

2006 JFSP Progress Report

Project Title: “Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Enhancing Collaboration and Building Social Capacity”

JFSP Project No.: 04-5-01

Project Location: USDA Forest Service; Rocky Mountain Research Station, Ft. Collins, CO; North Central Research Station, St. Paul, MN

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Brief Description of Project: In this project we intend to study community wildfire protection plans (CWPP) efforts in order to identify those factors and processes that consistently lead to effective collaborative fire and fuels management as defined by Healthy Forest Restoration Act, and enhance local social capacity to sustain wildfire protection activities into the future.

Status Report: In the second year of the project we have:

1. Modified and continued RJVA's:
 - a. Case studies for Objectives 2 & 3: Dr. Antony Cheng, Colorado State University; Dr. Victoria Sturtevant, Southern Oregon University; and Dr. Kristen Nelson, University of Minnesota
 - b. Coarse scale monitoring for Objective 1: Dr. Antony Cheng, Colorado State University
 - c. Web design and other knowledge transfer for Objective 4: Dr. Sam Burns, Fort Lewis College
2. Consulted with the Research Advisory Team on a range of questions related to knowledge transfer, working with the Team on overall knowledge transfer (KT) strategy, and an announcement of the opening of the website. Planned Advisory Committee (to be held in Portland, OR, January 9-11, 2007 (Agenda in Appendix A)
3. Initial steps have been undertaken to formulate a KT delivery framework through practitioner and policy networks. Developed *Knowledge Transfer Plan* (Appendix B) including a *Knowledge Transfer Framework* to guide case study data analysis (See KT concept map in Appendix B).
4. Designed and implemented (80% complete) a web-based, interactive CWPP registry tool that can be continually updated and searched to facilitate course-scale inventory and monitoring of CWPP activities (Objective 1):
 - a. Completed CWPP inventory for Colorado (Monitoring protocol form and registry web link available from project website)
 - b. 80% completion of website in which CWPP information can be entered, stored and accessed as an updateable registry.
 - c. Conversion of NFPORS reporting data for Colorado into geographically explicit database and map
5. Data collection has been completed (or nearly complete) for the following case studies:
 - a. Lake County, Minnesota.
 - b. Bayfield County, Wisconsin, and the communities of Barnes and Drummond.

- c. El Dorado County, California and the communities of Auburn Lake Trails and Grizzly Flats.
 - d. Trinity County, California
 - e. Lake, Larimer, and Jefferson Counties, Colorado
 - f. Josephine County and Ashland (Jackson County) Oregon
 - g. Libby, MT (Lincoln County)
 - h. Front Royal, VA (Warren County)
6. Further developed the project website (<http://jfsp.fortlewis.edu/>) with a new home page providing four entry portals for users, case study community profiles, preliminary research materials, and expanded resources links and the site is now linked on the Joint Fire Science Program website.
 7. Presented papers:
 - a. Communities Taking responsibility for wildfire preparedness. 3rd International Fire Ecology and Management Congress, San Diego, CA., Nov. 13-17, 2006.
 - b. Preliminary Case Study Findings presented at as part of a panel presentation at the *Rural Voices for Collaborative Conservation*, Portland, OR, Nov. 2006

Issues/Concerns; changes in research objectives, methods, or products:

- The focus of this project is on collaboration in planning, but many communities are moving into CWPP implementation and we are beginning to collect information on collaboration in implementation. We believe that a new research project on implementation would be a logical extension of the current project.
- Case Study sites have been added for Libby, Montana.
- Registry data collected for Colorado for demonstration purposes and provides a template for other states and national organizations. The website is currently housed at Colorado State University, but it will need a more permanent home or funding base.
- Budget Adjustments (see Appendix E).