

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