

Meeting Agenda for February 8, 2024

Raley's Conference Room: 40041 CA-49 #49, Oakhurst, CA 93644

Or join us via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84366607385>

To receive documents provided to those in attendance at the board meeting, please email kayla.rohrbaugh@crcd.org with your request no later than 3pm the day before the meeting. Items provided to directors prior to the meeting will be emailed with the agenda to all recipients requesting to be on the distribution list.

- 4:00 **Call to order**
Approval of the Agenda
Introductions
Public Comment **Please limit comments to 2 minutes**
- 4:05 **Consent Agenda**
Approval of the Minutes:

Financial Report:
- 4:10 **CRCD Reports**
Firewise Report – Kelly Green (see attached)
Executive Director Report – Jon Cottington (see attached)
- 4:25 **Old Business**
- Credit Card – CRCD has reached out to Umpqua and US Bank regarding Credit Card and line of credit. -Both banks were give CRCD's info. US bank never responded and Umpqua is still looking into line of credit. Only card they can provide has a 45 day borrowing limit. Jon will do more research.
 - Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program (RFFCP) – CRCD has been tentatively approved for RFFCP funding from Sierra Nevada Alliance. This funding will provide a Sierra Nevada Alliance Fellow to work on collecting data from FireWise groups to create community wildfire protection plans. Funds will pay for SNA fellow for 6 months after the 11 month program. It will also provide some funding for training as well as HR/Legal assistance. The goal is to help improve CRCD's capacity in the Forestry/Fire area of focus.
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service Technical Assistance Agreement (NRCS TA) – Because CRCD has not found a line of credit, CRCD is unable to move forward with the NRCS TA agreement. If CARCD can provide an advance, or a line of credit is established, CRCD may revisit.
- 4:40 **New Business**

N/A
- 4:55 **Partner Reports**

- NRCS – Mira Dick – Mira stated that they are hoping to move Madera County residents through the IRA funding, however they were waiting on the Federal Government to pass the budget before being able to plan too far into 2024. They also want to see more focus on CSP program to compliment EQIP/RCPP work in coming years
- Madera Dept of Water Resources – Jeannie Habben (not present)
- Madera County – Bobby Macauley (not present)
- North Fork Rancheria – Lance Fink (not present)
- CALFIRE – Mike Keyser (not present)
- Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council – Ashley Nebeker (not present)
- Yosemite Sequoia RC & D – Erin Capuchino

5:10 **Workshops/Events/Presentations**

5:15 **Adjourn: Next Meeting March 14th, 4:00pm @ Raley's
Conference Room & Via Zoom**

5:15 **Executive Session**



Sub-contractor Progress Report: Title III Firewise Coordination Program

Sub-contractor/partner: Coarsegold
Resource Conservation District

Reporting Period: January 2024

Report Preparer & Title: Kelly Green II
- Firewise Coordinator

Email address: kelly.green@crccd.org

Phone Number: 559.389.8781

Date: 02-07-2023

Progress reports are an explanation of what occurred during a one-month period. If no fiscal activity occurred, that is acceptable, but explain what did occur during the reporting period (challenges encountered, plans made or changed, etc.). Please include details about upcoming projects, workshops, or purchases that you will be making to accomplish the tasks/deliverables outlined in your scope of work.

Summary of activities that occurred during the reporting period (e.g., communities established, communities outreached, workshop coordination, products created/developed):

- Maintained technical assistance and communication with all established Firewise® communities.
- Community Application Status
 - **Crooks Mountain** – Nothing new to report.
 - **Wishon Cove** – Nothing new to report.
 - **North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians**– Nothing new to report.
 - **Thunderhead Community** – Jon is scheduled to conduct a prospective community presentation the second weekend in February.
- Outreach and Prospective Communities
 - Continued Social Media outreach focusing on defensible space and home hardening to engage and inform mountain residents of Madera County.
- Firewise community meetings, events, and presentations
 -

Relation of activities to overall goals, deliverables, and timeline. Please quantify progress where possible (e.g., XX community members engaged on MM/DD/YYYY for kick off meeting, XX new communities established, XX action plans developed):

- Timely assistance to prospective communities has allowed for consistent progress in certifying new communities.
- Outreach to all Resident Leaders re: Scheduling contracted workdays, community meetings, Recertification deadline, Tool Cache reminder; continued assistance to individual communities as needed, including portal uploads for recertification efforts and new applications.
- Social Media outreach has increased the visibility in the community, leading to additional inquiries on the program.
- Review and updating maps in Arc GIS Pro allow us to quickly identify and quantify communities and surrounding forest service lands.

Sub-contractor Progress Report: Title III Firewise Coordination Program

Challenges encountered during the reporting period and possible challenges in the future (e.g., meeting cancelled, unresponsive homeowner's, personnel change):

- CRCD continues to face the challenge of waiting for the in-progress communities to essentially make progress. Coarsegold RCD must wait for the committees to complete the application process in their own time.
- Lack of response for scheduling community meetings from approved Firewise® communities. Community members are not reaching out to scheduled meetings.

How challenges impact overall accomplishments and plans to remedy the situation (e.g., personnel change required additional time to onboard for program, but they began outreaching communities this month; unexpected weather required cancelling a risk assessment, but it has been rescheduled for next month, etc):

- CRCD continued outreach to individual resident leaders through email, site visits, and community meetings has kept energy high in recertification, as well as progress on community action plans. Some communities remain silent so continued correspondence will be necessary.
- CRCD continued outreach to prospective and in-progress communities.
- We have created a new project application that can be shared with the whole community to create a list of shovel ready projects in the community.

Next steps (please provide a brief summary or list of activities planned for the next month):

- Expand use of new Firewise surveys to streamline the process in larger communities.
- Continue scheduling the existing Firewise® Communities for contracted work.
- Schedule Community meetings for every certified community to plan for future funds/projects.
- Continue to attend meetings and webinars for additional grant funding opportunities.
- Review Action Plans for each community to see where implementation funding can be used to the best advantage.
- Continue to be flexible and available to any community in need of assistance towards becoming Firewise®.
- Continue community outreach to find new prospective Firewise® communities.



Progress Report: CFSC County Coordinator

Sub-contractor/partner: Coarsegold
Resource Conservation District
Reporting Period: January 2024
Report Preparer & Title: Jon
Cottington, County Coordinator

Email address: jon.cottington@crzd.org
Phone Number: 559 760 6019
Date: 2-8-24

Progress reports are an explanation of what occurred during a one-month period. If no fiscal activity occurred, that is acceptable, but explain what did occur during the reporting period (challenges encountered, plans made or changed, etc). Please include details about upcoming projects, workshops, or purchases that you will be making to accomplish the tasks/deliverables outlined in your scope of work.

Summary of activities that occurred during the reporting period (e.g., communities established, communities outreached, workshop coordination, products created/developed):

CA FIRESAFE COUNCIL FIRE PREVENTION COODINATOR:

- Oversaw CRCD's Firewise program.
- Attended monthly CFSC County Coordinator meetings.
- Attended the CFSC Quarterly Check In Meeting. CRCD has hit all the deliverables that we agreed upon in the grant and now are working to continue growing education and outreach for Firewise and fire prevention programs. CRCD has been approved for an extension of these funds until December 32, 2024.
- Attended planning meetings with NF Rancheria and RPF. Completed mapping and writing proposal for CALFIRE WP grant for tribal allotment lands.
- Attended outreach meeting with Yosemite Visitor's Bureau, EMCFSC, and Supervisor Macaulay.
- Attended planning meetings with Madera County, CAL FIRE, CFSC, EMCFSC, YSRCDC, and YGPBC.
- CRCD is partnering with CFSC and EMCFSC to host a WFAP assessment training in Oakhurst for partners and FireWise resident leaders. We have scheduled CFSC to join us for the training on April 27. Once we host this meeting, we plan to schedule another meeting for the general public soon thereafter.
- Attended planning meetings with EMCFSC and GrizzlyCorps for possible intern position.
- CRCD has received word that our RFFCP proposal has moved to the next round of review so CRCD and EMCFSC are having a cooperative MOU between the groups drawn up by BB&K law group (paid for through CARCD's RFFCP funding) to define our partnership and have an agreement for sharing information, intern staff time, and possibly office space.
- Attended planning meetings with EMCFSC, SNC, and SNA about fellowship agreement.
- Social Media outreach on defensible space and home hardening to engage new communities.
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Relation of activities to overall goals, deliverables, and timeline. Please quantify progress where possible (e.g., XX community members engaged on MM/DD/YYYY for kick off meeting, XX new communities established, XX action plans developed):

- The ability of the county coordinator to grow public outreach through the Firewise program is essential to engaging with the community while also creating some personal buy in from homeowners. Because a



focus of CRCD's fire prevention funds will focus on these communities, these communities will be listed as active wildfire prevention work sites in Madera County.

- Providing WFAP assessments to residents makes the community more well informed on fire safety and also provides additional outreach for the FireWise program.
- Hosting a WFAP training for our FireWise resident leaders will allow them to share that information with their communities. 1400 homes within the firewise community footprint could receive additional support and education. We will plan a second training later this year for the general public.
- CRCD and EMCFSC met with GrizzlyCorps to discuss possible interns in 2024.
- CRCD and EMCFSC partnering on the RFFCP funding opportunity made our proposal more appealing . By hiring 2 interns at the same time, CRCD and EMCFSC hope to create a cohort team that can work and learn together. This intern will be creating CWPP's for each firewise group to share resources, information, and opportunities with everyone in the communities. Creating a legal MOU for CRCD and EMCFSC to have as the framework for their future partnership is very important to future collaborations.
- CRCD attended both the CFSC Southern Region meeting as well as the County Coordinator Check in Meeting. These meetings must be attended by Coordinators, but they are very important to share ideas between counties.
- CRCD and NF Rancheria of Mono Indians submitted a fuel reduction proposal to CALFIRE around tribal allotment lands.
- Attending necessary meetings with YSRCDC, Madera County, CAL FIRE, CFSC, and YGPBC helps to coordinate groups as well as keep up to date information that can be made available to the public.
- Social Media outreach has increased the visibility in the community, leading to additional inquiries on the program.

Challenges encountered during the reporting period and possible challenges in the future (e.g., meeting cancelled, unresponsive homeowner's, personnel change):

Holidays and Winter weather slowed down a bit of time at the beginning of the month.

How challenges impact overall accomplishments and plans to remedy the situation (e.g., personnel change required additional time to onboard for program but they began outreaching communities this month; unexpected weather required cancelling a risk assessment but it has been rescheduled for next month, etc):

Any time lost at the beginning of the month was made up for in the weeks that followed.



Next steps (please provide a brief summary or list of activities planned for the next month):

- **Continue program development.**
- **Continue collaboration with YSRCDC, EMCFSC, and YGPBC.**
- **Continue to plan a WFAP training at a spring 2024 Wildfire Preparedness Event with partners.**
- **Continue collaborating with EMCFSC for quarterly meeting with Wildfire prevention groups.**
- **Schedule FireWise Community meetings.**
- **Continue creating job description and planning trainings necessary for intern**
- **Schedule additional WFAP Assessments.**
- **Continue work on tracking of Assessments.**
- **Continue to attend meetings and webinars for additional grant funding opportunities.**
- **Continue community outreach to find new prospective Firewise® communities.**

Number	Item
11	Number of wildfire mitigation groups engaged with during this reporting period?
~ 21 in person, ~25 on phone/zoom ~55 on social media	Number of community members engaged with during reporting period (educational materials distributed, meeting attendance, etc.)
0- meeting (presented) 12 meetings (attended)	Number of events hosted (meetings, workshops)
3	Number of people employed whose position is relevant to the County Coordinators grant
2 original, 20 shared social media posts	Number of original materials created (only report materials created with grant award funds such as brochures, web pages, educational packets.)