

# MEETING NOTES

## WILDFIRE SUBCOMMITTEE - CHELAN COUNTY CWPP UPDATE

### SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

- **Chair:** Ryan Williams, Cascadia Conservation District
- **Vice-Chair:** Bob Keller, Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition
- Brandon Asher, Fire District 7 - Lake Chelan
- Brian Brett, Fire District 1 - Wenatchee
- Alma Chacon, Café
- Andy Day, RC3
- Ben Eddings, USFS
- Jana Fischback, Sustainable NCW
- Rachel Hansen, Chelan PUD
- Jake Hardt, DNR Community Resilience Coordinator
- Adam Jones, Fire District 8 - Entiat
- Mike Kaputa, Chelan County NRD
- Kris King, Fire District 9 - Lake Wenatchee
- Lexy Lieurance, Chelan Douglas Health District

- Lauren Loebak, WDOT
- Whitney Machado, BLM Community Coordinator
- Mike Smith, Fire District 3 - Leavenworth
- Stan Smoke, Chelan County Emergency Management

APRIL 18, 2024

2:30 PM

LOCATION: CONFULENCE TECHNOLOGY CENTER, WENATCHEE

### CONSULTANT TEAM

- Kenzie Hartt - TEA
- Dr. Meg Matonis - TEA
- Christina Wollman - Perteeet

### AGENDA

1. Attendance
  - a. Bob Keller
  - b. Jacob Hardt
  - c. Kris King
  - d. Ben Eddings
  - e. Joshua James
  - f. Hillary Heard
  - g. Patrick Haggarty
  - h. Lauren Loebak
  - i. Stan Smoke
  - j. Laura Cross
  - k. Jana Fishback
  - l. Mandy Maxwell
  - m. Brandon Asher
  - n. Arnold Baker
  - o. John Callahan
  - p. Andy Day
  - q. Lexy Lieurance
  - r. Natasha Karcis
  - s. Russ Truman
  - t. Christina Wollman
  - u. Nolan Brewer
  - v. Yesenia Perez
  - w. Rachel Hansen
2. Public Comment
  - a. None
  - b. Census: Alternating working meeting and public meetings. No public comments will be accepted at working meetings.
3. Previous Meeting Minutes
  - a. Amend to appropriately reflect those who were not present.
  - b. Correct the name of Lake Wenatchee Fire District.
  - c. **Meeting minutes were approved as amended.** Andy Day - motion. Mandy Maxwell - second.
  - d. Russ and Nolan will be added to the email list.

- e. Need to correct list of people who were not in attendance at the last meeting (Apr 4<sup>th</sup>).  
Need to email out notes and get confirmation of attendance.
      - i. Ben and Nolan were not at the meeting, John was there instead
- 4. Overview of phase 1
  - a. Currently data gathering and reviewing existing CWPP and identifying where updates are needed.
- 5. Wildfire Risk Assessments
  - a. Discussion
    - i. What was useful about the 2019 maps?
      1. Planning for communities means that whole community areas are red
        - a. Dual benefit analysis? Look up - From DNR (do work here layer)
      2. Feeds into Treatment prioritization
      3. Bob - updated fire history map desired, and how is that used in risk assessment?
      4. ID where fires have been
      5. Add predicted flame length map
      6. What is the benefit of running our own assessment vs using raw QWRA?
      7. Local QAQC, QWRA only accounts for fires to 2020, it is coarse at a county scale,
      8. Decision: Use 2023 QWRA, edit with local knowledge
      9. Maybe see how we can make the data useful at a smaller scale because they need that? Parcel level isn't feasible, but some other tool
      10. Incorporate Central Washington Initiative
      11. Discussed the FEMA lifelines
      12. Smaller CWPPs are moot, all combined into 2019 CWPP
      13. Do fires in the last 5 years align with the highest risk areas from 2018 risk map?
    - ii. What would be helpful to have in new maps?
      1. Flame length, something more specific than their "local level" assessment, fire history that is more current. Local QAQC is important.
  - b. PNW QWRA presentation and mapping options–
    - i. Want to make sure it is grant funding ready - not too fine scale
    - ii. We should look at fire behavior along main evacuation routes and by homes and HVRAs.
    - iii. FPDs want to know what treatments they should do—priorities in each zone are important
    - iv. They are interested in impact of smoke on the community—quantitative or qualitative and methods to reduce smoke impacts. They like the idea of modeling smoke under wildfire conditions and under prescribed fire conditions.
  - c. Evacuation modeling
    - i. Potentially interested in evacuation modeling for some at-risk communities
    - ii. Identify Shelter-in-place locations? With a zone 3 evacuation, they are supposed to be able to direct people to a specific location.
      1. Tactical evacuation decisions are not part of the CWPP but part of a community emergency response plan.

- iii. Ways to make evacuation alerts more comprehensive—potentially the use of sirens in dense areas, not just web-based alerts. Want to include the need for a full-array of alert-warning tools in the CWPP. Wenatchee is piloting a siren program for wildfire.
    - iv. High population of people experiencing homelessness—how would they alert people and evacuate them? How about the tourist population? Do they know where to go?
  - d. How can the WiRe surveys be incorporated into the CWPP to identify areas of community concern and needs?
  - e. FEMA lifelines
    - i. Need to include dams under energy (part of the power grid) and/ or water systems (drinking water)
    - ii. Alpine lakes are also important and can be impacted by wildfire
    - iii. Christina will go back and look at the comprehensive list of FEMA lifelines and make sure the HMP list is aligned.
  - f. Hazard mitigation committee meeting talked about the definition of vulnerable populations—several options (SVI), Washington Tracking Network (finer scale), and Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool.
    - i. Still discussing pros/cons of different tools / metrics.
    - ii. HMP plans to focus on people with limited English and people living in poverty.
    - iii. Transportation access may also be of importance.
    - iv. Might also want to include individuals who rely on electricity for medical equipment (e.g., O2).
  - g. WUI mapping—we need to re-evaluate the location of the WUI to support USFS treatment implementation and funding sources.
- 6. Accomplishment tracking format
  - a. Present the methods
    - i. Each zone will have a spreadsheet to fill out with whether goals were accomplished, and also to write “barriers” that prevented the goal from being accomplished or “boons” that enabled someone to accomplish the goal.
    - ii. Kenzie and Ryan will reach out to the FDPs and Zone representatives to fill out the document.
    - iii. Includes a section to note actions that were done in a Zone but not part of the mitigation plan from the 2018 CWPP.
    - iv. This exercise is looking at the past, we will do forward-looking goals in a couple of months.
    - v. Deadline is 6 weeks for Zones to complete the spreadsheet.
    - vi. Need a map of Zones to help the USFS and DNR with identifying fuel treatment accomplishments in each zone.

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- Adam Jones, Fire District 8 - Entiat
- Kris King, Fire District 9 - Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue
- Lexy Lieurance, Chelan Douglas Health District

- Lauren Loebak, WDOT
- Whitney Machado, BLM Community Coordinator
- Elle Robinson, Chelan County NRD
- Mike Smith, Fire District 3 - Leavenworth
- Rich Magnussen, Chelan County Emergency Management
- Russ Truman, Retired USFS

MAY 2, 2024

2:30 PM

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- Dr. Meg Matonis - TEA
- Christina Wollman - Perteeet

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1. Attendance
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  - b. Andy Day, RC3
  - c. Ben Eddings, USFS
  - d. Rachel Hansen, Chelan PUD
  - e. Jake Hardt, DNR Community Resilience Coordinator
  - f. Kris King, Fire District 9 - Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue
  - g. Lexy Lieurance, Chelan Douglas Health District
  - h. Whitney Machado, BLM Community Coordinator
  - i. Elle Robinson, Chelan County NRD
  - j. Rich Magnussen, Chelan County Emergency Management
  - k. Nolan Brewer, DNR Southeast Region Forest Health and Resilience Program
  - l. Mike Kaputa, Chelan County NRD
  - m. Patrick Haggerty, Cascadia Conservation District
  - n. Hillary Heard, Fire District 1 - Wenatchee
2. Zone Groups
  - a. Each zone worked through their Zone Accomplishments spreadsheet, noting what tasks have been accomplished, what helped or hindered success in that area, and any other mitigation tasks that were accomplished since 2019 that are not in the spreadsheet.

- b. For the 'Potential 5-Year Project Areas - Mapped' section, refer to the maps in the 2019 CWPP, pages 230-237:  
[https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/rp\\_burn\\_cwpp\\_chelan.pdf](https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/rp_burn_cwpp_chelan.pdf)
- c. For projects that were accomplished and have associated shapefiles or GIS data, please email it to [megan@emberalliance.org](mailto:megan@emberalliance.org)

- **Zone A - Stehekin**
  - Fire District 10 -
  - CCD - Patrick or Isobel
  - Chelan DNR - Elle, Erin, or Natasha
  - Stehekin FPM -
  - USFS - Ben E or John T
  - Chelan Head Ranger - Paul Willard
- **Zone B - Holden**
  - Fire Marshal - Jeff ?
  - USFS - Ben E or John T
  - Church group leader -
  - Rio Tinto, Mining Co. -
- **Zone C - Chelan & Manson**
  - Fire District - Brian A
  - Fire District 5 - Chief Baker
  - USFS - Ben E or John T
  - City of Chelan -
  - RC3 - Andy D
- **Zone D - Cashmere**
  - City of Cashmere -
  - Fire District 6 - Andy Lee
- **Zone E - Wenatchee**
  - Wenatchee Fire Dept. - Hillary Heard
  - WA DNR - Jake H, Joel P, Nolan B, or Walter E
  - Chelan DNR - Elle, Erin, or Natasha
  - USFS - Ben or John
  - CDLT -
  - BLM -
- **Zone F - Entiat**
  - USFS - Ben E or John T
- Fire District 8 - Adam Jones
- WA DNR - Jake H, Joel P, Nolan B, or Walter E
- Chelan DNR - Elle, Erin, or Natasha
- **Zone G - Lake Wenatchee**
  - WA State Parks -
  - Lake W. Fire & Rescue - Kris King
  - WA DNR - Jake H, Joel P, Nolan B, or Walter E
  - CCD - Patrick or Isobel
  - Chelan DNR - Elle, Erin, or Natasha
- **Zone H - Leavenworth**
  - Fire District 3 - Mike S
  - Chumstick - Bob K or John C
  - City of Leavenworth -
  - RC3 - Andy D
  - CCD - Patrick H or Isobel W
  - USFS - Ben E or John T
  - Chelan DNR - Elle, Erin, or Natasha
  - WA DNR - Jake H, Joel P, Nolan B, or Walter E
- **Zone X - Federal/State Lands**
  - USFS - Ben E or John T
  - National Park Service -
  - BPA, Transmission Lines -
  - Chelan DNR - Elle, Erin, or Natasha
  - WA DNR - Jake H, Joel P, Nolan B, or Walter E
  - WA Fish & Wildlife -
  - BSNF Railroad -