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

**LCFSC DIAMOND MOUNTAIN INITIATIVE**

**WORKING GROUP MEETING**

Monday, March 2, 2015

5:30PM

Susan River Fire Protection District

705-145 Hwy 395, Johnstonville, California

The LCFSC Diamond Mountain Initiative meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm on March 2, 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, Bobette Jones, David Junette, Hannah Tangeman, Ryan Hilburn, Mark Shaffer, Jim Barry, Hugh Parker, Bob Andrews, Dave Hays, Scott Rosikewicz, Tom Esgate, Dan Douglas, Lloyd Keefer, and Cathy Dirden.

1. Welcome and Introductions: LCFSC Managing Director Tom Esgate welcomed all and asked for introductions. Tom provided copies of the DM area map identifying areas worked by LCFSC, and Honey Lake Valley RCD, and acreage owned by Beaty & Associates. Bobette will provide USFS a shape file for next meeting.
2. Planning – SNC can help with $75,000 towards NEPA. Tom feels we can put together a group of experts to work through the process. Dave Hays, Forest Supervisor, feels it’s a good idea to fill in the gaps. Tom will get a budget together by July. SNC can also help with implementation funds for projects that have CEQA clearances at the time of application.
3. Prescriptions – Don Hansen, LCFSC Forester, gave his recommendation that prescriptions should be site specific. Bobette Jones/USFS Eagle Lake stared that the USFS would be looking at wildlife, surface and ladder fuels and limitations of the slope. Using a variable density, they want to maintain the older trees, reduce density, increase forest health; open it up more so the work lasts longer – 40/50 years. She’s identified 5 areas that can be treated mechanically focusing on reducing the canopy, surface and ladder fuels. There will wildlife constraints we’ll have work around. The group will figure out what NEPAs need to be done probably by September. Dave Junette/Cal Fire will be looking at large fire history. Jim Barry/Cal Fire wants to see work along the Diamond Mountain Motorway that would reduce density and allowing for safer/quicker entry, parking and turnarounds; essentially reducing the danger to personnel.
4. Funding – The group wants to look at Phase I as being the areas of highest priority. For the next meeting Tom wants to have the group prioritize giving size and scope, and generate thoughts on where to go next. Tom filed a CFSC’s Grant application for $200,000. Tom mentioned that we should work with HLVRCD for future CEQA exemptions. Beaty has the watershed doc done for their area already. A HLVRCD grant may overlap Hannah Tangeman and Beaty managed land. Hannah has a NTMP filed as do other large landowners in the area therefore CEQA clearance has been achieved for those lands. Linda Hansen/Sierra Nevada Conservancy stated the NEPA/CEQA is a bi-lateral process.
5. Other – Access is a priority for Cal Fire.
6. Adjournment: The Group adjourned at 6:30 pm. The next meeting will be at 5:30 pm prior to the LCFSC Monthly General Meeting on April 6, 2015.