

Front Range Roundtable Community Protection Team Meeting
Thursday, September 25th from 1:00 – 3:00pm

Attendees:

Emmit Hoyl (Gilpin County)
Courtney Peterson (CSFS)
Lisa Mason (CSFS)
Mike Caggiano (CSU)
Randy Johnson (Larkspur FPD)
Kathleen Krebbs (Clear Creek County)
John Chapman (CWPP consultant)
Molly Mowrey (Wildfire Planning International)
Carol Walker (RMIIA)
Kathy Mattor (CSU - CFRI)
Jonathan Bruno (CUSP)
Cheri Ford (USFS)
Megan Davis (Boulder County)
Phone:
Brett Wolk (CSU – CFRI)
Jill Alexander (Douglas County)
Wes Rutt (CO Tree Farmers)
Cheryl (USFS Cooperative Fire Protection)
Mark Martins (USFS)

Updates:

John Chapman – working on CWPP implementation and FEMA HMGP funding. Identifying some real gaps in skills/capacity for grant application and management of grants. The processes can be very burdensome and for small communities can be real barriers.

Carole – Wildfire Partners partnership is going great. Getting some insurance companies fully onboard with adopting the assessments, and more insurance companies participating in the discussion. Not much wildfire related at legislature this past year.

Jonathan – mentoring work in Black Forest for their DNR grant. Working in Woodland Park for forest Rx issues – discussion about best practices in chipping and fuels reduction. just hired a PT FAC coordinator. HMGP proposal accepted into the first round.

Lisa and Courtney – Courtney will be taking over the wildfire mitigation and defensible space programs for CSFS, Lisa will continue with youth outreach, publications program. CWPP survey/inventory is complete, not working on further/deeper interviewing of some CWPPs across the state. Would love the CPT involvement in efforts to address needs on the Front Range.

CPT planning:

- Refresher of previous goals and priorities.
- Interest in continuing with the goal of convening as a networking group, opportunity to share best practices, concerns/issues re: wildfire mitigation, etc.
- Willingness to discuss a project or areas where the group could do more.
- Review of potential project or initiative ideas that have emerged through the Roundtable or broader discussions. Group discussed this list and made additional suggestions for projects, focus areas or initiatives.
 - 1) Roundtable priorities refresh – involvement in the full RT effort to revisit the Community Protection priority areas for the Roundtable. Input on the identification and development of these areas – what criteria are used to determine the priority areas, what updates are needed to the original criteria.
 - 2) CWPP research by CSFS – CSFS just completed their survey, plan to do follow-up interviews with 18 CWPPs in the state. To determine how to maintain and update the documents, how to keep them alive. Opportunities here may be to help along the Front Range by providing workshops, disseminating information to CWPPs in our communities, etc. Largely dependent on what comes out of the focus groups, but likely there will be a need for regional collaboratives to partner with CSFS.
 - 3) Collaborative project with CPT and other partners around HIZ, D. Space and restoration for private landowners – idea to integrate the work of various agencies in various zones, to maximize CP outreach and implementation initiatives. Possibility of working with group like American Forest Foundation on this.
 - 4) Joint research with CU or CSU – unknown in terms of ideas.
 - 5) DNR/WRRG collaborative grant – potential for the group to apply for a joint grant if there was a focus area, project, or program that the CPT wanted to see expanded across the Front Range (e.g. if it's determined that community chipping events are the most successful way for communities to complete wildfire mitigation, could the CPT apply for a large community chipping grant to fund multiple events across the front range?)
- Team provided additional issues of interest:
 - 6) CWPPs –
 - Help with funding them – capacity building for grants application/management
 - Keeping CWPPs alive, when the original “sparkplug” burns out or gets busy, how can the community find someone else to take over?
 - Engaging local partnerships between FPDs, counties, HOAs, etc.
 - 7) Legislative policy engagement – opportunities to weigh in on legislative issues e.g. Wildfire Matters Interim Committee
 - 8) State level WUI mitigation leadership – continuation of efforts started through the Glenwood Springs Wildfire mitigation conference, or recurrence of that type of event/conference.
 - 9) FPD engagement – Role of state fire chiefs, Fire Prevention and Control in getting local FPDs educated and engaged in wildfire mitigation efforts, best practices, grant opportunities, etc.
 - 10) Fire Adapted Communities – tracking, engaging with, and replicating efforts and best practices identified through these pilot projects/programs.
 - 11) Track and discuss scientific findings as they relate to community protection and wildfire mitigation.

12) Communication tools – develop communication and marketing tools – newsletter, enewsletter, emailings that would provide uniform outreach to FPDs, local govt mitigation, planners, etc.

- Each of these was discussed with the lens of: What role could the CPT play? Does the group have the capacity? What would action and outcomes look like? What do we hope to accomplish? Is there another group who should/could be doing this? How can the full Roundtable assist with this effort?
- After discussion the group made the decisions highlighted on the table below for next steps.
- Next meeting will be in early December. Megan will send out notes/action steps and a doodle poll for the next meeting.

Issue	Advanced?	Next steps
1) Roundtable priorities refresh	Yes – with CPT involvement in the full RT effort, not lead by CPT.	Jonathan B. and Megan agreed to participate in initial discussions with the RT regarding the refresh and will serve as the liaison to the group (for now).
2) CWPP research by CSFS	Yes – once there is further data about what’s necessary, this would be an effective place for the CPT to engage and assist.	Timing is unknown, may be mid-year 2015. Lisa and Courtney will plan to bring an update to the group in early 2015 (spring) so that we can understand the opportunities for engagement.
3) Collaborative project with CPT and other partners around HIZ, D. Space and restoration for private landowners	No – not enough information but interested in the idea	Continue the conversation and opportunity with the refresh discussion – what’s the best way to address overlap areas? Are there opportunities to leverage work in CP and Restoration that haven’t been realized?
4) Joint research with CU or CSU	No – no strong ideas at this time, but opportunity should remain on the table	
a. Participation in social monitoring research efforts of CFRI for CFLRP	Involvement in CFRI social monitoring (as necessary) will be a part of the annual work of the CPT.	Cathy M. will keep the group up to date on opportunities to engage with her research.
b. Also a desire to continue to include relevant research updates from the groups researcher members (and their colleagues)	Research updates could be a standing meeting update, or every other meeting, or as updates are necessary to the group.	

5) DNR/WRRG collaborative grant	No – could pursue something if opportunity/idea arises, but nothing specific of interest at this time.	
6) CWPP (assistance)	Yes – through the CSFS identified needs.	
7) Legislative policy engagement	Yes – as a regular update at the CPT meetings	Cheri Ford and Megan D. can lead. Also engage others involved in policy and legislative issues.
8) State level WUI mitigation leadership	Yes – further discuss what this would look like	Molly and Cheryl will take the lead, and consider the CPT/Roundtable participation, “sponsorship”, involvement, etc. in the planning of event or other statewide initiatives.
9) FPD engagement	Yes – pursue the opportunity(s) further	Emmitt will reach out to the Colorado Fire Chiefs, and Colorado DFPC to discuss possibility opportunities with the CPT, partnerships, their participation in the CPT, etc.
10) Fire Adapted Communities	Yes - this is linked in with the #8 State level WUI discussions	
11) Track and discuss scientific findings as they relate to community protection and wildfire mitigation.	Yes – related to #4b – would like to keep research on the agenda as an ongoing area of discussion and education for the CPT.	CPT coordinator (Megan) will receive requests and updates from research partners and ask group about level of interest in hearing about research and or requesting deeper level of engagement in research efforts.
12) Communication tools	No – not enough capacity to develop a regular communication tool at this time.	Continue to have this discussion if a need for regular and broader communication tool is identified.