**LASSEN COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL, INC. (LCFSC)**

**LCFSC DIAMOND MOUNTAIN INITIATIVE**

**WORKING GOUP MEETING**

Monday, February 2, 2015

6:00PM

Susan River Fire Protection District

705-145 Hwy 395, Johnstonville, California

The LCFSC Diamond Mountain Initiative meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm on January 28, 2015 at the Susan River Fire Protection District Office, 705-145 Hwy 395, Johnstonville, California. Attendees were Linda Hansen Lorraine Forester-Hansen, Don Hansen, Ann Carlson, Terri Pearson-Ramirez, David Junette, Hannah Tangeman, Ryan Hilburn, Jim Barry Hugh Parker, Bob Andrews, David Schroeder, Don Douglas, Scott Rosikewicz, Tom Esgate and Cathy Dirden.

1. Welcome and Introductions: LCFSC Managing Director Tom Esgate welcomed all and asked for introductions. He stated Karl Todd, our fantastic map expert, is not able to attend.
2. Tom stated the purpose of the initiative is to address fuels and the watershed holistically. The focus to start will be fuels and treatments, relying on the group to provide ideas for treatment, goals, moving forward with USFS NEPA, and for grant opportunities. He stated most may want to significantly reduce the canopy closure. We also need to address what ground is treatable. He also wants to look at land ownerships, and stated things may arise that change our direction.
3. Looking at grant opportunities, Tom stated he will file a grant application for $200,000 in the next two weeks with CFSC. With regard to NEPA getting done on USFS land, it seems that USFS staff reductions have left them in reactive mode. He wants to find a way to help them with NEPA. Linda Hansen/Sierra Nevada Conservancy stated there will be $75,000 for environmental clearances in their grant round later this year. Tom stated the Forest Supervisor indicated he was open to alternatives to help move NEPA forward, including an enterprise team, and possibly specialist assistance from the private sector. Tom and Lloyd Keefer mentioned the possibility of using a LCFSC team of specialists. Eileen Carey, PhD Ecologist who works with us has lead several NEPA projects from the private sector for the USFS, Tahoe Management Unit. Tom felt something like this was worth pursuing in cooperation with LNF. He hopes we could create a model and feels it’s a great opportunity. In order to move forward a check list will be developed of what’s done and needs completion. Terri Pearson-Ramirez/USFS stated we should look at what’s ready to go. The group agreed a composite map is critical identifying what’s been done, what’s planned and needed, ownerships, and then come up with a comprehensive plan. The different agencies will provide Tom with shape files and he will get in touch with Karl Todd to start putting together a map and data.
4. Setting Priorities - The Group agreed portions of plans are already in place, looking at what’s been done and what’s logistically possible should be next. Terri suggested splitting the mountain range into thirds, listing what’s done and not done; what’s treatable and not. Linda stated the Draft SNC Grant Guidelines would be coming out next week. The Request for Proposals will be in 5 months. Multiple applications and multiple dollars work; projects can be in various levels of readiness
5. Adjournment: The Group adjourned at 6:40 pm. The next meeting will be at 5:30 pm prior to the LCFSC Monthly General Meeting on March 2nd.