



MEMORANDUM

September 25, 2020

To: Charles A. Moore, Fire Chief
Alex Kukulus, Deputy Chief

FM: August Isernhagen, Division Chief of Fuels and Wildfire

Re: **Fuels Program Quarterly Report**

This memorandum lists the recent accomplishments of the Fuels and Wildfire Division:

NV Energy Fuels Work:

- Squad 31 and 41 have completed 178 power poles in southern Washoe County and contributed to approximately four additional acres of fuel breaks during their first and second quarter.

Fire Response:

- Squad 31 and 41 responded to 10 fires and spent 24 days on incident during the first and second quarters.

Red Flag/Standby:

- NV Energy funded multiple extensions, four full day shifts, and two overnight shifts for both squads to be on standby during red flag events.

Nevada Division of Forestry/Wildfire Protection Plan (NDF/WFPP) Work:

Through the WFPP and collaboration with NDF the District worked a 2-acre fuels reduction/defensible space project in Wolf Run and Washoe Valley. TMFPD/homeowners received:

- Approximately 24 engine/helitack days (approximately 65 days) of work free of charge (aside from WFPP annual buy in).
- Removal of approximately 336 cubic yards of fuel.

Project prescription removes 6 feet of brush from fences, all dead material, and 50% reduction of sage brush and rabbit brush in the entire easement. NDF and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) continue on this project this quarter. Numerous others are lined up and ready to implement as their time allows.

Private/WFPP Projects Lined Up:

Following is a list of prospective projects visited, planned, and waiting for implementation:

- Wolf Run continues
- Galena Estates Homeowners Association (HOA) 2E – 15 acres of common space. Brush removal and thinning. Will use NDF free staff as available. Possible fuels grant \$\$ available now through NDF.
- Edmands – Property off Edmands requesting hazardous brush removed from S side of home. Will use NDF free staff as available.
- Liss/Polecat – Road easement brush removal. Expands fuel break on road and NV Energy work. Will use TMFPD Fuels squad once agreement is in place (in Zone II of NV Energy ROW. NV Energy will fund).
- Pebble Creek – Removal of invasive species around immediate perimeter of subdivision. Herbicide treatment to eliminate cheat grass and tumble weed. Mastication in brush fields to East and North. Will use combination NDF/TMFPD staff. Current possible invasive species grant \$\$ available through NDF.
- Sky Tavern – Fuels and tree thinning on ski resort property adjacent to homes on either side of the resort. Will use TMFPD personnel and NV Energy \$\$ (work is in zone III of NV Energy ROW). Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Grant applied for – roughly \$800,000.00
- Rolling Hills – Re-masticate around subdivision. Will utilize TMFPD/NDF staff combination. Possible funding through NDF available now depending on how much is left over after Galena Estates HOA 2E.
- Cold Springs – 40-acre brush field needing mastication. Greg Jackson proposal. Currently working through approval process with BLM. Will use TMFPD personnel and NV Energy \$\$ (zone II and III of ROW).
- 7425 Franktown – Property owners have large piles of removed brush. In the NV Energy Zone III ROW. TMFPD personnel chipped while chipping NV Energy piles. NV Energy \$\$ - complete.
- 4400 Eastlake - Request for fuels work under power lines. Will be done next month.
- Galena Meadows – Request for fuels reduction around fence line of community. Site visited and mastication is recommended. Waiting for HOA approval. May work under NV Energy \$\$.
- Washoe Golf Course – Complaints from homeowners of fuel pile near property lines. Crews chipped on NV Energy \$\$.
- Arrow Creek County Lands – Concerns from homeowners of fuel near fence lines. Tracked chipper will be perfect when it arrives and can fund through the District.

NNFAC Updates:

Following are contacts made with current/possible Nevada Network of Fire Adapted Communities (NNFAC) chapters:

- Joy Lake – Galena Estates 2E – Previously active. Wanting to become active again (ties into the proposed common lands work to invigorate interest).
- Mogul – Previously interested. Trying to establish collaboration with Verdi NNFAC.
- Montreux – Interested but has lack of organization between HOA, golf course, and developers.

- Palomino – Very active, established charter, meeting regularly, applying for fuels grants. Setting up Green Waste Days location
- Pebble Creek – Suggested establishment during site visit.
- Verdi – Most active. Having community education days, events, and wildfire awareness parades. Active in pursuing funding and reaching out to other homeowners. Setting up Green Waste Days location.
- Sky Tavern – Suggested establishment during site visit.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Updates:

Marc Titus has been extremely active in meeting with me, the public, and cooperators. NDF has been present at most of the project/NNFAC meetings. There is energetic forward movement among all the players on updating the county-wide, zone, area, and community specific CWPPs. The only element that was being waited for is the new application “Community Assessment Tool”. This tool was finalized, and Mr. Titus began experimenting with it two weeks ago. More to come on this, but exciting progress.

Funding Source Updates:

Following is an update on funding sources:

- NV Energy – Continues to fund expansion of TMFPD Fuels Program – PO increased to roughly 4.3 million dollars for third squad and equipment including chipper trucks, chipper, tracked chipper, engines, etc.
- SB 508 – Matching funds to NDF were approved and theoretically are available for TMFPD. TMFPD is pursuing these funds currently for 1.2 million dollars for overhead, an equipment operator, and a third engine.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fire Safety and Prevention – Grant proposal submitted for a “chipping module”. No word on award yet.
- NDF – Funding available for fuels work in Galena and possibly Rolling Hills. Funding available for invasive species at Pebble Creek.
- Long Valley – Followed up. No updates and still waiting.
- Jasper – Followed up. No updates and still waiting.
- Poeville – Letter of interest submitted for approximately \$650,000 of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding.
- Rock Farm – Letter of interest submitted for approximately \$650,000 of HMGP funding.
- North – Letter of interest submitted for approximately \$650,000 of HMGP funding.
- Loyalton – Letter of interest submitted for approximately \$650,000 of HMGP funding.
- SNPLMA – Applied for approximately \$800,000 for fuels work around Sky Tavern and the surrounding private properties.