**San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership**

**Meeting Notes for Friday, June 15 2018**

**Location:** Pagosa Ranger Station – Pagosa Springs, CO

**Time:** 8 – 11 am

**Present**: Aaron Kimple (MSI), Matt Cook (MSI), Matt Tuten (SJNF), Herb Grover (SJWD), Al Myatt (SW Firewise), Justin Ramsey (PAWSD), Doug Secrist (SJWCD), David Dipetro (SJNF), Brett Wolk (CFRI), Jimbo Buickerood (SJCA), Tim Harmon (CPLA Board), Robin Young (CSU Ext), Bill Trimarco (SW Firewise)

**Action Items:**

-Determine current wildfire/forest conditions messaging strategy to journalists

-Get Pagosa Sun folks out on the ground – ask for editorial board meeting with DGO Herald

-Put together a PSA – what you can do on your property, forest closures, energy component index. -Robin Young - Radio program (KWUF) Monday 8am. 6/18 - Aaron will join

**Report Outs/Updates:**

1. Bill/Firewise:
   1. Cost sharing program is very active – had to shut down for 3 weeks due too high volume of interested folks – 70 assessments ongoing in Archuelta (30 last year) over 200 in 3 counties – contractors booked up 3 weeks
   2. Sending around fire resource page on headwaters website – article in paper on mitigation tips, pre-evacuation info, etc. – getting the word out to the local community
   3. CAFA (low income mitigation program) will be announced next week – Applies to property owners in Aspen Springs, Twin Creek Village and Pagosa Highlands estates, household income <38,000 per year
2. Robin/CSU extension:
   1. emergency mgmt. at fairgrounds – working with personel to make plans – end of summer cart team (community animal response team) to help set up for evac
   2. add that resource to headwaters page
3. Tim/Banded Peak – grant money in place to do mitigation/mastication work
   1. Diversion structure tour 6/22 around chama diversion tunnel
4. Jimbo/San Juan Citizens Alliance
   1. Met w/Matt Janowiak and went over community communication/readiness talking points. Talked with county commissioner about closures.
   2. Alliance is looking towards post fire, what’s important to know (burn severity, etc) as an education piece
   3. Jimbo is on Hermosa Ditch board – looking ahead to the potential impacts of rain events and run off
5. Brett Wolk/CFRI
   1. CSU wants to put out a statement on current forest conditions in CO. Post fire effects, start anticipating impacts (erosion, runoff, etc) - how to message post fire recovery.
   2. CFRI involved new publication (GTR-373) came out recently – Statewide webinar in 2 weeks on ecological mgmt/forest mgmt. with state forest service
   3. Involvement with Pagosa creek project w/MSI and SJNF – need to decide what type of management is appropriate, science committee to flesh out research questions
   4. Making plans to be involved with TREX in SJNF this September
6. Justin Ramsey/PAWSD
   1. 2018 drought mitigation plan passed last month – 4 levels (based off of reservoir levels) before mandatory restrictions (<70%) – Pump at lake Pagosa will be set up
7. Matt Tuten/SJNF
   1. SJNF Pagosa District has been super busy with the stage 3 closure – list of 10 trigger points go into the decision of closing the forest – other tasks have been shifted – lots of resources available
   2. Jay Godson new fire mgmt. officer at Pagosa District
   3. Hopeful that a precipitation event will allow for opening of forest but don’t have a concrete set of variables to reopen – Energy release component index is a big one that is tracked.
   4. Pagosa shifting folks around – Columbine under incident command
   5. Who will make up BAER team? Local people? Hopeful for good communication
8. Herb Grover
   1. Is on committee at FLC, global climate change symposium – forest resilience and management due to climate change, emphasis: why don’t ppl get it? – speakers on the topic
9. Doug Secrist (SJWCD)-
   1. working on public outreach and education
   2. maintaining sustainable water resources
10. Al Myatt (Firewise Board)
    1. looking at a 501c – looking at a name change due to trademarking – New name to be Wildfire Adapted Partnership (WAP)
    2. Ashley Downing new Executive Director
    3. Want to connect w/Rotary Club - looking for communication pathways with Rotary Club

**416/Burro Fire Messaging:**

1. Prior mitigation work has hopefully changed fire behavior –
   1. Rx fire in 2008
2. Mitigation resources for communities
   1. Mitigate now or wait for funding?
   2. Don’t encourage HOA’s to apply for every fire mitigation grant
3. Give a big picture message
   1. Fire suppression for over 100 years has major impacts on current forest conditions
4. Human vs Natural Ignitions
5. What it will take to open the forest back up
6. Comparisons to Little Sand Fire
   1. Are they even that comparable? Little Sand was more isolated, not close to assets.
7. Show our collaborative/coordinated approach

**SJHFHP Forest Health Activities Web Map**

1. Web map outlines forest treatments and monitoring efforts in the Headwaters region (Pagosa Ranger District)
   1. Treatment data mainly from USFS and NRCS
   2. We want to gather as much treatment for forest restoration / fuels reduction projects in the region as we can.
   3. Web map has some georeferenced before/after photos attached to points
2. Web map can serve as a tracking tool – Are treatments getting done where they to be?
   1. Can summarize acres treated by year, type, management purpose etc.
3. Suggestions for direction for map/Other feedback
   1. Add WUI data to map or create a separate WUI web map
   2. Find out the actual acreage treated for NRCS project so we can track acres treated for private lands rather than having generic polygons representing private areas treated
   3. Web mapping efforts can be used as a public outreach material and central geodatabase for forest treatments in the region

**Upcoming Events:**

19th Hole Concert Series at Pagosa Golf Club – 7/19 – 5:30-7:30

Bridging the Divide – 9/7 & 9/8

Potential Beetle Tour 9/22 or 9/23