partners | Time Frame* |
| Review California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (CalOSHA), National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Insurance Services Office (ISO), & California Fire Marshal LOS requirements to establish a baseline. | | HCFCFA, CDF | 3 months |
| Select basic LOS for personnel, training, apparatus/equipment, | | HCFCFA, CDF | 1 month |
| | | | Resource: http://www.nvfc.org/regs01.html |

*Humboldt County
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| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| | response time and evaluate vis-à-vis existing LOS | | | |
| | Coordinate with City/County Planning | HCFCA, CDS, City staff | 1 month | |
| | Develop LOS recommendations | HCFCA, CDF | 1 month | |
| | Perform fiscal analysis for the cost of bringing all departments up to the LOS standard. | HCFCA, CDF | TBD | May require consultant |
| | Coordinate with countywide funding strategy effort | CDS, HCFCA, CDF | | |
| | Establish the LOS standard | All | Ongoing | |
| | Educate residents about the LOS in their area through mailers, PSAs and other location-appropriate means | Local fire department, local FSC, realtors and contractors, CDS | | |
| *As funding and staff are available | | | | |

| 8.1 Fire Protection Capability | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Topic: | FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY | FSC Goal: <i>Assure adequate fire protection for people, property, and communities.</i> | Recommendations: Establish regional fire training facilities in appropriate locations; facilities should include classrooms, a burn tower, and fire and rescue training props (Recommendation 6.1-2). Ensure that all first responders have adequate training and equipment (Recommendation 6.1-8). Establish regular fire training programs/classes at the local level throughout the county to serve different regions: i.e., Southern, north-eastern, and northern Humboldt, Eel River Valley, Humboldt Bay, etc. (Recommendation 6.1-6). |
| Measure | 8.1-2 FIRE PROTECTION RESOURCES | | |
| <p>Description: Fire protection resources will be enhanced by establishing local training facilities and programs supported by adequate equipment. Implementation of this measure will make it possible to develop training facilities in appropriate locations to serve all regions of the County, greatly improving the quality of training received by fire service personnel and boosting firefighter recruitment and retention efforts.</p> <p>Need: Chapters 2 and 4 describe the critical issues facing local fire departments, and the difficulties faced by departments, especially volunteer fire departments, in addressing these issues. Critical issues include the lack of essential training and equipment, and difficulty in recruiting volunteers. The development of fire and emergency services training facilities in Humboldt County is critical to the delivery of emergency services in the County. Recognizing that 92% of Humboldt County firefighters are volunteers—many of whom live in outlying areas—multiple and/or mobile training facilities may be required to support countywide training programs. A related issue is that firefighters have varying and sometimes inadequate levels of training. Providing all firefighters with necessary training will result in a more confident, capable, and reliable fire fighting force prepared to deliver improved service to the citizens of the County. Fire departments report that it is sometimes impossible to attract and retain adequate numbers of qualified volunteers. Addressing these fire protection resource training issues is essential to local firefighters in meeting an established LOS standard.</p> <p>Implementation: To determine the level of department interest in developing Regional Training Facilities (RTFs), the HCFCFA will coordinate with local education organizations to survey its membership and identify department resources available for this purpose (funding, land, equipment, and staff). HCFCFA will also work with allied agencies (police, Sheriff, ambulance, etc.) to determine interest in working jointly with fire departments to develop RTFs. Next, the HCFCFA, working with local and County planners, will evaluate prospective locations for RTFs (including an analysis of the proximity to agencies served and the location of already established RTFs). The HCFCFA will propose alternatives for the development of RTFs.</p> <p>Improved training opportunities will bring level of firefighter training up to the point where emergency services can be delivered safely, legally, and effectively to every community in the County. HCFCFA will need to agree on identified “standards” (recommended guidelines) for the minimum level of training for three tiers of fire departments: Rural Volunteer, Suburban Volunteer and Suburban Volunteer-Career Mix. Guidelines for recommended levels of training are already being identified by HCFCFA Fire Instructors. These existing guidelines are a logical starting point for any further development of training standards. It is important that any agreed upon standard recognize the diversity of fire department types found in the County. Once standards are agreed upon, departments can begin to work towards achieving them.</p> | | | |

Humboldt County
Master Fire Protection Plan

Additionally, programs will be developed enabling qualified instructors to travel to the more remote districts to offer basic training at the department level. This will allow for the establishment of regular fire training programs/classes at the local level in different regions of the county (e.g., Southern, north-eastern, and northern Humboldt, Eel River Valley, Humboldt Bay, etc.) and work to ensure that all first responders have adequate training. To this end, a “train the trainers” program will also be instituted in which rural fire department representatives will receive the certification necessary to allow them to provide training courses in their respective local areas.

All fire departments will be made aware of the Humboldt Regional Occupational Program (HROP) web-based training calendar. Fire departments will regularly check the web-based calendar and submit training dates and information to be posted. The web site will be publicized as a resource, and include important training options, applicable literature and resource links. A collaborative relationship will be established with HROP’s Fire Services Program Coordinator (441-4000, 445-7180) to build the website into a multipurpose Humboldt County firefighter coordination and education resource. Website address: http://www.humboldt.k12.ca.us/wfp/hrop/fire_services/index.php . Alternative outreach options will be provided to fire departments without consistent access to the Internet.

| <i>Steps</i> | <i>Implementation Partners</i> | <i>Time Frame*</i> | <i>Notes</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Evaluate regional training needs and propose scope of services for firefighter training centers, including off-site classes | HCFCA, CDF, Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE), College of the Redwoods (CR), Humboldt State University (HSU), (HROP) | 6 months | |
| Evaluate locations for facilities | All of the above | 1 month | |
| Evaluate cost of facilities & programs | All of the above | 2 Months | May require consultant |
| Evaluate sources of funding (synchronize with 8.5-1) | All of the above | 1 month | |
| Coordinate with countywide funding strategy effort | All of the above and CDS | 24 months | |
| Develop facilities where deemed appropriate and feasible | All of the above | Ongoing | |
| Support the continued operation of the Mobile Live Fire Training Program | HROP, HCFCA, HCFCA Fire Instructors, CDF, Eureka Fire Department | On going | |
| Develop, agree upon and circulate firefighter training standards | HCFCA, HCFCA Fire Instructors, CDF | 6 months | |
| Develop a mobile firefighter instructor program | HCFCA Fire Instructors, HROP, CDF, North Coast EMS | 12 months | |
| Institute a “train the trainers” program | HCFCA Fire Instructors, HROP, CDF, North Coast EMS, CR (Ken Cleveland 476-4551) and the HCFCA. | 6 months | |
| Publicize the HROP web-based training calendar and encourage fire departments to use it as a resource. Provide alternative communication channels for departments without consistent Internet access. | HROP’s Fire Services Program Coordinator, HCFCA, HCFCA Fire Instructors | ongoing | |

*Implementation Measures
FSC Draft Plan*

| 8.1 Fire Protection Capability | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Topic: | FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY | FSC Goal: <i>Assure adequate fire protection for people, property, and communities.</i> | Recommendation Improve communication and coordination between local fire departments, state agencies, federal agencies, and other allied agencies during fires and other emergencies. (Recommendation 6.1-3) | |
| Measure | 8.1-3 IMPROVE EMERGENCY DISPATCH SERVICES | | | |
| <p>Description: Effective communication between all fire agencies, EMS, and allied agencies, is critical to the health and safety of local residents and emergency services personnel. Communication includes information sharing, dispatch, and inter- and intra-departmental radio communication. This implementation strategy strives to improve all levels of communication by supporting entities already involved in emergency dispatch and information sharing.</p> <p>Need: Dispatch services throughout Humboldt County are provided by a variety of entities and are dependent upon communications equipment that is in some cases unreliable. Additionally, personnel cost increases for dispatch services are not being matched with the necessary revenue increase to maintain the status quo. Excellent coordination between dispatch centers, adequate personnel and reliable equipment are crucial to the provision of quality emergency services.</p> <p>Implementation: Implementation of this measure will necessarily dovetail with the efforts of the Grant Approval Authority Body of the FY05 Homeland Security Grant Program. This entity is made up of five grant reps: Public Health Officer; Sheriff; City Police Chief; City Fire Chief; County Fire Chief. The Grant Approval Authority Body has secured \$75,000 to perform a comprehensive study of current countywide emergency communication, and of potential strategies for future improvements. A consultant will be hired to conduct this study.</p> <p>The consultant will work with the Grant Approval Authority Body, the HCFCA and their southern Humboldt Fire Chief’s Group, Humboldt County Fire Dispatch Cooperative (HCFDC), Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office, Humboldt County Office of Emergency Services (OES) and other local, state and federal public safety agencies to first identify the strengths and shortcomings associated with the existing communications structures (i.e. centralized dispatch services, lack of radio coverage within certain areas, the inability to communicate between allied agencies, and confusion caused by multiple dispatch centers). Next, this group will propose an ideal communications structure for the County and evaluate its feasibility. Finally, this group will determine the best alternative for County-wide communications and identify the organizational changes, funding requirements, and system improvements required to achieve improved emergency dispatch services.</p> | | | | |
| <i>Steps</i> | | <i>Implementation Partners</i> | <i>Time Frame*</i> | <i>Notes</i> |
| Circulate an RFP and secure the services of a consultant to conduct a communications study. | | Grant Approval Authority Body | In progress; projected completion March/April 2006 | |

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Conduct a cost benefit analysis regarding the provision of dispatch services. | Grant Approval Authority Body CDF, HCFCFA, Six Rivers NF, local dispatch providers, OES | 4 months | |
| Evaluate County-wide fire/EMS dispatch and identify issues & opportunities | Grant Approval Authority Body, Planning Consultant, HCFCFA, Six Rivers NF, HCFDC, CDF, local dispatch providers, County Sheriff, Cities | 3 months | |
| Propose “ideal” dispatch structure | All of the above | 1 months | |
| Evaluate costs & prepare cost-share allocation | All of the above | 1 months | |
| Review funding alternatives | Grant Approval Authority Body, Planning Consultant, HCFCFA, HCFDC, Six Rivers NF, CDF, County Sheriff, Cities | 1 months | |
| Coordinate with countywide funding strategy effort | Humboldt County Planning & all of the above | 24 Months | May require an additional consultant |
| Prepare implementation plan | All of the above | TBD | |
| Host a regional Incident Command System (ICS) training. | HCFCFA | TBD | |
| COMMUNITY-IDENTIFIED PRIORITY PROJECTS | | | |
| <i>Project</i> | <i>Community⁴ (Priority Ranking⁵)</i> | <i>Schedule</i> | <i>Notes</i> |
| Acquire Cell Phone Tower | Shelter Cove (1) | | |
| Radio system coverage improvements; esp. in S. Broadway, alluvial valleys, CR | Greater Eureka (2) | | |
| Orleans Mt. Repeater (install) | Orleans (3) | | |
| *As funding and staff are available | | | |

⁴ Community refers to one or more of the 24 communities where a meeting was held as part of the Community Fire Planning process.

⁵ Priority Ranking refers to the prioritized ranking given by those present at the specified community meeting. At each meeting, several projects were prioritized, 1 representing the highest priority. See Chapter 5 for more information on the community meeting process.

Implementation Measures
FSC Draft Plan

| 8.1 Fire Protection Capability | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Topic: | FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY | FSC Goal: <i>Assure adequate fire protection for people, property, and communities.</i> | Recommendation: <i>Identify strategies to provide a support network for fire service agencies and organizations via improved communication and coordination. (Recommendation 6.1-9)</i> |
| | 8.1-4 IMPROVE INTER- AND INTRA-FIRE SERVICE COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION | | |
| <p>Description: This implementation strategy outlines actions that can be taken to improve communication and coordination between fire service agencies and organizations in Humboldt County. A Lead Group will be established to support local fire departments in their efforts to improve fire protection service.</p> <p>Need: Many fire departments within Humboldt County are finding it increasingly challenging to provide a level of service that is commensurate with growing demands on their limited resources. Given the relatively high number of fire organizations and agencies that provide fire protection services in the County, and the challenges they all face, coordination of local fire service delivery is a critical need. Improved coordination and communication between all local, state and federal fire protection agencies is necessary to improve the delivery of fire protection service.</p> <p>Implementation: A Lead Group will be established to improve communication and coordination between fire service agencies and organizations. This group will be structured with consideration of, and coordination with, the established fire service support groups. One possibility for a structure is a Lead Group that includes the County Fire Warden and a representative from all local, state and federal agencies and fire protection organizations. The Lead Group will meet regularly to oversee the implementation of key measures of this Fire Plan and to help improve communication and coordination between all fire service agencies and organizations in the County. Initially, the Lead Group will work with CDS Staff to implement applicable measures of this Fire Plan.</p> | | | |
| | Tasks | Implementation Partners | Time Frame* |
| | Establish a lead group and agree on an action strategy to implement this measure. | Fire Warden and All Fire Agencies/Orgs. | 2 months |
| | Develop a schedule to support implementation of applicable Fire Plan measures. | Lead Group and CDS | 1 month |
| | Improve Communication and Coordination among all agencies and organizations | Lead Group | On -Going |
| *As funding and staff are available | | | |